

Match Racing Committee

Report to Council October 2025

The Match Racing Committee has held nine (9) online meetings during 2025 up to date. Work is done within the Match Racing Committee and in ten (10) working Teams. The working Teams are Youth, Women & WWMRT, Blind, Nations Cup, Special Events (AC, WMRT), Rules, Race Management & Organization and Documents, Ranking and Grading, Sailor Experience and Media & Communication and Event Calendar. The Match Racing Committee works in close liaison with World Sailing and the World Match Racing Tour.

Mission

The purpose of the Match Racing Committee is to advise and report to Council on the: promotion and co-ordination of match racing throughout the world, world championships in match racing, rankings and match race organisation.

Objectives for the Year – from the Match Racing Working Plan

1. To fix World Sailing Match Racing **ranking calculation**
2. To develop the **filtering function** for World Sailing ranking
3. To reintroduce the Match Racing **portal/ microsite** on World Sailing webpage
4. To sync **bid documents** with **event agreements** and run **bid processes** for 2027-2029 Youth and Women's MR WC and the Nations Cup
5. To **grow match racing** worldwide
6. To secure effective process for **distributing** World Sailing Match Racing events in **World Sailing media channels**

Link to World Sailing Strategy

Events and Commercial

- By providing high level competitions like the World Championships of Match Racing, the Nations Cup and the World Match Racing Tour and the Women's World Match Racing Tour – attract commercial partners and enhance event visibility

Growth

- By promoting global reach through match racing events and rankings – supporting sailor development by creating a pathway from fleet and Olympic sailing towards professional circuits and events using match racing formats like the America Cup, SailGP and the World Match Racing Tour

Governance

- By ensuring efficient organisation of match racing through - structured committee work and rankings management

Impact

- By offering competitive opportunities that can contribute to social and economic impact - by engaging diverse sailing communities

World Sailing benefits from Match Racing by

- Enhancing its global visibility and commercial appeal
- Supporting the development of skilled sailors
- Providing structured governance models for match racing events
- Contributing to the growth of vibrant sailing communities worldwide

The Match Racing Committee

The Match Racing Committee Working Plan for 2025 and Team Plans have been finalized.

Proposals submitted

- CO-2025-019 To **amend 8.2** World Sailing Policy Register - Rankings – Match Racing - Policy Number H1 **with Youth division**
- CO-2025-020 To **amend 8.2** World Sailing Policy Register - Rankings – Match Racing - Policy Number H1 **with Youth Women's Weight**
- CO-2025-021 To **add Youth to 8.7** World Sailing Policy Register - Rankings – Match Racing - Policy Number H1
- CO-2025-022 To **clarify 8.8** World Sailing Policy Register - Rankings – Match Racing - Policy Number H1

Withdrawn proposal

- CO-2025-007 Update Policy H1 8.2 (g) to Reflect Current Athlete Profiles and Enhance Global Fairness – To increase the Maximum Average Crew Weight Limit in Women's Match Racing Events

New proposal

- Investment in Coaching Support for the Youth Match Racing World Championship

Match Racing Technical Delegates

- A recommendation how to increase the number of World Sailing Match Racing Technical Delegates has been put forward to the World Sailing Board.

2025 Events

- **World Sailing Youth Match Racing World Championships**
 - Host Polish Yachting Association with City of Gdynia, Marina of Gdynia and World Sailing – July 21-27th **Gdynia, Poland**
 - Sixteen (16) teams competed, from 12 MNA's.
 - Eight (8) RS 21 boats were available.
 - Winner Marin Micoulot, FRA

- **World Sailing Women's Match Racing World Championship**
 - Host Chicago Yacht Club, Illinois and World Sailing – September 15th-21st, **Chicago, USA**
 - Twelve (12) teams competed from 7 MNA's.
 - Eight (8) Tom 28 boats were available
 - Winner Pauline Courtois, FRA

- **World Match Racing Tour**
 - Tour consists of 17 stages, including 12 World Tour Events and 5 World Championship Events.
 - **Macao Match Cup, January 8-12**, Host Sports Bureau of Macao SAR Government MGM, URSA Major Sailing Event Management Macao Harbour, Macao. Twelve (12) teams from seven (7) nations competed. Winner Ian Williams (GBR)
 - **Congressional Cup, April 30-May 4**, Host Long Beach Yacht Club, California, USA. Ten (10) teams from eight (8) nations competed. Winner Eric Monnin (SUI)
 - **GKSS Match Cup, June 30-July 5**, Host Royal Gothenburg Yacht Club, Marstrand, Sweden. Ten (10) teams from six (6) nations competed. Winner Jeppe Borch (DEN)
 - **Bermuda Gold Cup, October 21-26**, Host Royal Bermuda Yacht Club, Hamilton, Bermuda. Eight (8) teams from seven (7) nations are competing. Winner TBD
 - **Shenzhen BAO'AN Match Cup, WMRT Final, January 2026 6-11**, Host People's Government of Bao'an District of Shenzhen, Dachen Bay. Winner TBD.

- **Women's World Match Racing Tour**
 - Tour consists of 5 stages
 - **Casa Vela Cup**, May 28-31, Host St Francis Yacht Club, San Francisco, USA. Ten (10) teams from five (5) nations competed. Winner Pauline Courtois (FRA)
 - **Santa Maria Cup**, June 4-7, Host Eastport Yacht Club, Annapolis, USA. Eight (8) teams from (4) nations competed. Winner Allie Blecher (USA)
 - **Nordea Women's Trophy – GKSS Match Cup Sweden**, June 30-July 5, Host Royal Gothenburg Yacht Club, Marstrand Sweden. Eight (8) teams from five (5) nations competed. Winner Pauline Courtois (FRA)
 - **Women's Match Racing World Championship**, September 17-20, Host Chicago Yacht Club, Illinois and World Sailing. Twelve (12) teams from seven (7) nations competed. Winner Pauline Courtois (FRA)
 - **Bermuda Women's Match Race Regatta**, October 21-26, Host Royal Bermuda Yacht Club, Hamilton, Bermuda. Eight (8) teams from five (5) nations are invited. Winner TBD.

Events 2026

- **2026 World Sailing Youth Match Racing World Championships**
 - Host Go Sail together with Fredericia Yacht Club, **Denmark**
 - Dates June 21-25
 - World Sailing host agreement is signed
 - NOR to be published.
- **2026 World Sailing Women's Match Racing World Championship**
 - Host St. Francis Yacht Club, San Francisco, **USA**
 - Dates September 30th- October 4th
 - World Sailing host agreement is signed
 - NOR to be published.
- **2026 / 2027 Nations Cup**
 - Bids received 5 by deadline
 - Bid evaluation panel has been set up
 - Recommendation to World Sailing Board to follow
 - Decision about World Sailing Nations Cup host
 - World Sailing host agreement to be negotiated
 - NOR to be published

Events 2027-2029

- Host bid process to start Q4 2025 for the Youth, Women's and Blind Match Racing World Championships

Working Team Reports will be received by October 24th

On behalf of the Match Racing Committee

Anne Malledant (FRA), Annika Carlunger (SWE), Betsy Alison (USA), Leatrice Oatley (BER),
Ute Wagner-Monnin (AUT), Michael O'Connor (IRL), Russell Green (NZL), Luigi Bertini (ITA),
Marios Zisimatos (GRE), Nelson Horn-Ilha (BRA)

Michael Röllich (FIN)

Match Racing Committee Chair