



2026 Bermuda Gold Cup

Royal Bermuda Yacht Club

October 13 - 18, 2026

Hamilton, Bermuda

NOTICE OF RACE

The following abbreviations apply to this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions:

NoR: Notice of Race

RRS: Racing Rules of Sailing

RC: Race Committee

[NP]: A boat may not protest as per NoR 1.3

OA: Organising Authority

SIs: Sailing Instructions

TD: Technical Delegate

IJ: International Jury

1 RULES

1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, including RRS Appendix C.

1.2 The rules for the handling of boats and the equipment list, detailed as part of the SIs, will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing and sponsor races. Class rules will not apply.

1.3 The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the NoR or SIs means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

1.4 If one boat has finished and is no longer racing, and the other boat has a penalty outstanding, the umpires may cancel that penalty. This changes RRS C7.4(c).

1.5 If there is a conflict between languages the English text takes precedence.

1.6 The event is a World Sailing Grade W. This grading is subject to review by World Sailing. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.

1.7 An IJ will be appointed. The right of appeal from a jury decision is denied as provided in RRS 70.3(a).

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The SIs will be available after 1600 on October 12th, 2026, on the Official Notice Board (ONB).

3 COMMUNICATION

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the online official notice board which is located at <https://bermudagoldcup.com/race-info>.

3.2 Signals made ashore will be displayed from Royal Bermuda Yacht Club flagstaff.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 Up to twelve (12) skippers will be invited.

4.2 Skippers wishing to receive an invite may register their request with the OA by emailing sailing@rbyc.bm.

4.3 There is one qualifying event eligible for an invitation:

- (a) Winner of Oakcliff International



4.4 Only skippers invited by the OA, and who confirm acceptance of the invitation in writing or by email, as detailed in the letter of invitation, will be eligible to enter this event.

4.5 Competitors shall have Competition Eligibility as detailed in the World Sailing Eligibility Code.

4.6 All competitors shall obtain a World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online at <https://www.sailing.org/sailors/world-sailing-profile/>. Skippers shall inform the OA of their World Sailing Sailor ID at registration.

4.7 The skipper shall complete registration, arrange the damage deposit of USD 2,000 and shall ensure that all crew complete crew weighing, all between 1200 to 1600 on 12th October and 0900 to 1200 on 13th October unless extended by the OA. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.

4.8 When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within two months of the event or leaves the event before the end without written approval from the OA, it is possible for a zero score to be applied to the skipper's Ranking points for that event by World Sailing (World Sailing Policy H1 5.3).

4.9 On 1 March 2022, World Sailing published the following recommendations in reaction to the situation in Ukraine: <https://www.sailing.org/2022/03/01/world-sailing-statement-6/>. This position is unchanged at the date of publishing this NoR. To help preserve the integrity and safety of the event, entries shall be open to competitors of all MNAs, but not to competitors holding only Russian or Belarussian nationality. World Sailing may amend this rule following any further decisions made on the participation of Russian and Belarussians competitors.

5 DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT

5.1 Each supplied boat is insured by the OA for third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of USD 1,000,000 per incident.

5.2 Each skipper is responsible for the damage or loss to their boat unless responsibility is otherwise assigned by the umpires or IJ. The amount of the damage deposit detailed in NoR 4.7 is the limit of liability as a result of any one incident and may be divided between more than one skipper. In the event that a deduction is made from the deposit, the skipper will be required to restore the deposit to the original value to continue in the event.

5.3 The OA will refund any remaining damage deposit within 14 working days after the event.

6 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

6.1 The number of crew (including the skipper but excluding persons placed on board by the OA) shall be 4 or 5. All registered crew shall sail all races.

6.2 After the warning signal for a match, the registered skipper shall not leave the helm, except in an emergency.

6.3 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise an original crew member to substitute.



6.4 When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

6.5 The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed 350 kg, determined at the time of registration or such time as required by the RC.

7 EVENT FORMAT

7.1 The OA intends to provide 8 Fareeast28R type boats, in symmetrical spinnaker configuration for racing in the event. Each boat will have the following sails: Mainsail, Jib, Spinnaker.

7.2 Boats will be allocated as decided by the RC. The intention of the RC will be to allocate boats by draw, either daily or for each stage. The RC may also require boats to be exchanged in a knock-out stage.

7.3 The sails to be used will be allocated by the RC. Competitors may be requested to exchange sails during a series to satisfy sponsorship commitments.

7.4 While all reasonable steps are taken to equalise the boats variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.

7.5 The number of matches to be sailed each day will be determined by the RC with the intention of the RC to start each subsequent flight as soon as practicable after the previous flight.

7.6 The course will be windward/leeward with starboard rounding, finishing downwind.

7.7 The intended racing area will be Hamilton Harbour.

7.8 Skippers will be seeded into a round robin based on the World Sailing ranking list 30 days prior to the event. After the First Stage the following will apply:

- (a) Skippers will be paired in each stage as per NoR 7.9.
- (b) In reference to RRS C4.1, the highest ranked skipper from the First Stage shall choose their end for the first match and boats shall alternate every odd match.
- (c) The higher placed skipper in the First Stage in each match may be given the choice of boat pair unless the boat pairs are allocated by the OA.
- (d) Crews will exchange boats after the first match of a first to two points series or after the second match of a first to three point series, unless otherwise agreed by both skippers.
- (e) Further matches in the series will not be sailed once the first skipper scores the points required for that stage.

7.9 The event will consist of the following stages:

First Stage – Qualifying

- All 12 invited skippers will sail a single Round Robin.
- The four (4) highest-scoring skippers shall qualify directly for the Third Stage (Quarter-Finals).



- The remaining eight (8) skippers (placed 5th to 12th) shall proceed to the Second Stage (Repechage).

Second Stage – Repechage

- The eight (8) skippers placed 5th to 12th from the First Stage shall sail a single Round Robin.
- The four (4) highest-scoring skippers from this stage shall qualify for the Third Stage (Quarter-Finals).
- Ninth (9th) to twelfth (12th) place in the event is determined using the Repechage scores.

Third Stage - Knock-Out Quarter-Finals

- The four (4) directly qualified skippers from the First Stage and the four (4) qualifying skippers from the Second Stage (8 skippers total) shall compete in the Quarter-Finals.
- The highest-placed skipper from the First Stage shall select their opponent from the Second Stage qualifiers. The next highest-placed skipper from the First Stage shall select their opponent from the remaining Second Stage qualifiers, and so on, until all four series are determined.
- The first skipper of each series to score at least three (3) points shall proceed to the Fourth Stage (Semi-Finals).
- Fifth (5th) to eighth (8th) places in the event shall be decided in accordance with C11.2 where the First Stage will be considered the most recent round-robin series. This changes C11.2.

Fourth Stage - Knock-Out Semi-Finals

- The four (4) winning skippers from the Third Stage shall compete in the Semi-Finals.
- The highest-seeded skipper remaining from the First Stage shall select their opponent from the other three qualifiers when requested by the RC to do so.
- The first skipper of each series to score at least three (3) points shall proceed to the Sixth Stage (Finals). The losing skippers shall proceed to the Fifth Stage (Petit-Finals).

Fifth Stage - Knock-Out Petit-Finals

- The losing semi-finalists shall race to determine third (3rd) and fourth (4th) place.
- The first skipper to score at least two (2) points shall be awarded third place, the losing skipper awarded fourth place.

Sixth Stage – Knock-Out Finals

- The winning semi-finalists shall race to determine first (1st) and second (2nd) place.
- The first skipper to score at least three (3) points shall be awarded first place, the losing skipper awarded second place.



7.10 The RC may change the format, terminate any stage or the event when, in its opinion, it is impractical to attempt to hold the remainder of matches under the existing conditions or in the remaining time scheduled. Early stages may be terminated in favour of later stages.

8 PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

8.1 Schedule

- (a) Race office open from 1200 on 12th October.
- (b) Registration from 1200 to 1600 on 12th October and 0900 to 1200 on 13th October.
- (c) Crew weighing during registration.
- (d) **Practice Day:** Tuesday, 13th October from 0900 to 1200 and 1300 to 1600. The OA will allocate time slots.
- (e) First briefing at 1700 on 13th October.
- (f) First meeting with umpires will follow the first briefing.
- (g) Opening Ceremony at 1800 on 13th October.
- (h) **Racing Days:** Wednesday, 14th October to Sunday, 18th October.
- (i) Time of the first race each day will be 0930.
- (j) Daily press conference 30 minutes after the last race of each day.
- (k) Prize giving immediately after racing on 18th October.

8.2 Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:

- (a) Initial briefing for skippers.
- (b) Daily briefing, for skippers.
- (c) Daily press conferences, for skippers sailing that day.
- (d) Participation in Pro-Am event on Friday 16th October.
- (e) Prize giving for the final skippers and crews.

9 ADVERTISING

Boats shall display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

10 [NP] CODE OF CONDUCT

10.1 Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions, co-operation with event sponsors and shall behave so to not bring the event into disrepute.

10.2 Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment provided by the OA with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

10.3 The OA may reduce a prize or withhold deposits in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request.

11 [NP] SUPPORT PERSON

11.1 Support person vessels shall conspicuously display identification of the team being coached.



11.2 Support persons shall stay approximately 100m from the racing area while boats are racing or comply with reasonable requests from the officials.

11.3 The OA will not provide berths for support person vessels.

12 [NP] MEDIA, IMAGES, and SOUND

12.1 If required by the OA:

- (a) Television personnel and equipment (or dummies) supplied by the OA shall be carried on board while racing.
- (b) Competitors shall wear microphones supplied by the OA during racing and be available for interviews when advised by the OA or RC.
- (c) Registered skippers shall wear communications equipment supplied by the OA that will allow commentators to communicate with them whilst racing.

12.2 Competitors shall not interfere with the normal working of the OA supplied media equipment.

13 RISK STATEMENT

Competitors participate in this event entirely at their own risk and they are reminded of the provisions of RRS 3, Decision to Race. Racing in a Match Racing event is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport (and these events in particular) and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and any boat supplied to them to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their supplied boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (d) By participating in any race, they are satisfied that any supplied boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (e) The provision of a race management team, safety boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of safety boat support is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (g) Competitors are responsible for arranging their own private medical and travel insurance.

14 RIGHT TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

By participating in this event, competitors grant the OA, Host Club, event sponsors, media outlets, and competitors national class associations the perpetual right to use and publish their names, likeness, voice, and image in any photography, audio, or video recordings, or other



reproductions made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue until their final departure, without compensation.

15 PRIVACY STATEMENT

The personal information you provide to the OA will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the OA's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with National Authorities and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

16 PRIZES

The principal prize for first place will be the winner's name engraved on King Edward VII Gold Cup. The total prize purse is **\$50,000 (USD)**, split across the top 10 teams as follows:

Place	Prize Money (USD)
First Prize	\$16,500
Second Prize	\$7,500
Third Prize	\$6,000
Fourth Prize	\$5,000
Fifth Prize	\$2,750
Sixth Prize	\$2,750
Seventh Prize	\$2,750
Eighth Prize	\$2,750
Ninth Prize	\$2,000
Tenth Prize	\$2,000

World Sailing has been notified of these Prizes.

17 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Nicole Butterworth, RBYC Sailing Office:
sailing@rbyc.bm

END: 18 June 2026