



WORLD MATCH RACING TOUR FINAL AMAALA
SAUDI ARABIA

NOTICE OF RACE

AMAALA YACHT CLUB
9-14 NOVEMBER 2026

WORLD MATCH RACING TOUR FINAL AMAALA SAUDI ARABIA

HOST VENUE & ORGANISING AUTHORITY: AMAALA YACHT CLUB
NOVEMBER 9-14, 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

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

NoR: Notice of Race

OA: Organising Authority

RRS: Racing Rules of Sailing

SlS: Sailing Instructions

RC: Race Committee

TD: Technical Delegate

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

IJ: International Jury

WMRT: World Match Racing Tour

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 SlS, will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing and sponsor races. The J70 class rules will not apply.
- 1.3 The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions 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 No National Authority prescriptions apply.
- 1.6 If there is a conflict between languages the English text takes precedence.
- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 An International Jury will be appointed. The right of appeal from a jury decision is denied as provided in RRS 70.3.
- 1.9 Competitors may be required to wear personal flotation devices per RRS 40

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available after 1700 AST on 9th November on the official notice board.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the online official notice board which is located at <https://wmrt.com/tour-info/official-notice-board/>
- 3.2 Signals made ashore will be displayed as detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 Up to twelve (12) skippers may be invited. Invitations will be awarded per the 2026 published championship format at <https://wmrt.com/tour-info/championship-format-2026/> as follows;

- (a) The top 9 placed skippers from the WMRT leaderboard counting their best 4 results after the penultimate event (Bermuda Gold Cup 2026)
- (b) The next highest ranked skipper on the official World Sailing Open Match Racing Ranking taken from the 1 October 2026 World Sailing rankings release as posted at <https://www.sailing.org/>
- (c) The 2025 defending WMRT/Match Racing World Champion
- (d) A local or wild card team to be selected by WMRT and the Organising Authority of the WMRT Final/ Match Racing World Championship.

If any invitations under a) and b) are declined, the next skipper on the respective lists will be invited. Any invitations re-allocated under (c) and (d) will be selected by WMRT and the Event Organising Authority. Skippers wishing to receive an invite may register their request with the WMRT at info@wmrt.com

- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 Competitors shall have Competition Eligibility as detailed in the World Sailing Eligibility Code.
- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 The skipper shall complete registration, arrange the damage deposit of \$1500 and shall ensure that all crew complete crew weighing, all between 09:30-16:00 on 9th November unless extended by the OA. There shall be no entry fee. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements.
- 4.6 When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraw within two months of the event, or leaves the event before the end without the 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).

5 DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 5.1 Each supplied boat is insured by the OA for third-party liability insurance.
- 5.2 Each skipper is responsible for the damage or loss to their boat unless responsibility is otherwise assigned by the umpires or PC. The damage deposit is the limit of liability of each skipper for each incident. 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 10 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 RC may authorise an original crew member to substitute.
- 6.4 When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the RC 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.
- 6.6 The OA may place a person on each boat as either a guest, camera operator, or umpire observer.

7 EVENT FORMAT

- 7.1 The OA intends to provide eight (8) J70 type boats for racing in the event. Each boat will have the following sails: Mainsail, Jib, Asymmetric Spinnaker.
- 7.2 Boats will be allocated as decided by the RC. The intention of the RC will be to allocate boats by draw 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 equalize 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 within 2nm of Amaala Marina, including Hijaz Bay immediately south of the Marina. Race areas may be selected as illustrated.



7.8 (a) Skippers will be seeded into a round robin as determined by the WMRT Ranking.

(b) After the Second Stage the following will apply:

- (1) Skippers will be paired as per NoR 7.9.
- (2) In reference to RRS C4.1, the highest ranked skipper from the first stage shall be assigned the starboard entry for the first match and boats shall alternate every odd match.
- (3) 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 points series, unless otherwise agreed by both skippers.
- (4) Further matches in the series will not be sailed once the first skipper scores the points required for that stage.
- (5) 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.

7.9 The event will consist of the following stages:

(a) First Stage - Qualifying

- (1) All skippers will sail a round robin.
- (2) The eight highest scoring skippers shall qualify for the next stage.

(b) Second Stage - Knock-Out Quarterfinals

- (1) The highest placed skipper from the first stage shall select their opponent when requested by the RC to do so. The next highest placed skipper from the first stage who has not already been chosen shall choose their opponent and so on.
- (2) The first skipper of each series to score at least 3 points shall proceed to the semi-finals.

(c) Third Stage - Knock-Out Semi-Finals

- (1) The highest placed skipper from the first stage shall select their opponent when requested by the RC to do so. The remaining two skippers shall sail each other.
- (2) The first skipper of each series to score at least 3 points shall proceed to the Final Stage, the losing skippers shall proceed to the Third and Fourth Place Stage.

(d) Fourth Stage - Knock-Out Third and Fourth Place

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

(e) Fifth Stage - Knock-Out Final

- (1) The first skipper to score at least 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 12:00 on Sunday 8th November
- (b) Registration from 09:30 to 16:00 on Monday 9th November
- (c) Crew weighing during registration
- (d) Practice from 10:30 to 13:30 and 14:00 to 17:00 on Monday 9th November. The OA will allocate timeslots
- (e) First briefing at 18:30 on Monday 9th November
- (f) First meeting with umpires will follow the first briefing
- (g) Opening Ceremony will follow First briefing on Monday 9th November
- (h) Racing days from 10th to 14th November
- (i) Time of the first race each day will be 10:00
- (j) The latest time for an attention signal on the last scheduled day of racing will be approximately 16:00
- (k) Daily press conference approximately 30 minutes after the last race of each day
- (l) Prize giving as soon as possible after the last race of the event

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 conference for skippers sailing that day.
- (d) Opening Ceremony.
- (e) Regatta dinner for teams.
- (f) Prize giving for the final skippers and crews.
- (g) Closing Ceremony.
- (h) Sponsor events.

9. ADVERTISING

- 9.1 [NP] Boats shall display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

10. 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 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. SUPPORT PERSONS

- 11.1. Support person vessels will conspicuously display identification of the team being coached.
- 11.2. Support persons shall stay approximately 50m from the racing area while boats are racing or comply with reasonable requests from the officials.
- 11.3. Berths for support person vessels may be arranged by request to the OA subject to availability.

12. 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.
- 12.3. The OA and WMRT have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge in perpetuity.

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) They have considered their own personal insurance position and are satisfied they have adequate cover for the event.

14. PRIZES

- 14.1. The principal prize for first place will be the official **2026 MATCH RACING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP** title as endorsed by World Sailing.
- 14.2. Total prize purse will be USD \$200,000 (All costs which may rise from paying prizes shall be borne by competitors themselves. Please see Appendix for tax details)
- 14.3. Prize money will be awarded to the top 12 teams

First	USD \$50,000
Second	USD \$35,000
Third	USD \$25,000
Fourth	USD \$20,000
Fifth	USD \$12,250
Sixth	USD \$12,250
Seventh	USD \$12,250
Eighth	USD \$12,250
Ninth	USD \$4,000
Tenth	USD \$4,000
Eleventh	USD \$4,000
Twelfth	USD \$4,000

- 14.4. These prizes have been approved by the national authority.
- 14.5. World Sailing has been notified of these Prizes.

15. SPARE

16. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 16.1. Each team is requested to provide their national anthem as an mp3 file.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding the Notice of Race, please contact the World Match Racing Tour Office at info@wmrt.com

Date of Issue 1 August 2026

APPENDIX

TAX ON PRIZE MONEY

Prize money is stated as a gross amount. Where required under the laws of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Organizing Authority shall deduct any applicable withholding tax or other taxes from prize money before payment. Competitors remain responsible for their own tax obligations and should seek independent advice regarding any relief that may be available under an applicable double taxation agreement between Saudi Arabia and their country of tax residence.



www.wmrt.com