

Reporting committee: **OFFSHORE CLASSES AND EVENTS COMMITTEE**

CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

PROPOSAL

Change the ORC championship format so the final race is a non-discardable race of the series.

RATIONALE

Over the years, we've observed numerous tactical manoeuvres and games in the final days of ORC Championships. Faster boats have exploited their speed advantage, employing match-race tactics against slower competitors and leveraging discard advantages with a clear overview of scoreboard.

While this match-race type sailing should and is part of the game in dinghy or One Design sailing this should be avoided in handicap racing where the format already heavily favors faster boats in class, especially in W/L races. In handicap sailing this has nothing to do with sailing skills or rule knowledge.

This type of tactical play was evident at the 2018 Hague Worlds, 2022 Hanko Europeans, 2024 Newport Worlds, and 2025 Palma Europeans. Having the last race of the series be non-discardable should reduce this behavior.