MANCOM 5

Reporting committee MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
RATING OFFICERS COMMITTEE
RACE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ORC LIGHT EXPANSION

PROPOSAL

In 2027, ORC will expand ORC Light, country by country.

- An ORC National Rating Office ("Rating Office") may apply to ORC for authority to issue ORC Light certificates. The Management Committee will decide each application case by case, and ORC and the Rating Office will sign a written agreement annually.
- An ORC Light certificate may not be issued for a boat that held an ORCi or ORC Club certificate in the past three years, unless the ownership of the boat has changed substantially as defined by the International ORC Light Rule (established below).
- Boats with ORC Light certificates may not race in the same class as boats with ORC Club or ORCi certificates. These certificates may only be used in OSR Cat 4 races or the equivalent. These conditions will not be modifiable by OA.
- The Rating Office decides who issues certificates: the Rating Office itself or clubs that are members of the MNA associated with the Rating Office.
- The levy for an ORC Light certificate shall not exceed 50% of the levy for an ORC Club certificate.
- An International ORC Light rule will be developed and posted to the ORC website. With the approval of ORC, a Rating Office may develop a National ORC Light Rule provided that it does not conflict with the International ORC Light Rule.

RATIONALE

ORC introduced ORC Light in Italy on November 11, 2025, as a pilot with the Italian Sailing Federation (FIV) and the Italian Offshore Owners Association (UVAI). The organizing club issues the certificate from data already in the ORC database for the boat model, with no measurement. The pilot has shown that these certificates bring boats that otherwise do not race into events. Nearly 900 certificates were issued in 2026.

In 2025, the Rating Officers Committee supported the pilot and recommended that each MNA define how ORC Light applies locally. The Management Committee asked for clear safeguards to protect ORC Club and a consistent fee structure. This proposal responds to both.

Given the pilot's success, ORC is ready to expand ORC Light one country at a time.. Circumstances and processes differ from country to country, so ORC will reach an individual agreement with each Rating Office on how the rule will be administered, consistent with the goals of ORC Light and the International ORC Light Rule to be published.

The goals of ORC Light are:

- To get boats racing that would otherwise not race.
- To give new sailors a simple, low-cost first handicap certificate.
- To lead owners toward ORC Club and ORCi as they gain experience.
- To protect ORC Club and ORCi.

The three-year rule and the separate classes keep ORC Light for boats that do not already race with an ORC Club or ORCi certificate.