



**ORC EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP**  
August 9-17, 2024 | Mariehamn, Åland

# NOTICE OF RACE

The ORC European Championship 2024 is organized by the Finnish Offshore Racing Association and Åländska Segelsällskapet under the authority of Finnish Sailing Federation and under the overall authority of the Offshore Racing Congress (ORC).

## 1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 The latest version of the following rules will also apply:
  - a) IMS Rules
  - b) ORC Rating Systems Rules
  - c) [DP] World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) for Category 3 with following additions:
    - i) Life Jackets as defined in OSR 5.01 shall be worn while a boat is afloat for offshore races, except when she is made fast or moored or if the crew is below deck.
    - ii) Boat's AIS shall be active from the first day of equipment inspection until the end of the event. During racing days, the AIS can be turned off only while the boat is moored.
    - iii) Jackstays need to be mounted on the deck for the offshore races only from the moment when boats are leaving the docks. This changes OSR 4.04.
- 1.3 Under RRS 87, ORC Rule 206 is changed as follows:
  - a) All sails, including storm & heavy weather sails required by the OSR, shall have a measurement stamp or sticker with all required measurements clearly readable.
  - b) [DP] Each boat shall select sails to be used at the event up to the maximum numbers as defined in ORC Rule 206.1. Selected sails will be marked with the event's sticker. Only sails marked with the event's sticker may be on board during the event.
  - c) [DP] Sails carried on board may vary from day to day but shall remain the same for each individual race day, including days with multiple races even in the case of damage to sails. The race day begins when the boat leaves for the race course from its dock or mooring.
  - d) [DP] Sails damaged during the event may be repaired. Sails beyond repair may be replaced with permission of the technical committee.

- 1.4 Minimum crew weight as defined in ORC Rules 102.3 and 200.1(b) shall apply.
- 1.5 A breach of RRS 56.2 shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.6 No national authority prescriptions will apply.

## 2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available at [www.orceuro2024.com](http://www.orceuro2024.com) no later than 1 August 2024. Printed copies will be available upon request at the completion of registration formalities.

## 3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The online Official Notice Board (ONB) is located at [www.orceuro2024.com](http://www.orceuro2024.com).
- 3.2 Official communication with competitors will be through the online ONB, and there will be additional courtesy information via e-mails and/or WhatsApp. Each boat shall have at least one device connected to the internet with WhatsApp installed. On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio.
- 3.3 [DP] RRS 41(c) is changed as follows:
  - a) A boat shall not receive help from any outside source, except help in the form of information which is freely available to all boats, which shall include navigational, weather, tide or current information from any source which is available to all boats whether or not by payment of a fee or subscription, but shall not include information gathered or the subject of interpretation by, or any advice received from, any source not on board the boat and which is specific to the boat and her situation.
  - b) By way of an example and interpretation, downloading charts, weather and/or tidal GRIB files from subscription services, or having such information passed to the boat in its pure form, is permitted but receiving messages or information which is the result of interpretation from outside of the boat is not permitted.

## 4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Competitors shall comply with World Sailing Eligibility Code.
- 4.2 In accordance with the decision made by World Sailing to suspend participation of Russian and Belarus competitors, the following are not eligible to take part in this regatta:
  - a) Competitors with Russian or Belarussian passport or representing these countries
  - b) Boats whose owner or person in charge is a national from Russia or Belarus
  - c) Boats registered in Russia or Belarus or with a sail number from these countries
- 4.2 The event is open to all boats with a valid ORC International certificate with a CDL between 8.000 and 16.400. The flotation date on an ORC International Certificate shall not be earlier than 9 August 2019.
- 4.3 Classes are defined by the CDL as follows:
  - Class O:** 16.400 ≥ CDL > 13.500
  - Class A:** 13.500 ≥ CDL > 11.200
  - Class B:** 11.200 ≥ CDL > 9.600
  - Class C:** 9.600 ≥ CDL > 8.000

*Note: CDL limits are based on 2023 ORC VPP and can be updated when 2024 ORC VPP becomes available*

- a) To assign a European Champion title in a class the number of boats plus the number of countries shall be not less than 14 for Classes A, B and C and less than 6 for Class O. If the minimum number of boats in a class is not met, that class can be grouped with the closest class. In this case, only one Championship title will be assigned to the combined classes.

- b) The person who is the owner or charterer or borrower of an entered boat shall be a national of the country the boat is representing. "National" is defined as either the holder of a passport or identity card, or a similar document stating residential status in the country represented.
- c) Classes will have separate starts and separate results.
- 4.4 Any change after applying ORC rule 305.2(b) or (c) shall not change the class the boat was originally entered.
- 4.5 Eligible boats may pre-register until 9 July 2024 by completing the on-line registration form at [www.orceuro2024.com](http://www.orceuro2024.com).
- 4.6 To be considered as pre-registered, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees. The list of pre-registered boats will be updated on the event website upon receipt of each new entry.
- 4.7 Once the entry is accepted, each boat shall submit a crew list before **23 July 2024**. Crew lists shall include all crew members who will be on board at the start of the first race and may be amended up to the start of the first race. After this time, any change in the crew shall be notified to the race office. Crew changes will be automatically approved provided that crew weight after the change is within the limits defined in the ORC certificate.
- 4.8 Each owner or skipper must personally register during office hours in the race office located in ÅSS Marina (Sjöpromenaden, Mariehamn 22100, Åland) from **09:00 on 9 August 2023 until 13:00 on 11 August 2024**.

## 5 ENTRY FEE

- 5.1 The entry fees as follows:

CLASS	Early Entry Fee (EUR) until 31 May 2024	Late Entry Fee (EUR) from 01 June 2024
CLASS 0	1,400	1,700
CLASS A	1,100	1,400
CLASS B	1,000	1,300
CLASS C	900	1,200

- 5.2 The entry fee covers the berthing fee for the scheduled measurement and racing days. In case of a longer berthing time, the boat shall pay an additional fee for this period at the harbour master office. Please contact the harbour master in advance directly via [gasthamn@segel.ax](mailto:gasthamn@segel.ax) or +358 18 13610.

- 5.3 The entry fee per boat shall be paid upon entering to:

Account holder (Beneficiary): The Finnish Offshore Racing Association  
 Beneficiary Address: Avomeripurjehtijat ry, c/o Mainoskauppa Oy  
 Melkonkatu 16 B, 00210 HELSINKI  
 Bank: Nordea Bank Abp  
 IBAN/ Account Number: FI24 1544 3000 1144 26  
 Swift/BIC Code: NDEAFIHH  
 Description: ORCEURO2024, Boat Name, Sail Number

The fee is non-refundable, even if the entry is cancelled later or the boat does not show up, except for the event or class being cancelled by the Organizing Authority.

- 5.4 The organising authority is not responsible for any costs incurred by the nonacceptance of a boat's registration.

## 6 AMATEUR CREWS (CORINTHIAN DIVISION) AND FEMALE CREWS (FEMALE DIVISION)

- 6.1 There will be additional scoring and prizes for amateur and female crews.
- 6.2 For the Corinthian Division and Trophy, the World Sailing Sailor Categorization Code, Regulation 22 shall apply, and all crew shall hold a valid Group 1 categorization. A boat entered in the Corinthian Division shall also be entered automatically in the Open Division and shall be eligible for prizes and trophies in both divisions. Details of the World Sailing Sailor Categorization Code and information on how to apply can be found on the World Sailing website.
- 6.3. For the Female Division a boat shall have 50% or more female competitors on board throughout the race.
- 6.4 The closing date for the receipt of valid Corinthian Division or Female Division entries shall be 23 July 2024. Each entry shall include a complete crew list and show the World Sailing Sailor ID and the categorization group for each crew. All crew shall hold valid categorization prior to this date that do not expire until after the final day of the event. Late entries and incomplete entries cannot be considered for this division.
- 6.5 Should a boat whose Corinthian Division or Female Division entry has been checked and accepted need to change a crew member after the closing date for the receipt of valid Corinthian or Female entries, the name of the new crew member including a valid World Sailing Sailor ID must be submitted to the organising authority for their approval. All crew lists will be posted on the official notice board or website as soon as possible after the registration deadline.
- 6.6 The time limit for a protest or request for redress by a boat regarding the World Sailing's Sailors Categorization Code is **20:00 on 13 August 2024**. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.

## 7 ADVERTISING

- 7.1 [DP] Boats shall display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority according to the World Sailing Advertising Code as follows:
- bow numbers with advertisement as forward as possible on both sides of the hull
  - advertisement to be displayed on both sides of the foremost 20% of the mainsail boom
  - sponsor's/event flag that shall be flown on the backstay throughout the entire event.
- 7.2 The organising authority may also require the installation, at no cost to competitors, of on-board video cameras and/or position devices, use of which will be defined in the Sailing Instructions.

## 8 SCHEDULE

Friday	<b>9 August 2024</b>	Registration and pre-race equipment inspection
Saturday	<b>10 August 2024</b>	Registration and pre-race equipment inspection
Sunday	<b>11 August 2024</b>	Registration and pre-race equipment inspection Practice Race, Opening Ceremony
Monday	<b>12 August 2024</b>	Long offshore race
Tuesday	<b>13 August 2024</b>	Long offshore race continues
Wednesday	<b>14 August 2024</b>	Inshore race(s)
Thursday	<b>15 August 2024</b>	Inshore race(s)
Friday	<b>16 August 2024</b>	Short offshore race
Saturday	<b>17 August 2024</b>	Inshore race(s), Closing Ceremony

- a) The long offshore race will be approximately 30-36 hours for the slowest boat.
  - b) The short offshore race will be approximately 10-12 hours for the slowest boat.
  - c) Inshore races will be approximately 1 to 1.5 hours.
  - d) The schedule may be changed depending on the weather and wind conditions.
- On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1500 hrs.

## 9 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 9.1 Each boat shall have an ORC International certificate issued up to **1 August 2024**. Certificates issued after that date may be accepted only by the request of the relevant ORC Rating office. This changes RRS 78.2.
- 9.2 No changes shall be made on ORC International certificates after **1 August 2024** unless prescribed and approved by the technical committee in correcting any error that may be found in the boat's certificate before or during the pre-race equipment inspection and before the start of the first race.
- 9.3 Boats shall be available for equipment inspection from **09:00 on 9 August 2024** until **13:00 on 11 August 2024**. Booking of time slots for inspections by the boats will be available through the online system from **1 August 2024**.
- 9.4 Measurement and rules compliance inspections will be carried out throughout the championship with emphasis on boats well placed in the scoring.
- 9.5 A boat shall not start until she passes the pre-race equipment inspection.

## 10 VENUE

- 10.1 The venue for the event is **ÅSS Marina (Sjöpromenaden, Mariehamn 22100, Åland)**.
- 10.2 The offshore courses racing area will be the waters south of the Åland Islands and between the Coast of Sweden.
- 10.3 The inshore racing area will be off the West coast of Åland.

## 11 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty for breaking one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident outside the Zone while racing.
- 11.2 The intention is to appoint an international jury as provided in RRS 70.5.

## 12 SCORING

- 12.1 Eight races are scheduled including two offshore races and six inshore races. Inshore races will be windward/leeward races, except where unusual or extreme local conditions make it impossible to sail a windward/leeward course, then the organising authority in agreement with the ORC Representative may give permission to sail a substitute course.
- 12.2 At least 4 inshore races and 1 offshore race or at least 3 inshore races and 2 offshore races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 12.3 A boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score as follows:
  - a) Offshore race scores shall not be excluded
  - b) When 4 or fewer inshore races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores
  - c) When 5 or more inshore races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst inshore race score.
- 12.4 Inshore race results will be determined by corrected times calculated by the Polar Curve Scoring and Constructed course method.

12.5 Offshore race results will be determined by corrected times calculated by the single ToT calculated by the Weather Routing as provided by the ORC. List of ratings will be published not later than 3 hours before the start.

12.6 RRS 90.3(e) shall apply.

### 13 SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

[DP] All support person vessels shall be registered at the race office. Identification numbers will be provided by the organising authority. These numbers shall be always visible.

### 14 NAUTICAL CHARTS

The following nautical charts of the The Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom are utilized as a reference in the Sailing Instructions: **953 and 954**.

### 15 BERTHING

15.1 Participating boats will have berthing free of charge in the regatta harbour for the period of **August 9th, 2024 to August 17th, 2024**.

15.2 [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are in the harbour.

### 16 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

16.1 [DP] All boats shall be in the water on **9 August 2024** until the end of the last scheduled race of the series.

16.2 [DP] Boats shall not be hauled out except for the purposes of repairing damage; and only after written permission from the technical committee. While hauled for this purpose, cleaning and polishing of the hull below the waterline will not be permitted. Appendages shall not be removed from the boat during the series.

### 17 DATA PROTECTION

Competitors, owners, and their guests shall grant the absolute right and permission to the organising authority and the ORC for any photography and video footage taken of persons and boats during the event, to be published and/or broadcasted in any media, including but not limited to TV advertisements, whatsoever for either editorial or advertising purposes or to be used in press information.

### 18 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include for example strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.

**Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.**

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk, see RRS 3 - Decision to Race. The organising authority, ÅSS, The Finnish Offshore Sailing Association, ORC, the PRO, the race committee, the international jury, the technical committee, the volunteers, and any other party involved in the organisation of the event will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the event. Each boat owner or his representative accepts these terms by signing the entry form.

## 19 COMPETITORS DRONES

- 19.1 [DP] Teams or their representatives shall not fly drones over the shore facilities or over the race area during training or racing days without complying with local legislation and without prior written approval by the organising authority.
- 19.2 The approval granted at the sole discretion of the organising authority may impose limitations on where and when drones may fly.
- 19.3 At any time the risk and responsibility for flying any drone is with the person flying the drone and images made inside the race area shall be shared with the organising authority, race committee or jury at reasonable request.

## 20 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party insurance with a minimum cover of 1.000.000 € per incident or the equivalent.

## 21 PRIZES

- 21.1 The 2024 ORC European Champion title will be awarded to the best boat in each class.
- 21.2 Prizes will be awarded to the top three boats in each class and best Corinthian and Female boat in each class.
- 21.3 Additional prizes may be awarded at the organiser's discretion.

## 22 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact [info@orceuro2024.com](mailto:info@orceuro2024.com).