



**FREMANTLE**  
SAILING CLUB

# **2026 Australian Women's Match Racing Championship**

**10 - 13 September 2026**

**Fremantle Sailing Club  
Western Australia**

The Organising Authority is  
**Fremantle Sailing Club (FSC)**

in conjunction with



**Australian Sailing (AS)**

## ABBREVIATIONS

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

PC: Protest Committee or International Jury

NoR: Notice of Race

OA: Organising Authority

RRS: Racing Rules of Sailing

SI: Sailing Instructions

RC: Race Committee

RCV Race Committee Vessel

WS: World Sailing

ONB: Official Notice Board

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

## 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 Sailing Instructions, 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 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. RRS 40.1 (personal flotation devices) applies at all times whilst afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment.
- 1.5. The event is World Sailing (WS) Grade 3 event. This grading is subject to review by World Sailing. The event may be regraded when there is clear reason to do so.
- 1.6. An International Jury will be appointed in accordance with RRS 91(b) and RRS Appendix N. The right of appeal will be denied in accordance with RRS 70.3 (a).

## 2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions (SI) will be available after 1600hrs on 09 September 2026 on the ONB at <https://www.awmatchracing.com/>.

### 3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the ONB at <https://www.awmatchracing.com/>.
- 3.2. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flagpole (VIP Jetty lawn).
- 3.3. [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. This does not include any communication with the race committee over the designated race channel.

### 4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. Up to 12 skippers will be invited. Only skippers invited by the OA will be eligible to enter this event.
- 4.2. Skippers may apply for an invitation by sending a completed Request of Invitation Form found at <https://www.awmatchracing.com/> to the OA using the website form no later than 10 June 2026.
- 4.3. Skipper selection will follow the Australian Match Racing Championships - Conditions of Conduct.
- 4.4. International competitors and/or crews are eligible to compete at the absolute discretion of Australian Sailing but will not be eligible for the Australian Champion title.
- 4.5. All competitors shall be over the age of 14 on or before 10 September 2026.
- 4.6. To remain eligible a skipper shall confirm acceptance of the invitation in writing (e-mail is acceptable) to be received by the date specified on the letter of invitation.
- 4.7. All competitors shall inform the OA of their World Sailing Sailor ID prior to or at registration. To register for a World Sailing Sailor ID click here - <https://www.sailing.org/sailors/world-sailing-profile/>.

### 5. ENTRY

- 5.1. The skipper shall be entered in the event upon completion of all registration requirements and pay all fees by 1 August 2026, unless extended by the OA.
- 5.2. A non-refundable entry fee of **\$1250 AUD** shall be paid as specified in the letter of invitation. The entry fee includes invitations to the Opening Ceremony, Prize Giving and competitors' lunches.
- 5.3. Withdrawal within two months of the event without written approval may result in a zero score applied to Ranking points (World Sailing Regulation 27.2.2(d)).

## 6. DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 6.1. Each supplied boat is insured for third party liability insurance with up to **\$10,000,000 AUD** per incident. Insurance automatically applies to all Australian residents and some international competitors with marine insurance through Club Marine and subsidiaries, any additional premium costs for international competitors not insured will be to their account.
- 6.2. Competitors are responsible for arranging their own private medical and travel insurance.
- 6.3. A damage deposit of **\$3,000 AUD** is required to cover any potential damages to the property/equipment. This amount will be authorised on the Client's credit card when registering for the event. The hold will be released 10 days after the conclusion of the event, subject to finalising outstanding damage claims
- 6.4. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident.
- 6.5. If 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.

## 7. CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

- 7.1. All skippers and crew shall be women.
- 7.2. The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be four (4) or five (5). All registered crew shall sail all races.
- 7.3. The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed **340 kg**, determined at the time of registration.
- 7.4. After the warning signal for a match, the registered skipper shall not leave the helm, except in an emergency.
- 7.5. When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event the RC may authorise an original crew member to substitute.
- 7.6. When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event the RC may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

## 8. EVENT FORMAT

- 8.1. The OA intends to provide six (6) **Elliott 7** type boats. Each boat will have the following sails: Mainsail, Jib, Symmetrical spinnaker.
- 8.2. Boats and sails will be allocated by draw either daily or each stage as decided by the RC. Sails and banners may need to be exchanged during a series to satisfy sponsor commitments.
- 8.3. While all reasonable steps will be taken to equalise boats variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1.

- 8.4. The intended racing area will be adjacent to Bathers Beach and is shown in **NoR Appendix B.**
- 8.5. Skippers will be seeded into a round robin based on World Sailing rankings 30 days prior to the event.
- 8.6. The event will consist of the following stages:

**Stage 1:** Round Robins

All skippers will sail round robins.

The four highest scoring skippers shall qualify for the next stage.

**Stage 2:** Knock-Out Semi-Finals

The highest placed skipper from Stage One shall select their opponent when requested by the RC to do so. The next highest placed skipper who has not already been chosen shall choose their opponent.

The first skipper of each series to score 3 points shall proceed to the finals.

**Stage 3:** Knock-Out Third and Fourth Place

The losing semi-finalists shall race to determine third and fourth place.

The first skipper to score 2 points shall be awarded third place, the losing skipper awarded fourth place.

**Stage 4:** Knock-Out Final

The first skipper to score 3 points shall be awarded first place, the losing skipper awarded second place.

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



**2025 Australian Women's Match Racing Champions**

L-R: Simone McGurk, Minister for Creative Industries & Women, Ona Rafart, Sophie Jackson, Nia Jerwood (Skipper), Georgia Payne, Caitlin Shaw, Chris Charlwood (Coach)

## 9. PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

- 9.1. The following schedule is provisional and subject to change by the RC.  
9.2. Attendance at Registration, Weigh-In, Daily Briefings, Welcome Function and Prize Giving is mandatory unless excused by the OA.

Date	Time	Activity
<b>Thu 10 Sept 2026</b>	0800 - 1000	Regatta Office Open: Registration and Weigh-in
	1000 - 1600	On Water Practice
	1800 - 2000	Welcome Function
<b>Fri 11 Sept 2026</b>	0730 - 0830	Regatta Office Open: Registration
	0830	Daily Briefing
	0953	First Attention Signal
<b>Sat 12 Sept 2026</b>	0800	Daily Briefing
	0923	First Attention Signal
<b>Sun 13 Sept 2026</b>	0800	Daily Briefing
	0923	First Attention Signal
	1500	Latest time for warning signal
	1700 - 1900	Prize Giving

## 10. ADVERTISING

Boats shall display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority

## 11. [NP] CODE OF CONDUCT

- 11.1. Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with any reasonable request from any official and shall behave so as not to bring the event into disrepute.

- 11.2. 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.

## 12. [DP] SUPPORT PERSON

- 12.1. Support vessels shall stay approximately 100m from the racing area while boats are racing.
- 12.2. Support vessels are to comply with **Appendix A** Support Teams.

## 13. MEDIA, IMAGES, and SOUND

By participating in the event, a competitor automatically grants to the OA and the sponsors the right in perpetuity to make, use, and show any motion pictures, still pictures, and live, taped, or film television reproductions of the competitor during the competition without compensation.

## 14. RISK STATEMENT

- 14.1. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.'
- 14.2. By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks.

## 15. PRIZES

- 15.1. Australian Sailing Medals for 1st, 2nd & 3rd.
- 15.2. Australian Women's Match Racing Perpetual trophy.

## 16. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information refer to the event website at <https://www.awmatchracing.com/> or contact:  
FSC Boating Office

**Regatta Coordinator:** Guy Skinner

**Email:** [regatta@fsc.com.au](mailto:regatta@fsc.com.au)

**Phone:** 0407 449 364

**Senior Sailing Administrator:** Scott Nunn

**Email:** [seniorsailingadmin@fsc.com.au](mailto:seniorsailingadmin@fsc.com.au)

**Phone:** 0421 519 034

## **APPENDIX A**

### **SUPPORT TEAMS [DP]**

Support Teams, including all Support Persons, Coaches, Team Leaders and their vessels, shall comply with the following:

1. All vessels shall be registered with the OA via the link below:  
<https://sailingresults.net/entry/default.aspx?ID=1469142>
2. All vessels will be required to comply with local marine legislation. Local marine regulations specify the safety equipment to be carried. A copy of the regulations is available at:  
<https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/imarine/boating-safety.asp>
3. All vessels shall only be moored in the location as directed by a FSC representative.
4. All vessels shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. All Vessels shall keep a minimum of 50 metres to leeward of the start line and its extension and more than 50 metres clear of any racing boat or mark of the course.
5. No Support person is to operate a drone within 200 metres of the RCV at any time.
6. All vessels shall have a current boat insurance policy with a minimum cover of AUD \$10 million.
7. All skippers and their crews shall wear a personal flotation device securely fastened at all times when afloat.
8. All vessels will be required to assist in the event of an emergency as directed by the Race Management Team.
9. All vessels shall have a working VHF radio and maintain a listening watch on the nominated VHF Channel/s announced at the Volunteers Briefing.
10. All support boat drivers shall:
  - a. attend the daily Volunteers Briefing with the Race Management Team.
  - b. wear an engine kill cord/safety lanyard or automatic engine immobilizer.
  - c. hold a current RST or equivalent powerboat licence.

The penalty for failing to comply with the above requirements may, after protest, be the disqualification of all competing boats associated with the infringing vessel.

## APPENDIX B

### APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF EVENT VENUE AND INTENDED RACE AREA

Fremantle Sailing Club is located south of the main business district. It is approximately 30 minutes from Perth Airport by Taxi or Ride Share. For more information, please refer to the website: [awmatchracing.com](http://awmatchracing.com)



The preferred course area will be adjacent to Bathers Beach and South Mole as approximated by the outline above. Weather considerations may require RC to extend the area beyond the southern and western boundaries.