



2026 MACAO MATCH CUP
WORLD MATCH RACING TOUR
25th to 29th March 2026 (race days)
MACAO

The Organising Authority is the Sport Bureau of Macao SAR Government and Ursa Major Sailing Event Management. The Macao Match Cup is a World Match Racing Tour Sanctioned Event.

NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

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

SIs: Sailing Instructions

RC: Race Committee

TD: Technical Delegate

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

IJ: International Jury

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 SIs, will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing and sponsor races. The Far East 28 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 If there is a conflict between languages the English text takes precedence.
- 1.6 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.
- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 Competitors are not required to wear personal flotation devices while afloat.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The SIs will be available by 1200 on Tuesday 24th March, 2026 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 from the Competitor Area

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Up to twelve (12) skippers may be invited.
- 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 All 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 USD \$1,500 and shall ensure that all crew complete crew weighing, all between 1000 to 1800 Monday 23th March, 2026 or 0900 to 1200 on Tuesday 24th March, 2026, unless extended by the OA. There shall be no entry fee.
- 4.6 When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within two months of the event or leaves the event before the end without written approval from the OA, it is possible for a zero score to be applied to their Ranking points for that event by World Sailing. (World Sailing Policy H15.3).

5 DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 5.1 Each supplied boat is insured by the OA for third-party liability.
- 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 (6) *Far East 28R* type boats for racing in the event. Each boat will have the following sails: *Mainsail, Jib, Spinnaker*.
- 7.2 Boats will be allocated as decided by the RC. The intention of the RC will be to allocate boats by draw, either daily or for each round. 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 equalise the boats variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.
- 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 the Macao Harbor.





7.8 Skippers will be seeded into a round robin as determined by the WMRT Organising Committee. After the first stage the following will apply:

- (a) Skippers will be paired in each stage as per NOR 7.9
- (b) In reference to RRS C4.1, the highest ranked skipper from the First Stage will be assigned the starboard entry in the first match. Boats shall alternate every odd match.
- (c) 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.
- (d) 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 point series, unless otherwise agreed by both skippers.
- (e) Further matches in the series will not be sailed once the first skipper scores the points required for that stage.

7.9 The event will consist of the following stages:

- (a) First Stage - Qualifying
 - 1) All skippers will sail a single 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 in the First Stage shall choose their opponent when required to do so by the OA. The next highest placed skipper who has not already been chosen shall choose their opponent and so on.
 - 2) The first skipper of each series to score at least *three (3)* points shall proceed to the semi-finals.
- (c) Third Stage - Knock-Out Semi-Finals
 - 1) The highest placed skipper in the First Stage shall select their opponent when requested by the RC to do so. The remaining two skippers shall race each other.
 - 2) The first skipper of each series to score at least *three (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 *two (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 *three (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 1000 on Tuesday 24th January 2026
- (b) Registration from 1000 to 1800 on Monday 23th March 2026 and 0900 to 1200 on Tuesday 24th March 2026, unless extended by the OA.
- (c) Crew weighing during registration.
- (d) Practice from 0830 to 1130 and 1230 to 1530 on Tuesday 24th March 2026. The OA will allocate time slots.
- (e) Competitors press conference at 1630 followed by first briefing at 1700 on Tuesday 24th March 2026.
- (f) First meeting with umpires will follow the first briefing.
- (g) Racing days from 25th – 29th March 2026.
- (h) Time of the first race each day will be 1000.
- (i) The latest time for an attention signal on the last day of racing will be 16:00
- (j) Daily press conference 30 minutes after the last race of each day.
- (k) Prize giving will be at Awarding banquet on 29th March evening.

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

[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 PERSON

- 11.1. Support person vessels shall conspicuously display identification of the team being coached.
- 11.2. Support persons shall stay approximately 100m from the racing area while boats are racing or comply with reasonable requests from the officials.
- 11.3. The OA will not provide berths for support person vessels.

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 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. Medals will be presented to the top 3 teams
- 14.2. The OA may reduce a prize in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request, including attendance at official event functions.
- 14.3. The Total prize purse will be USD \$100,000 (all costs which may arise from paying prizes shall be borne by competitors themselves.)

- 14.4. Prize money will be awarded to the 12 teams as follows

First prize	\$30,000
Second prize	\$20,000
Third prize	\$15,000
Fourth prize	\$11,000
Fifth prize	\$4,500
Sixth prize	\$4,500
Seventh prize	\$4,500
Eighth prize	\$4,500
Ninth prize	\$1,500
Tenth prize	\$1,500
Eleventh prize	\$1,500
Twelfth prize	\$1,500

- 14.5. World Sailing has been notified of these Prizes.



15. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding the Notice of Race, please contact:

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