

INTERNATIONAL 8 METRE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

1. The Cup, originally donated by Eugene van Voorhis to the Royal Northern Yacht Club (now the Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club) and the property of the Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club, shall be known as the 8 Metre World Cup.
2. The Cup is a Challenge Cup and shall be competed for from time to time as is seen fit and practical by the International 8 Metre Association – IEMA.
3. The Cup may be competed for in any country where there is an 8 Metre fleet.
4. A fleet wishing to host the Championship shall request permission from IEMA to do so.
5. The location and date of a Championship shall be announced at least 8 months in advance.
6. Entries shall be open to all yachts of the International 8 Metre Class which have a valid certificate of rating or satisfy any dispensations allowed by Alteration of the Class Rules as included in the Notice of Race.
7. All participants (yacht owners) shall be paid up members of IEMA.
8. A Championship shall be valid if the entry is at least 8 yachts which, together, represent 3 different countries. To represent a country at least half the crew must be nationals of that country.
9. A Championship shall consist of a minimum of 5 races and a maximum of 10. The Notice of Race shall state the intended number of races for the Championship. Scoring shall be in terms of any relevant Rule and Appendix of the latest Racing Rules of Sailing except that if weather conditions or other circumstances beyond the control of the Organising Authority only allow 5 races to be sailed, all races shall be counted. A maximum of 2 races may be sailed on any one day. A reserve day shall be scheduled for the purpose of completing 5 races. If fewer than 5 races are completed, no result shall be declared and the Cup shall be retained by the current champion's Yacht Club – see Rule 14.
10. Courses shall be of a Windward-Leeward configuration or as otherwise described in the Sailing Instructions. It is recognised that different venues will suit different course lengths. Ideally a day's racing should aim for 1 race of about 16 nautical miles or 2 races of about 10 nautical miles each. No set course should be less than 7.5nm and no leg less than 1.5nm. A race shall not be shortened before 4 legs have been completed. If an offset mark is used in conjunction with the windward mark, the distance between these marks will not count as a leg.
11. When 2 races are to be sailed on any day, there shall be a time limit of 3 hours for each race. Where 1 race is scheduled, the time limit shall be 5 hours. The Organising Authority may provide for an extension in the Sailing Instructions.

12. The Organising Authority shall, when practicable, appoint an International Jury in accordance with the relevant Appendix of the current Racing Rules of Sailing. The Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club shall be invited to nominate a juror.

13. The draft Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions shall be submitted to the Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club for approval. Organising Authorities should submit their draft Notice of Race not later than 1 month before publication, and draft Sailing Instructions not later than 3 months before the championship. It is recommended that any World Sailing drafts for both the NOR and SI's are followed as closely as possible.

14. The Cup shall be held by the current Champion's Yacht Club which shall be responsible for engraving and for ensuring the safe keeping of the Cup while it is in their custody.

15. Alterations to these Rules shall be made only by the Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club after consulting with IEMA.

16. Should the International 8 Metre Class cease to exist; or should the Competition for the 8 Metre World Cup lapse for 3 consecutive years or in the opinion of the Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club, after consulting with IEMA, cease to be of primary importance, the Cup shall be returned to the Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club.

*International 8 Metre World Championship Rules has been approved by
Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club on 24 November 2025*