

OGA OWNER'S / SKIPPER'S DECLARATION

I certify that my vessel has adequate third party insurance cover of at least £2 million (€2.5 million) whilst participating in OGA events and that this insurance is valid whilst racing.

Legal Liability

- a) By signing this declaration form, participants accept that they are responsible for themselves, their crew and their boats whether ashore or afloat.
- b) Nothing done by the organisers (ie OGA, host club (when applicable), race management team, patrol craft and anyone helping to run the event) will relieve participants of their responsibilities.
- c) By putting to sea participants imply the suitability of their boat and the competency of the skipper and crew for the expected or forecast conditions.
- d) The provision of a 'mother ship' / support / patrol / safety boat(s) does not relieve participants of their responsibility. There is no undertaking by the OGA to provide such support (with the possible exception of certain open boat events on a risk assessed basis).
- e) Each skipper is responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather, that there is crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather, and that adequate safety equipment is carried, properly maintained, stowed, in date and that the crew know how to use it.
- f) The person signing this form accepts and agrees to the following RYA risk statement.

Risk Statement

1. Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.'
2. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently 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 accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
 - b. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore;
 - c. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
 - d. Their 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, patrol boat if supplied and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - f. The provision of patrol boat cover, if supplied, is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
 - g. They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather, that there is crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather, and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.
 - h. They are aware that on a boat without guardrails or which does not fully meet the ISAF relevant safety regulation there is additional risk which should be considered in connection with RRS 4 above.
3. The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the person in charge who must do his best to ensure that the yacht is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who have undergone appropriate training and are physically fit to face bad weather. He must be satisfied as to the soundness of hull, spares, rigging, sails and all gear. He must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used. He shall also nominate a person to take over the responsibilities of the person in charge in the event of his incapacitation.
4. The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2 million or €2.5 million.
5. I agree to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing, the Notice of Race, the OGA Sailing Instructions, the Risk Assessments and all other rules that govern this event. In particular, I have read the sections on liability and risk detailed above and agree to their provisions. I will draw this to the attention of all crew members before sailing. I undertake to sail in compliance with the RYA Racing Charter.