

European Championship Rules

The Virginie Heriot Cup

In memory of Madame Virginie Heriot, and in accordance with her often expressed wish to encourage yachting, the Committee of the Yacht Club de France decided at a meeting on the 21st May 1946 to initiate an International Cup and name it the 'Coupe Virginie Heriot'.

The cup is assigned to the International Dragon Class, but remains the property of the Yacht Club de France.

In agreement with the Committee of the International Dragon Class Association the 'Coupe Virginie Heriot' will be the trophy of the European Dragon Championship and is a **helmsman's trophy**.

Rules

1. The European Championships shall be governed by the current World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the International Dragon Class Rules, the Dragon European Championship Rules, the International Dragon Class Championship Regulations and Appendices and any amendments thereto approved in writing by the IDA and in force one month prior to the date the Notice of Race is issued.

Frequency

2. The Championship shall be held every even year (alternating with the World Championship).

Venue

3. The races shall be organised in accordance with a schedule decided by the International Dragon Association.
4. Every European country having a Dragon Fleet shall be entitled to apply to run the European Championship. The selection shall be made by the International Dragon Association at its annual general meeting. The organising authority shall be required to show that it is able and willing to meet the International Dragon Association's requirements for arranging a major European Championship event. The host venue shall specify the maximum number of boats it can host (this number to be in the Notice of Race) and this shall be **at least 60 boats**.

Entries

5. The maximum number of entries (per country) that can be put forward by their National Association as qualified entrants is as follows:

Registered Dragons Per Country Qualified	Entries
1-10	6
11-20	7
21-35	8
36-50	9
51-85	10
86-125	11
126-175	12
176-250	13
251-325	14
326-400	15
Over 400	17

An entry that qualifies under any other method (see rules 6, 7 and 8 below) shall be in addition to the national entitlement.

In addition, the host country will be permitted, at the discretion of the IDA depending on the number of entries, extra places up to 50% of their qualified entries.

6. In addition, the top 20 helmsmen of the International Ranking List of the previous year are qualified.
7. In addition, up to 2 places may be allocated at the discretion of the International Dragon Association. Applications for these places must be received by the IDA Secretary three months before the event.
8. In addition, the following helmsmen shall automatically qualify:
- The current European Champion.
 - The President and Vice Presidents of the International Dragon Association.
 - The Chairman, Vice Chairmen, Treasurer, Secretary and Chairman of the Technical Committee of the International Dragon Association.
9. If, at the closing date for entries, the limit for number of entries (entry form plus entry fee) has been exceeded, entries will be reduced in the following order:

- a) The Host country's additional places
 - b) The National allocations (except for the Host country)
 - c) If the reductions in b) have to be applied, reductions shall be proportionate as far as possible provided that at least one entry per nation is accepted. Each country will be asked to confirm the number of its allocation attending with any on awaiting list. If a qualified entry withdraws for any reason, that country will be given 7 days to confirm a replacement, failing which the host country may accept any other entry at its discretion
10. In the event that the number of qualified entries is less than the maximum IDA number specified by the host, the host may accept additional entries with the approval of the IDA.
11. Each Individual National Association shall notify the Organising Authority of the boats that are expected to attend, at least three months prior to the championship. National Associations may require at least two crew members to be current members of their Association.
12. The names of helmsman, crew and boat shall be in the hands of the organising authority at least 30 days before the first race.

Eligibility

13. [Spare]
14. Helmsmen qualifying through their National allocation shall be a National of, or ordinarily resident in that country, a member of that country's National Dragon Association and a member of a Yacht/Sailing Club recognised by that country's National Sailing Authority.
15. Helmsmen qualifying through the IRL shall be a member of the National Dragon Association of the country of which they are a National or are ordinarily resident and a member of a Yacht/Sailing Club recognized by that country's National Sailing Authority.
16. The World and European Championships are **helmsmen's events and no substitution of helmsmen is permitted**. Substitution of crew other than helmsmen is permitted during a series for good and sufficient reasons approved by the Jury. The total weight of the crew after substitution shall not exceed 285 kgs.
17. Irrespective of the Owner's/Helmsman's Nationality or country of residence, the boat shall be entered with the sail number of her country of registration unless the Jury have previously agreed otherwise (RRS Appendix G)

Entry requirements and measurement

18. Entries shall be limited to boats holding a valid Certificate of Measurement which shall be exhibited to the Organising country as directed in the Notice of Race.

A valid Measurement Certificate is an original or copy of the Measurement Form which has been stamped by a National Sailing Authority, or is a special Measurement Certificate issued by a National Sailing Authority. (Class Rule 1.82).

19. Boats and sails may be subject to re-measurement in accordance with the International Dragon Class Rules and the IDA Technical Committee instructions.

20. The Organisers shall appoint a Measurer, Principal Race Officer and Chairman of the Jury approved in writing by the IDA for the event.

21. The Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions (in English) shall be approved by the IDA before publication.

Course and Scoring System

22. The type of course (windward/leeward), the scoring (low points) system and time limit shall be notified in the Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions.

Number of Races

23. The Championship shall take place over 5 days and comprise 8 races. Only one race shall be scheduled for the first and last days. A maximum of 6 races shall be scheduled on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th days. It is recommended that there be no more than 2 races per day, but the schedule may be amended during the regatta to hold more than 2 races on any day if needed to complete a minimum regatta series. If 5 or more races are completed there will be one discard. There will be no discard if only 4 races are completed. If fewer than four races can be sailed the trophy shall not be awarded. A spare day cannot be scheduled for the last day of the series.

International Jury.

24. The Organising Authority shall appoint an International Jury from whose decisions there shall be no appeal (RRS 70.4).

Prizes

25. The title of European Champion will be awarded to the helmsman who has won the Championship.

26. The Yacht Club represented by the winning helmsman shall have temporary possession of the Cup for the period of one year. The Club shall be responsible for the care of the Cup (including insurance) and its presence at the following Championship.

27. The OA should provide Gold, Silver and Bronze medals (carrying the IDA logo) for the winning helmsmen and crew of the first three yachts.

28. A Corinthian Trophy and medals may be provided for crews entered in the Corinthian Division. **All crew members must have ISAF Classification 1.**

Interpretation

29. These rules will be subject to interpretation and amendment by the IDA.

30. An amendment to these conditions shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting in general meeting.

Note: The Corinthian event is required to be mentioned in the NOR. Wording will be supplied by the IDA to the Organising Authorities of the IDA Championships. It is also included in the NOR template at Appendix 6 in the IDA Championship Regulations Manual.

Last amended 22.11.16

***Tim Pearson
General Secretary
IDA***