

29er

2021 Zhik 29er European Championship

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2021

The Class and our championship host are optimistic we will be able to hold our 2021 European Championship in Valencia, Spain 23rd -31st August. We intend to hold this championship so long as government protocols allow. The European Championship might look a bit different on land this year, but we and our hosts are confident we can deliver top-notch skiff racing in a safe environment. We are looking forward to getting our 29er sailors back on the water!

To assist sailors, families and coaches as they plan for the months ahead, below you will find all of the information currently available. As with everything during the pandemic, our situation is constantly evolving and we will provide updates as new information becomes available. Information will be posted on the class website (www.29er.org), the European Championship website (www.29ereuropeans.org), as well as our social media sites. We ask for your patience and understanding as we respond and adapt to new protocols as they arise.

EVENT ENTRY

- **When will entry open?** Entry will open on 6th May 2021. Please visit the European Championship website for the link to entry (www.29ereuropeans.org). In order to assist our championship host in planning, we urge every sailor to complete his or her entry as soon as possible.
- **When will entry close?** Early Entry closes 14th June 2021.
The complete entry schedule can be found on the European Championship website (www.29ereuropeans.org).
- **Will entry be restricted?** No. Current regulations in Spain allow the class and the OA to proceed with our traditional unrestricted entry and payments will be taken when entry opens.
- **What will happen if the government imposes restrictions later?** Like all sport and event organizations, we must be prepared for changes in government regulations in response to changes in the pandemic. If the size of the European Championship is restricted at a later date and entries are in excess of the number of sailors permitted, we will take the following steps:

- first, entry to the 2021 European Championship would be restricted to European sailors only.
- If entry remains in excess of government restrictions after that we will implement the following allocations plan: entries will be allocated to European national class associations (NCAs) based on membership in the international class over the years 2017 to 2019. Each European NCA that has participated in at least one European Championship in the years 2017 to 2019 will be allocated 3 entries (one of which must be used for an all-female team) **PLUS** additional entries based on membership. If a NCA is allocated a total of 6 or more entries, a total of 2 of those entries must be used for all-female teams. The number of additional entries will depend on the number of teams permitted under the entry restrictions.
- **What entry restrictions would trigger an allocation system?** If entry is capped at 175 teams or more, we will **NOT** use the allocation system; entry will be open and first-come-first-served. If entry is restricted to 174 or fewer teams, we will use the allocation system.
- **How will allocated entry work?** We would ask our European NCAs to provide a ranked list of teams that intend to enter the European Championship and would allocate entries based on these ranking lists.
- **Would teams be required to withdraw from the championship:** This is an unfortunate possibility. In this case entry fees would be fully refunded.

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

International travel restrictions and requirements are changing frequently and are difficult to predict. The class and our championship hosts do not control travel protocols, which can vary by country. We urge all our members to stay current on travel requirements for entering the championship host country and for returning to your home country.

REFUND POLICY

In these uncertain times, we need to plan for many scenarios. We are committed to delivering our traditional fun, safe and well-managed championships but must also make contingency plans for less happy outcomes. Our refund policy is below.

- **If a team withdraws from the regatta, entry fees will be refunded as follows.**
 - Up to 14th June: 75% of the entry fee will be refunded.
 - Up to 11th July: 50% of the entry fee will be refunded.
 - After 11th July: No refund will be made.
- **If the European Championship is cancelled:** each competitor shall receive a refund of 75% of the entry fees paid

MISCELLANEOUS

- **What public health protocols will be in place?** Our championships will operate in accordance with the public health protocols required in our host countries. Every competitor, coach, race official, parent, class official and volunteer will be required to

comply with those protocols. At this time, we do not know what protocols will be in place but will make that information available in advance of the event.

- **What can I expect in the boat park?** We do not currently have that information. However, if necessary, we will work to maximize the number of competitors allowed and, as a result, entry to the venue might be limited to competitors, coaches and regatta personnel.
- **Will you cancel the championship if some countries prohibit travel for their own citizens?** No. We very much hope to see sailors from every corner of Europe but realize that it might be difficult or impossible for some to travel during the pandemic. Our championship will go forward. However, if a significant number of European countries prohibit international travel at the time of the championship, we will consider holding the event as a 29er European festival.