SSL GOLD CUP FINALS 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

Amended November 3, 2026 & November 6, 2026

The Sailing Athletes Foundation ("SAF"), in conjunction with The Confederação Brasileira de Vela, together the Organising Authority ("OA"), is pleased to invite the SSL National Teams to take part in the

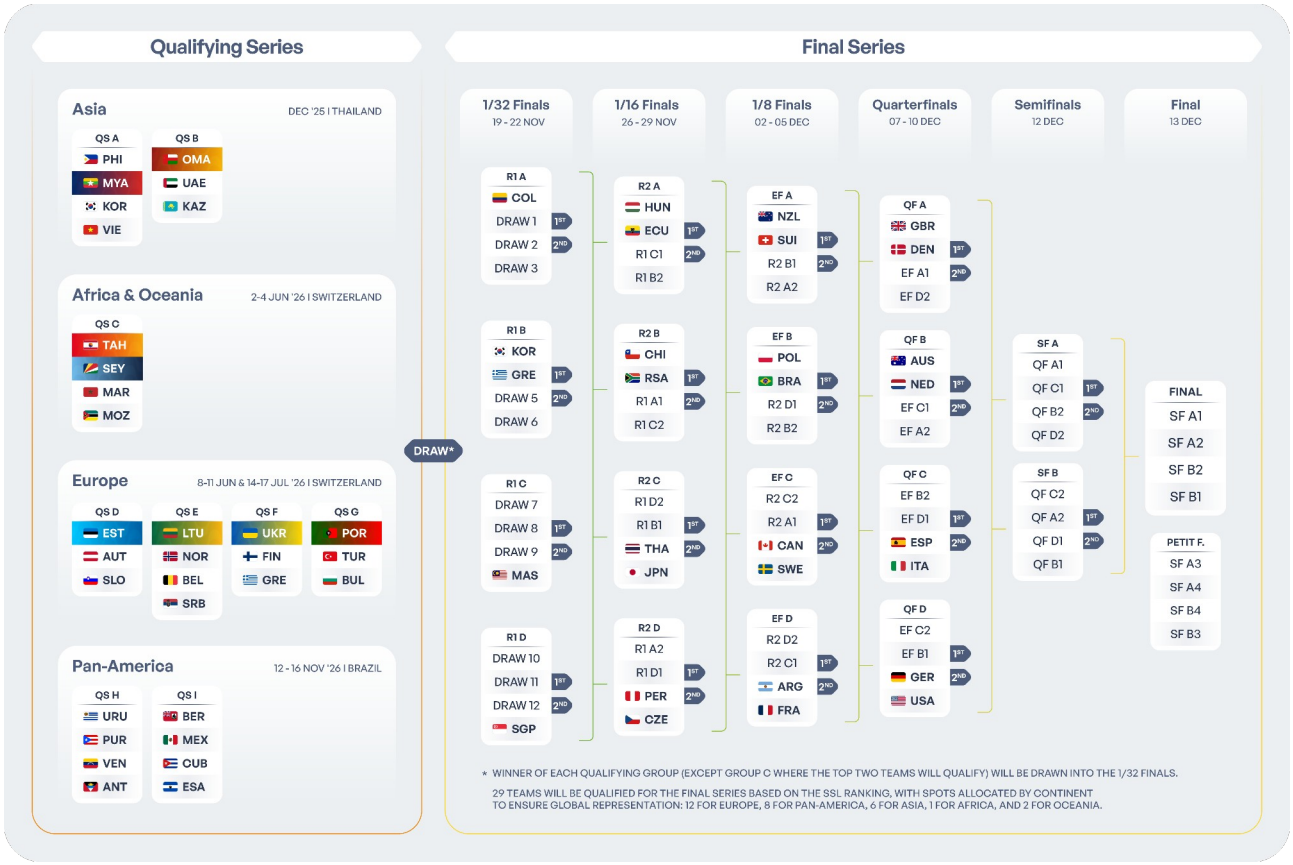
SSL Gold Cup Finals 2026

November 18 – December 13, 2026

Rio de Janeiro

SSL GOLD CUP FINALS 2026
(the "Finals" or the "Event")

MATCHBOARD



1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing ("RRS"). Other documents under RRS Definition Rule (g) include:

1.1.1 **[NP] [DP]** The SSL Gold Cup Team Selection Regulations.

1.1.2 The SSL Ranking Rules.

1.1.3 **[NP] [DP]** The SSL Gold Cup Charter.

1.1.4 The SSL Gold Cup Boat Handling Regulations.

1.1.5 World Sailing RRS Appendix UF, Umpired Fleet Racing Rules, SSL Gold Cup 2026 Edition.

1.1.6 The SSL Gold Cup Support Team Regulations.

1.2 Documents referenced in NOR 1.1.4, 1.1.5 and 1.1.6 will be available at the same time as the Sailing Instructions on the Official Notice Board ("ONB") at onb.sslgoldcup.com/finals2026.

1.3 Additional Rules referenced in the Notice of Race ("NOR") or Sailing Instructions ("SI") may apply and, if applicable, will be published on the ONB.

1.4 No National prescriptions will apply.

1.5 In all rules governing this event:

1.5.1 **[SP]** denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee or technical committee without a hearing or a discretionary penalty applied by the international jury with a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1.

1.5.2 **[NP]** denotes that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1 and 63.2(a).

2 [DP] ADVERTISING AND EQUIPMENT

2.1 Boats shall carry and display the advertising and equipment provided by the OA.

2.2 Competitors shall wear the official team uniforms provided by the OA during dock out and dock in, whilst racing and for interviews.

2.3 Teams may promote their sponsors by wearing hats with sponsor branding. All team members shall wear the same hats. Promotion of sponsors must not be in conflict with local laws and must comply with sponsorship guidelines and rules communicated by the OA.

2.4 A Team may promote up to four (4) sponsors by placing branding marks on a boom cover design and supplied by the OA, in accordance with NOR Addendum A.

3 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available on the ONB no later than November 17, 2026.

4 COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 The Official Notice Board is online, as defined in NOR 1.2.

4.2 Each Captain, or their representative, shall have access to WhatsApp and Telegram, subscribe to the groups required by the OA, and ensure data capabilities to monitor them 24/7 during the event.

5 ELIGIBILITY, ENTRY AND ENTRY FEES

5.1 The Entry List is determined by the OA on the basis of the SSL Nations' Ranking as published on February 10, 2026 and the results of the SSL Gold Cup Qualifiers 2026. The grouping of teams into Groups for the Finals is at the discretion of the OA.

5.2 **[DP]** A Captain shall confirm participation of their team in the Event by officially advising the OA by email to TeamSelection@starsailors.com by the later of:

5.2.1 September 27, 2026 for those teams scheduled to first compete in Round 1/32 or 1/16 Finals; or

5.2.2 October 4, 2026 for those teams scheduled to first compete in Round 1/8 or Quarter Finals; or

5.2.3 the day following the last day of racing in the qualifying series in which they are competing.

5.3 Teams that qualified in the SSL Gold Cup Qualifiers 2026 shall compete in Round 1/32 of the Finals. The Group in which they compete in that Round shall be randomly drawn during the Opening Ceremony on November 18, 2026.

5.4 Should a nation be unable to participate in the Finals, the OA reserves the right, at any time, to invite a replacement.

5.5 The Entry List for each Round of the Finals, including the composition of Groups, will be published on the ONB.

5.6 There is no entry fee.

6 FORMAT

6.1 The SSL Gold Cup 2026 is a World Sailing Special Event which includes two events: the SSL Gold Cup Qualifyiers 2026 and the SSL Gold Cup Finals 2026.

6.2 The SSL Gold Cup Qualifiers 2026 consists of four separate regional series: Europe, Africa & Oceania, Asia and Pan-America that will be held prior to the Finals throughout 2025 and 2026.

6.3 A 'Round' is one of a number of knock out competitions in each of the Qualifiers and the Finals. For the purposes of NOR 7.2, in the event that the Semi-Final and Final are sailed on the same day, they will be considered to be a single Round of the Event.

6.4 A 'Group' is a group of four teams in the Finals that are scheduled to race together in a Round.

6.5 Nations competing in the Finals will consist of ten (10) teams advancing from the Qualifiers and thirty (30) teams granted a bye by the OA, either based upon their position in the SSL Nations' Ranking as at the date specified in NOR 5.1 or their status as the host nation for the Finals.

6.6 With the exception of the Semi-Final and Final, each Round in the Finals will consist of up to four (4) scheduled races over four (4) racing days. In the event that there are less than three (3) valid races completed in any Group(s), a fifth racing day will be scheduled to run a maximum of one (1) additional race for the applicable Group(s).

6.7 The Final and Semi-Final will consist of one (1) scheduled race for each Group.

6.8 In all but the last Round of the Finals the teams ranked 1st and 2nd in a Group will qualify to advance to the next Round.

6.9 In all but the 1/32 Round, Semi-Final and Final, if 6.4 is not complied with places will be filled by additional qualification from the Round that precedes it. SI Addendum B will apply.

7 SCHEDULE

7.1 An Opening Ceremony will be held in the evening of November 18, 2026.

7.2 With the exception of the Final, registration and weighing of Team members shall be carried out the day before the first scheduled day of racing in each Round.

7.3 In accordance with NOR 7.2, the Race Office shall be open for registration and weighing between the hours of 0900 and 1700. The OA will advise Teams at which time they should present themselves for registration and weighing.

7.4 Team members whose qualification for the next Round occurs on the same day that they are required to weigh, may present themselves for weighing out of hours at a time that will be announced by the OA.

7.5 **[NP] [DP]** Exceptionally, to accommodate unavoidable late arrival at the venue, the OA may specify a time prior to 0830 on the first scheduled day of racing at which participants may weigh and register. Captains should email any such request to raceoffice@starsailors.com by no later than the time advised for their Team in accordance with NOR 7.3.

7.6 **[NP] [DP]** A Podium Ceremony will be held as soon as practicable after the last race of each Round. Athletes competing in that Round are expected to attend. Team uniforms shall be worn.

7.7 Rounds calendar:

ROUND	REGISTRATION	SCHEDULED RACING DAYS	FIFTH RACING DAY (if NOR 6.6 applies)
1/32 Final	November 18	November 19 – 22	Before November 26
1/16 Final	November 25	November 26 – 29	Before December 2
1/8 Final	December 1	December 2 – 5	Before December 7
1/4 Final	December 6	December 7 – 10	Before December 12
Semi-Final & Final	December 11	December 12 – 13	N/A

A Skippers' Briefing will be scheduled for each day of racing at 1000. The warning signal for the first race each day is 1200.

7.8 On the last scheduled day of racing in a Round, no warning signal will be made after 1700.

8 VENUE, CONTACT INFORMATION AND RACING AREA

8.1 The regatta venue is:

Marina da Gloria – Av. Infante Dom Henrique, S/N – Sala 19A
Glória - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
ZIP-Code: 20021-140

8.2 For further information:

Sailing Athletes Foundation
Contact: info@starsailors.com
Event website: https://goldcup.starsailors.com

8.3 The racing area will be Guanabara Bay and adjacencies (South part).

9 COURSES, TARGET TIMES AND DECISION TO RACE

9.1 The course to be sailed will be Windward-Leeward with options for an offset mark, gate and reach finish.

9.2 Race target time will be forty-five (45) minutes for all races. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

9.3 Races will not be started in less than an average of four (4) knots of wind and more than twenty-five (25) knots of wind determined over a five (5) minute period over the entire course area, and is at the discretion of the race committee. This shall not be grounds for redress by a boat. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

10 PENALTY SYSTEM

10.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

10.2 An international jury will be appointed in accordance with RRS 91(b). Its decisions will be final as provided in RRS 70.3(a).

11 SCORING

11.1 In all Rounds but the Semi-Final and Final:

11.1.1 In accordance with RRS 90.3(a) combined with A4, each boat *starting* and *finishing* and not thereafter retiring, being penalised or given redress shall be scored points as follows:

FINISHING PLACE	POINTS
First	Equal to the number of teams registered in a particular Group in the applicable Round
Each place thereafter	Deduct one point

For ~~all races~~ the last race on the last day of racing by a particular Group in a Round, points scored shall be doubled. Points will not be doubled retroactively in the event that a future scheduled race could not be completed.

11.1.2 A boat that did not start, did not sail the course, did not finish, retired or was disqualified shall be scored zero points.

11.1.3 No race score will be excluded.

11.1.4 A minimum of one (1) race is required to be completed in each Group to constitute a valid Round for that Group.

11.2 In the Semi-Final and Final:

11.2.1 There will be no point scoring. A boat's score will be based upon her finishing place in that race.

11.2.2 The winner of the Final is the winner of the Event. Finishers second through fourth in the Final will be scored in the equivalent place for the Event.

11.3 **[NP] [DP]** On the last day of racing in any Round, teams shall make a genuine effort to start, sail the course and finish the races. The penalty for breach of this instruction will be ranking the boat last in the Round. If there is more than one such team, they will be ranked the last ones in the Round. This changes A5.1 and A5.2.

11.4 The winner of the Event will be the SSL Nations' World Champion.

12 SUPPORT PERSONS AND SUPPORT VESSELS

12.1 The support persons of a team, if any, shall register at the Race Office before the first scheduled day of racing in the first Round at which they are present.

12.2 **[NP] [DP]** No personal support vessel will be permitted on the water.

13 [NP] BOATS

13.1 The SSL Gold Cup 2026 will be sailed on SSL47 boats provided by the SAF.

13.2 Boats will be allocated to teams at the discretion of the OA.

14 RISK STATEMENT

14.1 RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". 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:

14.1.1 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;

14.1.2 they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

14.1.3 they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

14.1.4 by participating in any race they are satisfied that the boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the Event and that they are fit to participate;

14.1.5 they do not have any medical conditions or impairments that would affect their ability to safely take part in the Event;

14.1.6 they will not participate in the Event if under the undue influence of alcohol, drugs or otherwise unfit to participate;

14.1.7 the provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the race organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

14.1.8 the provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;

14.1.9 it is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risk specific to the venue or the Event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or the Event and to attend any safety briefing held for the Event.

15 DRUG TESTING

15.1 Competitors are reminded of the World Sailing Anti Doping Code. Drug testing may take place during the Event.

16 TELEVISION AND MEDIA

16.1 Competitors grant to the Star Sailors League S.A. ("SSL"), the Sailing Athletes Foundation, other sub-licensee(s), the Organising Authority and clubs and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to utilise their names, to make, use and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recording and other reproductions of them made during training sessions and the Event, at the venue or on the water, from the time of their arrival until the time of their departure, without compensation, and waive all moral and legal rights in and to any use of their names, recordings or video or sound made or images taken.

16.1.1 **[NP]** Competitors shall be at the disposal of the OA for interviews, media conferences, press releases and promotional initiatives.

16.1.2 **[DP]** Boats, athletes and team officials may be required to carry cameras, sound equipment or positioning equipment as specified by the OA.

17 [NP] [DP] ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

17.1 Competitors are reminded of the importance of maintaining clean and healthy waterways.

17.2 Disposal of waste or trash into the water is strictly prohibited. Any breach of this rule may result in penalties up to disqualification.

17.3 Competitors shall use reusable bottles and fill at designated hydration stations. Single-use plastics (PET bottles, plastic cutlery, foam boxes) are not permitted.

ADDENDUM A

Each SSL Team may promote up to 4 sponsors (brands, products) on their boom cover when racing. The OA will provide identical boom covers, with zipper, made out of black, soft material. The boom cover is straightforward to install prior to racing and remove afterwards.

Branding of the "SSL Team sponsors boom cover" will be added in Switzerland. Sponsor logos will be white only. After branding "SSL Team sponsors boom cover" will be delivered by the Organising Authority to Rio de Janeiro for the SSL Gold Cup Finals.

SSL Teams who wish to take advantage of such a boom cover should proceed with the following steps :

1. Send an e-mail to sponsors@starasilors.com with attached logos in PDF / AI / EPS / SVG format. The subject of the email should be "Boom Printing + your country". **Note that the deadline to send the request to the SSL is August 31, 2026**

2. Validate the boom cover visualisation that will be forwarded before printing and answer any questions from the printing company

3. Pay CHF 25 for each logo. For example: total cost of 8 logos (4 on each side) will be CHF 200. Payment instructions will be advised accordingly

4. Pick up the boom cover from the race office in Rio de Janeiro

All submissions for branding are subject to approval by the OA. The OA reserves the right to deny approval for any Team branding request that, in its sole judgement, it considers to be in conflict with local laws of the host nation or the spirit of the SSL Gold Cup Charter.

Questions or requests for further information should be addressed to: sponsors@starsailors.com