



SSL GOLD CUP 2026



BOAT HANDLING REGULATIONS

Amended on June 6, 2026 & July 13, 2026

SSL Gold Cup Qualifiers 2026:

Africa & Oceania Region

Asia Region

Europe Region

PanAmerica Region

SSL Gold Cup Finals 2026

1 GENERAL

- 1.1 While all reasonable steps are taken to equalise the boats, variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 1.2 Other restrictions or instructions may be given to the boats verbally by the race committee or via an umpire. Boats shall comply with such restrictions or instructions.

2 PROHIBITED ITEMS AND ACTIONS

- 2.1 Except in an emergency or in order to prevent damage or injury, or when directed by an umpire or otherwise, the following are prohibited:
 - 2.1.1 any additions, omissions or alterations to the equipment supplied;
 - 2.1.2 the use of any equipment for a purpose other than that intended or specifically permitted;
 - 2.1.3 the replacement of any equipment without the sanction of the technical committee;
 - 2.1.4 sailing the boat in a dangerous manner that would result in, or did result in, contact between boats, or in a manner that it is reasonable to predict would result in damage or significant further damage;
 - 2.1.5 moving equipment from its normal stowage position except when being used;
 - 2.1.6 boarding a boat without prior permission;
 - 2.1.7 taking a boat from its berth or mooring without having permission from the race committee or, on race days, while 'AP' is displayed ashore;
 - 2.1.8 hauling out a boat or cleaning surfaces below the waterline;
 - 2.1.9 marking directly on the hull or deck with permanent ink or using any tape that leaves a residue, including, but not limited to, duct tape;
 - 2.1.10 cross winching foresail sheets;
 - 2.1.11 omitting any headsail car or turning block before sheeting onto a winch;
 - 2.1.12 lashing the forestay, adjusting or altering the tension of standing rigging, excluding the backstay and checkstays;
 - 2.1.13 adjusting the length of the checkstay on its connection with the backstay;
 - 2.1.14 attaching lines to the fabric of gennakers;
 - 2.1.15 perforating sails, even to attach tell tales;
 - 2.1.16 the use of electronic equipment unless otherwise permitted by the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or BHR 3.1.6;
 - 2.1.17 use of the shrouds (including any inner shrouds) higher than 30cm above the deck to facilitate tacking or gybing, or to aid in the projection of a crew member outboard;
 - 2.1.18 ~~having the bowsprit extended, other than when the gennaker is set or is being set or recovered; when the gennaker is not flying, extending the bowsprit before getting on a new leg of the course on which a gennaker will be flown, or, in any circumstances, having the bowsprit extended except in the process of setting, flying or taking down the gennaker;~~

- 2.1.19 extension of a leg of a crew member outboard of the sheerline;
- 2.1.20 when gybing the gennaker, passing of its sheets in front of the luff of the sail;
- 2.1.21 **[SP]** allowing the load shown on the mast mounted display provided by the OA, at any time, to either a) exceed 2.0 or b) exceed 1.8 for a period in excess of 30 seconds. The technical committee may impose a standard penalty in accordance with the following:
 - 2.1.21.1 Exceeding 1.8 for a period in excess of the specified time limit, one (1) point. When the penalty is imposed on a race where points are doubled, it shall be two (2) points
 - 2.1.21.2 Exceeding 2.0, as above, three (3) points

If the penalty is related to an infringement while not racing, it will be applied to the closest race, inclusive of the next one to be sailed.
- 2.2 It is forbidden to carry onboard at any time from dock-out to dock-in the following equipment: mobile phones, tablets, wrist watches with tactical compass capabilities or a hiking and/or bowman harness.

3 PERMITTED ITEMS AND ACTIONS

- 3.1 It is permitted to take on board the following equipment:
 - 3.1.1 basic hand tools;
 - 3.1.2 adhesive tape, where not prohibited by BHR 2.1.9;
 - 3.1.3 line (elastic or otherwise of 4mm diameter or less);
 - 3.1.4 marking pens, where not prohibited by BHR 2.1.9;
 - 3.1.5 tell tale material;
 - 3.1.6 hand held compasses, watches without tactical capabilities, timers and personal GPS devices (wrist watches only). For the avoidance of doubt, no such device may be attached to the boat;
 - 3.1.7 shackles and clevis pins;
 - 3.1.8 velcro tape;
 - 3.1.9 bosun's chair, when not supplied by the Organising Authority ("OA");
 - 3.1.10 spare flags;
 - 3.1.11 PFDs, when not supplied by the OA;
 - 3.1.12 reusable bottles of water and snacks.
- 3.2 Items in 3.1 may be used to:
 - 3.2.1 prevent fouling of lines, sails and sheets;
 - 3.2.2 attach tell tales, when not prohibited by BHR 2.1.15;
 - 3.2.3 prevent sails being damaged or falling overboard;
 - 3.2.4 mark control settings;
 - 3.2.5 make minor repairs and permitted adjustments;
 - 3.2.6 make signals;
 - 3.2.7 personal safety.

4 [NP] [DP] MANDATORY ITEMS AND ACTIONS

- 4.1 Within one hour after the boat used by a team docks-in at the end of the day, the completion of an online damage declaration at onb.ssl-goldcup.com and submitting it to the race committee, even if no damage or loss is recorded. Declarations shall include any evidence of matters which could cause damage or disadvantage to the boat in future matches. When boat swaps are carried out on the water, a declaration should be made verbally to the shore team as soon as possible (this procedure does not relieve a team of the obligation to make an online declaration).
- 4.2 At the end of each sailing day:
 - 4.2.1 folding, bagging and placement of sails as directed;
 - 4.2.2 leaving the boat in the same state of cleanliness as when first boarded that day;
 - 4.2.3 releasing backstay tension;
 - 4.2.4 ensuring that the boat is empty of water.
- 4.3 At the end of the final day for a particular boat, cleaning the boat (cabin and decks), removing all trash and removing all tapes and marks.
- 4.4 Any request to alter, in any way, the equipment on a boat shall be made by email to the technical committee at TechnicalCommittee@starsailors.com and worded to permit a yes or no answer.
- 4.5 Complying with any regulations, including speed restrictions and navigation marks, while leaving or returning to the berth or mooring.

5 BOATS AND SAILS

- 5.1 The sail combinations to be used for racing will be signalled from the race committee signal boat not later than the warning signal, in accordance with the wind ranges that follow. Signals will have the following meanings:
 - 5.1.1 five (5) to ten (10) knots, board or flag with the word "LIGHT": Jib Light – Main – Gennaker;
 - 5.1.2 eleven (11) to seventeen (17) knots, board or flag with the word "MEDIUM": Jib Medium – Main – Gennaker;
 - 5.1.3 eighteen (18) to twenty-five (25) knots, or with any wind speed due to reasons of safety, board of flag with the word "HEAVY": Jib Heavy – Main – Gennaker;
- 5.2 Wind readings will be based upon a five-minute average across the racing area.
- 5.3 Other restrictions or instructions may be given to boats verbally by an umpire.
- 5.4 The OA will decide which boats are to be used for each race and when they decide a boat should not be used the team assigned that boat will be given the use of another boat.

6 BREAKDOWN AND TIME FOR REPAIRS

- 6.1 A member of the OA support team will be aboard each boat from dock out and at each crew change until instruction by the race committee for them to leave the boat, which shall not be later than display of the orange starting line flag prior to a race.

- 6.2 Before the orange starting line flag is displayed a boat may display code flag Lima to signal breakdown or damage to the boat, her sails or injury to her crew and request a delay to the next start.
- 6.3 The time allowed for repairs will be at the discretion of the race committee.
- 6.4 After the orange starting line flag is displayed, no postponement or abandonment will be made due to breakdown unless the breakdown signal was displayed as required by BHR 6.2.
- 6.5 Except when RRS 61.4(b)(2) or RRS 61.4(b)(3) applies, breakdowns after the warning signal shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).