



11 – 13 September 2026

KR&ZV De Maas, Kralingse Plaslaan 121, Rotterdam – The Netherlands

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The Special Olympics Sport Rules, Article 1, apply (specialolympics.org).
- 1.3 The Special Olympics Sailing Sport Rules apply.
- 1.4 Appendix UF – Umpired Fleet Racing – Special Olympics apply.
- 1.5 In all rules governing this competition, both 'athlete' and 'competitor' mean a person competing in the event. No national sailing federation prescriptions apply.
- 1.6 If there is a conflict between languages, the English text takes precedence.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available from the Race Office at KR&ZV De Maas from Thursday 10 September 2026 and will be distributed via the registered Head Coaches.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 During the event, the official notice board is located at KR&ZV De Maas, Kralingse Plaslaan 121, Rotterdam. Results and amendments may also be published via the organisation.
- 3.2 Except in an emergency, an athlete shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The regatta is open to Unified Sports® teams (athlete and Unified partner) invited by the organising authority.
- 4.2 Eligible teams may enter by completing the invitation and registration procedure communicated by the organising authority.

Event class

Class	Description	Boat
Level III – Unified Sports® Team	The athletes have complete control of the boat. The Unified partner may only shift their weight, do tactics, and offer verbal assistance.	Valk (Falcon)

5. RACING SERIES



5.1 The event consists of a racing series on Saturday 12 September and a final series on Sunday 13 September 2026.

5.2 Where the fleet is split into divisions, each division should have no fewer than three boats and no more than eight.

6. SCHEDULE

All times are indicative and will be confirmed no later than one week before the event by the Race Committee.

Date	Time	Programme
Thu 10 September	All day	Build-up / set-up of venue and equipment
Fri 11 September	08.00 – 15.00	Completion of build-up
Fri 11 September	12.00 – 18.00	Arrival & check-in of teams (EasyHotel)
Fri 11 September	18.00 – 19.30	Opening Ceremony & Torch Run
Fri 11 September	19.30 – 21.00	Reception
Sat 12 September	09.30	Competitor & coach briefing (Palaver)
Sat 12 September	10.00 – 12.30	Racing
Sat 12 September	13.30 – 17.00	Racing
Sat 12 September	18.00	BBQ & evening programme
Sun 13 September	09.30	Competitor & coach briefing (Palaver)
Sun 13 September	10.00 – 15.00	Finals
Sun 13 September	15.00	Prize giving
Sun 13 September	16.00	Closing Ceremony

6.1 The maximum number of races per day is four.

6.2 There will be a competitor and coach briefing (Palaver) in the morning prior to racing each day.

6.3 On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 14.00.

7. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

7.1 Boats (Valken) will be provided by KR&ZV De Maas and RSZV.

7.2 Boats shall be sailed as rigged. No adjustments, additions, or subtractions to the rigging of any kind are permitted. While all reasonable steps are taken to equalise the boats, variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

7.3 Damaged boats or equipment shall be reported immediately to the materials/boat-handling team on site.

8. CLOTHING AND PERSONAL FLOTATION

8.1 RRS 40.1 applies at all times while afloat.

8.2 All competitors shall wear a personal flotation device (PFD) provided by the organising authority.

9. VENUE

9.1 The event venue is KR&ZV De Maas, Kralingse Plaslaan 121, 3062 CL Rotterdam.

9.2 Racing takes place on the Kralingse Plas, directly in front of the KR&ZV De Maas clubhouse. See Addendum 1 for the venue map and racing area.

10. THE COURSE



10.1 Special Olympics Course 4 will be used: S – A – C – A – C – F (start, windward mark A, leeward gate C, windward mark A, leeward gate C, finish). See Addendum 2.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1 Appendix UF applies.

11.2 Except for infringements of Part 1, Part 2 and rule 31 of the RRS, the jury may, at its discretion, impose any penalty it deems equitable.

12. SCORING

12.1 The scoring system is defined in the Special Olympics Sailing Sport Rules, section 3.3 Scoring, and is modified as follows.

12.2 Scores from a divisioning or qualifying series will not be carried forward to the final series. This changes RRS A2.

12.3 Rule A8 will not apply. If there is a tie in the final score, both boats will be awarded the same place. As a result, a tie for one place will result in no award being given for the following place.

13. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

13.1 Support person vessels (coach boats) are not permitted on the water.

14. RISK STATEMENT

14.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks, including strong winds, rough water, sudden changes in weather, equipment failure, boat-handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform, and fatigue resulting in an increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.

15. PRIZES

15.1 Medals will be presented to the first, second and third-place teams in each division.

15.2 Ribbons will be presented to athletes finishing fourth through eighth place in each division.

15.3 Athletes who are disqualified (for reasons other than unsportsmanlike conduct) or who do not finish will receive a participation ribbon.

16. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

16.1 By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organising authority and event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings and other reproductions made at the venue or on the water during the event, without compensation.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION

Competition Manager: Mark van der Heijden (NL)

Principal Race Officer: Bert van Veldhuijsen (NL)

International Judge: Ralf Weidner (GER)

Organising Authority: Special Olympics Invitational Unified Sailing Regatta 2026, c/o KR&ZV De Maas, Rotterdam.



ADDENDUM 1 — VENUE MAP

See the overview map of the Kralingse Plas showing the location of KR&ZV De Maas, the racing area, rescue positions, the Race Office, first-aid post and spectator area (as issued separately by the organising authority).

ADDENDUM 2 — RACING AREA & COURSE

Special Olympics Course 4: S – A – C – A – C – F, with the starting ship at the port end of the start line, the pin at the starboard end, mark A as the windward rounding mark and gate C as the leeward gate (as issued separately by the organising authority).



APPENDIX UF — UMPIRED FLEET RACING

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Umpired fleet races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Races shall be umpired. The rule changes in UF1 have been approved by World Sailing under Regulation 28.1.5(b) on the condition that only the provided options are used. This appendix applies only when referred to in the Notice of Race and made available to all competitors.

UF1 Changes to the Definitions, the Rules of Part 1 and 2, and Rule 70

UF1.1 Add to the definition Proper Course: 'A boat taking a penalty or manoeuvring to take a penalty is not sailing a proper course.'

UF1.2 Add new rule 7 to Part 1 — Last Point of Certainty: the umpires will assume that the state of a boat, or her relationship to another boat, has not changed, until they are certain that it has changed.

UF1.4 When rule 20 applies, the following arm signals are required in addition to the hails: (a) for room to tack, repeatedly and clearly pointing to windward; and (b) for 'You tack', repeatedly and clearly pointing at the other boat and waving the arm to windward.

UF1.5 Rule 70 is deleted.

UF3 On-Water Protests and Penalties

UF3.1 In this appendix, 'a penalty' means a One-Turn Penalty taken in accordance with rule 44.2.

UF3.3 While racing, a boat may protest another boat under a rule of Part 2 (except rule 14), rule 31 or rule 42, by hailing 'Protest'. A protest flag is not required at this event. A boat that protests under UF3.3(a) is not entitled to a hearing; instead a boat involved may voluntarily take a penalty, or an umpire may penalise a boat that broke a rule and was not exonerated.

UF3.4 An umpire may penalise a boat without a protest by another boat when the boat breaks rule 31 or 42, gains an advantage despite taking a penalty, commits a breach of sportsmanship, or fails to take a required penalty.

UF3.5 Umpire signals: a green-and-white flag with one long sound means 'No penalty'; a red flag with one long sound means 'a penalty is imposed or remains outstanding'.

UF4 Race Committee Actions

UF4.1 After boats have finished, the Race Committee will inform competitors of results via the official notice board.

UF5 Protests, Redress, Reopening and Appeals

UF5.1 No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or non-action by an umpire.

UF5.3 A boat intending to protest another boat under a rule not covered by UF3.3(a), protest under rule 14 where there was damage or injury, or request redress, shall inform the Race Committee by filing a hearing request or scoring inquiry.

UF5.7 When the Protest Committee decides a boat has broken a rule, it may impose penalties other than disqualification and may make any other equitable scoring arrangement.

UF5.8 Hearings need not be in writing and may be conducted, and decisions communicated, orally, except for a hearing under rule 69.2.

UF5.12 Rule 66.2 is changed to: 'A party to the hearing under this appendix may not request a reopening.'