

13<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Dear members of the International Eight Metre Association,

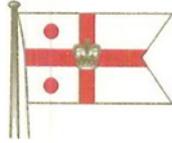
The Royal Yacht Squadron is delighted to be hosting this year's International Eight Metre World Cup, and we look forward to welcoming you back after hosting the event in 2012. We will do our very best to make it every bit as enjoyable as it was in 2012, with some additional enhancements to add interest after each day's racing.

As in 2012 the PRO and host for the daily winners' flag awards will be Jonathan Peel, who will be supported by a large number of experienced club members in the **Race Management** team. The RYS Pavilion will again be the Regatta Centre, where there will be a daily post-racing gathering (with welcome drinks for all crew members and a cash bar) to award daily flags and provide a review and de-brief of each day's racing based on race tracking, drone photography, expert commentary and observations from participants.

On the **social side**, the entry fee will include seven crew tickets for three events including the Prize Giving Dinner with entertainment sponsored by members of the Organising Committee and RYS 8-M owners, who will also be hosting an invitational Owners' Dinner in the RYS Castle. And to fill in the gaps where there is no official Regatta event there will be ticketed all-comer events at the RYS and elsewhere, as well as lunches and dinners available for booking at the RYS Pavilion.

At the time of writing, there have been few foreign entries, perhaps because of legitimate concerns over Channel ferry operations relating to **Brexit**. However decisions and agreements in London and Brussels in early April will ensure that there will be no risk of Channel port disruption around the time of the 8-M Worlds. In London, the British Parliament has enacted a law which prevents the government from voluntarily leaving the EU without a deal. In Brussels, the EU has agreed to extend the deadline for signing the Withdrawal Agreement to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019. If the UK leaves the EU before then, it will be with an agreement involving transitional arrangements and therefore no disruption risk.

Finally, may I draw your attention to the [Panerai British Classic Week](#) which will take place 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> July, the week immediately before the 8M Worlds, and is also being run by the Royal Yacht Squadron. Although the regatta is run under IRC the British Classic Yacht Club have kindly agreed to the following clause in the NoR: "*Yachts of the 8 Metre Class may enter without an IRC certificate. Those doing so will race for the British 8 Metre Association Trophy.*" This is a most enjoyable 'round the cans' regatta which provides an excellent opportunity for getting to know the Solent and provide crew practice ahead of



the Worlds. In 2012, almost half the World Cup entrants took part in this regatta, and we very much encourage your participation again in 2019.”

We look forward to a large participation, with high demand for crew houses to rent for this and other Cowes regattas around the same time. Our strong advice is to commit early by booking accommodation - and by sending us your entry forms - as soon as possible. The electronic entry form can be found on the regatta page of the RYS website which can be [accessed here](#).

With very best wishes,

Handwritten signature of Robert Bicket.

Robert Bicket  
Rear Commodore Yachting