



Amendment 1 (04/26/2026) noted in red

Hi all...

Get ready for an adrenaline-packed weekend! I'm beyond thrilled to meet everyone and unleash the most electrifying form of sailing — MATCH RACING — this weekend at the **Spring Match Racing Clinic, April 25-26 at Wayzata Sailing**. Let's ride!

Match racing is often compared to chess on water, but with the speed and pressure of high-level sport. It's a dynamic environment that challenges sailors to think ahead, react quickly, and execute with precision. No matter what type of racing you do already, match racing gives you the opportunity to level up your game.

Here are some thoughts to help you get ready for the clinic.

Schedule

Saturday, April 25th

Plan to arrive around 8:45am. We will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. Breakfast will be provided. We will be on shore in the morning, eat lunch, and then we'll be sailing in the afternoon. We'll have a fun/nice dinner at Wayzata. We'll do a video debrief from the sailing that day and go over the penalty system. Plan to be picked up or depart at 9:00pm.

Sunday, April 26th

Plan to arrive around 8:45am. We will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. Bring any breakfast and lunch you need. We will hit the water sooner on Sunday and do some real match racing. We will be wrapped up by 2:30 PM so plan accordingly. **Use of the traveler bar is no longer prohibited during racing on Sunday.**

Meals

Dinner will be served on Saturday. On Sunday, a snack will be served after racing. We will have water jugs to refill, but bring your own refillable water bottles.

Clothing / PFD / Watch / Water Bottle

It's Minnesota in April, so you should be prepared for a wide range of conditions. The forecast calls for the air temperature to be moderate (50s to low 60s), but the water is still frigid. You're sailing on a keelboat, so it doesn't cost you anything to bring a bag of clothes during the clinic so you have options. And be sure to bring a change of clothes each day.

Also be sure you have some good sailing gloves, a PFD, a water bottle, and a good sailing wrist watch. A very good watch is the Timex Ironman 30 lap, WR 100m (~\$50). If you have cassette tape, or yarn for tell-tales, that would also be a good idea, but don't stress out if you don't already have that available.

Pre-Clinic Homework & Videos to Watch

The assumption is that you have some familiarity match racing. If you need some refreshers, here are some materials you can download and study. The more you study these materials before the Clinic, the more prepared you will be with questions.

For pre-clinic materials, go to the [US Sailing Match Racing webpage](#).

Four recordings to try and watch:

On the US Sailing Match Racing webpage, scroll down to the section called:

North U Welcome to Match Racing 101 and Match Racing Master Class Series

There, scroll down to the link at the end of the section called:

North U Match Racing Series Recordings, then click on "[101](#)"

Each recording is about an hour. There you will find recordings for the four sessions:

- [The Prestart](#),
- [The Upwind & Downwind Legs](#),
- [The Mark Roundings](#), and
- [The Penalty System](#).

*If you only have time to watch one of them, watch **Session 1 – The Prestart**. The Introduction tells you a bit about match racing. If you are tight on time, you can skip the Introduction and go the beginning of the section on the Prestart, which is at counter 8:50.*

The North U Match Racing Playbook

On the US Sailing Match Racing webpage, scroll down to the section called:

[North U Match Racing Playbook by Dave Perry](#)

Pearson Pott's direct quote "You will learn to sleep with a pillow under your playbook."

There you will find the FREE North U Match Racing Playbook Dave Perry put together. It explains all the tactics in *The Prestart*, *The Upwind & Downwind Legs*, *The Mark Roundings*, and *The Penalty System*. Plus, it has several pages of drills that are helpful for match racing, many of which we will do during the Clinic.

*It would be helpful to skim through the section on the **Prestart** before Saturday April 25th. Clearly the Prestart is the most different part of the game from fleet racing, so the more advanced study you can do on that before the Clinic, the quicker you will become really good at it.*

As I said, this will be fun...and it will be intense (in a good way)!

If you have any issues at all, contact me via email (tim@wayzatasailing.org)

See you Saturday, April 25th.

Tim Siemers