



**ORC European championship
2026 Klaipėda, Lithuania**

SUSTAINABILITY GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPANTS



Dear Participants of the ORC European Championship 2026,

The sea is our second home, and caring for it is an integral part of sailing culture.

The ORC European Championship 2026 in Klaipėda is organised in accordance with the principles of the Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas programme and aims to set a new benchmark for sustainable sailing events across the Baltic Sea region.

Throughout the Championship, we will implement a wide range of sustainability initiatives as we work towards achieving the highest level of Clean Regattas certification – Platinum Clean Regatta.

We invite every participant to join us in this commitment and help protect the Baltic Sea and our shared marine environment. Even the smallest everyday actions can make a meaningful difference.

We invite you to join us in delivering a more sustainable Championship by following the sustainability guidelines below.

1. DIGITAL INFORMATION

To reduce paper consumption:

- Official documents, notices and results will be published through the electronic Official Notice Board (ONB).
- All event-related information will be available through digital communication channels.
- Participants are encouraged to use digital documents and avoid unnecessary printing.

2. WASTE MANAGEMENT

Clearly marked waste sorting stations will be available throughout the event venue and marina.

Participants are encouraged to:

- Use designated waste collection points.
- Separate waste according to the provided signs.
- Help keep the event venue clean and tidy.

3. WATER REFILL STATIONS

To reduce the use of single-use plastic water bottles, water refill stations will be available at key event locations.

Their locations will be clearly identified with dedicated signs throughout the venue.

4. PROTECTING THE BALTIC SEA

The Baltic Sea is one of the world's most sensitive marine ecosystems. Due to its limited water exchange, even small amounts of pollution can have long-lasting impacts on its environment, wildlife and coastal habitats.

We encourage all participants to:

- Use coastal and marina facilities responsibly.
- Help protect the marine environment.
- Report any observed pollution to the Organising Authority or the marina administration.
- Never dispose of waste into the sea or allow pollutants to enter the water.
- Respect wildlife, bird nesting areas and other sensitive habitats.

- Avoid disturbing marine wildlife and coastal ecosystems.
- Protect natural shorelines and coastal environments.
- Help prevent the spread of invasive species by maintaining boats and equipment responsibly.

By following the principles of the **Blue Sailing Guide** and demonstrating responsible sailing practices, we can all contribute to preserving the Baltic Sea for future generations.

In particular, participants are encouraged to:

- Never dispose of waste into the sea.
- Prevent pollutants from entering the marine environment.
- Lead by example through responsible sailing practices.
- Choose environmentally friendly sunscreen products that do not contain oxybenzone, octinoxate or mineral oils.

5. BOAT MAINTENANCE AND TECHNICAL OPERATIONS

When carrying out boat maintenance or repair work, participants are encouraged to:

- Use only designated maintenance areas and appropriate equipment.
- Collect and properly dispose of all maintenance waste.
- Prevent maintenance materials or pollutants from entering the environment.
- Follow all environmental requirements established by the marina.
- Wash boats with water only whenever possible after racing.
- Choose environmentally friendly cleaning products whenever cleaning agents are required.

6. SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES DURING THE EVENT

Throughout the Championship, the Organising Authority will implement a range of sustainability initiatives, including:

- Environmental education activities.
- Awareness campaigns promoting the protection of the Baltic Sea.
- Community-based sustainability initiatives.
- Participants are warmly invited to take part in these activities.

7. BECOME A GREEN BOATER

We invite you to join the international Sailors for the Sea Green Boater initiative and become an ambassador for responsible boating.

By joining, you will receive the free digital Green Boating Guide, offering practical advice on reducing your environmental impact while sailing, maintaining your boat and enjoying time on the water.

Join here: www.sailorsforthesea.org/greenboater

Together, we can contribute to cleaner waters, healthier marine ecosystems and a more sustainable future for sailing.

8. APPOINT YOUR TEAM'S ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARD

We encourage each team to appoint an Environmental Steward – a crew member who helps promote these sustainability principles and encourages responsible sailing practices throughout the event.

9. TOGETHER WE CREATE A MORE SUSTAINABLE EVENT

The goal of the ORC European Championship 2026 | Klaipėda is not only to deliver world-class sporting competition, but also to create a lasting positive impact on the environment, the local community and the culture of sailing.

Thank you for your commitment and contribution to achieving this goal.

ORC European Championship 2026 | Klaipėda | Lithuania
Lithuanian Sailing Union

