

20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026

Support Team Regulations

1. General

- 1.1 These Support Team Regulations (STR) shall apply at all times while support persons are at the venue, ashore or on the field of play.
- 1.2 The STR shall apply from 00:01 on 2 September to 23:59 on 3 October 2026.
No vessel is allowed on the Field of Play (FOP) until the FOP is opened on the 4 September.
- 1.3 Under Japanese law, boats are generally required to be registered and inspected, and operators are generally required to hold an appropriate Japanese boat operator's licence. However, these requirements shall be waived for support vessels and designated drivers provided that:
 - 1.3.1 they operate within the areas specified in Addendum A during the period from 4 September to 3 October;
 - 1.3.2 the support vessel and designated driver are registered in accordance with 1.10; and
 - 1.3.3 the designated driver carries a valid boat operator's license issued by their home country, or equivalent certification.
- 1.4 In these STR and the rules governing the regatta, the following definitions apply:
 - 1.4.1 "Support person" has the meaning given in the RRS. A support person includes a holder of a valid Accreditation.
 - 1.4.2 "Support team" means all the support persons associated with a National Authority and its competitors.
 - 1.4.3 "Support vessel" means any vessel that is under the control or direction of a support team member.
- 1.5 The penalties available under STR include instructing the Organizing Authority (OA) to withdraw accreditation and access rights for specific periods.
- 1.6 The OA may inspect support vessels at any time to ensure that they comply with these regulations, and the person responsible for the support vessel shall facilitate such inspection.
- 1.7 The OA may change these regulations at any time. Any changes will be posted on the Official Notice Board. however, provisions subject to Japanese law shall not be amended.
- 1.8 The OA may, at its discretion, refuse to register support vessels not deemed to be suitable. Generally, open vessels more than 4.0m and less than 7.5m in length and having minimal or no superstructure (cabin, coach house, bridge, etc.) are considered suitable.
- 1.9 Support persons shall be registered at Sport Information either before leaving the sailing venue in a support vessel for the first time; or by 10:00 on the day before the first race of each event that they are supporting, whichever is earlier.
- 1.10 Support vessels and designated drivers shall be registered at Sport Information either before entering the Field of Play for the first time or by 18:00 on the day before the first race of the Event that it is supporting, whichever is earlier.
 - 1.10.1 Each vessel shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance of at least USD 250,000 per incident.
 - 1.10.2 Only accredited support team members may be designated drivers.
 - 1.10.3 Support vessels are permitted to carry one or more support persons from other competing NOCs that do not have a registered support vessel for that Event.

- 1.11 When it is confirmed that the vessel is duly registered with the competent Japanese government authority in accordance with Japanese maritime law, or has undergone a Boat Inspection by the OA and is confirmed to be compliant, a certificate bearing the identification number shall be issued and affixed to the vessel.

Support vessels shall display only the supplied identification number on both sides of the vessel.
- 1.12 The person registering the support vessel shall confirm that a valid insurance certificate showing proof of third-party liability coverage as required by 1.10.1 has been obtained.
- 1.13 Support vessels shall be marked with the applicable NOC codes clearly displayed on both sides of the vessel in strongly contrasting colour at all times while afloat. The minimum height for the letters shall be 200mm. The letters will not be provided by the OA.
- 1.14 All Team Leaders and support team members will be required to sign a declaration that they will comply at all times with the STR.
- 1.15 Support team members shall not provide any outside help unless permitted by RRS 41 or instructed by the race committee.

2. Sailing Venue

- 2.1 Support vessels shall use the slipway/area as instructed by the harbor authorities. Once launched, trailers shall be moved immediately to their assigned trailer parking place, removed from the venue or placed in a container.
- 2.2 When not in use, support vessels shall be appropriately berthed at the sailing venue in its allocated berth in the designed area for support vessels, or as directed by the OA for safety reasons, for the entire time that these STR apply.
- 2.3 Support vessels shall not use the dinghy launching slipways, jetties or other pontoons outside the Support Vessel Area for any purpose whatsoever, including mooring, launching and retrieval, and loading and unloading of equipment except as permitted by the STR.
- 2.4 Following the completion of the Opening Series (the Qualification Series) or finals for which a support vessel is registered, the support vessel may be lifted out of the water under the direction of the OA. The OA may restrict the use of the crane or slipways during Victory Ceremonies or whilst other media activities are happening nearby.
- 2.5 When a vessel is used for purposes other than those related to the event, or outside the period and area specified in the STR, it must undergo statutory inspections and be registered in accordance with applicable Japanese laws (including the Ship Safety Act and the Act on Registration, etc. of Small-Sized Vessels).

3. Safety

- 3.1 Support vessels shall carry on board:
 - 3.1.1 PFDs for all passengers and the driver;
 - 3.1.2 first-aid kit;
 - 3.1.3 VHF radio;
 - 3.1.4 device for making a sound signal;
 - 3.1.5 compass;
 - 3.1.6 adequate anchor and tackle for conditions and depth;
 - 3.1.7 tow rope (minimum 15m long and 10mm diameter);
 - 3.1.8 engine safety cut out switch and tether (kill chord), also known as a safety lanyard

or automatic engine immobilizer;

3.1.9 bailer or bucket;

3.1.10 knife;

3.1.11 A lifebuoy or life ring;

3.1.12 Screwdriver, wrench, pliers, and spark plug wrench;

3.1.13 tracking device supplied by the OA (from 4 September to 3 October 2026)

3.1.14 DC radio supplied by the OA (from 23 September to 3 October 2026 only)

The OA will issue a tracking device and DC radio (Digital Convenience Radio) to each support vessel when they check out. The support vessel shall always carry the device during its journey. In addition, upon returning to the harbor on the last race of the day, support vessels shall return the tracking device within 30 minutes.

3.2 Support vessels or support team personnel may carry on board and use:

3.2.1 electronic watch, provided it complies with STR 8.1

3.2.2 optimized binoculars

3.2.3 GPS

3.2.4 cameras or video cameras (which only have that function and are not otherwise a prohibited electronic device)

3.3 It is mandatory under Japanese law that PFDs shall be worn at all times when afloat.

3.4 The engine safety cut out switch and tether (kill chord) shall be securely attached to the driver at all times when the engine is running and in gear. It is recommended that the kill cord is not used only when the engine is off.

3.5 The maximum plated / certified passenger limits for the vessel shall not be exceeded.

3.6 Team leaders are responsible for overseeing the safe operation of their support vessels on the water, including knowledge of who is afloat and ensuring (recording) their safe return to the sailing venue.

3.7 At all times, support persons including the registered driver(s) of a support vessel shall comply with directions given by or under the authority of a race official. This includes assisting in rescue operations when requested to do so.

3.8 Support vessels shall check out before going afloat for each journey and shall report the number of persons on board. Increasing or decreasing the number of persons on board shall constitute a new journey.

4. General Restrictions

4.1 The driver(s) of a support vessel will be responsible for the control of the vessel at all times and will be held responsible for any inappropriate behavior, dangerous actions or improper practices, or actions affecting the fairness or safety of competition.

4.2 Support team members shall not leave any device, piece of equipment, buoy, marker, or similar item permanently in the water.

4.3 Temporary use of floating objects is allowed for current measurement. These objects shall be removed as soon as the measurement has been taken.

4.4 Support vessels shall take particular care to minimize their wash when transiting the Race Areas.

5. Drones

The use of drones is prohibited.

6. Support Vessel Restricted Areas

- 6.1 The Support Vessel Zone applies when Support Vessel Zone marks are laid. However, the race committee may inform support vessels on the DC radio channel for the Race Area that the Support Vessel Zone does not apply for an upcoming race (even if the marks are still laid).
- 6.2 If the Support Vessel Zone applies, then STR 6.3 to 6.5 apply.
- 6.3 Support vessels shall always remain on the non-course side of the Support Vessel Zone marks.
- 6.4 After the first warning signal of the day, support vessels shall move to the Support Vessel Zone until all racing has been completed, postponed or abandoned for that Race Area, unless instructed to do otherwise by the Race Committee.
- 6.5 Between sequences of races, or when all racing for that Race Area has been postponed or abandoned, support vessels may enter the Race Area to service their athletes but shall restrict their speed to five knots. If further racing is to take place, support vessels shall immediately move to the Support Vessel Zone at the warning signal for the first race of the next sequence of races.

7. Special Safety Rules

- 7.1 When the race committee displays flag V with repetitive sounds, all official and support vessels shall monitor the race committee channel for that Race Area for search and rescue instructions. The race committee will announce "Flag Victor" using the designated VHF channel or DC radio channel.
- 7.2 When Support Vessel Zone marks are not laid, STR 7.3 to 7.6 applies.
- 7.3 Support vessels shall not be positioned:
 - closer than 100m to any boat/board racing (except a boat/board in distress or requiring assistance);
 - within 100m of the starting line and marks from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats/boards have left the starting area or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment;
 - between any boat/boards racing and the next mark of the course;
 - between the inner and outer trapezoid courses when boats/boards are racing on both courses;
 - within 100m of any mark of the course while boats/boards are in the vicinity of that mark; and
 - within 100m of the finishing line and marks while boats/boards are finishing.

For reaching starts of iQFOiL events, support boats shall not be positioned to windward of any areas where boards may be racing and within 400m of the approach to the starting line.

- 7.4 The VHF radio permitted in STR 3.1.3 shall be switched on and used for safety communication on VHF radio channel 77.
- 7.5 Support vessels shall proceed around the Race Area in such a way to minimize the effect their wash on boats racing and official vessels. Support vessels that are motoring above five knots shall remain at least 150m from any boat racing.
- 7.6 Between sequences of races, following a general recall or when all racing for that Race Area has been postponed or abandoned, support vessels may enter the Race Area to

service their athletes but shall restrict their speed to five knots. If further racing is to take place, support vessels shall immediately move outside the Race Area and into the Support Vessel Zone at the warning signal for the first race of the next racing session and remain in the Support Vessel Zone until after the starting sequence has been completed for one or more starts in a session.

8. Use of Electronics

The purpose of the electronics rules is to ensure a level playing field between all teams at an appropriate level for international competition. The Organizing Authority will not pre-approve devices nor comment on individual devices. Support teams must be prepared to explain how a device complies with the rules and demonstrate this if required.

In case of doubt, do not take the device afloat.

- 8.1 Use of Electronics and other Measurement Devices, Not Permitted Actions on the Field of Play:
- 8.1.1 Smartphones and tablets must be in flight mode, or mobile data off or have their SIM / eSim cards removed while in a racing area from when an orange flag is displayed until the last boat finishes the last race of the day.
- Exemptions,
- (a) the use of verbal communication is only permitted in the event of an emergency; and
- (b) the use of text communication is only permitted in the event of an emergency
- 8.1.2 Any device that gathers wind data from beyond the physical extensions of the support vessel or a radius of 1.5m or whichever is smaller;
- 8.1.3 The weather instruments that log or store data.
- 8.1.4 STR 8.2 contains exceptions to STR 8.1.
- 8.2 The following devices, or use of devices, are permitted:
- 8.2.1 Any device when it is used ashore (but see STR 8.2.5 on VHF radios)
- 8.2.2 The items permitted by STR 3.2
- 8.2.3 Electronic positioning equipment supplied by the OA
- 8.2.4 Devices which only access information which is available to all support teams simultaneously on an equal basis
- 8.2.5 VHF radios as required by STR 3.1.3, which shall only be configured to use open and public international maritime frequencies. If a radio is configured to be able to use a code or encrypted frequency it ceases to be legal.
- 8.2.6 Wind measurement equipment that is limited to measurements of wind speed and direction but not extending horizontally beyond the edge perimeter of the support vessel and 2.5m above the water. This device and its component parts must be easily removable for inspection;
- 8.3 The Race Committee may communicate race and safety information to support vessels in English using DC radio channels specified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 8.4 The Technical Delegate, or any race official acting under their authority, may require any phone, tablet, radio or electronic devices in possession of a support team member to be inspected for compliance with the STR at any time.
- 8.5 A support team member shall comply with any inspection request and shall co-operate with any inspection.
- 8.6 Any electronic device which is considered by a Technical Delegate to be in breach of the STR may be impounded and retained by the Organizing Authority until the end of the regatta.

Addendum A

The area specified in Section 1.3 shall be limited to the area bounded by the following points and the shoreline.

- ① N34°48'30", E137°15'00"
- ② N34°48'00", E137°14'12"
- ③ N34°45'48", E137°14'12"
- ④ N34°45'18", E137°14'48"
- ⑤ N34°45'12", E137°17'18"
- ⑥ N34°45'48", E137°17'54"
- ⑦ N34°47'48", E137°17'54"
- ⑧ N34°48'18", E137°16'54"

Note: Along the boundary of the racing area, the segment between N34°47'04", E137°14'12" and N34°47'00", E137°14'12" overlaps with a small island.

