



**EUROPEAN
TROPHY**
SAILING CIRCUIT

1. Introduction

One Circuit. Many Nations. One European Circuit Champion.

The European circuit is for Snipe sailors who love traveling, atmosphere, and competition.

The **European Snipe Circuit Trophy** is a fresh and exciting initiative that brings together sailors from across Europe by uniting existing national regattas into one international competition. Each participating country nominates one of its established events to be part of the circuit.

Unlike the **European Championship**, which focuses on a single high-level event for elite competitors, the Trophy Circuit offers broader participation, international exposure, and social engagement throughout the season. It complements, but does not replace, the Championship.

A key principle of the circuit: *Do not add more regattas to the already busy calendar.* Instead, the Trophy Circuit uses existing national events, avoiding the creation of extra dates such as separate North and South European Championships.

By integrating the circuit into the existing calendar, we can focus on revitalizing events that have seen declining participation in recent years. These regattas are promoted through international class networks, social media, websites, and direct outreach — encouraging both local and global teams to attend.

By competing in several of these events across different countries, sailors can earn points and aim for the prestigious new title of **European Circuit Champion**, awarded to the most consistent and versatile sailor across the circuit.

Goals of the Trophy Circuit:

- Make smaller national regattas more attractive through international participation.
- Strengthen connections between European sailing communities.
- Reward commitment, consistency, and cross-border sportsmanship.
- Indirectly support and reinvigorate national Snipe classes by increasing visibility and drawing international participants to their local events..

1.1. Difference with the European Championship

The European Trophy Snipe Circuit is fundamentally different from the European Championship in structure, purpose, and spirit. The table below clarifies the main differences:

European Championship	European Snipe Circuit Trophy
Single high-level regatta	Multiple events across different countries
Top-ranked teams	Open to a wider range of sailors
Strictly competitive	Competitive and community-building
Nation-representative format	Individual athlete ranking
Medals and high-level status	Fun prizes and travel recognition

This Trophy is not affiliated with the official Snipe European Championship. The European Snipe Circuit Trophy complements the championship by offering a broader, travel-friendly calendar for sailors who love to race internationally and share the spirit of the Snipe class.

2. Governance & Organisation

- The circuit is managed by the National Secretaries from each participating country.
- Decisions are made by majority vote during online meetings (the NS meetings).
- An independent scoring officer (Antonio Bari) ensures consistent points allocation.
- Disputes are handled according to World Sailing rules, with the committee making the final decision.

3. Event Standards

- Each nominated regatta must meet basic safety and organisation standards.
- Minimum of 3 races completed for the event to count.
- When not available online, results must be submitted in a standard format within 48 hours to Antonio Bari.
- English must be available for the Notice of Race (NOR) and Sailing Instructions (SI).
- To guarantee that all regattas selected for the Snipe European Circuit meet the minimum standard and are managed with no big differences, the NoR and SI shall be sent to Antonio Bari (the same as the scorer) for approval.

4. Scoring System

The European Snipe Circuit Trophy uses an **athlete-based** scoring system rather than a “boat” concept. This means skippers and crews are scored individually and do not need to sail together at every regatta. The system promotes flexibility, participation, and crew availability throughout the season.

If your regular crew cannot attend a regatta —or vice versa— the other sailor can still participate with a different partner and earn points.

To ensure fairness and to support one of the main goals of the Circuit — *making smaller national regattas more attractive through increased international participation* — the European Snipe Circuit will use a **uniform high-point scoring system**, independent of fleet size.

Points Per Regatta:

For all the regattas in the Circuit, points will be awarded based on the final result of each race and will be based on the SCIRA High Point Scoring System:

- First: 60x60+10 points for each boat beaten
- Second: 59x59+10 points for each boat beaten
- Third: 58x58+10 points for each boat beaten
- and so on.

The system guarantees an identical base score for the final ranking, while also giving a limited increase to reward an identical final standing in regattas with a greater number of participants.

Non-Participation (DNC / DNS / DNF)

Sailors who do not compete in a regatta will receive 0 points. If a competitor is registered but scores DNC/RET or DSQ in all the races, the competitor receives the points equal to the final standing in that regatta (which can be 1, 5, 11, [...] depending on the final position).

SCIRA Membership Requirement

Only boats and crews who are **SCIRA members** count towards the scoring. This directly encourages SCIRA membership. The National Secretary of the organizing country checks the memberships and communicates this. A dedicated scorer reviews all entries and calculates results for each event to ensure accuracy.

Calculation and Verification

A dedicated scorer, Antonio Bari, will review all entries, apply the high-point system, and publish the results for each event. The Circuit Series Overall standings will be published no later than 5 days after each regatta.

Discards

The Circuit does not have discard regattas. A sailor's Circuit Score will be the total of his/her regatta scores.

Ties:

A sailor can compete in as many regattas as desired. No scores will be excluded. If two or more sailors have the same total Circuit Score:

- Their regatta results will be listed from best to worst. The tie will be broken in favor of the sailor with the highest single-regatta score.
- If still tied, sailors will be ranked according to their role, with crews ranked ahead of skippers.
- If a tie remains, the scores of the tied sailors in the last regatta, and if needed the previous ones, will be compared until the tie is resolved.

Protests and Scoring Review Requests

Any Scoring Review Request shall be submitted no later than 15 days after the Circuit Series Overall is published.

The European Trophy Snipe Circuit Committee may:

- a) Exclude or no score a regatta when the requirements stated in these Regulations are not met by the Organizing Authority, or
- b) If a) is applied, include other regattas by communicating the decision at least 30 days before the regatta takes place.

Overall title

There will be only 1 European Trophy Snipe Circuit Overall and shall include the role of the sailor and may include each sailor's category (junior, master, female, etc.)

5. Mandatory Events

The Circuit integrates existing regattas, without adding more to the already crowded calendar. The focus is on revitalizing selected events rather than increasing the total number.

Circuit regattas rotate yearly, but certain regional ones can be mandatory:

Every year:

- 2 regattas North Europe (one of which can be the Nordic Championship)
- 2 regattas Central Europe
- 2 regattas South Europe (one of which can be the South European Championship)

Clubs or fleets wishing to have their event included in the Circuit for the following year must submit a BID.

The European Trophy Snipe Circuit Committee will select 6 regattas from the BIDs received to form the Circuit for the upcoming season.

BIDs must be submitted by November 1st.

Additional Rules

- If more than 6 BIDs are received, the National European Secretaries will vote to determine which regattas will be included, ensuring fair representation and transparent decision-making.
- If a region (North, Central, or South Europe) submits fewer BIDs than required, the empty slot(s) may be filled using BIDs from the other areas. This ensures the Circuit always consists of 6 regattas, while prioritizing geographic balance as much as possible.

6. Season Calendar

Date	Country	Event Name	Location
February 14-16	Portugal	Carnival International Regatta	CIMAV - Vilamoura
May 2-4	UK	Blackwater Open Meeting and South Eastern Championship	Blackwater Sailing club - Maldon
May 23-25	Belgium	Open Belgian Championship	Blankenberge – North Sea
June 10-14	Italy	Italian National Snipe Championship	Maccagno – Lake Maggiore
August 8-9	Sweden	Swedish Nationals	Vänersborg - lake Vänern
October 29-1	France	French Snipe Trophy & Mémorial Confoulan	Cercle de Voile de Cazaux Lac (CVCL) - Cazeaux

7. Motivation & Sponsorship

- Prestige: The official title of European Circuit Champion (i.e. best-ranked European sailor).
- Hospitality perks for visiting sailors.
- Travel bonuses and discounts
- Sponsorships from sailing brands, marinas, and travel companies to fund prizes and promotion
- Visibility for sponsors through branding on results, website, and prize ceremonies.

8. Prizes

The European Snipe Circuit Trophy is not only about fierce competition — it's about celebrating consistency, spirit, and the joy of sailing across borders. To encourage participation and reward various achievements, we propose a range of titles and prizes:

Every sailor receives a raffle entry for each regatta they attend, with prizes provided by sponsors. More regattas mean more entries, increasing the chances of winning at the **Prize Giving Ceremony** (the last regatta of the Circuit).

The **Top 5 Overall** sailors choose from high-quality sponsor-provided equipment. To avoid one boat taking multiple major prizes if skipper and crew finish first and second, the prize order changes if they sailed together in more than 50% of events:

Order: 1st – 3rd – 4th – 2nd – 5th.

After the Top 5 have chosen, the remaining equipment goes into the raffle for all participants.

Main Title

- **European Circuit Trophy Champion**

Awarded to the sailor (skipper or crew) with the highest overall points across the circuit. A prestigious title recognizing performance, dedication, and international spirit.

Special Awards

- **Youth Rising Star**

For the best-performing sailor (skipper or crew) under 22, highlighting emerging talent in the European fleet.

- **Leading Ladies Award**

For the best women sailor in the circuit, recognizing top female talent and empowering more women to compete internationally.

- **Masters Trophy**

For the best master sailor aged 45+

- **The Voyager Award (sponsored by Pires De Lima)**

For the sailor or team who has travelled the farthest and participated in the most events, showing exceptional commitment to international competition.

- **Best National Ambassador**

Awarded to the sailor who has most positively represented their country abroad — in spirit, sportsmanship, and visibility will be selected by the jury that consists of all European NS.

- **The Consistency Cup**

For the sailor or team with the most consistent top 10 finishes across the circuit, regardless of overall rank.

- **Social Spirit Trophy**

Celebrating the sailor or team who best embodies the social and community-building goals of the circuit (based on peer nominations or organizer input).

What Do They Win?

- Trophies for individual races provided by the Organizers
- Engraved trophies or medals are provided by SCIRA
- Sailing gear or equipment are provided by Sponsors
- Sponsored items (e.g., travel vouchers, sailing bags, boat accessories)
- Free or discounted entry to selected regattas in the next season, provided by organizing clubs.
- **Each participating country must provide at least one prize for the Overall Prize Giving Ceremony.** This ensures shared responsibility, reinforces the community-driven nature of the Circuit, and guarantees a diverse and attractive prize pool for the finale.

9. Why this works

This system creates a win–win situation:

- **For sailors:** more reasons to attend events, flexible participation, and bigger rewards.
- **For organizers:** larger fleets and more visibility.
- **For the class:** a stronger community, better promotion, and a boost in SCIRA membership.

By combining tradition with a modern, fair scoring system, the Snipe European Circuit Trophy is more than just a ranking—it's a celebration of Snipe sailing across Europe.