

Skiffeworlds 2028 Host Criteria

1. Course

The course shall be salt water, brackish or freshwater. The course length should be 2,000 metres (+/- 10m); with a minimum of one and a maximum of three turns.

The course shall comprise 15 lanes spaced at a minimum of 20 metres apart. A reduced number of lanes may be considered, provided it remains sufficient to complete the full racing programme within the agreed schedule.

The start, finish and any intermediate lines of buoys shall be parallel and on the same bearing, and capable of being readily and securely maintained in position throughout the duration of the event. A tolerance of +/- 5 metres (total length) between the inner and outer lanes shall be permitted.

The course should be sheltered with minimal variation in tidal effects across all lanes. Minimum depth shall be at least one metre and preferably two metres across all lanes at low tide.

Lanes shall be delineated using turn buoys, intermediate (500 metre) markers and any additional marks required to define skiff turn zones. Where practicable there shall be means of ensuring that skiffs stay in their allocated lanes.

Serious consideration shall be given to laying turn marks, intermediate markers and finish line on long lines suitably anchored and cross-braced at intervals.

SASI or NCA Board Members may attend up to one week in advance to supervise and confirm that the course marking meets specification and adequately secured.

The course location shall provide sufficiently sheltered water to give confidence that the full week's racing programme can be completed.

2. Host Organisation

The Host shall be capable of working collaboratively with local clubs and their national associations and may consist of a consortium of interested parties. SASI will expect to be consulted throughout, from planning to delivery.

The Host shall provide a suitable social programme throughout the event, including daily catering and welfare facilities.

In collaboration with local clubs and national associations, the Host shall ensure the availability of a sufficient number of race-ready skiffs for loan to overseas competitors.

The Host shall also provide a pool of loan equipment, including (but not limited to) VHF radios, for participants unable to transport their own equipment.

The Host shall confirm the availability and reliability of funding and appropriate insurance cover for the event. SASI will have responsibility for the sourcing of medals. Entry fees will cover the cost of medals and contribute to overall funding.

The Host shall outline the anticipated legacy benefits for the local community and organising club.

The Host shall identify any specific environmental considerations, including innovations, challenges, and mitigation measures.

Following the event, the Host shall submit a detailed Review and Impact Report.

The local National Association will have responsibility for the scrutiny of skiffs.

3. Onshore infrastructure

The venue shall have reasonable transport access. Secure and sufficient facilities shall be provided for the storage of skiffs, trailers, and ancillary equipment, as well as for launching, berthing, crew changes, and recovery, accommodating between 50 and 100 skiffs.

A suitable location shall be designated for the safe, secure weighing, measurement, and scrutiny of all entered skiffs. The local National Class Association, with input from SASI will have responsibility for the scrutiny of skiffs.

The local area shall provide a sufficient mix of accommodation for approximately 1,500 people, including catered, self-catered, and camping options.

The site shall be readily accessible for overseas participants, with onward transport connections clearly identified. The Host shall confirm any anticipated participant costs, such as ferry, transport or parking charges.

Adequate spectator areas and welfare facilities shall be available for competitors and spectators. A large, covered space shall be provided for opening and closing ceremonies, prize-givings, and social events.

Any grandstand or commentary infrastructure shall not interfere with finish-line operations.

The Host shall provide sufficient boats and facilities for umpires, officials, and safety personnel to supervise racing and conduct safety operations.

Appropriate first aid, health, and welfare facilities shall be in place, including trained personnel and accessible defibrillator equipment.

Regatta infrastructure shall include start and finish line umpire positions, facilities for recording finishing order and times, and systems for displaying race information to competitors.

Any finish tower or control box shall be of sufficient height and structural integrity to provide clear visibility across all finishing lanes, protect occupants and equipment from the elements, and maintain unobstructed sightlines.

4. Technology

SASI and/or the NCA shall be given the opportunity, in advance of the event, to test and verify all event technology and infrastructure, including buoy positioning systems.

Facilities shall be available for the charging of VHF and WT radios.

Appropriate technology shall be used to assist with supervision of turn marks, lane discipline, and accurate identification of finishing order.

Drone camera coverage shall be provided, primarily to assist umpires in supervising turns and lane discipline. Secondary use of live footage on large screens may be used to enhance the spectator experience.

5. Programme

The Host shall deliver a full week of racing, incorporating all race categories as determined by SASI.

The flagship Mixed Open Category shall be scheduled for the final day of competition. The race schedule shall, where possible, take account of participant age categories to minimise potential conflicts.

Random lane draws shall be conducted in a timely manner and distributed to participating clubs in advance. Where possible, a pictorial register shall be used to familiarise officials and umpires with skiff colour schemes.

Results shall be published promptly, and consideration shall be given to maintaining a running record of any points competition as determined by SASI.

In the event of disruption due to adverse weather, a Race Committee comprising representatives of SASI and the Host Committee shall convene to revise the racing programme.

6. Safety and Umpiring

The safety of all participants is paramount. While SASI will provide the Chief Umpire rota for the event, the Host shall ensure adequate onshore and on-water safety facilities, and personnel are in place.

This shall include sufficient safety and umpire boats. A designated Safety Officer shall have overall responsibility for safety planning and operations throughout the event.

A Health and Safety Protocol Policy will be expected.

7. Timeline

Host Criteria Published	February 2026
Initial Expression of Interest	31st May 2026
Initial Submissions to be received	30th September 2026
SASI scrutiny and formal selection process completed	30th November 2026
Successful Host Announcement	December 2026
Skiffieworlds 2028	June/July/August 2028

Note – the submission need not necessarily be from one club but may be a consortium of clubs with a stated location.

SASI will assist the successful bid with delivery of the event by offering their experience and expertise to the local organisers.