



12TH ANNUAL LOBSTER BOWL REGATTA

September 14-15, 2024

Etchells Fleet 27 and Portland Yacht Club

Falmouth, Maine, USA



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 This regatta is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
 - 1.1.1. RRS 35, 63.1, A4 and A5 are changed as described in SI 13.3.
 - 1.1.2. RRS 64.1(c) and A2 are changed as described in SI 18.3.
 - 1.1.3. RRS 62.1 is changed as described in SI 13.1 and SI 19.2.
 - 1.1.4. RRS G3 (regarding rules for national letters or sail numbers on chartered boats) will apply.
- 1.2. US Sailing prescription Appendix V – Alternative Penalties will apply, as described in SI 14.1.
- 1.3. Notwithstanding the language of International Etchells Class Rule C. 5. 1, due to safety concerns all boats shall carry a working VHF radio capable of operating on US channels 09, 13, 16, 21a, 68, 69, 71, and 72.
- 1.4. If there is a conflict between the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions, these Sailing Instructions take precedence.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located next to the waterfront porch of the Portland Yacht Club (PYC) clubhouse.
- 2.2. Add link for online notices etc...

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 hours on Saturday, September 16; or otherwise before 0900 hours on Sunday, September 14; except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2030 hours on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2. Any questions regarding these sailing instructions shall be submitted in writing to the Race Committee PRO. The questions and any answers will be posted to the official notice board as soon as possible.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the yardarm of the flag pole on the PYC pier.
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 60 minutes.” This changes RRS Race Signals.
- 4.3. Flag B (BRAVO) displayed ashore with one sound signal means 60 minutes before the end of the protest time limit. When lowered with one sound it means “Protest time has ended.” This changes RRS Race Signals.

5. SCHEDULE

1. Friday, September 13
 - 0900-1530 Launching at SailMaine
58 Eastern Promenade Trail, Portland, ME
 - After launch Tow to Portland Yacht Club
2. Saturday, September 14
 - 0800 Competitor check-in at Portland Yacht Club
 - 0900 Competitor’s briefing
 - 1100 First warning signal
 - 1800 Lobster-themed dinner at Portland Yacht Club
3. Sunday, September 15
 - 1100 First warning signal
 - 1500 No warning signal after this time
 - After racing Haul-out, Tacos from Terlingua, Beer, Awards at SailMaine

- 5.1. It is the intent of the Organizing Authority and the Race Committee to run as many races as practical on each day up to a maximum total of 7 races for the regatta.
- 5.2. The Race Committee may deviate from the above schedule.
- 5.3. When more than one race will be held on the same day, the warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practical.

6. CLASS FLAG

- 6.1. The class flag will be the Etchells Class insignia on a contrasting background or Signal Flag E (Echo).

7. THE COURSES

- 7.1. The course to be sailed will be displayed on a board at the stern of the Signal Vessel no later than the warning signal. The approximate course heading and distance to the windward mark may be displayed on the board during the starting sequence. Courses will be windward-leeward as shown in Attachment A.
- 7.2. Marks 1 and 1a shall be rounded to port. In the absence of a gate, Mark 2 shall be rounded to port.

8. MARKS

- 8.1. The Windward Mark will be an orange 3' inflatable cylinder, the windward offset mark will be an orange inflatable tomato.
- 8.2. The Leeward Gate will be two yellow 3' inflatable cylinders.
- 8.3. The Windward Change mark will be a 4' inflatable yellow tetrahedron. The Leeward change mark will be a 4' inflatable orange tomato.
- 8.4. Should the location of the finish line change, the finishing mark may be a yellow cylinder.

9. CHECK IN

- 9.1. Each boat shall check in with the Race Committee before the warning signal of the first race sailed by that boat each day by sailing by the stern of the Signal Vessel on starboard tack and hailing her **bow** number and number of persons on board. The Race Committee will acknowledge. [DP]

10. THE START

- 10.1. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made five (5) minutes before the starting signal.
- 10.2. The Starting Line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the race committee vessels at each end of the line, or between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Signal Vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 10.3. The Race Committee will attempt to notify OCS boats by bow number or sail number over VHF Channel 69. Failure of equipment, failure to hear a hail, delay in hailing or the order in which hails are given will not be grounds for redress.

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1. To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as is practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

- 11.2. Changes to the course will be signaled as described in RRS 33.
- 11.3. If there is a change of course for an upwind leg, there will be no offset mark.
- 11.4. If there is a change of course for a downwind leg, there will be no gate.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1. The Finishing Line will be between a Blue RC Flag on the Starboard side of the Signal Vessel and the finishing mark.
- 12.2. After finishing a race, boats shall stay clear of the finish line.

13. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 13.1. The target time for races is 45 to 60 minutes. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 13.2. The time limit for each race will be 90 minutes from the starting signal.
- 13.3. Boats still racing more than 45 minutes after the first boat to sail the course in accordance with RRS 28.1 finishes will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) without a hearing. A "TLE" score shall be two more points than the number of boats that have finished within the time limit. The RC will lower the Orange "on station" flag with a long sound when the finishing window is closed. This changes rules 35, 63.1, A4 and A5.
- 13.4. If no boat has passed the first windward mark one hour after the starting signal, the race shall be abandoned.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1. US Sailing prescription Appendix V – Alternative Penalties will apply.

15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1. Protest forms are available at the bulletin board in the Great Room of the PYC. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.2. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after flag B (BRAVO) is hoisted ashore as described in SI 4.3. The flag B will be hoisted as soon as practical and at the Race Committee's discretion, but no later than 75 minutes after the signal vessel dock time. The RC will post the end of the protest time limit on the official notice board at or before the hoisting of flag B.
- 15.3. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

16. SCORING

- 16.1. The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

16.2. One completed race will constitute a regatta.

16.3. When five or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

17. SAFETY

17.1. Notwithstanding the language of International Etchells Class Rule C. 5. 1, all vessels shall carry a working VHF radio capable of operating on US channels 09, 13, 16, 21a, 68, 69, 71, and 72.

17.2. A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to start a scheduled race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible via hailing or through VHF radio using channel 69 and receive Race Committee acknowledgement. The Race Committee will not start a new race, and will abandon an active race, when sustained winds of 28 knots or greater are observed.

18. COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS

18.1. Support vessels shall register at the registration desk and display any identifying flags provided by the Organizing Authority.

18.2. Support vessels shall remain no less than 150 meters from the race course from the Preparatory signal until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

18.3. Failure of a support vessel to register as required in SI 18.1, or a breach of SI 18.2 may subject the boat(s) associated with the support vessel to protest. The penalty applied to the boat or boats associated with the support vessel shall be at the discretion of the protest committee and may not be excluded from their score. This modifies RRS 64.1(c) and A2.

18.4. Support vessels shall carry a working VHF radio tuned to the race committee VHF channel 69.

18.5. Support vessel drivers shall have valid third-party liability insurance or the equivalent and provide proof upon request by the RC/OA.

18.6. Coach and support boats shall, when requested by the Race Committee, tow or assist boats not associated with them.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATION

19.1. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

19.2. The RC may use VHF radio, Channel 69 to communicate to the fleet, including the location of the starting area, countdown to the start, OCS bow/sail numbers, General Recalls and Postponements. Failure to make these broadcasts or failure to include a bow#/sail# or failure to hear them shall not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1.

20. PRIZES

20.1. Prizes will be awarded for the following:

20.1.1. Lobster Bowl Regatta: top three finishers overall

20.1.2. Heritage Division: top 1 finisher

20.2. Other trophies may be awarded at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

21.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. It is the competitor's decision to enter the Championship or to start or conQnue in any race. See RRS 4. The Organizing Authority is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. The Organizing Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or ager the regatta.

22. INSURANCE

22.1. All boats competing are required to carry current Third Party Property Liability Insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 (USD).

23. CODE OF CONDUCT

23.1. The Portland Yacht Club and its grounds are designated as a *No Smoking Facility*. All participants are required to adhere to this club policy. While on the grounds of the Yacht club smoking is permitted only in private vehicles. Failure to adhere to this rule may be grounds for disqualification from the regatta. [DP]

24. RACE OFFICIALS

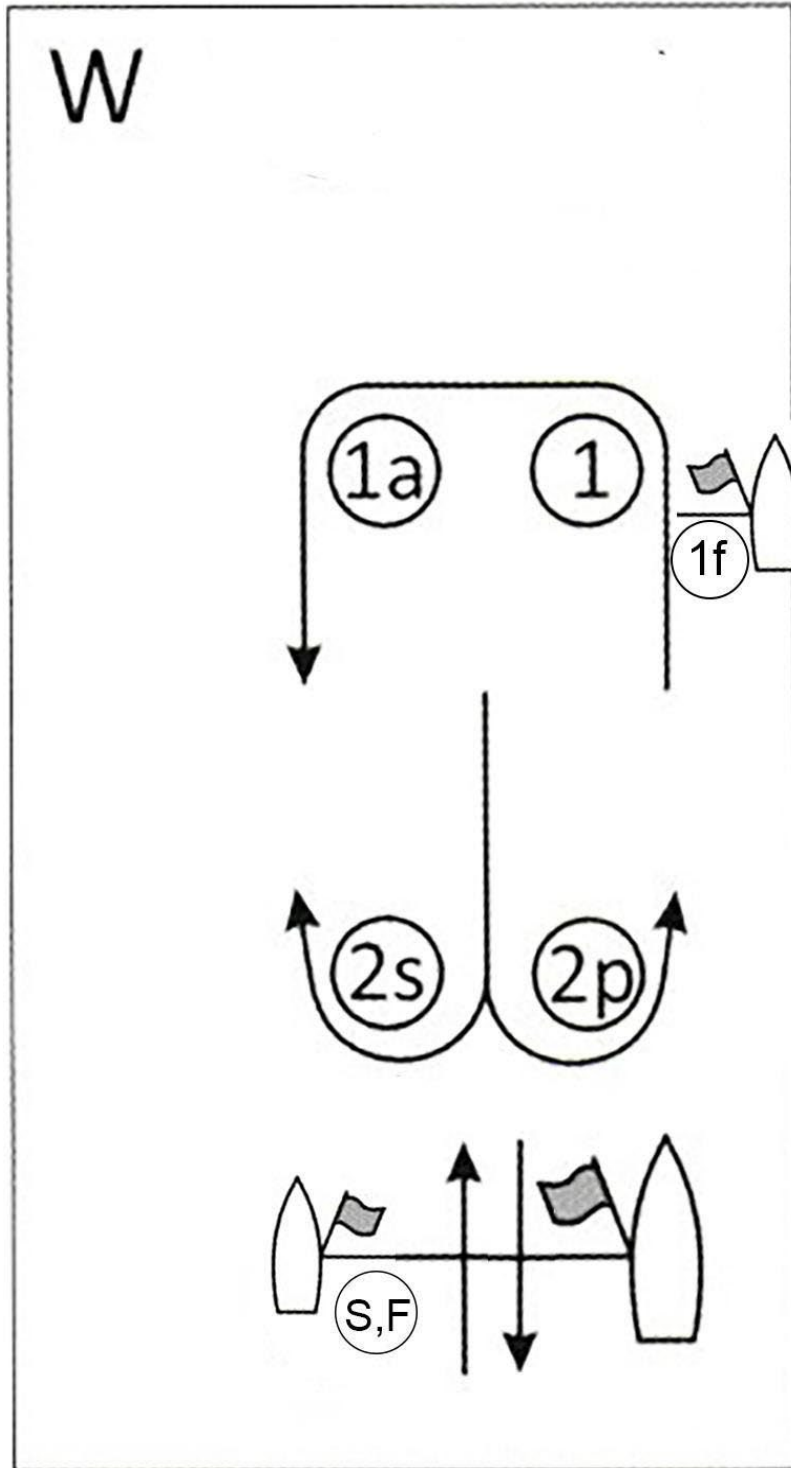
Principal Race Officer:

Stephanie Helms

stephicath@gmail.com

207.329.6274

Attachment A: Courses



W2
S-1-1a-F

W3
S-1-1a-2s or p
1f

W4
S-1-1a-2s or p
1-1a-F

W5
S-1-1a-2s or p
1-1a-2s or p
1f

W plus # of legs