



Edgartown Yacht Club

EST. 1905

***54th SHIELDS CLASS NATIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA***  
**SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2018**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**1 RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *the current version of Racing Rules of Sailing* and the Shields Class Sailing Association Rules.
- 1.2 Each boat shall carry a VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting on all standard VHF marine channels. The fleet VHF channel for this regatta is Channel 77 which shall be monitored by each competitor while racing.

**2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Race Committee notice board located in the entrance to the main hall of the Edgartown Yacht Club (the "Club").
- 2.2 A skippers' meeting will be held in the main hall of the Club on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 1930.

**3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day they take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1830 on the day before it will take effect.

#### **4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Club station mast.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 1 hour' in the race signal AP.

#### **5 SCHEDULE**

Tuesday	1400-1700	Early registration	EYC
	1800	No-host Welcome reception	EYC
	1830	Quantum Sails Boat Speed Seminar	EYC
Wednesday	0900-1700	Registration	EYC
	1100	Skippers' Meeting for Practice Race	EYC
	1300	Practice Race Warning Signal	
	1800	Reception and Casual dinner *	EYC
		* with Quantum rep practice race debrief	
	1900	Shields Class Annual Meeting	EYC
	1930	Skippers' Meeting	EYC
Thursday	0730-0830	Complimentary coffee and donuts	EYC
	1030	First Warning Signal	
	1800	Cocktail Reception for racers, families and volunteers 104 South Water Street (Rain location: EYC Tennis Club)	
Friday	0730-0830	Complimentary coffee and donuts	EYC
	1030	First Warning Signal	
Saturday		Crews free for dinner in town	
	0730-0830	Complimentary coffee and donuts	EYC
	1030	First Warning Signal	
		No Warning Signals after 1400	
	1800	Awards Dinner *	EYC
		* Men's dress code: Jacket and tie	

#### **6 RACING AREAS**

Except for unforeseen circumstances, the Race Committee intends to run all races, including the practice race, in Cow Bay as shown on the chartlet provided in Attachment 1.

#### **7 THE COURSES**

- 7.1 All courses are windward/leeward per the diagrams in Attachment 2.
- 7.2 The number displayed on the Race Committee boat's course board will indicate the number of legs. For example, "4" would be sailed windward-leeward-windward-leeward. Rounding marks, including the windward offset mark, if used, shall be rounded in order and, with the exception of a leeward gate, if used, will be left to port.
- 7.3 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee signal boat will display the approximate compass bearing and distance to the first mark.
- 7.4 The minimum length of the course sailed shall be six nautical miles. However, in the event that the completion of a race is threatened by the approach of the time limit, the Race Committee may, at its discretion, shorten the race, provided that the course sailed is judged a "fair" test and will be at least 4 nautical miles in length.

#### **8 MARKS**

- 8.1 The windward, leeward, offset (if used), and gate marks (if used) will be inflatable buoys. The Race Committee intends to use a yellow teardrop for the windward mark, an orange tetrahedron for the windward offset mark, orange tomatoes for the leeward gate marks, and orange pins for the start and finish marks. The Race Committee may, without announcement, substitute a mark of a different shape or color in the event of unforeseen circumstances such as loss of or damage to a mark.
- 8.2 The Race Committee may set an offset mark to be honored after the windward mark. When a change is made to a windward mark a new offset mark may not be set.
- 8.3 The Race Committee may also set a standoff buoy from the stern of its signal boat, which buoy shall be regarded as part of the signal boat.

## **9 THE START**

- 9.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee boat at the starboard end, and the course side of an inflatable buoy or a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee service boat at the port end.
- 9.2 The Race Committee will attempt to hail boats over early by the sail number(s) of the yacht(s) on VHF Channel 77. Failure to make a broadcast or failure of a yacht to hear the broadcast will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes Rule 62.1(a).
- 9.3 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes Rule A4.

## **10 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 10.1 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 practicable.
- 10.2 A new mark will be an inflatable buoy with a black band.
- 10.3 When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

## **11 THE FINISH**

The finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a Race Committee boat at the starboard end, and the course side of an inflatable buoy or a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee service boat at the port end.

## **12 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 12.1 *Racing Rules of Sailing* Rules V1 and V2 apply.
- 12.2 A boat that has retired or taken a penalty or retired under Rule 31, 44.1, or 44.2 shall report their action to the Race Committee immediately upon retiring or finishing.

## **13 TIME LIMITS**

- 13.1 The time limit for the first boat to finish will be 3 hours from the starting signal.
- 13.2 Yachts failing to finish within thirty minutes after the first yacht sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes Rules 35, A4 and A5.

## **14 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 14.1 Protest forms are available at the Race Committee office. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

- 14.2 A yacht shall promptly report her intent to protest to the Race Committee following her finish or retirement from a race.
- 14.3 The protest time limit is 90 minutes from the time the Race Committee Signal boat arrives at the Edgartown Yacht Club.
- 14.4 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Ward Room located adjacent to the Race Committee office beginning as soon as practicable.
- 14.5 Notices of protest by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b).
- 14.6 Breaches of instructions 12.2, 14.2, 16, and 17 will not be grounds for a protest by a yacht. This changes Rule 60.1 (a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification, if the Protest Committee so decides.
- 14.7 Breaches of Rule 55 will not be grounds for a protest by a competitor and only the Race Committee or Protest Committee may protest under this rule. This changes Rule 60.1 (a).

## **15 SCORING**

- 15.1 A maximum of eight races is scheduled. A minimum of three races completed shall constitute a series.
- 15.2 If fewer than five races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of its scores. If five or more races are completed, a boat's score will be the total of its series score excluding its worst score.
- 15.3 There will be no more than three races per day.

## **16 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 16.1 Every boat shall verbally check in with the Race Committee signal boat once it is on station. This shall be done each day prior to the first warning signal by passing astern of the signal boat on starboard tack. Each boat shall state its sail number. The Race Committee will acknowledge by responding with the sail number recorded.
- 16.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.
- 16.3 PFDs shall be worn outside of all clothing when the Y flag is displayed. This instruction is in addition to the provisions of Rule 40.
- 16.4 The Chappaquiddick Ferry shall be considered "Restricted in her ability to maneuver," as defined in Rule 18 of the International and Inland Navigation Rules, and as such has the right-of-way in all circumstances

## **17 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones and other electronic devices that provide information from outside the boat.

## **18 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 18.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. 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 after the regatta.

- 18.2 By participating in this regatta, each competitor grants to the organizing authority and its members, the regatta sponsors, and the Shields Class Association the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any photographs, motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television or other reproductions of him or her or their property made during the period of the regatta without compensation.



Official Sailmaker and Service Provider to the 2018 Shields Class National  
Championship Regatta