



Edgartown Yacht Club

EST. 1905



2025 Shields Class National Championship Regatta Edgartown Yacht Club Edgartown, MA

September 3-6, 2025

Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

- 1.1 The Organizing Authority is Edgartown Yacht Club (EYC) in association with Shields Fleet 8, Edgartown, MA.
- 1.2 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing and the Shields Class Sailing Association.
- 1.3 Each boat shall carry a VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting on all standard marine VHF channels.
- 1.4 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or Part 3 and is from a boat that was not involved in and did not see the incident, or"

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0800 on the day they will take effect. Any change to the schedule of races will be posted before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 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 any other wireless device.
- 3.2 From one hour prior to the scheduled first warning of the day until a boat has finished racing for the day, it may not receive weather, current, or navigational information except from a publicized source available at no cost to all competitors. Subscription, password protected or restricted access web pages are considered private information and may not be used for the transmission or reception of specialized weather information.
- 3.3 General use of the Internet and publicly available web sites to obtain weather including all National Weather Service data is authorized. Weather data developed specifically for the Race may not be received while racing.
- 3.4 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board on the Yacht Scoring Event website.
- 3.5 The race committee will utilize VHF Channel 72 for communications with competing boats for course information, recalls, and change of course. Failure of of competitors to receive or hear such announcements will not be grounds for redress.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.
- 4.2 Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment provided by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use without interfering with its functionality.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be flown from the yardarm of the flagpole at Edgartown Yacht Club.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than one (1) hour after flag "AP" is lowered. This changes Race Signals.
- 5.3 The Race Committee will make announcements concerning postponements, courses, premature starters, etc., on VHF Channel 72. Failure of competitors to receive or hear such announcements will not be grounds for redress.

6. SCHEDULE

| | | |
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| 6.1 Tuesday, September 2 | | |
| 1400-1700 | Early check-in | EYC |
| 1500 | Cash Bar Open | EYC |
| A la carte dinner available (Reservations recommended) | | EYC |
| Wednesday, September 3 | | |
| 0900-1700 | Check-in | EYC |
| 1100 | Skippers' Meeting for practice race | EYC |
| 1300 | First warning signal for practice starts and practice race | Cow Bay |
| 1700-1900 | Welcome Reception | EYC |
| 1730 | Skippers' Meeting | EYC |
| 1800 | Shields Class Annual Meeting | EYC |
| A la carte dinner available (Reservations recommended) | | EYC |

Thursday, September 4

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 0730-0830 | Complimentary coffee | EYC |
| 1030 | First warning signal of the day | Cow Bay |
| After racing | Cash Bar | EYC |
| 1830 | Pre-Dinner Cocktails (Cash Bar) | Reading Room |
| 1915 | Dinner | Reading Room |

Friday, September 5

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------|
| 0730-0830 | Complimentary coffee | EYC |
| 1030 | First warning signal of the day | Cow Bay |
| After Racing | Cash Bar | EYC |
| Open night for dinner on your own. | | |
| A la carte dinner available (Reservations required) | | EYC |

Saturday, September 6

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 0730-0830 | Complimentary coffee | EYC |
| 1030 | First warning signal of the day | Cow Bay |
| 1400 | No warning signal after this time | |
| After racing | Cash Bar | EYC |
| 1830 | Pre-Dinner Cocktails | EYC |
| 1915 | Dinner & Awards | EYC |

6.2 Eight races are scheduled. No more than three races per day may be run.

7. **RACING AREA:** Races will be held in Cow Bay, located to the west of Edgartown Outer Harbor, as shown in Addendum A.

8. **COURSES**

- 8.1 The course numbers and descriptive diagrams are presented in Addendum B.
- 8.2 The Race Committee shall initially set an offset mark (1a) and gate (2p and 2s) for all courses.
- 8.3 Prior to the warning signal the Race Committee will post the course number and the approximate distance in nautical miles to and heading to the first mark from the signal boat on a board on the starboard side of the Race Committee Signal Boat and announce the course on VHF Channel 72. Failure of competitors to receive or hear such announcements will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).

9. **MARKS:**

- 9.1 The original turning marks (including the gate marks) will be yellow tetrahedrons.
- 9.2 The offset mark (1a) will be a small yellow tetrahedron.
- 9.3 New "next" mark(s), as provided in RRS 33, will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 9.4 The start mark will be an orange cylinder or an anchored Race Committee RIB with a staff flying an orange flag.
- 9.5 The finish mark will be an orange cylinder.

10. **THE START:**

- 10.1 Before the first warning signal of the first race of the day, each boat shall check in with the Race Committee by sailing in the vicinity of the signal boat and hailing the Race Committee on VHF Channel 73 with her sail number, and repeat the information until acknowledged by the Race Committee.
- 10.2 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 10.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat at the starboard end of the line; and, either the course side of an inflatable orange cylinder, or a staff displaying an orange flag on an anchored Race Committee RIB at the port end of the line.

- 10.4 The Race Committee shall hail each boat the race committee has identified as a premature starter over channel 72. Failure to hear or receive such announcement, the number of times an announcement is made, or the order in which a particular boat is hailed shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 64.4(b)(1).
- 10.5 Competitors are reminded that it is the responsibility of each boat to start correctly; and if they are aware they have not done so, they should return and start correctly even though they were not identified by the race committee and they were not hailed by the race committee as a premature starter.
- 10.6 A boat which has not started 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start(DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 10.6, A4, and A5.

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1 In addition to the requirements set forth in RRS 33, the Race Committee will announce its intent to change a leg of the course on VHF Channel 72, along with a description of the color and type of new mark. Failure of competitors to receive or hear such announcements will not be grounds for redress.
- 11.2 In the event that the Race Committee changes the weather mark after the initial weather leg, there will be no offset mark set.
- 11.3 In the event that the Race Committee changes the leeward mark(s), they will be replaced with a single mark that will be left to port.

12. THE FINISH: The finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a Race Committee boat and the course side of the finish mark.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

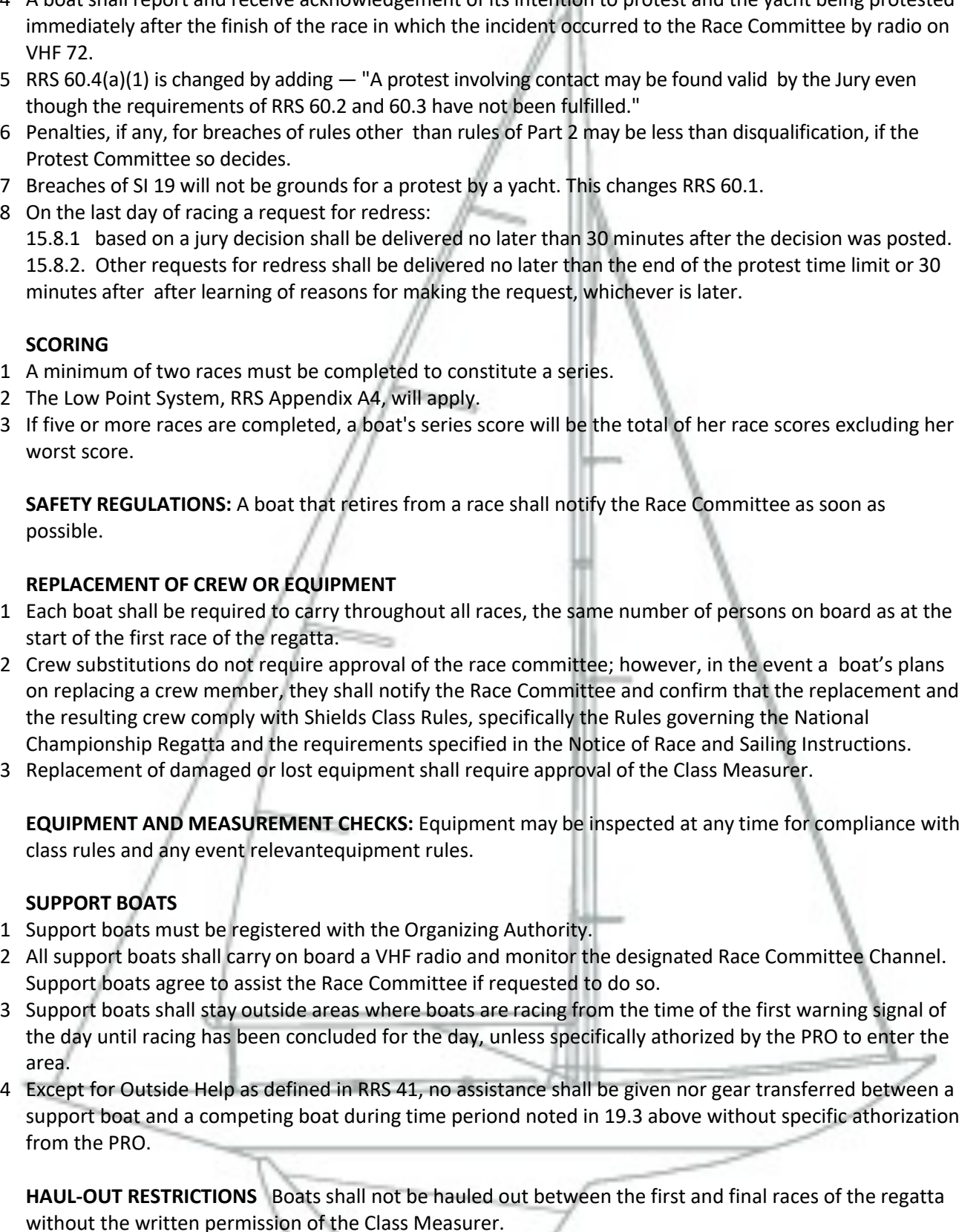
- 13.1 RRS Appendices V1 and T will apply.
- 13.2 RRS 44.2 One-Turn and Two-Turn Penalties is changed as follows to prohibit a boat taking a penalty turn within the Zone: "After getting well clear of other boats and the Zone as soon after the incident as possible ..."
- 13.3 RRS Appendix T1(b) is changed to read: "A Post-Race Penalty is a 20% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c) if the penalty is taken before arbitration. If the penalty is taken after arbitration it is 30%. However rule 44.1(a) applies."

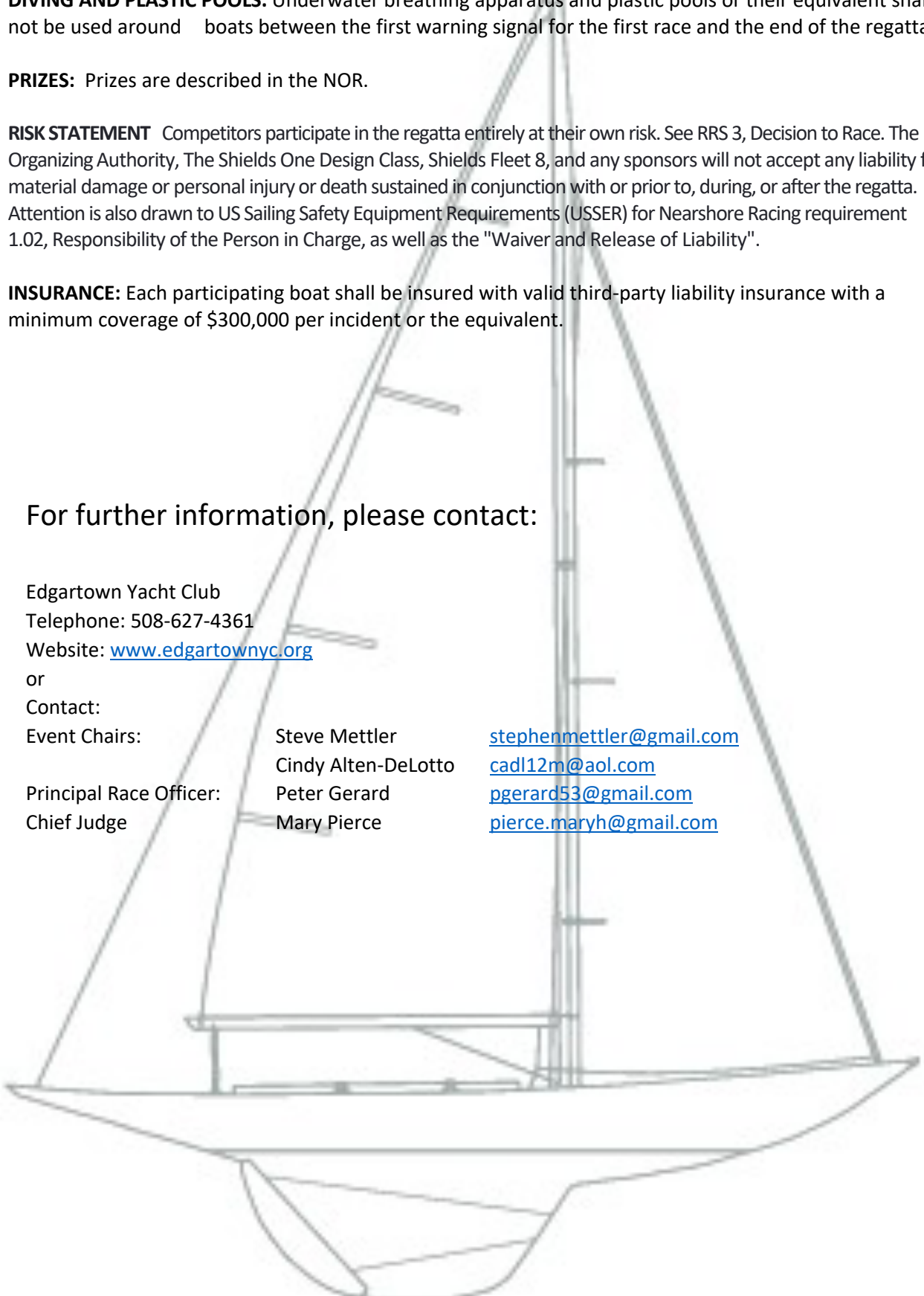
14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 The time limit for the first boat to pass the first windward mark shall be 45 minutes.
- 14.2 The time limit for the first finisher of each race shall be 120 minutes.
- 14.3 The finishing window for subsequent finishers is 20 minutes after the first boat finishes. Boats not finishing within this finishing window shall be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired). TLE shall be scored points equal to the number of boats finishing prior to the expiration of the 20 minute window plus two. This changes RRS 35 and Appendix A10.

15. HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 Protest forms will be available from the Jury Desk located in the Edgartown Yacht Club Wardroom. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the Jury Desk within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.2 The protest time limit is one (1) hour after the Race Committee Signal Boat docks after the last race of the day. The protest time limit will be posted on the official notice board.
- 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. Hearings will be held in the Wardroom at Edgartown Yacht Club. Representatives of boats who are parties to a hearing shall remain on call in the vicinity of the protest room. Failure of a boat to appear when called for a hearing will be considered by the Jury as grounds for proceeding under rule 63.1(b).

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- 15.4 A boat shall report and receive acknowledgement of its intention to protest and the yacht being protested immediately after the finish of the race in which the incident occurred to the Race Committee by radio on VHF 72.
- 15.5 RRS 60.4(a)(1) is changed by adding — "A protest involving contact may be found valid by the Jury even though the requirements of RRS 60.2 and 60.3 have not been fulfilled."
- 15.6 Penalties, if any, for breaches of rules other than rules of Part 2 may be less than disqualification, if the Protest Committee so decides.
- 15.7 Breaches of SI 19 will not be grounds for a protest by a yacht. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 15.8 On the last day of racing a request for redress:
- 15.8.1 based on a jury decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted.
 - 15.8.2 Other requests for redress shall be delivered no later than the end of the protest time limit or 30 minutes after after learning of reasons for making the request, whichever is later.
- 16. SCORING**
- 16.1 A minimum of two races must be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.2 The Low Point System, RRS Appendix A4, will apply.
- 16.3 If five or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 17. SAFETY REGULATIONS:** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.
- 18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**
- 18.1 Each boat shall be required to carry throughout all races, the same number of persons on board as at the start of the first race of the regatta.
- 18.2 Crew substitutions do not require approval of the race committee; however, in the event a boat's plans on replacing a crew member, they shall notify the Race Committee and confirm that the replacement and the resulting crew comply with Shields Class Rules, specifically the Rules governing the National Championship Regatta and the requirements specified in the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.
- 18.3 Replacement of damaged or lost equipment shall require approval of the Class Measurer.
- 19. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS:** Equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with class rules and any event relevant equipment rules.
- 20. SUPPORT BOATS**
- 20.1 Support boats must be registered with the Organizing Authority.
- 20.2 All support boats shall carry on board a VHF radio and monitor the designated Race Committee Channel. Support boats agree to assist the Race Committee if requested to do so.
- 20.3 Support boats shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the first warning signal of the day until racing has been concluded for the day, unless specifically authorized by the PRO to enter the area.
- 20.4 Except for Outside Help as defined in RRS 41, no assistance shall be given nor gear transferred between a support boat and a competing boat during time period noted in 19.3 above without specific authorization from the PRO.
- 21. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS** Boats shall not be hauled out between the first and final races of the regatta without the written permission of the Class Measurer.

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22. **DIVING AND PLASTIC POOLS.** Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the first warning signal for the first race and the end of the regatta.
23. **PRIZES:** Prizes are described in the NOR.
22. **RISK STATEMENT** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority, The Shields One Design Class, Shields Fleet 8, and any sponsors 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. Attention is also drawn to US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (USSER) for Nearshore Racing requirement 1.02, Responsibility of the Person in Charge, as well as the "Waiver and Release of Liability".
25. **INSURANCE:** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

For further information, please contact:

Edgartown Yacht Club
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Website: www.edgartownyc.org

or

Contact:

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Principal Race Officer:

Peter Gerard

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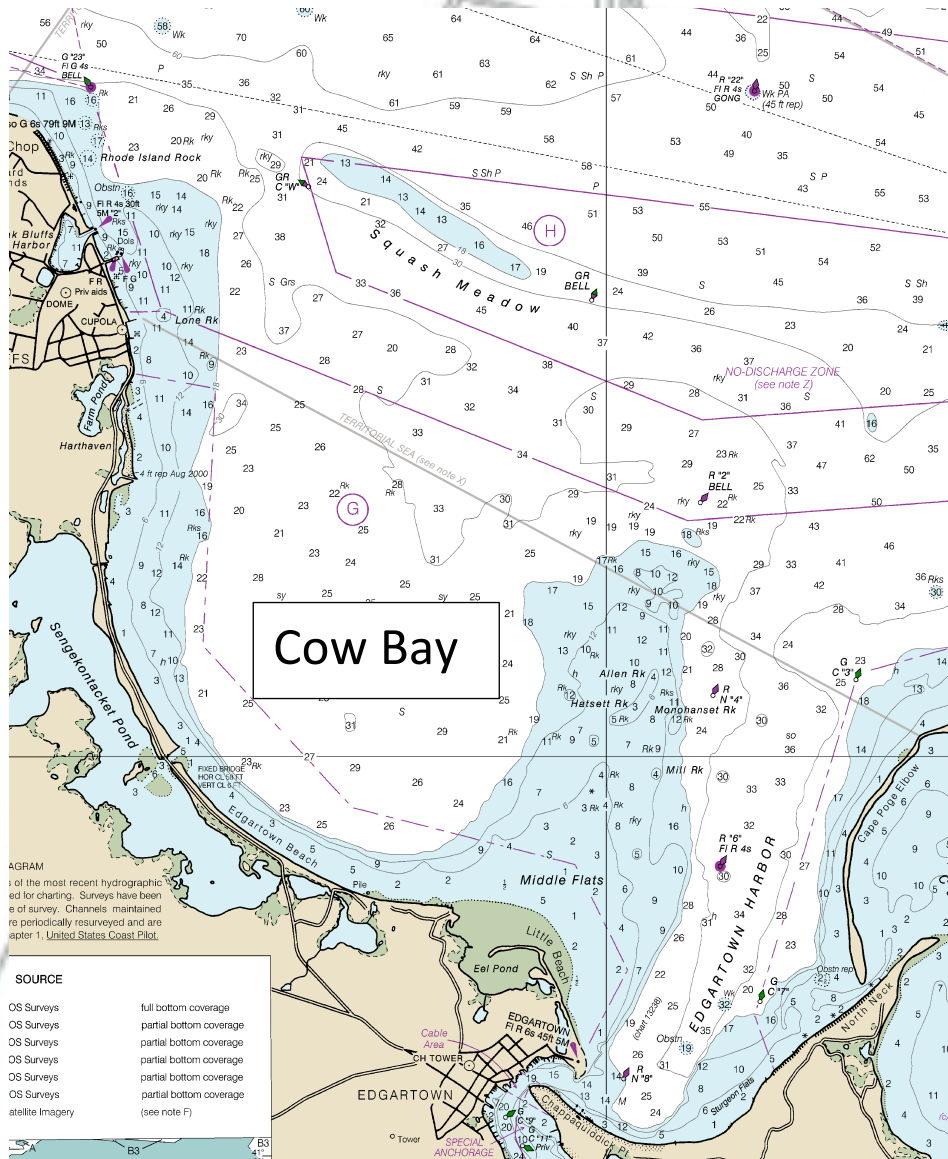
Chief Judge

Mary Pierce

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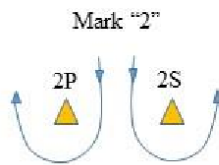
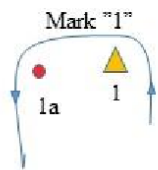
ADDENDUM A

2025 Shields Nationals Racing Area

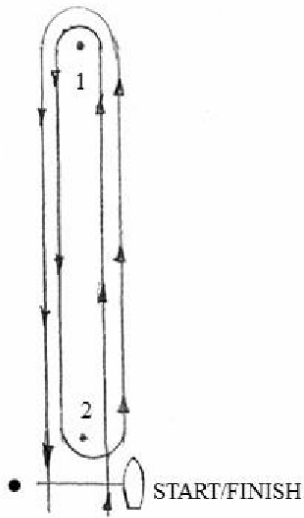


ADDENDUM B

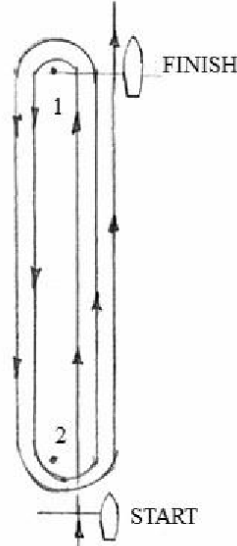
2025 Shields Nationals Course Diagrams



Course 4
START-1-1a-2-1-1a-FINISH



Course 5
START-1-1a-2-1-1a-2-FINISH



Course 6
START-1-1a-2-1-1a-2-1-1a-2-FINISH

