



Edgartown Yacht Club

EST. 1905

SHIELDS CLASS 61st NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

September 3-6, 2025
The Edgartown Yacht Club
Edgartown, Massachusetts

NOTICE OF RACE

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification

1 RULES

- 1.1 The Organizing Authority (OA) is Edgartown Yacht Club (EYC) in association with Shields Fleet 8 of Edgartown, MA.
- 1.2 Races will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and the Shields Class Association Rules, as posted on the Class website, <http://www.shieldsclass.com>.
- 1.3 The Official Notice Board will be on YachtScoring at <http://www.yachtscoring.com>.
- 1.4 Each boat shall carry a VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on all standard marine channels.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available after 1600, August 29, 2025 online on the Official Notice Board.

3 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS.

Except in an emergency, boats shall not have any outside communication while racing that is not available to all boats. This restriction applies to all outside communication, including but not limited to mobile phones.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

- 4.1 The regatta is open to Shields Class boats and crews who have satisfied the requirements for entry under the provisions of Shields Class Sailing Association Rules, Section VI, Rules Governing the National Championship Regatta.
- 4.2 Eligible skippers may enter by completing the entry form, with payment, available via the link provided at <http://www.yachtscoreing.com> and submitting their Certificate of Compliance, Sail Inventory Registry and Waiver of Liability forms.
- 4.3 Registrations will not be accepted after 1800 EDT Monday August 25, 2025.

5 FEES

- 5.1 The entry fee will be \$850 for early registration, \$950 for regular registration, and \$1,100 for late registration. Registration is not complete until payment has been received. The entry fee includes tickets to all social events for up to five crew members, including the skipper.
- 5.2 Moorings will be provided for free. Skippers should anticipate rafting with one other Shields on each mooring.
- 5.3 Edgartown Yacht Club does not have a launching and rigging facility. Facilities for launching and rigging are available at other locations including Edgartown, Falmouth, and Wareham, MA. Visiting skippers are discouraged from launching at Edgartown due to the added cost and logistical challenges associated with bringing boat and trailer to the island on the ferry. More detailed information will be provided on the regatta website.
- 5.4 Complementary housing will be provided during the regatta from Tuesday through Sunday morning. To request complimentary housing, submit a completed Housing Request form found on the event website. Requests received after August 4, 2025 will be filled on a space available basis.
- 5.5 Additional tickets for the social events can be purchased for a price to be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 5.6 Box lunches can be ordered from Edgartown Yacht Club for an additional fee.

6 ADVERTISING

- 6.1 Advertising is restricted in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20, Advertising Code.
- 6.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organizing Authority.

7 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

7.1 Wednesday, January 1, 2025

1800 Deadline for early registration Online

Monday, July 28, 2025

1800 Deadline for loaner boat requests Online

Monday, August 4, 2025

1800 Deadline for regular registration Online

1800 Deadline for housing requests Online

Monday, August 25, 2025

1800 Deadline for late registration Online

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

1400-1700 Registration and housing assignments EYC

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

0900-1700 Registration and housing assignments EYC

1100 Skippers' Meeting for Practice Race EYC

1300 Practice Race

1900 Shields Class Annual Meeting EYC

1930 Skippers' Meeting for Championship Regatta EYC

Thursday, September 4, 2025

0730-0830 Complimentary coffee EYC

1030 First Warning Signal

Friday, September 5, 2025

0730-0830 Complimentary coffee EYC

1030 First Warning Signal EYC

Saturday, September 6, 2025

0730-0830 Complimentary coffee EYC

1030 First Warning Signal

No Warning Signals after 1400

1800 Awards Dinner (jacket and tie or equivalent) EYC

7.2 The social event calendar will be published in a future amendment to the NOR.

7.3 The schedule published in the Sailing Instructions will take precedence in the event of differences between it and the schedule posted in the Notice of Race.

8 MEASUREMENTS AND EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

8.1 In the spirit of Corinthian sailing, the regatta host is relying on the signed Certificates of Compliance and Sail Inventory Registry printouts as evidence that all participating yachts are compliant with all rules governing participation in the National Championship Regatta. Skippers will be required to submit a signed Certificate of Compliance and Sail Inventory Registry.

8.2 The OA may make measurement checks at any time to confirm compliance with Class Rules, Section IV; and required U.S. Coast Guard and Shields Class required safety equipment. The OA may also measure sails at any time to confirm compliance with the Class Rules, Section V and to confirm agreement with the Sail Inventory Card.

8.3 Crew weight shall be certified as part of the signed Certificate of Compliance at registration by the skipper and shall not be subject to protest by a competitor but may be protested by the Race Committee. Crew substitutions may occur but must be certified by the skipper to be in conformance.

9 VENUE

The races will be sailed in Vineyard Sound to the north of Edgartown Outer Harbor and/or Cow Bay.

10 COURSES

The courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions and will conform to the Shields Class Sailing Association Rules, Rules Governing the National Championship Regatta, Section VI.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

The penalty system will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

12 SCORING

- 12.1 A minimum of three races must be completed to constitute a series.
- 12.2 If four or fewer races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 12.3 If five or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 12.4 No more than three races will be held on any one day, and no more than eight races will be held in the regatta.

13 SUPPORT BOATS

- 13.1 Support and coach boats shall register with the Race Committee. Support boats shall display the sail numbers of the boats they are supporting.
- 13.2 All support boats are required to monitor the specific VHF channel designated in the Sailing Instructions during the regatta and respond promptly to all Race Committee or Organizing Authority directives. Additional rules pertaining to support boats may be supplied with the Sailing Instructions.
- 13.3 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 between the first warning signal of the first race until the boat has finished the final race of each day, without prior approval from the Principal Race Officer.
- 13.4 Support Boats shall remain 500 feet outside all lay lines and above/below all marks of the course at all times while boats are racing.

14 LOANER BOAT POLICY

A limited number of loaner boats will be made available for the regatta. Information for eligible skippers regarding the loan or charter of boats will be on the regatta website. Each fleet shall determine which skipper will be allotted its loaner boat and the Fleet Captain will inform the Event Chair by 1800, Monday July, 28, 2025. The allotment for each racing fleet's loaner boat shall not be impacted should any of its skippers elect to bring their own boat to the regatta. Any fleets' unclaimed loaner boats after 1800, Thursday July 31, 2025 shall be made available for racing by their local owners and for other qualified skippers on the basis of their fully paid registration.

15 HAULOUT RESTRICTIONS

Boats shall not be hauled out between the first and final races of the regatta without the written permission of the Protest Committee.

16 DIVING EQUIPMENT 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.

17 MEDIA, SOUND, AND IMAGES

The organizing authority has the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

18 RISK STATEMENT

18.1 As a condition of entry, each participating owner, skipper, and individual crew member shall submit an online liability waiver release. The fully executed Liability Waiver Forms shall be submitted prior to racing. The waiver form link can be found on the regatta website at <http://www.yachtscoring.com>. Boats shall not be scored unless the required forms have been submitted.

18.2 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

19 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.

20 PRIZES

20.1 Keeper trophies will be awarded in conjunction with each of the perpetual awards listed in the Shields Class Sailing Association Rules, Section VI, 5.0, Awards.

20.2 Keeper trophies will be awarded to the winners of each individual race, as well as for skippers finishing in second through fifth place overall.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the Edgartown Yacht Club Race Committee Office, One Dock Street, P.O. Box 1309 Edgartown, Massachusetts 02539, Telephone (508) 627-4364, <http://www.edgartownyc.org>

Regatta Chair: Steve Mettler, (203) 873-7771, stephenmettler@gmail.com