



**ETCHELLS FLEET 27
2026 SPRING, SUMMER, and FALL SERIES,
FLEET CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES**

May 19, 2026 through September 15th, 2026

**ETCHELLS FLEET 27 – Organizing Authority
Falmouth, Maine USA**

NOTICE OF RACE

March 20, 2026

1. RULES

- 1.1. The Fleet 27 Spring, Summer, and Fall Series, and the Fleet Championship Series will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) shall apply to all races of the series.
- 1.3. The International Etchells Class Association (IECA) Rules will apply except as modified by the Sailing Instructions (SI).
 - 1.3.1. IECA rules can be found here: https://etchells.org/assets/documents/IECA_CR_2026-01-01.pdf.
- 1.4. IECA Class Rules C.2.1(a) and C.2.1(b) (crew number limitations) do not apply.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. Any owner of an Etchells Class boat having paid 2026 Class and Fleet dues; and having provided proof of insurance to the Fleet Treasurer; and having submitted the Etchells Class Association Personal and Portable Equipment form to the Fleet Race Officer shall be eligible to participate in any of the series.
- 2.2. Eligible boats will display bow numbers assigned and provided by the organizing authority. [DP] Bow numbers should be displayed on both sides of the bow and remain consistent throughout the entire season.
- 2.3. Visiting Etchells (non-Fleet 27 member) are welcome to participate as long as they meet all requirements other than 1) dues payment, and 2) bow numbers. They will be scored only for the individual races they participate in, but not any of the series. [DP] US Sailing Prescription Appendix A.2 (series scoring) does not apply to visiting Etchells.
- 2.4. Matching sail numbers are required on mainsails and spinnakers and shall also remain consistent throughout the entire season. If a competitor has a new sail and has not yet acquired sail numbers and/or is testing a borrowed sail on a trial basis must apply for a one-time “Sail Waiver” and must be granted approval by the Race Officer at least one week prior to the start of each series. One sail waiver per series is allowed for “new” sail trials (main or spinnaker) and this trial must be reported to the Race Officer three days prior to the night's racing AND verbally announced to the Race Committee when checking in. [DP]

3. FEES

- 3.1. Basic membership consists of Etchells NA Class dues of \$220 and local Fleet dues of \$150 and full payment is required prior to racing. Dues shall be paid through the Etchells North American Class [registration page](#).
- 3.2. If the boat is co-owned or in a multi-owner syndicate, a local associate membership of \$20 for each additional member must be added to the membership.
 - 3.2.1. For example, the total dues for a three-owner syndicate would be \$410 (\$220 for the International Class and North American class registration fees + \$150 for the Fleet 27 Owner Dues + \$40 for two Fleet 27 Non-Owner (i.e., associate) Dues)
- 3.3. If there will be a non-owner helmsperson driving the boat for 5 or more races during the entire season, a local associate membership is needed for that person as well.

4. SCHEDULE

- 4.1. Fleet racing shall occur on Tuesdays according to the following schedule:
 - 4.1.1. **Spring Series:** beginning May 19 and ending June 23
 - 4.1.2. **Summer Series:** beginning June 30 and ending August 4
 - 4.1.3. **Fall Series:** beginning August 11 and ending September 15
- 4.2. The warning signal for the start of each Tuesday evening is 1800 from May 19 to August 11, with an earlier 1730 warning signal for races starting August 18 to Sept 15.
- 4.3. The Race Committee shall attempt to run multiple races each evening but not running multiple races shall not constitute grounds for redress.

5. MEASUREMENT

- 5.1. Boats, rigs, and sails may not be measured but shall be in compliance with IECA.

6. EQUIPMENT

- 6.1. Boats may be inspected for compliance with IECA class and Fleet 27 rules at any time.
- 6.2. PERSONAL EQUIPMENT - MANDATORY (IECA C3.1)
 - 6.2.1. The boat shall be equipped with a personal flotation device for each crew member to the minimum standard in accordance with ISO standard 12402-5 (Level 50), or USCG Type III. The personal flotation device shall be readily available and shall have a whistle attached.
- 6.3. FOR USE WHILE RACING - MANDATORY (IECA C5.1)
 - 6.3.1. Hand Pump, which may be fastened, see IECA C.7.4(c)(9)
 - 6.3.2. Anchor, as follows: anchor weight 3.5 kg minimum; anchor chain link size 6 mm minimum; combined weight anchor and chain 5.5 kg minimum to 9.0 kg maximum; anchor line diameter 10 mm minimum; continuous anchor line length (running rigging does not comply with this rule) 45 m minimum to 50 m maximum
 - 6.3.3. 2 Buckets, each as follows: minimum capacity 9.5 liters, lanyard length 1.5 m minimum
- 6.4. FOR USE WHILE RACING - OPTIONAL (IECA C5.1.b)
 - 6.4.1. IECA C5.1.b (Optional Portable Equipment) is changed to allow the following device functionality: OCS/Clear Start Messaging, COG, Heel, Pitch (fore aft trim), SOG, VMG, Distance to Line, Time to Line, Time to Burn, Shift tracking, Data Logging and Zone Messaging.

6.5. NOT FOR USE WHILE RACING - MANDATORY (IECA C5.2.a)

- 6.5.1. Towing rope: minimum 25 m and maximum 30 m of continuous length and of not less than 12 mm diameter. Towing rope must float and must not be pre-stretched. Running rigging does not comply with this rule.
 - 6.5.2. Two paddles: minimum 1200 mm long and with a blade area of minimum 0.04 m
- 6.6. All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 9, 16, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, and 78 per Fleet 27 rules.

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 7.1. The sailing instructions will be available no later than 1200 on May 19 at the Fleet website www.etchellsfleet27.com.

8. VENUE

- 8.1. The usual Tuesday Series start is to the south of Clapboard Island though wind conditions could allow use of other sailing areas. The Race Committee may announce the venue shortly after departing the dock.

9. COURSES

- 9.1. The usual courses will be Windward/Leeward with an offset using inflatable drop marks. The Race Committee may, at its discretion, use a Harry Anderson course. Further course descriptions may be found in the SIs.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 10.1. US Sailing Prescriptions Appendix V (Alternative Penalties) shall apply.
- 10.2. Appendix V Rule V1 Penalty at the Time of an Incident changes RRS 44.1 to allow a boat to take a One-Turn Penalty rather than a Two-Turn Penalty if it breaks a Part 2 rule other than in the zone around a mark.
- 10.3. Appendix V Rule V2 Post-Race Penalties provides the opportunity to take a 30% Penalty before a hearing.
- 10.4. Except if the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. This changes RRS 44.2.

11. SCORING

- 11.1. US Sailing Prescriptions Appendix A4 (Low Point Scoring System) shall apply. Appendix A5.3 shall apply.
- 11.2. Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series. If the required minimum number of races are not completed in the Spring or Summer Series, the results of any races completed will be included in the scoring of the next series and the Championship Series.
- 11.3. For all series and the Fleet Championship, boats shall be allowed 1 drop after 5 races, 2 drops after 10 races, 3 drops after 15 races, 4 drops after 20 races, 5 drops after 25 races, and so

forth.

- 11.4. The Fleet 27 Season Championship will consist of the combined results of all races sailed in the Spring, Summer, and Fall Series.

12. RACE COMMITTEE

- 12.1. Upon request of the Race Committee, the owner of each competing boat is responsible for providing 4-5 crew to conduct an evening of race management duties. The Portland Yacht Club Race Committee vessel *Lindsay Lord* must have either a club or staff member aboard while underway.
- 12.2. Race Committee dates will be assigned by the Race Officer. Owners are free to swap evenings, but the Race Officer must be notified.
- 12.3. The boat performing Race Committee duty shall be awarded average points based on 1) the **average of her scored races for the season** in which she performs RC, excluding the discarded scores of that **season** and 2) the **average of her scored races in the total series**, excluding the discarded scores of the **series**.

13. COMMUNICATION

- 13.1. The online notice board is located at www.etchellsfleet27.com
- 13.2. All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 9, 16, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, and 78.
- 13.3. On the water, the Race Committee will make courtesy VHF radio broadcasts to competitors. The channel will be stated in the SIs.
- 13.4. From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except for an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that are not available to all boats.

14. PRIZES

- 14.1. Awards may be provided for winners of each Tuesday evening as well as the yacht that is most improved that evening over its position in the prior Tuesday's racing.
- 14.2. Awards will be given for the top three finishers in each Series though the Fleet, at its discretion, may give awards for finishers beyond third in each Series.
- 14.3. Awards will also be provided for the Overall Fleet Championship.

15. RISK STATEMENT

- 15.1. Competitors' attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3 which states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race 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.**
- 15.2. Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. 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 event. Additionally, all competitors and

support persons will be required to follow all local, county, state and federal regulations regarding health and safety. The OA may choose to impose additional regulations at their discretion which will be posted on the official notice board.

- 15.3. 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, prior to, during or after the racing season.

16. INSURANCE

- 16.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 per incident or equivalent and a copy of this insurance policy must be provided prior to engaging in any racing activity.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION

- Fleet 27 Captain: Jess Harris at jessharris21@gmail.com
- Fleet 27 Treasurer: Rich Hubbell at hubbell.rich@gmail.com
- Fleet 27 Race Officer: Harrison Barfield at barfieldharrison@gmail.com
- Fleet 27 Social Officer: Audrey Morin at audrey_k_morin@yahoo.com
- Fleet 27 Secretary: Tracy Sommers at lassasommers@gmail.com