

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
Maine Rocks Race
September 16-17, 2023
Organized by Rockland Yacht Club (RYC)

1. Rules

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2021-2024 (RRS).

2. Entries

Competitors may enter by delivering a completed entry form and paying the entry fee to Rockland Yacht Club before 1800 hrs. on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 or by registering for the regatta online at the Regatta Management site. www.regattaman.com

The entry fee is: \$75 fee for single-handed, \$100 fee for double-handed or \$125 fee for fully-crewed.

3. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Rockland Yacht Club.

4. Signals Made Ashore

4.1 The Organizer does not provide for signals to be made from shore. All signals will be made from the Race Committee boat.

4.2 The Race Committee will use VHF channel 68.

5. Schedule and Class Flags

5.1 A required Competitors Meeting will be held on Friday, September 15 at 1800 hrs. at Rockland Yacht Club. This requirement may be waived, individually, in advance, at the sole discretion of the Principal Race Officer.

5.2 The warning signal for the first race will be at 1000 hrs. on Saturday, September 16, 2023.

5.3 The class flags will be:
Fully-crewed class flag-code flag Whiskey (W),
Double handed class - yellow flag
Single handed class - red flag for the

5.4 Order of Starts - Fully-crewed class will start first. Double-handed boats will start second. Single-handed boats will start third.

5.5 There will be a one-minute pause between the start of a class and the first warning of the next class.

6. Racing Area

The racing area will be Rockland harbor, Penobscot Bay and the Gulf of Maine.

7. Courses and Marks

7.1 The Race Committee will announce the courses to be sailed at the Skippers' Meeting.

7.2 The courses will be as follows:

Single-handed and Double-handed

After starting in Rockland harbor, the buoy marked "DMSB" to the south of Ragged Island, that guards South Breaker, must be left to port. Round Matinicus Rock leaving it to port. Round Mount Desert Rock leaving it to port. Round Matinicus Rock leaving it to starboard. Leave the "DMSB" buoy to starboard. Finish between Can #1 and the Rockland Breakwater light.

Fully-crewed

Upon leaving Rockland Harbor, round Monhegan Island to port, leave Matinicus Rock to port, thence round Mount Desert Rock to port, thence leave Penobscot Bay lighted buoy WP to starboard, and then finish in Rockland Harbor.

Alternate Course:

After starting in Rockland harbor, the buoy marked "DMSB" to the south of Ragged Island, that guards South Breaker, must be left to port. Round Matinicus Rock leaving it to port. Leave Three Fathoms Ledge mark "DTF" to port. Return to Rockland Harbor and finish between Can #1 and the Rockland Breakwater light.

8. Starting and Finishing Lines

8.1 The starting will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the course side of the orange starting mark. The finish line is a line formed between the Rockland Breakwater Light and Can #1, SSW of the light.

8.2 Races will be started using the method described in RRS 26.

8.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.8.5

8.4 If a boat is over early and fails to restart, a 30 minute penalty will be added to their elapsed time.

8.5 The "I" flag rule is in effect.

9. Finish & Time Limit

9.1 Record finish times, according to GPS time, when you pass between Rockland Breakwater Light and can #1, SSW of the light. Call or text Randy Pickelmann at 727-423-0947 with your vessel name and finish time.

10. Protests

10.1 Please remember that some contestants are sailing short handed. Be courteous and forgiving.

10.2 RYC has changed the 720° penalty to a 360°. This makes it easier to accept a penalty on the water and exonerate one's self.

10.3 Protest notification shall be made by text to Randy Pickelmann at 727-423-0947 within 30 minutes of finishing. Hearings will be held as soon as practicable after racing at RYC.

11. Scoring

11.1 One race is scheduled.

11.2 The scoring system will be the Low Point System as described in RRS, Appendix A4.

12. Safety Regulations

12.1 Boats shall check in before the start on the day of the race. This is done by sailing past the stern of the Race Committee after it has set the pin end and has anchored, or by contacting the RC on the VHF channel (68).

12.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.

12.3 Each competing boat is required to carry at least the following equipment: Required Coast Guard Safety equipment, a working VHF radio and visual signals.

12.4 All boats must have a radar reflector deployed at all times during the race.

12.5 It is recommended that crew be clipped in while on deck..

12.6 Use of engines – You may use your engine to charge batteries. You may use your engine if you are in imminent danger of going aground as long as you do not advance your position. Report such use along with the time of engine start and shut down.

13. Awards:

There will be awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd on corrected time in each class. The

Francis Stokes Perpetual Award is for the best corrected time for a single-handed boat. Much thanks to Peter and Peggy McCrea.

14. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the racing entirely at their own risk in accordance with RRS 3 "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 racing.

Safety Notes!

A) Shipping: Please be especially vigilant while crossing the shipping lanes. Large vessels enter Penobscot Bay at all hours. The pilots aboard these vessels do a good job of reporting their positions and intentions at certain points along their route on 13 and 16. Some of these vessels are tugs with barges in tow. Beware of the tow line.

B) All boats must have a radar reflector deployed during the entire race.

C) Jacklines are mandatory.

D) If you are NOT going to finish the race, call or text Randy at 727-423-0947 as soon as possible and leave a message.

E) BEWARE! There is a large Coast Guard mooring buoy to the northwest of Mount Desert Rock. It shows on some electronic charts but not all of them.

6) Use of engines: You may use your engine to charge batteries. You may use your engine if you are in imminent danger of going aground as long as you do not advance your position. Report such use along with time of engine start and shut down.