

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
Maine Rocks Race
September 15-17, 2017
Organized by Rockland Yacht Club (RYC)

1. Rules

The race will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2020 (RRS)*.

2. Entries

Competitors may enter by delivering a completed entry form and paying the \$45 entry fee for singlehanded or \$65 for double-handed boats to Rockland Yacht Club before 1800 hrs. on Friday, September 15 or by registering for the race online at the Regatta Management site. www.regattaman.com

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 mandatory Competitors Meeting will be held on Friday, September 15, 2017 at 1800 hrs. at Rockland Yacht Club.

5.2 The warning signal for the first race will be at 1000 hrs. on Saturday, September 16, 2017.

5.3 The class flags will be a yellow flag for the double handed class and a red flag for the single handed class.

5.4 Double-handed boats will start first. Single-handed boats will start second.

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

6. Racing Area

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

7. Courses and Marks

The course(s) will be as follows:

Red/Green buoy marked "MSB" to the west of Matinicus, 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 "MSB" buoy to starboard. Finish between Can #1 and the Rockland Breakwater light.

8. Starting and Finishing Lines

8.1 The starting and finish line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the course side of the orange starting mark.

8.2 Race 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.

8.4 If a boat is over early there will be an individual recall signal.

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

8.6 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 727-423-0947 with your vessel name and finish time. There is no time limit for this race.

10. Protests

10.1 Please remember that all 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 ones self.

10.3 Protests shall be delivered to Doug Pope or Randy Pickelmann 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 first start of the day. 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 All crew must wear PFR's while on deck and be clipped in. Jacklines are mandatory.

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 an award for first to finish. There will be awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd on corrected time in each class. There is an award called the Francis Stokes Award for the best corrected time for a single handed boat. Much thanks to Peter and Peggy McCrea for thinking this one up and executing a perpetual trophy.

14. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the racing entirely at their own risk. See RRS 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 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) All crew must wear PFD's while on deck and be clipped in. Jacklines are mandatory.

D) If you are NOT going to finish the race call 701-1384 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.