



2025 INTERNATIONAL ETHELLS BISCAZYNE BAY REGATTA SERIES (IEBBS) BISCAZYNE BAY YACHT CLUB

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI)

Etchells Fleet 20 is the organizing authority (OA), the Biscayne Bay Yacht Club (BBYC) is the host club, and the BBYC Regatta Committee is designated as race committee (RC).

1 RULES:

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 US Sailing prescriptions will not apply except prescriptions to the following rules: 60.3, 61.4, 67, 76.1 and Appendix R.
- 1.3 International Etchells Association Class Rules will apply.
- 1.4 This event will be conducted in accordance with the Etchells Class Code of Conduct which is available on the IECA website (https://etchells.org/assets/documents/Code_of_Conduct_Approved_2024.07.25.pdf). Competitors will be required to sign the Code of Conduct prior to the close of registration for the event. Failure of a competitor to sign the Code of Conduct may result in the competitor being ineligible to participate in the event.
- 1.5 The Louis Piana Cup and Sidney Doren Memorial Regatta are classified as IECA Open events.
- 1.6 The Florida State Championship and US Midwinters East Regatta are designated as IECA Class C events by the North American Etchells Association. All skippers must be Active Members of the IECA and crew must be Active Members or Associate Members for these two events.
- 1.7 Except for breaking a rule of Part 1 or 2 or RRS 31, the protest committee (PC) may impose a Discretionary Penalty (DP) less than disqualification, in accordance with RRS 64.2, 64.6.
- 1.8 Arbitration in accordance with RRS APPENDIX T, ARBITRATION, will be offered. A Post-Race Penalty is a 20% Scoring Penalty. This changes POST-RACE PENALTIES RRS T1(b).
- 1.9 In the event of a conflict between the NORS and SI, the SI will govern. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.10 Class Rule C.5.1(b) is amended to add: (17) Electronic devices with the following functionality: **Compass, Timer, and OCS/Clear Start Messaging**. This change is permitted by RRS 87 and written permission is posted on the Official Notice Board. (See Appendix -VAKAROS).
- 1.11 [NP] The OA will distribute bow numbers and application instructions to competing boats at check-in. A boat may not protest another boat for breaking this rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB) located at https://yachtscoring.com/notice_board.cfm?eid=16882.
- 3.2 The Race Office is in the Biscayne Bay Yacht Club (BBYC).
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF channel 72.
- 3.4 [DP] The use of mobile/cell phones, or any device capable of sending and/or receiving external electronic communication and/or connecting to the internet is prohibited after the first Warning Signal on each race day until the boat has completed racing that day, except in an emergency threatening the safety of any member of the crew or the flotation of the boat.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 Competitors and *Support Persons* shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the south flagpole at Biscayne Bay Yacht Club.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in race signal AP.

6 SCHEDULE AND EVENTS

6.1 Schedule:

Louis Piana Cup:	December 7-8, 2024	
Friday, December 6, 2024	09:00-12:00; 16:00-18:00	Registration/check-in/Vakaros registration
Saturday, December 7, 2024	07:30-08:45 09:00 10:55	Breakfast @ BBYC Competitor's Briefing First warning (3 races scheduled)
Sunday, December 8, 2024	07:30-08:45 09:00 10:55 16:00	Breakfast @ BBYC Competitor's Briefing First warning (2 races scheduled) Awards
Sidney Doren Memorial Regatta:	January 11-12, 2025	
Friday, January 10, 2025	09:00-12:00; 16:00-18:00	Registration/check-in/Vakaros registration
Saturday, January 11, 2025	07:30-08:45 09:00 10:55	Breakfast @ BBYC Competitor's Briefing First warning (3 races scheduled)
Sunday, January 12, 2025	07:30-08:45 09:00 10:55 16:00	Breakfast @ BBYC Competitor's Briefing First warning (2 races scheduled) Awards
Florida State Championship:	February 1-2, 2025	
Friday, January 31, 2025	09:00-12:00; 16:00-18:00	Registration/ weigh-in
Saturday, February 1, 2025	07:30-08:45 09:00 10:55	Breakfast @ BBYC Competitor's Briefing First warning (3 races scheduled)
Sunday, February 2, 2025	07:30-08:45 09:00 10:55 16:00	Breakfast @ BBYC Competitor's Briefing First warning (2 races scheduled) Awards
US Midwinters East Regatta:	February 14-16, 2025	
Thursday, February 13, 2025	09:00-12:00; 16:00-18:00	Registration/ weigh-in
Friday, February 14, 2025	07:30-08:45 08:00-08:45 09:00 10:55	Breakfast @ BBYC Crew weigh-in Competitor's Briefing First warning (3 races scheduled)
Saturday, February 15, 2025	07:30-08:45 09:00 10:55	Breakfast @ BBYC Competitor's Briefing First warning (3 races scheduled)
Sunday, February 16, 2025	07:30-08:45 09:00 10:55 16:00	Breakfast @ BBYC Competitor's Briefing First warning (2 races scheduled) Awards

6.2 Five races are scheduled for each event and one completed race will constitute an event, except eight races are scheduled for the US Midwinters East Regatta and two completed races will constitute this event.

6.3 Three races each day are scheduled for Friday and/or Saturday, and two races are scheduled for Sunday.

6.4 On the Sunday of each event, no warning signal will be made after 14:00 hours.

7 CLASS FLAG

- 7.1 The class flag will be the Etchells Class insignia on a white background.

8 RACING AREA

- 8.1 The racing area will be on Biscayne Bay approximately 2 nm south of Biscayne Channel Mark G1 (Fl G 2.5s 5m "1"). See **APPENDIX - RACING AREA.**

9 COURSES

- 9.1 The format of the courses will be windward/leeward. See **APPENDIX - COURSES.**
- 9.2 The course number and the approximate magnetic bearing and distance to the first mark will be posted on the signal vessel and/or announced by VHF.
- 9.3 There will be an offset mark at approximately 90 degrees to port of the weather mark.
- 9.4 Marks of the course are to be left to port, except for a leeward gate where boats are to pass between gate marks in the direction from the prior mark and may leave the marks in either direction.
- 9.5 In the presence of a single weather or leeward mark, the mark is to be left to port.

10 MARKS OF THE COURSE

- 10.1 Mark 1a will be an orange cylinder inflatable mark.
- 10.2 Mark 1b (offset) will be a green round inflatable mark.
- 10.3 Marks 2s and 2p will be yellow cylinder inflatable marks.

11 THE START

- 11.1 Boats will **CHECK-IN** each day prior to the first warning signal by sailing on starboard past the stern of the race committee signal vessel, until the boat receives an acknowledging hail of her bow number from the race committee.
- 11.2 The starting line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat at the starboard end and a staff displaying an orange flag on a vessel on the port end, or the course side of an inflatable mark.
- 11.3 *Support Persons* and their vessels shall stay outside of the restricted starting area which will be 50m to windward and leeward of the starting line, and 50m to starboard of the RC signal boat and 50m to port of the port end line boat.
- 11.4 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and 5.2.
- 11.5 Class Rule C.5.1(b) is amended to add: (17) Electronic devices with the following functionality: **Compass, Timer, and OCS/Clear Start Messaging.** This change is permitted by RRS 87 and written permission is posted on the Official Notice Board. See **APPENDIX -VAKAROS.**

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1 The race committee may change the location of the weather mark up to 10 degrees and 0.1 nm without signaling a change. This changes RRS 33. A change will be announced on VHF channel 72.
- 12.2 To change the next leg of the course, RRS 33, the race committee will move the original mark(s) or finish line, although it may not be in position before the leading boat begins the leg.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee vessel at the starboard end and a staff displaying an orange flag on a vessel on the port end, or the course side of an inflatable mark. This changes Race Signals.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: 'A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.'
- 14.2 Appendix T1(b) is changed to: 'A Post-Race Penalty is a 20% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c).'
- 14.3 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3(a)(b) will not apply.

15 TIME LIMITS

- 15.1 If no boat has passed the weather mark within **30** minutes after the start, or if no boat sails the course and finishes within **120** minutes, the race shall be abandoned. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within **15** minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored TLE. The score for TLE will be one point more than the last boat finishing within the time limit for the race. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

16 HEARING REQUESTS

- 16.1 Protests and requests for redress or reopening of hearings shall be delivered online to the event website on Yacht Scoring by logging into the owner's corner and filling out the online form. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 16.2 The protest time limit shall be sixty (60) minutes after the RC signal boat docks and will be posted on the ONB on Yacht Scoring.
- 16.3 Notices will be posted on the ONB no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties.
- 16.4 The protest desk will be located on the first floor of the BBYC clubhouse. Parties and their witnesses should report there at the scheduled hearing time
- 16.5 Within the protest time, the race committee will post on the ONB the bow numbers or sail numbers of boats disqualified or penalized in accordance with RRS A5.1.
- 16.6 Submit scoring inquiries to the event website on Yacht Scoring.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 In the event of a medical or other significant emergency on the water, boats notify the RC by VHF as soon as practical, to activate the RC on-the-water emergency plan.
- 17.2 For a boat in need of assistance and unable to communicate by VHF, crew should wave an extended arm until a response is achieved.
- 17.3 A boat that withdraws from the racing area for any reason will inform the race committee before departing by hail, VHF or if impracticable by notifying the race committee cell phone upon reaching shore.
- 17.4 *Support persons* should monitor the RC VHF channel, and if requested provide assistance to the RC. In the event of an emergency, a *support person* should respond immediately, notifying the RC by VHF of their location and action.

18 HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 18.1 Boats shall be afloat no later than 09:00 on the first scheduled day of racing of each event, and shall not be hauled out until their final race, except with the written permission of the principal race officer or jury.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 19.1 Official notice board website at Yacht Scoring: https://yachtscoring.com/notice_board.cfm?eid=16882
- 19.2 The Fleet 20 website www.etchellsfleet20.org may provide additional information.
- 19.3 For inquiries about the 2025 Etchells Biscayne Bay Series:
On The Water Race Committee Cell Phone: (361) 816-9801
Regatta Chairman: Jeff Nehms – racing@etchellsfleet20.org
BBYC Boat Storage: Ezra Culver – racing@etchellsfleet20.org
Regatta Committee Chairman: Jeff Nehms – racing@etchellsfleet20.org
Race Officer: Mark Foster - mfoster1053@gmail.com, (361) 816-9801
Protest Committee Chairman: Tom Rinda - mercofl@aol.com
BBYC Office: 305-858-6303 or gm@biscaynebayyachtclub.com

APPENDIX – US SAILING PRESCRIPTIONS:

US SAILING PRESCRIPTIONS

The following US Sailing Prescriptions shall apply:

RRS 60.3.:

US Sailing Prescribes that: (b) request redress for a boat or call a hearing to consider redress;

RRS 61.4

US Sailing prescribes that no fees shall be charged for protests or requests for redress.

Appendix R

See rules 70 and 71. This appendix replaces Appendix R as adopted by World Sailing for the purpose of creating a two-level appeals system. The US Sailing Appeals Committee acts as the national authority under rule 71.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the appeals system and their answers, including advice on how to prepare an appeal, can be found on the US Sailing website. Go to appeals.ussailing.org and click the 'Appeals FAQ' link.

RRS 67.

US Sailing prescribes that:

(a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for damages.

(b) A PC shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No PC or US Sailing appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.

(c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.

RRS 76.1.

US Sailing prescribes that an OA or RC shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age.

APPENDIX – VAKAROS and RACESENSE SYSTEM:

[NP] Rules and Instructions for Using the Vakaros Atlas 2 and RaceSense System

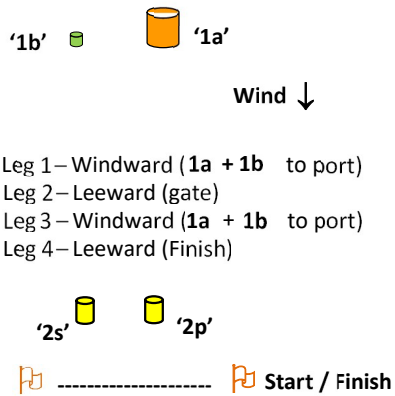
- V.1 The Vakaros RaceSense system will be utilized by the Race Committee (RC). This changes RRS 41(c). A working Vakaros Atlas 2 configured for RaceSense at check-in shall be mounted above any other instruments on the aft side of the mast at all times while racing.
- V.2 Each boat shall either provide a working Atlas 2 at check-in for configuration with RaceSense, or an Atlas 2 will be provided by the Organizing Authority (OA) for a fee.
- V.3 The visual identification of boats infringing RRS 29 and RRS 30 by the RC is replaced with the electronic identification by the Vakaros RaceSense system. This changes RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3 and 30.4.
- V.4 Instructions for using the electronic device will be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- V.5 Competitors shall take all reasonable measures to keep the system safe and operational, and promptly notify Vakaros staff on the water or ashore of any device issues.
- V.6 Any kind of failure of an Atlas 2, the RaceSense system or communication systems shall not be grounds for a request for redress by a boat, Race Committee and Protest Committee. This changes RRS 41(c), RRS 60.1(b), RRS 60.2(b), 60.3(b), 62.1(a), and 63.1.
- V.7 Competitors will notified via their Atlas 2 at least ten (10) minutes prior the start time.

APPENDIX - COURSES

SI APPENDIX C – COURSES DIAGRAM

EXAMPLE : COURSE BOARD DISPLAYED ON R/C SIGNAL	VESSEL	4
Course # 4 - Windward, Leeward, Windward, Leeward (finish)		120°
1a (vertical) + 1b (90° offset) at the weather mark, and leeward Gate.		1.2 nm
Weather mark (s) approx. 120° magnetic at 1.2 nm from the start .		

COURSE 4:



COURSE 5:

