



**International Etchells Class**  
**2012 North American Championships**  
September 4-8, 2012  
Bayview Yacht Club



Organizing Authority – Etchells Fleet 7  
Bayview Yacht Club, Detroit MI

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **1 RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009-2012*.
- 1.2 No national authority prescriptions will apply except the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association (US Sailing) that are included in Appendix A to these Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- 1.3 The International Etchells Class Association Class Rules will apply, except as modified by these SIs.
- 1.4 These SI's, including amendments, will take precedence in the case of a conflict with the Notice of Race (NOR). This changes rule 63.7.

### **2 ENTRIES AND ELIGIBILITY**

- 2.1 The Championship is an ISAF Recognized Event and is sanctioned by the International Etchells Class as a Class B event. All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of the International Etchells Class and shall comply with the ISAF Eligibility Code, Regulation 19.
- 2.2 The skippers entered in the regatta are listed in SI Appendix B.
- 2.3 To remain eligible, the entire crew shall complete registration with the Organizing Authority on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> between 1400 and 1830 or Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> between 0900 and 1830.
- 2.4 All registration formalities as detailed in the NOR, including submittal of signed copies of the International Etchells North American Championship Acknowledgment of Owner / Skipper Responsibility, Disclosure of Abnormal Ballast or Equipment, and Sail Marking Acknowledgement waivers are to be completed by 1830 on Wednesdays, September 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **3 COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 All competing boat shall carry a hand held VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving VHF channels (US).
- 3.2 The race committee's radio channel will be 78.
- 3.3 Race committee broadcasts concerning its intentions, the course to be sailed, starting times, course changes, OCS hails, etc. are a courtesy only. Failure of the race committee to make a broadcast, the timing of the broadcast, or the failure of a boat to hear a broadcast shall not be grounds for redress under rule 62.1(a).



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- 3.4 The first competitors' briefing will be at 1730 on Wednesday, September 5th in the Mackinac Room at Bayview Yacht Club (BYC).
- 3.5 Daily competitors' briefings will be at 0900 on September 6th-8th, in the Mackinac Room.

#### **4 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 4.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the Canada's Cup Room at BYC.

#### **5 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 5.1 Any change to the SIs will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to SI 7, Schedule of Races, will be posted no later than one (1) hour after the latest protest time limit (SI 17.2) on the day before it will take effect. In the event of no racing on a day, any changes to SI 7, Schedule of Races, will be posted no later than 1700 on the day before it will take effect.
- 5.2 Oral changes to the SIs may be given only on the water. The race committee signal boat shall display Code Flag "L" and announce the change on the race committee VHF channel in accordance with rule 90.2(c). Competitors may also approach the race committee boat and receive the change orally while Code Flag "L" is displayed.

#### **6 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 6.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag staff on the front lawn at BYC.
- 6.2 When Code Flag "AP" is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 75 minutes' in the Race Signal "AP".
- 6.3 Code Flag "L", when displayed ashore signifies that a change in the SIs or other notice to competitors has been posted on the official bulletin board.

#### **7 SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 7.1 Racing is scheduled from Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 7.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1100.
- 7.3 Eight races are scheduled. The race committee may run fewer races at its discretion.
- 7.4 The race committee finishing oat will signal its intent to run another race that day by displaying Code Flag "R" at the finish of each race. Code Flag "R" will be lowered with one sound, one minute before the next warning signal is made.
- 7.5 On the last day of the regatta the **initial** warning signal for the final race will not be made after 1430.
- 7.6 The Practice Race is scheduled for 1330 on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.



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## **8 RACING AREA**

- 8.1 The racing area will be 42 21.533' N, 082 51.671 W, which is approximately 2.5 miles from the Peche Island Rear Range Light (F 155 ft PA) on a compass heading of 090. Appendix C shows the location of racing area.
- 8.2 The Peche Island Rear Range Light is in lower Lake St. Clair, approximately 1.5 nm upstream from the BYC, and is visible from the lawn in front of the clubhouse in normal conditions. Competitors are cautioned not to sail closer than 100 meters to the Peche Island Rear Range Light or between the Peche Island Rear Range Light and Peche Island at any time.

## **9 THE COURSES**

- 9.1 Courses are as described below and shown in Appendix C – COURSE ILLUSTRATIONS
- 9.2 Course Designations:  
**COURSE #4** – Start - 1 - 1a - 2 p/s - 1 - 1a - Finish  
**COURSE #5** – Start - 1 - 1a - 2 p/s - 1 - 1a - 2 p/s - Finish
- 9.3 Mark 1 and 1a shall be left to port.
- 9.4 **In the event that one of the leeward gate marks is not in place, boats shall round the one existing leeward mark to port.**
- 9.5 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the course number to be sailed, the approximate compass bearing of the first leg, and the distance from the starting line to the first mark.

## **10 MARKS**

- 10.1 Marks 1, and 2 p/s will be orange inflated marks.
- 10.2 Mark 1a will be a round ball. Mark 1a shall be set to port, approximately 200 feet from Mark 1.
- 10.3 New marks, as provided in SIs 13.1, will be yellow inflated marks.
- 10.4 The starting and finish marks will be either a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat or an inflated mark.

## **11 THE START**

- 11.1 The class flag (warning signal) will be the blue Etchells insignia on a white flag.
- 11.2 Races shall be started in accordance with rule 26.
- 11.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat and the port end starting mark and will be located to leeward of the leeward gate.



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- 11.4 An inflated buoy may be tethered to the stern of the committee boat(s) and will function as an extension of the race committee boat. Boats shall not pass between the race committee boat and an inflated buoy tethered to it.
- 11.5 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.

## **12 INDIVIDUAL RECALLS**

- 12.1 The race committee may attempt to hail either by sail number or bow number, on the race committee VHF channel, any boat recalled. Failure to transmit or receive such notification and the order in which recalls are announced will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

## **13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

## **14 THE FINISH**

- 14.1 The finish line for Course #4 will be on the opposite side of the race committee signal boat from the starting line. The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat and the nearby finishing mark.
- 14.2 The finish line for Course #5 will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat and a nearby finishing mark.

## **15 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 15.1 A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 outside the three boat length zone of any rounding or finishing mark, may take a One-Turn Penalty. For a boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 within the three boat length zone of any rounding or finishing mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty. (This changes rule 44.1).
- 15.2 The penalty, if any, for a violation of a rule other than a rule of Part 2, rule 31, or a class rule will be at discretion of the jury and may be other than disqualification. This changes rule 64.1(a).

## **16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

- 16.1 Time limits are as follows:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Time Limit</u>	<u>Mark 1 Time Limit</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>2.5 Hours</u>	<u>45 minutes</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>3 Hours</u>	<u>45 minutes</u>

If no boat has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit the race shall be abandoned.



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- 16.2 Boats failing to finish within 45 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes shall be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A “TLE” score for all boats not finishing within the time limit shall be one more point than the number of boats that have finished within the time limit. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

## **17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 17.1 Protest forms are available at the protest desk, located in the Trophy Room at BYC. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 17.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the docking of the race committee signal boat, unless the jury decides to extend the time of submission.
- 17.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties.
- 17.4 Breaches of SIs 20.1, 21, and 26 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the jury so decides. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI.
- 17.5 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
- (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
  - (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.
- This changes rule 66.
- 17.6 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a jury decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.
- 17.7 Decisions of the jury will be final as provided in rule 70.5

## **18 ARBITRATION**

(This changes rules 60.1(b), 63.1, 63.6, and 66.)

- 18.1 An arbitration meeting may be held prior to the protest hearing for all parties involving violations of rules in Part 2 or rule 31.
- 18.2 A boat that may have broken a rule of part 2 or rule 31 while racing may take a penalty after she has *finished* or retired and prior to the start of an arbitration meeting involving the incident. Her penalty shall be a scoring penalty of 30% (calculated as in rule 44.3(c)).





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- 18.3 After a protest form is delivered to the protest desk, one designated representative (conforming to rule 63.3(a)) of each party will appear before an arbitrator. No witnesses are permitted.
- 18.4 After hearing the testimony of each representative, the arbitrator shall reach one of the following conclusions:
- (a) There was no breach of a rule. If the representatives agree, the protest is withdrawn and cannot be reopened. If any representative disagrees, the matter goes to the jury for a hearing.
  - (b) There was a breach of a rule by one or more of the boats involved. The representative(s) of the offending boat(s) have the option of accepting a 40% penalty (calculated as in rule 44.3 (c)) or submitting the matter to the jury for a hearing. If the penalty is accepted, the matter cannot be reopened or made the subject of a redress request.
  - (c) The matter should go to the jury for a hearing.
- 18.4 When the protest is referred to the jury, the arbitrator shall not be a member of the jury hearing the protest.

## **19 SCORING**

- 19.1 The Low Point System as provided in RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 19.2 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 19.3 (a) When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- (b) When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

## **20 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 20.1 **Check-Out and Check-In: Prior to the first warning signal each day, each boat shall check-in with, and be acknowledged by the race committee signal boat when it is on station by passing close by on starboard tack and hailing their bow number, When a boat has been checked in, the race committee shall hail the boats bow number.**
- 20.2 A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to start a scheduled race shall promptly notify the race committee. If this is not possible, she shall promptly report her actions to the protest desk upon return to shore.

## **21 BOW NUMBERS**

- 21.1 All boats will be issued bow numbers at completion of registration. Bow numbers are to be attached to the forward part of each side of each boat, with the after part of the bow number to be no more than one meter from measurement point A (tip of bow) and the top of the bow number to be no more than 20 mm (3/4") below the gunwale. No numbers may wrap around the stem or the gunwale and the spacing between the



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characters shall be 70 mm (2 ¾"). It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure that the bow numbers stay affixed in the proper position.

## **22 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 22.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the jury, and such requests shall be submitted to the jury for certification of eligibility and crew weight of the substitute crew.
- 22.2 After registration until completion of racing, no sail shall be re-cut or altered. Repairs to sails pursuant to all applicable rules are permissible only upon written approval of the jury.

## **23 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and SIs. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

## **24 ADVERTISING**

In accordance with ISAF Regulation 20.5.1, no advertising shall be displayed, except that the Organizing Authority may require all participating boats to display the event sponsor's advertising in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20.4.1.

## **25 SUPPORT BOATS**

- 25.1 Competitors are responsible for the compliance of their support boats with these SIs. Support boats must be registered with the Organizing Authority by 0900 Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 25.2 Competitors shall have no communication with, be tied to or transfer provisions or equipment to and from any support boat from the first warning signal of the day until racing has been concluded for the day for that boat.
- 25.3 Support and spectator boats shall not approach closer than 50 meters to any boat that is racing, or to any layline that is in effect on a leg of the course and shall not be located directly above any windward marks or the finishing line for windward finishes or below the finishing line for leeward finishes.
- 25.4 Prior to the warning signal, support boats shall leave the racing and starting areas and may station themselves outside of either the race committee signal boat or the port end starting mark, but no closer to either than 50 meters.
- 25.5 Support and spectator boats are required to monitor the race committee VHF channel and provide assistance to any competitor in danger if notified to do so by the race committee.

## **26 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

All boats shall be afloat before 1800 on September 5th and are to remain in the water for the duration of the regatta except according to the terms and with the permission of the jury in the event of a required emergency repair.



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**27 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make nor receive radio, cell phone or computer communications commencing from the first warning signal of the day until the conclusion of the day's racing.

**28 PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded to the top five finishers overall with the top finisher being presented with the Etchells North American Championship Perpetual Trophy. A prize will also be awarded to the top finisher in the Corinthian Division.

**29 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Sailing is an activity that carries with it an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority, the race committee, the International Jury, sponsors, volunteers, or any other affiliated organization or official will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta, whether on the water or ashore. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law and to defend and hold them harmless from any liability or legal action brought or from this regatta.

**30 INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 per event or the equivalent.