

# Notice of Race 2024 ILYC Shields Fleet 9 Wednesday Night Series



## 2025 ILYC Shields Class Wednesday Night Series

### NOTICE OF RACE

May 14 – October 1, 2025

Newport, RI

The Organizing Authority is the Ida Lewis Yacht Club, in collaboration with Shields Class Fleet 9.

[NP] The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

[DP] The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

#### 1. RULES.

1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and the current Shields Class Association rules.

1.2 [DP] All competing boats shall carry a handheld VHF radio for safety purposes and race committee communication. Each boat shall have at least one device with WhatsApp registered to the Shields Fleet 9 WhatsApp group.

1.3 Following RRS are changed: 35 – Race Time Limit & Scores; 44.1 – Taking a Penalty, 44.2 – Scoring Penalty, 90.3(a) – Scoring, Appendix A – Scoring, Appendix V – Alternative Penalties

1.5 The US SAILING Prescriptions to the *rules* do not apply, except the prescriptions to RRS 88.2, RRS 61.4, Appendix R, Appendix V, and prescriptions to RRS 60.3, and 76.1.

2. ADVERTISING. Advertising on boats is not permitted beyond that allowed in World Sailing Regulations.

#### 3 ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY.

3.1 Races are open to Shields class boats whose skippers are members of Fleet 9 and the Shields Class National Association.

3.2 MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATE. The owner or skipper of each boat shall sign the statement on the entry form affirming that the boat conforms to the Shields Class Rules.

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3.3 Boats shall carry liability insurance in the amount of at least \$300,000 as a condition of entry. A copy of the insurance certificate shall be submitted with the entry form.

3.4 Boats that have not completed registration with Fleet 9 will not be scored and shall not compete.

3.5 All participating sailors must submit a signed ILYC Special Liability Form.

3.6 [DP] A boat assigned to Race Committee duty may not sail on that day and shall be awarded average points after throw-outs for the series if the boat provides crew members for race committee duty as described in this section. The boat assigned for race committee duty shall provide a minimum of THREE Shields crewmembers. The Race Committee may protest a boat that fails to provide crewmembers to serve on the Race Committee on the day assigned. The penalty for a breach of this rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than DNE.

4. ENTRY FEE. Total \$400.00 payable to Shields Fleet 9, 24 hours prior to competing. The entry fee includes National Class dues for one registered skipper. Additional skippers may be added for the purposes of National Class membership for a fee of \$15 per skipper. A \$50 late fee is required for entries after May 1.

### 5. SCHEDULE.

#### **Spring Series**

May 14, 21, & 28 Warning Signal 5:45 PM Rendezvous – South of the bridge

June 4, 11, 18, & 25 Warning Signal 5:45 PM Rendezvous – North of the bridge

#### **Summer Series**

July 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 Warning Signal 5:45 PM Rendezvous – North of the bridge

August 6 & 13 Warning Signal 5:45 PM Rendezvous – North of the bridge

#### **Fall Series**

August 20 & 27 Warning Signal 5:30 PM Rendezvous – North of the bridge

September 3, 10, 17, & 24 Warning Signal 5:00 PM Rendezvous – South of the bridge.

Oct. 1 Warning Signal 5:00 PM Rendezvous – South of the bridge

5.1 Each series will consist of up to ten (10) races.

5.2 In the event that sailing conditions in the designated area are unsuitable, the race committee may announce an alternate starting location on Ch 79A and proceed to the new starting location.

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5.3. Should a race be cancelled, the first race to be sailed on the following Wednesday will be the postponed race.

6. SECOND RACE. The Race Committee may, if conditions permit, start a second race on any Wednesday in a series. This will be indicated at the end of the first race via an announcement on Ch 79A and display of Flag 2nd substitute.

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS. Sailing Instructions will be available on the Fleet 9 website prior to the first race of the series.

### 8. COURSES.

8.1 The course to be sailed will be broadcast on Channel 79A VHF from the Race Committee signal boat prior to the warning signal and may be displayed on the Committee Boat.

8.2 Races may start either south or north of the Pell Bridge.

8.3 Courses may be selected from the courses designated on the back of the South Bay Race Chart published by Sail Newport or as designated by the RC prior to the warning signal.

8.4 If the Race Committee designates a course described in 8.3 above, it may choose as marks of the course, marks described in the South Bay Race Chart (including Special Race Marks) and drop marks placed by the Race Committee.

8.5 Should the Race Committee choose to include an inflatable drop mark as the weather mark, it will announce the approximate heading and distance from the signal boat at the time the course is announced on CH 79A. The course may also be displayed on a board on the signal boat, in which case the posting will include the heading and distance to the weather mark.

8.7 If the Race Committee decides to set a gate as the leeward mark, it will announce that fact at the time the course is announced, display code flag G prior to the warning signal, and list the gate should the course be posted.

### 9. PENALTY SYSTEM.

9.1 Appendix V shall apply.

9.2(a) The first sentence of RRS 44.2 One-Turn and Two-Turn Penalties is changed as follows: After getting well clear of other boats and the *zone* of any mark as soon after the incident as possible, a boat takes a One-Turn or Two-Turn Penalty by promptly making the number of turns in the same direction, each turn including one tack and one gybe.

9.2(b) [DP] If a boat comes in contact with a Race Committee vessel that is also a starting *mark*:

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- i. The boat is not entitled to take penalty turns described in RRS 44.1 and 44.2. (This changes RRS 44.1 and 44.2 by not allowing a boat to take penalty turns for this incident.)
- ii. The boat is not entitled to take a scoring penalty. (This changes RRS 44.3 by not allowing a boat to take a scoring penalty for this incident.)
- iii. The boat is not entitled to post race penalties. (This changes RRS V by not allowing a boat to take a penalty at the time of this incident.)
- iv. The race committee, if it observes the contact, shall protest the boat, and file a request for a hearing.
- v. If the decision of the protest committee at said hearing does not include exoneration for the incident for the boat pursuant to RRS 43.1, then the penalty shall be disqualification up to DNE.

9.3 Protests will be submitted by email to [racecommittee@ILYC.org](mailto:racecommittee@ILYC.org). Protests will be heard on the schedule determined by the ILYC Protest Committee in person or using online platforms such as Zoom or Google Meetings.

### 10. SCORING.

10.1 The scoring system is the Low Point System as described in Appendix A in the RRS except that A5.3 shall apply and is modified so that a boat that does not come to the starting area shall be scored two points more than the number of boats that *started* in that race.

10.2 At least two boats must start for a race to be scored and one third of the starters (number of starters divided by three, rounded up to the next whole number) shall have finished within the time limit. The time limit will be described in the sailing instructions, but in general the limit for the last race of the night is 30 minutes prior to sunset. This changes RRS 90.3(a) and RRS 35.

10.3 Three races must be completed to constitute a series. If a series completes five (5) or more races, one (1) discard will be allowed for that series. This changes RRS A2.1

10.4 For the 2025 Fall Series race on September 3, a boat that competes in the 2025 Shields Nationals will be awarded average points of her scores from 2025 Fall Series races prior to September 3. This changes RRS A.9.

11. PRIZES. For each series, prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. There will also be prizes for 1st through 5th for the combined final scores (after throw-outs, if any) of each of the completed series. The overall winner for the combined series will be awarded the John Robertson Memorial Perpetual Trophy. In addition, the following trophies will be awarded.

- Manice Trophy for the Overall Fleet Champion combines John Robertson scores (overall Wednesday final scores) and Toland Cup scores (overall Aloha final scores and net Winslow Regatta scores). To qualify for the Manice Trophy, boats must compete in at least 50% of

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races scored in the Wednesday night series, the George Winslow Regatta (if completed), and at least two of the four Aloha series race days.

- Timothy Dwyer Memorial prize is awarded to the boat that has had the greatest improvement in overall Wednesday final scores compared to the previous season. To qualify for the award, the same boat and skipper must have competed in at least 50% of Wednesday night completed races in both seasons.
- Mid-Fleet Trophy is awarded to the boat that is mid-fleet among all boats qualified using the John Robertson Trophy scoring.
- Beck Memorial Trophy for the top ILYC boat for combined scores of Wednesday night and Aloha series final scores. To qualify for the Beck Trophy, a boat must participate in at least 50% of the completed Wednesday night races and at least 2 of the 4 Aloha series race days.
- Chris Withers Memorial Trophy combines the seven (7) best Wednesday Night Scores from the months of June, July, and August among qualifying boats. Withers Trophy qualified boats are those that have not placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in any Wednesday Night series, in the current or previous four (4) seasons.
- Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee and Fleet 9.

12. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY.** All sailors (skippers and crew) must sign the ILYC special liability form prior to competing. Sailing is an activity that carries with it an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors participate in these races entirely at their own risk and are reminded to pay special attention to RRS 3, Decision to Race. The race organizers, including the OA, Race Committee, Protest Committee, volunteers, or any other affiliated organization or official, will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of practice for or participation in this event 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 these races to the fullest extent permitted.

13. **[NP] NEWPORT AREA CAUTION.** Competitors are reminded that Narragansett Bay is a restricted channel and sailing vessels do not have the right of way over any vessel that may be restricted in her ability to maneuver. All participants are reminded of their obligation to keep a clear look-out at all times, especially in the vicinity of the Newport Pell Bridge and the entrance to Newport Harbor, which may have a large number of both racing and recreational boats, especially on weekends and during major events. Boats should monitor Channel 16/13 for commercial traffic. Competitors are also reminded of the restriction zone on the west side of the Navy Base and War College. A breach of this rule may only be protested by the OA or Race Committee.

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14. CONSENT. By participating in these races, competitors automatically grant to the Ida Lewis Yacht Club and Shields Fleet 9 and any sponsors, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of the athlete during the period of the competition without compensation.

### **Contact Information**

ILYC Race committee Guy Sanchez RaceCommittee@ILYC.org 401-486-5318

Shields Fleet 9: Mike Toppa, Fleet Captain [ShieldsFleet9@gmail.com](mailto:ShieldsFleet9@gmail.com)

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