



2026 Portland Yacht Services J/24 US National Championship



Organizing Authority: J/24 Fleet 43 in conjunction with Portland Yacht Club, Sail Maine and the US J/24 Class Association



**September 9-13, 2026
Portland, ME – USA**

Yachtscoring event site: <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu/50488>

Notice of Race

(version 11/21/2025)

Preamble: The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for a breach of this rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

1. **RULES**
 - 1.1 The event will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
 - 1.2 The Regatta Regulations of the IJCA (IJCA RR), available at <http://www.j24class.org/rules->

[regulations/regatta-regulations](#), shall apply.

- 1.3 Only the following US Sailing prescriptions will apply: Appendix T, Appendix V, RRS 88.2, Appendix R, the prescription to the preamble to Part 5, and the prescriptions to RRS 65.1, 70.3(b) and 76.1, 81 which can be found here:

<https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/US-Sailing-Prescriptions-for-2025-2028-10.29.2024.pdf>

- 1.4 [NP] Bow numbers will be assigned by the organizing authority. Bow numbers shall be applied in accordance with the instructions supplied and shall remain affixed until after a boat hauls out at the end of the event. In addition to bow numbers, RaceSense will be used to identify boats.
- 1.5 Added to RRS 60.2(a)(1) is *“so that the red flag displayed by a protesting boat shall have a hoist of not less than 150mm and a fly of not less than 200mm.”*
- 1.6 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: *“(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, **and** did not see, the incident, or”*
- 1.7 The Protest Committee may impose penalties less than disqualification (DPI), for violations of the class rules and racing rules other than those of Part 1 and Part 2. A DPI penalty shall be a minimum of 5% as calculated in RRS 44.3.
- 1.8 Class rule C.2.1(b) is changed to Class rule H.4.3 regarding crew. A crew nominated or listed for this event may be different for different days only if scheduled in advance at registration. Emergency changes may be made only with written permission of the race committee or technical committee.
- 1.9 The Race Committee will use the Vakaros RaceSense system which will be further detailed in the Sailing Instructions. The OA includes the Vakaros Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge as required equipment for this event. Each boat shall either provide a working Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge at check-in for configuration with the RaceSense system or an Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge may be rented for a fee. Rental units shall be reserved no later than August 01, 2026 as on-site rental units will not be available. The rental link will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available online by 1000 on September 1, 2026 and posted at the unofficial notice board at Portland Yacht Services

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official notice board is online and located at the event website listed:

<https://yachtscoring.com/emenue/50488>

- 3.2 Unofficial and informative announcements may be made using the event WhatsApp group where you can opt-in here using the link or QR code:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/LYNH0xcSbMvG6TK5MWFAM1?mode=wwt>



- 3.3 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on international VHF channels.
- 3.4 [NP] On the water, the race committee may choose to make courtesy VHF radio communications to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be announced in the sailing instructions.
- 3.5 [DP] From the time a boat leaves her berth for the first race of the day until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that are not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The J/24 US National Championship is open to J/24 Class boats as defined by the IJCA class rules, and whose entries are accepted by the organizing authority.
- 4.2 Championship drivers must be either nationals or residents and members of the National J/24 Class Association of the country that they represent.
- 4.3 Eligible boats may enter the event by registering online at the event website and submitting the requested information at the event website and paying the required fee by 2000 hours on August 28, 2026. Registration is limited to the first 50 boats registered. Once the 50-boat cap is reached, a waiting list will be kept.
- 4.4 **Entry is not complete until all requirements of Eligibility, Fees, Registration and Inspection have been satisfactorily completed.**
- 4.5 Late entries will be accepted under the following conditions: Entries received after August 28, 2026 will be accepted with a USD \$100 additional late fee, making the total entry fee USD \$600.
- 4.6 A Corinthian Division will be offered. To be considered an entry in the Corinthian Division, each member of the crew shall provide a current, valid World Sailing SailorID with a boat’s online registration indicating World Sailing Group 1 status.

5. FEES

- 5.1 The required entry fee is USD \$500 which must be paid online by August 28, 2026 and boats entering after this date will be required to pay the late fee described in NoR 4.5.
- 5.2 The entry fee includes inspection, launching, hauling, trailer storage/dockage while at the event, racing, scheduled social functions for all crew, sponsored beverages, and prizes.
- 5.3 Dinner tickets to the Traditional Downeast Lobster Bake will be available for purchase on Yachtscoring; both Lobster and Grilled Chicken will be available and can be purchased for \$50 each.
- 5.4 All fees shall be paid online using the official event website.
- 5.5 Withdrawal requests must be made to the OA via email. The email address for withdrawal requests is WFinnHadlock@gmail.com. All Refunds will be returned less a \$300 service fee. All requests for withdrawal must be made by 1800 hours on August 5, 2026.

6. ADVERTISING

- 6.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen if supplied by the organizing authority.
- 6.2 Boat advertising shall comply with WS Regulation 20.

7. SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Time	Event
Wednesday	September 9	1000 – 1700	Registration/Equipment Inspection/Crew Weigh-in

		1700	Deadline to electronically submit documents in accordance with NoR 8.1.
Thursday	September 10	0900 – 1300 0900 – 1700 1400 – 1700 1800	Equipment Inspection Registration/Crew Weigh-in (Portland Yacht Services Building “G”) Practice starts, practice race All boats afloat
Friday	September 11	0845 – 0900 0900 1100 1830 – 2200	Registration/Crew Weigh-in (Portland Yacht Services Building “G”) Competitors’ Meeting (Building G) Warning for the First Race of the day Mast Landing Beer Social at Portland Yacht Services
Saturday	September 12	0845 – 0900 0900 1100 1800 – 2200	Crew Weigh-in* Daily competitors’ briefing Warning for the First Race of the day Downeast Lobster Bake
Sunday	September 13	0845 – 0900 0900 1100 1500 After Racing	Crew Weigh-in* Daily competitors’ briefing Warning for the First Race of the day No warning signal will be made after this time Awards presentation at Portland Yacht Services

*These scheduled crew weigh-ins are only for approved replacements or crews.

- 7.1 Nine (9) race are scheduled over three (3) consecutive days. No more than four (4) races per day will be sailed.

8. REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION

- 8.1 Each boat shall submit the following documents via online registration as stated in NoR 7 - Schedule:
- (a) A valid, IJCA issued Measurement Certificate, Including Part C: Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment.
 - (b) Proof of current marine liability insurance coverage, see NoR 21.
 - (c) Proof of J/24 Class Association membership in the country they represent for the boat owner and the driver and World Sailing Group 1 status for any crew that may qualify.
- 8.2 With written permission of the technical chair, changes to documents or forms required by NoR 8.1 may be accepted at check-in.
- 8.3 Only Equipment Inspection will be done at the event. Measurement for certification must be successfully completed prior to the event. RRS 78.2 shall not apply.
- 8.4 Equipment Inspection will be carried out on all boats in accordance with the class rules and all boats may be weighed with the “all up” weight prior to launch.
- 8.5 Boats will be subject to inspection at any time for any class rules during the event.

9. CREW

- 9.1 All competitors will be weighed during registration. Competitors must have a passport or other government-issued photo identification at weigh-in.
- 9.2 All competitors will be required to sign an electronic Competitor Liability Waiver which can be found on the event site.

10. VENUE

The intended racing area will be one of the racing areas shown on Attachment A, east of Portland Yacht Services

11. COURSES

11.1 The courses to be sailed will be windward/leeward with 4 or 5 legs and further described in the Slis.

11.2 [NP] The target time for each race is approximately 45-60 minutes.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 RRS Appendix V (Alternative Penalties) shall apply. " A penalty taken prior to arbitration shall be 20%. This changes rule V2."

12.2 RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) shall apply.

12.3 Except if the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. This changes RRS 44.2

13. SCORING:

13.1 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a championship.

13.2 When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

13.3 When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

13.4 The Corinthian Division shall be scored as a subdivision of the whole fleet using the competitor's actual scores and in accordance with Regatta Regulation 56.

14. SUPPORT VESSELS

Support vessels shall register during scheduled registration, declaring to which boat or boats they are attached. They may be required to display an identification flag if supplied by the organizing authority, provide proof of third party marine liability insurance in the amount equal to that stated in NoR 21, and follow the instructions of the OA. Accredited support vessels and operators will be subject to the technical and disciplinary directives of the RC and of the Jury that, in case of infringement, may act according to RRS 62.3 and 62.4. Additionally, all support vessels shall be equipped with a functioning engine safety cut-out switch (kill switch) which shall remain attached to the support person at the helm at all times while the engine is running. Failure to comply may be misconduct and/or result in expulsion from the event.

15. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

In accordance with RRS G3, a boat chartered or loaned for this event may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of the class rules.

16. BERTHING

[DP][NP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned slips, as directed by the organizing authority.

17. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

[DP][NP]Boats shall be afloat in accordance with NoR 7 and shall not be hauled out during the event except in accordance with the prior written permission and terms of the Technical Committee Chair. This restriction also applies to rudders.

18. DIVING EQUIPMENT, PLASTIC POOLS AND OTHER PROHIBITED ACTIONS

- 18.1 [DP] Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used between the time the boat is afloat and the end of the event. The hull may be cleaned at any time by swimming or keelhauling using ropes, cloth or other equipment designed for that use.
- 18.2 [DP] Careening by any means for the purpose of cleaning or inspecting the hull is prohibited during the event.
- 18.3 [DP] The use of dehumidifiers or electric fans are prohibited at all times while boats are afloat.

19. PRIZES

- 19.1 The US National Championship title will be awarded to top finishing boat from the US.
- 19.2 Prizes will be awarded to the overall top three (5) finishing boats and the top three (5) Corinthian boats, Top female Helm, and top Under 30 Helm.
- 19.3 Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the OA.

20. RISK STATEMENT

- 20.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform, and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**
- 20.2 Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. 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 event. Additionally, all competitors and support persons will be required to follow all local, county, state and federal regulations regarding health and safety. The OA may choose to impose additional regulations at their discretion which will be posted on the official notice board.

21. INSURANCE

Proof of valid, third-party marine liability insurance with a minimum coverage of USD \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent (property and injury).

22. MEDIA RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission to the IJCA, the US J/24 Class Association, the Portland Yacht Club and the event sponsors to use, publish, broadcast or otherwise distribute for promotional, advertising or any other purpose, any images and sound recorded during the event of persons and boats free of any charge.

23. Further Information, contact the following:

Regatta Chair Finn hadlock – WFinnHadlock@gmail.com
207-252-8920

US J/24 Class Christopher Howell (CAE, IM – USA) – director@j24class.org
440-796-3100

Technical Chair Stephanie Helms

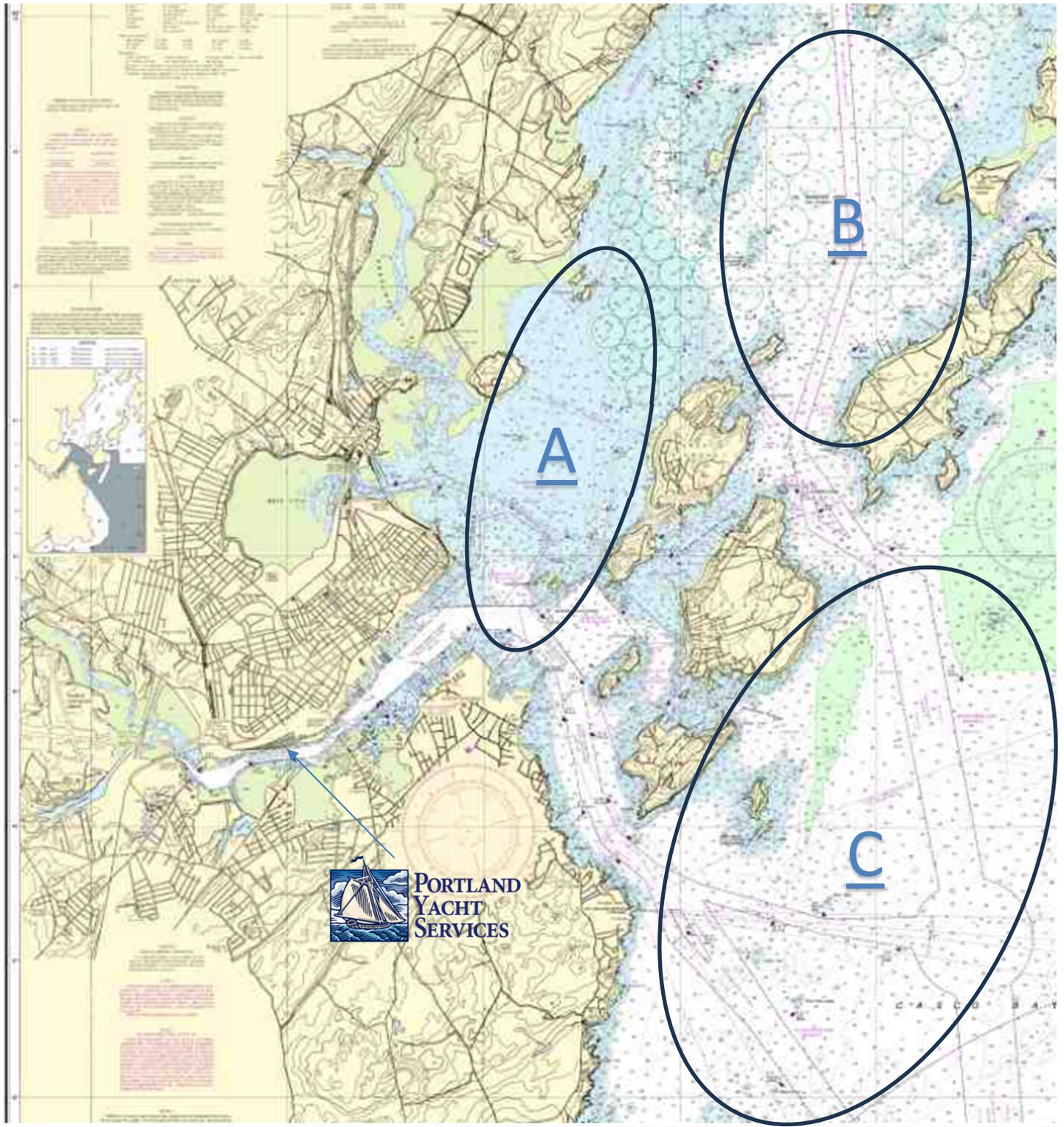
Principal Race Officer

Chip Till (NRO – USA) – chiptill5351@gmail.com
843-556-6554

Chief Judge

Jason Maher – jasonmaher@hotmail.com
781-249-1166

ATTACHMENT A – VENUE



Additional Information not part of the NoR

BOAT & TRAILER STORAGE

Any boat storage requests may be made to Regatta Chair, Finn Hadlock at WFinnHadlock@gmail.com if you are looking to store the boat before or after the event.

BOAT CHARTERS

Any charter requests may be made to Regatta Chair Finn Hadlock at WFinnHadlock@gmail.com on a first come first served basis.

SOCIAL EVENTS

More information to come on social events with our event partners.

VAKROS RACESENSE

If you have a Vakros device, you will need an active Racesense Pass, which are available at vakaros.com for either \$149/ year or \$50/ month. If you do not have a device, there will be ones available for rent at an expected cost of \$35/day. The OA does not control these prices and they are subject to change.