



Chester Yacht Club
Wednesday, August 12 – Saturday, August 15, 2026
Chester, Nova Scotia, Canada

NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

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).

Amended 8 February 2026, arbitration added.
Amended 5 April 2026, J/105 crew weight limit removed.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 Sail Canada Prescriptions will apply.
- 1.3 The Race Committee (RC) will use a VHF radio channel to broadcast to the fleet their intentions and to announce OCSs, UFDs and BFDs. Failure to make this broadcast or failure to hear the broadcast shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1.
- 1.4 [NP][DP] The J/105 class rules are amended to remove the crew weight limit. See Notice to Competitors 1.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available after August 1, 2026 at [Yachtscoring.com](https://yachtscoring.com).

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The online official notice board is located at [Yachtscoring.com](https://yachtscoring.com).
- 3.2 [DP] [NP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channel 16, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channels will be stated in the Sailing Instructions.
- 3.4 [DP] [NP] From the first warning signal 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 communication that is not available to all boats.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to all monohull handicap boats which have a valid Sail Nova Scotia PHRF handicap and to boats of the Sonar, Farr 30, J105, Etchelles, and Bluenose classes who hold valid class measurement certificates. Additional one design classes with a minimum of five (5) entries may also be considered.
- 4.2 Boats must enter the event by registering online at [Yachtscoring.com](https://yachtscoring.com).

- 4.3 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees, including registration of their crew, prior to August 12, 2026. Additionally all boats must attend the in-person registration/competitors package pickup (NoR 8.1).
- 4.4 The Race Committee will set the handicap splits for the fleets in PHRF-NS A and PHRF-NS B and post them on [Yachtscoring.com](https://yachtscoring.com) no later than August 10, 2026.
- 4.5 Any boat that wishes to sail non-spinnaker only, and use their non-spinnaker handicap, will race in the Pursuit fleets and will register accordingly. Boats that wish to use their non-spinnaker handicap will also notify the Organising Authority of that intention.

5 FEES

5.1 Entry fees are as follows (in CAD):

Before 1 August, 2026	\$425 + HST
1 August, 2026 onwards	\$500 + HST

- 5.2 Five (5) event bracelets will be provided with a boat's registration. An additional ten (10) event bracelets for entry to social events can be purchased in advance either by contacting cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca or through [Yachtscoring.com](https://yachtscoring.com). Bracelets purchased this way cost \$20 +HST per bracelet. This offer is valid until August 9th, 2026. Bracelets are available to the general public to purchase from Chester Yacht Club for \$25 (inc. HST).
- 5.3 Mooring balls can be rented from Chester Yacht Club for a price of \$150 +HST on a first come first serve basis. Contact cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca to make arrangements. Mooring balls can only be reserved by boats who have completed all the online registration requirements excluding registration of crew.

6 ADVERTISING

- 6.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.

7 QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES

- 7.1 If numbers warrant then the Bluenose fleet may consist of a qualifying series and a final series.

8 SCHEDULE

- 8.1 The in-person registration/competitor package pickup (NoR 4.3) times will be confirmed by August 1, 2026.

- 8.2 Racing will be held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 to Saturday August 15, 2026.

8.3 Number of races:

Class	Total	Scheduled per day	Maximum per day
Handicap classes	8	2	3
One Design classes	12	3	4
Bluenose	12	3	4
Pursuit	4	1	2

8.4 Scheduled time of the warning signal each day:

Class	Warning Signal
Handicap classes	1200
One Design classes	1200
Pursuit	1230
Bluenose	1300

- 8.5 For all fleets except the Bluenose fleet, on the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1530.

- 8.6 For the Bluenose fleet, on the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1600.

9 VENUE

9.1 Chester Race Week is hosted by Chester Yacht Club in Chester, NS.

9.2 NoR Addendum A shows the location of the racing areas in and around Mahone Bay (CHS chart numbers 4381 and 4328).

10 COURSES

10.2 Handicap classes will sail a mixture of windward/leeward and around the cans courses using fixed and/or inflatable marks.

10.3 One Design and the Bluenose classes will race windward/leeward courses.

10.4 Pursuit fleets will sail pursuit style races.

11 ARBITRATION

11.1 Appendix T Arbitration will apply.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 There will be Direct Judging (Appendix U) for the Bluenose Class only. Further details will follow in the Sailing Instructions.

13 SCORING

13.1 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

13.2 Handicap fleets will be scored using PHRF-NS Time on Time using an A factor of 650 and a B factor of 550.

13.3 For the Pursuit fleets, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores (no drops).

13.4 The Pursuit fleets shall use Time on Distance to determine corrected times.

13.5 For Handicap, One Design, and Bluenose:

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

(b) When from five (5) to nine (9) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

(b) When ten (10) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

14 EQUIPMENT

14.1 With the exception of boats racing in the One Design and Bluenose classes, all boats shall comply with the safety equipment requirements and follow the recreational boating regulations as set out in the current Canadian Safe Boating Guide.

14.2 Boats racing in the One Design and Bluenose classes must carry the equipment mandated by their respective class rules.

15 BERTHING & CRANE USE

15.1 Berthing or mooring arrangements are the responsibility of the skipper.

15.2 The Chester Yacht Club crane is available to launch and haul for registered boats that weigh less than 4000 lbs. However, there shall be no launching or hauling from 1200 Tuesday, August 11 through 0800 on Sunday, August 16.

16 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

16.1 [DP] Keelboats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee.

17 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

17.1 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keelboats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the event.

17.2 Keelboats shall not be cleaned below the waterline by any means from the preparatory signal of the first race until the end of the event.

18 RISK STATEMENT

- 18.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race 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.

19 INSURANCE

- 19.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of CDN \$1,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

20 PRIZES

- 20.1 Special prizes may be awarded as desired by the Organising Authority including the Spray Cup that will be awarded for the best performance by a first time Chester Race Week skipper.
- 20.2 The Rear Commodore of each club with boats entering the Regatta is invited to enter a team of three boats. Each boat in the team will race in a different class. The winning team will be awarded the Gordon W. Bethune Cup and the team members will be given keepers.
- 20.3 A prize draw using the event bracelets (NoR 5.2) will occur each day starting at 1830 at Chester Yacht Club.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 21.1 Additional information regarding Chester Race Week can be found at Chesterraceweek.com
- 21.2 [NP] Chester Race Week is focused on implementing best practices to be a certified clean regatta. As participants, we appreciate your support and respect in maintaining our environment. This includes best practices around managing your bottle and can recycling, reducing paper and garbage, as well as preventing any waste in our waters.
- 21.3 Advertising is permitted in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20. Boats that intend to display advertising must so indicate on their entry form, but there is no advertising fee. Competitors are requested to respect the brand exclusivity of the official sponsors of this event. Their participation enhances the event for all competitors. This changes World Sailing Regulation 20.
- 21.4 Competitors grant the organising authority the unrestricted right and permission to use the name and/or image for any text, photograph or video footage of either themselves or the boat they are sailing during the event to be published or broadcast in any media whatsoever (including but not limited to press and TV advertisements or internet), for either editorial or advertising purposes or to be used in press information.
- 21.5 Bracelets are restricted to individuals 19 years of age and older as per NS Alcohol and Gaming Regulations.
- 21.5 For further information:
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|----------------------------|-------------|--|
| Chester Race Week Chair | Dan Conrod | daniel.conrod91@gmail.com |
| Principal Race Officer | Luke Porter | svlittlesthobo@gmail.com |
| Chester Yacht Club Manager | Kim Johnson | cycmanager@chesteryachtclub.ca |

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NOR Addendum A - Race Areas

Area A - Handicap and One Design

Area B - Handicap and One Design

Area C - Handicap and One Design

Area D - Bluenose

