



2025 MASSA Fall Invitational

Hosted by Buffalo Yacht Club

1 Porter Ave, Buffalo NY, 14201

Oct. 25-26, 2025

NOTICE OF RACE



1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, the [ISSA Procedural Rules](#) and [the Scholastic Dinghy Class Rules](#).
- 1.2 The Organizing Authority (OA) is the MASSA District, in conjunction with the NYISA-NW League League and the Buffalo Yacht Club Foundation.
- 1.3 Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, as modified by ISSA Procedural Rule 14(c) will be in effect.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be posted on Tech Score prior to the report time for the regatta.

3. COMMUNICATION:

- 3.1 The online official notice board will be Tech Score.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Competing schools and competitors must be members of ISSA and meet ISSA eligibility rules as prescribed in the Procedural Rules.
- 4.2 Selection of competing schools will be by league elimination. The regatta has 18 berths. Allocations will be determined by the MASSA Board using the standard allocation calculations. Schools should contact their league directors to find out details on league qualifiers.
- 4.3 Eligible schools must enter by submitting their team's contact information in the [Google Registration Sheet](#) by 1700 hrs on **MONDAY OCTOBER 20**. If the elimination for your league is to be held after this date, please have the league director contact the regatta chair immediately so arrangements can be made.
- 4.4 Teams unable to compete must notify the regatta chair and MASSA as soon as possible.
- 4.5 MASSA will reallocate vacant district quotas. The first open allocation will go to the host league.
- 4.6 A berth becomes vacant when the qualifying league becomes unable to fill the berth. Any berth not filled by eligible schools by the deadline in 3.1, or thereafter vacated, will be reallocated by the MASSA director. The first open allocation will go to the host league.

5. ENTRY FEE & DAMAGE DEPOSIT:

- 5.1 There is no damage deposit or entry fee for this event.

6. BOATS:

- 6.1 18 420's will be provided by the Buffalo Yacht Club Foundation. Boats will be sailed as provided.
- 6.2 Collisions causing damage will be dealt with by jury in accordance with RRS rules 14, 67, & 69.

7. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Saturday

8:30 - Report time/Rigging of Boats

9:00 – Competitors Meeting and Rigging of boats

First Warning - as soon as reasonably possible after launching.

There will be no cut off time for racing.

Sunday.

8:30 - Rigging of boats

First Warning - as soon as reasonably possible after launching.

2:00 - No Warning Signal will be sounded after this time.

Awards - immediately after all gear is properly stowed.

6.1 Changes to the official schedule will be posted on the official notice board.

8. RACING AREA:

- 8.1 All races will be sailed in Buffalo Harbor next to Erie Basin Marina.

9. COURSES:

- 9.1 Based on conditions, the Race Committee will determine the courses as prescribed in ISSA PR 7.7. For Fleet Racing.

10. FORMAT:

- 10.1 Two division format with A Division and B Division

11. SCORING:

- 11.1 The regatta will be scored in accordance with ISSA Procedural Rules.

12. RECORD OF PARTICIPATION:

- 12.1. Teams must complete the online RP forms in Tech Score *before the end of the protest period*. MRP penalty will be applied to teams that do not complete RP data.

13. SAFETY/EQUIPMENT:

- 13.1 Competitors shall wear inherently buoyant personal flotation devices designated as USCG “wearable” in accordance with ISSA PR 2.2. Inflatable type PFDs are not permitted.
- 13.2 The race committee may require the use of drysuits or full-length wetsuits if the combined air and water temperature is below 110 degrees. This may be announced at the daily competitors’ meeting and need not be signaled.
- 13.3 Failure to comply with 12.1 or 12.2 above will be grounds for disqualification from all races sailed in contravention of those instructions.
- 13.4 Team pinnies must be worn per ISSA PR 2.4. A 20-point penalty will be applied to the division in which the sailors did not comply. No hearing is required.
- 13.5 Competitors shall supply the equipment to meet the requirements of 12.1, 12.2, and 12.4 above.
- 13.6 At its discretion, the Race Committee or Organizing Authority may require a competitor to retire from racing if the competitor is determined to be a risk to their own or others’ safety.

14. COACHING:

- 14.1. Team leaders, chaperones, coaches, parents, advisors and other support personnel shall not go afloat in the sailing area from 0600 Saturday to after racing has ended on Sunday unless explicitly permitted by the regatta chairperson. The penalty for failing to comply with this requirement may be the disqualification of all boats, competitors and teams associated with the infringing support personnel.
- 14.2. Once a team has qualified for this Invitational Championship, members of that team shall not sail at the site to be used for the event, unless that site is their School’s home waters or there is a previously scheduled ISSA regatta. Violation of this condition may be cause for disqualification of the team from the event.

15. PRIZES: Trophies.

- 15.1 Prizes will be awarded to the schools placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the regatta. Prizes may be mailed to winners after the event.

16. OFFICIAL NOTICE: No contestant shall use, either on or off the water, marijuana or any other controlled substance, as defined in 21 U.S. Code 802, the possession of which is unlawful under U.S. Code 841, or alcoholic beverages (distilled spirits, wine, and beer, each as defined in Chapter 51 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and intended for beverage use). An alleged breach of this procedural rule shall not be grounds for a protest. However, when a report is received from any source, alleging such a breach a protest committee consisting of the regatta chairperson, a member of the ISSA Board of Directors, and the chairperson of the protest committee, shall follow the process described in RRS 69.1(b). If a hearing under RRS 69 is held, a competitor found to have breached this procedural rule shall be excluded from the remaining races of the series and, where practical, be removed from the regatta venues and sent home. Additional penalties consistent with RRS 69.2 may be imposed on the competitor or the competitor's team. This regulation is in effect during the entire event from the date and time of arrival through the date and time of departure from the regatta site.

17. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS: By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the Organizing Authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

18. WAIVER OF LIABILITY: Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race.

The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other 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 participation in this event. 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.

19. REGATTA CONTACTS:

Dr. Randall Nunn: *MASSA District Director* - massadistrict@gmail.com

Liam Faudree: *NYISA-NW League Director* - nyisanwleaguedirector@gmail.com

Leah Trow - Regatta Chairwoman and Executive Director of Boating Education – Buffalo Yacht Club Foundation

Boatinged@buffaloyachtclub.org , (716)-883-5900 ext. 3

