

The Qualifying Regattas for the
NESSA FLEET RACING CHAMPIONSHIP
For the GEORGE O'DAY TROPHY

Sunday April 26, 2026
Groton (CT), Bristol (RI), Hyannis (MA), Sharon (MA), Portland (ME)

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 [ISSA National Championship General Conditions](#) and [the Scholastic Dinghy Class Rules](#).
- 1.2. In accordance with RRS 70.3(b), decisions of the protest committee are final. US SAILING's permission has been granted.
- 1.3. The Organizing Authority (OA) is the New England Sailing Association (NESSA) in conjunction with hosts.
- 1.4. Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, as modified by ISSA Procedural Rule 13(c) will be in effect.
- 1.5. ISSA PR 4.1(d) is modified so that rosters need to be declared "at the report time of the regatta."

2. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** The sailing instructions will be posted on Tech Score prior to the report time for the regatta.

3. **COMMUNICATION:** The online official notice board will be Tech Score.

4. ELIGIBILITY.

- 4.1. Competing schools must be members of ISSA & NESSA and meet on ISSA eligibility rules as prescribed in the Procedural Rules, Part III 1, and 5.2.
- 4.2. See NESSA PR Article K, section 2(c) for more eligibility requirements

5. ENTRY PROCEDURES & FEES

- 5.1. Schools wishing to compete must complete the on-line registration form in the registration window.
- 5.2. Registration window opens at 1000 on March 1st.
- 5.3. Registration window closes at 2359 on April 1st.
- 5.4. Schools select their first, second, or third choices for qualifying venues. Choice are:
 - Avery Point (Groton, CT) in FJs
 - Portsmouth Abbey/Bristol YC (Bristol, RI) in 420s
 - Sail Maine (Portland, ME) in 420s
 - Barnstable HS (Hyannis, MA) in 420s
 - Sharon HS (Sharon, MA) in 420s
- 5.5. The NESSA VPs will make the final venue allocations assignments by April 7th
- 5.6. The entry fee for the qualifier is \$25 per school, payable at registration. The fee is non-refundable.

- 5.7. A separate entry for the finals is \$49 per school, payable by May 1, 2026. The fee is non-refundable.

6. SCHEDULE:

- 6.1. 0930 Report time/rigging of boats
6.2. 0945 Sailor's meeting (First warning announced at Sailor's Meeting)
6.3. 1600 No first warning for any A Division race may start after this time, except if the regatta is not "official" yet, in accordance with the ISSA PR in which case, racing can continue until the regatta is "official"

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

7. **RACING AREA:** The Race area will be defined at registration.

8. COACHING:

- 8.1. Team leaders, chaperones, coaches, parents, advisors and other support personnel shall not go afloat in the sailing area from the time they arrive at the regatta site until the regatta is done unless explicitly permitted by the regatta chair. 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.
8.2. A coach who is also acting as a Race Committee is exempt from 8.1 between sets of races.
8.3. ISSA PR 8 defines other coaching limitations and obligations.

9. PRIZES:

- 9.1. The top finishers (schools) at each site will qualify for the NESSA Fleet Racing Championship for the George O'Day trophy.
9.2. The NESSA VPs will determine the number of berths available at each site by the morning of the regatta.

10. **FAILURE TO COMPLETE ALL QUALIFYING REGATTAS:** In the event that a qualifying regatta is not "official" by the end of the day, the regattas shall be suspended and the schools shall return to the venue at another date - time and date to be determined by the host and the NESSA VPs. The competing schools will be informed via email when and where they shall report in order to continue the regatta.

11. **RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS:** ISSA PR 5 shall apply.

12. **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.

13. REGATTA CONTACTS/REGATTA CHAIRS:

Rob Russell - NESSA VP and Event Chair

Jonathan Harley - NESSA VP and Bristol, RI host

Prescott Littlefield - Groton, CT host

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Brent Jansen - Hyannis, MA host
Sam Scribner - Portland, ME host
Gary Werden - Sharon, MA host

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