



**International Lightning Class Association**  
**2024 North American Championship**  
Buffalo Canoe Club, Ridgeway, ON  
August 7-11, 2024



**NOTICE OF RACE**

**1. Rules**

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). Appendix T of the 2021-2024 RRS and the prescriptions of Sail Canada shall apply and will be posted on the official notice board during the regatta.
- 1.2. The organizing authority (OA) is the Buffalo Canoe Club and the International Lightning Class.
- 1.3. The International Lightning Class Association (ILCA) By-Laws and “Document Governing All Sanctioned Lightning Class Championships” hereinafter referred to as the “Document Governing” will apply.
- 1.4. The rules identified below will be changed and will appear in full in the sailing instructions. The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules.
- 1.5. RRS 27.3 is changed to add the following: “The RC or OA shall not abandon (or cancel) a scheduled race, or races, before the starting signal without approval of the Class Governing Authority.
- 1.6. RRS 42.3(c) is changed to read: “Except on a beat to windward, when surfing (rapidly accelerating down the front of a wave) or planing is possible, the boat’s crew may pull the sheet only, (not the guy), in order to initiate surfing or planing, but each sail may be pulled only once for each wave or gust of wind. When the mainsail is pumped, only that part of the sheet between the crew member handling the sheet and the first block on the boom shall be used.” This Class Rule changes RRS 42 and shall be included in the Notice of Race for informational purposes only.
- 1.7. RRS 44 is changed to add the following: “The two turns penalty as provided in RRS Rule 44 will apply with the additional provision that when an infringing yacht has its spinnaker drawing at the time of the infringement, drops it completely while taking her penalty, and resets it immediately and has it drawing after the penalty, the penalty is one full turn instead of two.”

**2. ADVERTISING**

- 2.1. Advertising shall be in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20 except that it shall be restricted to the hull only in accordance with Article VIII (2) of the Document Governing.

**3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

- 3.1. Eligibility for Boats, Skippers and Crew shall be in accordance with Articles V, VI, and XII of the Document Governing. Each US and Canadian entry shall qualify for participation in the NAC by participating in their respective District Championship Regatta. Competitors from other countries may request entry information from the class office.
- 3.2. Eligible boats may enter the Regatta by completing the registration form and paying the registration fee(s) by 1630 on Wednesday August 7th, 2024. Registration is online at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=16553>
- 3.3. Registrations will not be considered complete until each competitor has signed and submitted a waiver for loss, damage or injury to persons or property incurred in conjunction with the regatta, on the property of BCC, or on the water, or during participation in any individual race of the regatta, or from the actions of the ILCA, its officers, the protest committee, the race management team and any sponsors of the Regatta and their members, officers, governors and agents, from liability for such damage or injury. Waivers will be available on Yacht Scoring.

#### 4. FEES

The entry fee is \$460 USD. A late fee of \$75 USD will be charged for payments received after July 20, 2024.

Competitors will receive:

- Wednesday Welcome Party at BCC: beer & hors d'oeuvres, cash bar
- Thursday Dinner at BCC
- Saturday Food Truck event at BYC
- Coffee each morning
- Refreshments & Snacks after racing
- Awards and Prizes
- Full Guest Privileges at BCC, including all on site dining and bar services.

#### 5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Event	Time
Wednesday, 8/07	Registration, Check-in, and Measurement Competitors Meeting and Welcome Party at BCC	0930-1630 1700
Thursday, 8/08	Coffee Competitor Briefing Races Post-race Refreshments & Daily Awards, East Lawn Dinner at BCC, Main Clubhouse	0800-0930 0900 First Warning 1100 After Racing 1730
Friday, 8/09	Coffee Competitor Briefing Races Post-Races Refreshments & Daily Awards, East Lawn	0800-0930 0830 First Warning 1030 After Racing
Saturday, 8/10	Coffee Competitor Briefing Races <i>Access to the Main Clubhouse will be closed from 1500 due to the BCC Commodore's Ball</i> Food Truck Event at BYC with Awards, BYOB	0800-0930 0830 First Warning 1030  1800
Sunday, 8/11	Coffee Competitor Briefing Races No Warning Signal After Awards on BCC East Lawn	0800-0930 0830 First Warning 1030 1400 After Racing

#### 6. MEASUREMENT

- 6.1. Each boat shall hold and produce a valid Measurement Certificate at measurement and must display a current ILCA membership decal. Boats, sails, and equipment will be measured and inspected in accordance with the Lightning Class By-Laws.
- 6.2. All sails shall have Official ILCA Royalty Labels. Mainsail and spinnaker numbers shall be the same. Spinnaker numbers shall be of a sufficiently contrasted color to make sail number identification possible.
- 6.3. Competitors are advised that the Chief Measurer or a designated representative may

make spot measurements and inspection of required equipment on or off the water during the Championship. Boats that pass measurement for the WJM Championship will not have to be re-measured. However, sails will need to be re-stamped (but not measured) in order to comply with the 5 sail limit in the Class rules.

## **7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

7.1. Sailing Instructions will be available no later than August 5, 2024 online at the event web site. In an effort to reduce paper waste a digital noticeboard will be in place; sailors must print their own hard-copies.

## **8. VENUE & THE COURSES**

8.1. Courses will be windward/leeward, triangle or windward/leeward/triangle courses that may include an offset mark and a gate, as described in the sailing instructions.

8.2. Location of BCC: [Buffalo Canoe Club - Google Maps](#). Racing will take place on Lake Erie in the vicinity of Point Abino.

## **9. PENALTY SYSTEMS**

See NOR 1.7.

## **10. DIVISIONS**

10.1. A Qualifying Series and Final Series will be sailed in accordance with Document Governing Articles VIII and XIII, this changes RRS Appendix A. The right of appeal may be denied in the Qualifying Series to promptly determine the entries in the Final Series.

## **11. SCORING**

11.1. Will be per Appendix A in accordance with the Document Governing Article VIII #4, and in addition for the North American Championship Document Governing Article XIII.

## **12. SUPPORT BOATS**

12.1. Support and coach boats must register with the OA during the registration hours.

12.2. Team leaders, coaches, and other support personnel shall stay outside the racing area and comply with other requirements as specified in the Sailing Instructions. These requirements begin from the start of the first race of the regatta until the finish of the last race of the regatta. Individual competitors may not use support boats at any time during the regatta unless such support is available to all competitors or is authorized by the Race Committee. The penalty for failure to comply with any of these requirements may result in disqualification of all boats associated with the infringing support personnel (Reference – ILCA Documents Governing All Sanctioned Lightning Class Championships ARTICLE VIII – RACING CONDITIONS – #15)

12.3. Spectator boats shall not communicate with competitors on the water unless requested by the RC to do so for safety reasons.

## **13. BERTHING**

13.1. Boats shall be wet-sailed. Swing moorings in the BCC mooring field will be available with launch service. Competitors may also anchor in the shallow water near shore if space is available and if the competitor brings sufficient anchor, chain and line. All boats shall be floating before 1700 hours on Wednesday, August 7. No boat shall be hauled during the regatta without express written permission of the Chief Judge and/or designated Jury Member. Boats may be cleaned on the beach by careening without use of a trailer or dolly.

## **14. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

14.1. Use of hand-held VHF radios will be permitted for communication from the Race Committee to competitors on a predetermined channel to be identified in the Sailing Instructions. The Race Committee intends to use VHF radio to identify OCS (On Course Side of the line) boats after starts and otherwise communicate with the fleet on the water. Failure to receive a hail, for a hail to be made, the order of hails made, or receive other communications to the fleet shall not be cause for redress.

## **15. AWARDS**

15.1. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams in each of the NAC fleets.

- 15.2. Perpetual Trophies will be awarded to the North American Champion, Runner-up, 2nd Runner-up, and 3rd Runner-up.
  - 15.3. Tom Fallon Trophy to be awarded to the last boat to qualify for the Championship Series
  - 15.4. Swanson Trophy will be awarded to encourage and recognize women competitors in the North American Championship.
  - 15.5. Thomas McDermott Trophy, if applicable, will be awarded to the skipper who improves the most in position in the NA's Qualifying Series.
  - 15.6. Thermis Trophy will be awarded to the highest placing skipper who is sailing in the Championship division for the first time.
  - 15.7. Elfman Trophy will be awarded to the highest placing Master skipper in the North American Championship who also skippered in the 2024 North American Masters Championship.
  - 15.8. A prize will be awarded for the highest placing Corinthian helmsman who will have reached his or her 65th birthday by the end of the calendar year.
  - 15.9. A prize will be awarded for the highest placing Corinthian helmsman who will have reached his or her 75th birthday by the end of the calendar year. A Corinthian sailor is an amateur sailor similar to ISAF Sailor Classification Code Group 1.
  - 15.10. Race Winner Flags will be awarded to daily race winners.
- 16. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**
- 16.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. 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 regatta.
- 17. INSURANCE**
- 17.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of US\$300,000 per event or the equivalent. A copy of insurance company documents establishing that such coverage is current shall be produced if requested by the OA.
- 18. RACE COMMITTEE**  
PRO: Todd Fedyszyn  
Chief Judge: Jeff Borland
- 19. QUALIFICATION FOR SUBSEQUENT EVENTS.**
- 19.1. The NAC will serve as the US qualifier for the 2025 Lightning World Championship. US skippers will qualify in order of finish. Should this procedure fail to produce the number of qualifiers to which the Area is entitled, unused slots may be assigned by the Executive Committee.
- 20. CHARTER BOATS**
- 20.1. Charters may be available. Please contact Tom Allen Jr. [allenboatco@gmail.com](mailto:allenboatco@gmail.com)  
716.994.6093
- 21. HOUSING**
- 21.1. Member housing/billeting will be available on a limited basis, with priority given to Junior teams. Additionally, there may be member houses for rent. Please contact Carol Starck (email [jcstarck@yahoo.com](mailto:jcstarck@yahoo.com) or Text 716-876-5577) for details. First-come/first-serve. Additionally, helpful links to local hotels, camp grounds and house rentals:

**HOTELS/MOTELS/CAMPGROUNDS:**

[Town of Fort Erie - List of Accommodations](#)

[Comfort Inn, Fort Erie](#)

**Helpful House Rental Google Searches:**

[Vacation Rentals](#)

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

**International Lightning Class Association**

Laura Jeffers - ILCA Executive Secretary 1528 Big Bass Drive

Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689 Email: [office@lightningclass.org](mailto:office@lightningclass.org)

Class Office Phone#: (727) 942-7969 Website: <http://www.lightningclass.org/>

**Buffalo Canoe Club - Host Club**

4475 Erie Rd. RR1, Crystal Beach, Ridgeway Ontario Phone: (905) 894-2750

Website: [www.buffalocanooclub.com](http://www.buffalocanooclub.com)

Club contact for the regatta: [Jennifer O'Connor](#)

Club Manager: [Rob Cheevers](#)

**Regatta Chairman**

Debbie Probst

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**Regatta Website:** <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=16553>

**Racing Area and Location of BCC Clubhouse:** [Buffalo Canoe Club - Google Maps](#)