



International Lightning Class Association
2024 WJM North American Championships
Buffalo Canoe Club, Ridgeway, ON
August 3-6, 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 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 Association.
- 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. The Women’s Championship is open to all female sailors (skipper and crew).
- 3.2. The Junior Championship is open to all eligible skippers and crew who will not reach their twenty first (21st) birthday on or before 12/31/24. Each Junior entrant must submit a signed Junior Medical Emergency Form and Junior Competitors Agreement.
- 3.3. The Master’s Championship is open to all eligible skippers who will reach their fifty-fifth (55th) birthday on or before 12/31/24. The minimum combined age of the skipper and crew, as of 12/31/24, is 130 years. Masters teams may register with co-skippers within the team of three, so long as each skipper meets the age requirement herein. No substitution of skippers or crew members is permitted within the team of three as proscribed by Document Governing All Sanctioned Lightning Class Championships Article VII. In addition, teams with co-skippers will not be eligible for automatic qualification to the North American Championships or World Championship.
- 3.4. All skippers must be ILCA Life, Active, or Associate members in good standing. All crew must be ILCA Members. Masters’ & Juniors’ participants must show a photo ID, or proof of age, at registration.
- 3.5. Eligible boats may enter the Regatta by completing the registration form and paying the

registration fee by 1730 on Saturday, August 3rd. Registration is online at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=16552>

- 3.6. Registrations will not be considered complete until each competitor has signed 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 YachtScoring.

4. FEES

The entry fee is \$285 USD for Women's & Master's NAs and \$185 for Junior NAs. A late fee of \$50 USD will also be charged for payments received after July 20, 2024.

- Women's and Master's Competitors will receive:
- Saturday - Welcome Party at the BCC: hors d'oeuvres & cash bar
- Monday – Cocktail Party at the MacDonald's (light hors d'oeuvres)
- Tuesday - Dinner at the BCC
- Coffee each morning
- 6 Drink Tickets per Team
- Refreshments and Snacks after racing
- Awards and Prizes
- Full Guest Privileges at BCC, including all on-site dining and bar services

Junior Competitors will receive:

- Saturday – Welcome Party at the BCC: hors d'oeuvres & soft drinks
- Monday - Dinner & Beach Games at the Swanson-Starck's
- Tuesday – Dinner at the BCC
- Coffee each morning
- Refreshments and Snacks after racing
- Awards and Prizes
- Full Guest Privileges at BCC, including all on-site dining

5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 5.1. The number of races scheduled shall be nine (9) for the Women and Juniors and six (6) for the Masters. One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 5.2. The Race Committee will hold not more than two (2) races each day for the Masters, provided however that a maximum of three (3) races may be sailed if determined necessary by the PRO given weather conditions to achieve a six race series, and in accordance with the guidelines contained in the ILCA Instructions to Race Committees for Lightning Class Regattas. The Race Committee will hold three (3) races each day for the Women and Juniors. The racing schedule for the Women and Juniors may be adjusted at the discretion of the Race Committee to allow for the maximum number of races to be sailed.
- 5.3. No Warning Signal will be made after 1400 on Tuesday, Aug. 6.
- 5.4. Schedule of Events (Subject to Change). Daily adjustments may also be made based on weather conditions or other factors.

Day	Event	Time
Friday, 8/2	WJM Registration, Check-in, and Measurement	1630-1830
Saturday, 8/3	WJM Registration, Check-in, and Measurement Tentative WJM Practice Race WJM Competitors Meeting, BCC East Lawn Welcome Party	0830-1730 Warning 1400 1800 to follow
Sunday, 8/4	Coffee Competitor Briefing Races Post-races Refreshments & Daily Awards – East Lawn BBQ at BCC – <i>tickets available for purchase</i>	0800-0930 0900 First warning 1100 After racing 1800
Monday, 8/5	Coffee Competitor Briefing Races Post-Races Refreshments & Daily Awards – East Lawn Juniors: Dinner & Beach Games at the Swanson-Starck's Women's & Master's: Cocktail Party at the MacDonalds	0800-0930 0830 First warning 1030 After racing 1800 1800
Tuesday, 8/6	Coffee Competitor Briefing Races No Warning Signal After Post-races Refreshments – East Lawn Dinner & Awards at the BCC – Main Clubhouse	0800-0930 0830 First warning 1030 1400 After racing 1800

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.

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 7.1. Sailing Instructions will be available no later than August 1, 2024 online at the event website. 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.

8.3.

9. PENALTY SYSTEMS

See NOR 1.7.

10. SCORING

- 10.1. The low point system of RRS Appendix A will apply in accordance with the Document

Governing, available at <https://www.lightningclass.org/docs.ashx?id=328142>.

- 10.2. For the Junior and Women's fleet, when fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. This changes RRS A2.
- 10.3. For the Master's fleet, when fewer than four (4) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When four (4) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. This changes RRS A2.
11. **SUPPORT BOATS**
 - 11.1. Support and coach boats must register with the OA during the registration hours.
 - 11.2. 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).
 - 11.3. Spectator boats shall not communicate with competitors on the water unless requested by the RC to do so for safety reasons.
12. **BERTHING**
 - 12.1. 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 1730 hours on Saturday, August 3rd. 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.
13. **RADIO COMMUNICATION**
 - 13.1. 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.
14. **AWARDS**
 - 14.1. Prizes will be awarded to top placing skippers and crews in each of the fleets.
 - 14.2. Perpetual Trophies will be presented to the North American Champion in the Women's, Juniors' and Masters' fleets.
 - 14.3. The highest placing skipper who has reached his or her 65th birthday by Dec. 31, 2024 shall win the Grand Master trophy.
 - 14.4. The highest placing skipper who has reached his or her 75th birthday by Dec. 31, 2024 shall win the Great Grand Master trophy
 - 14.5. Daily Race Winner Flags will be awarded.
15. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**
 - 15.1. 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.

16. **INSURANCE**

16.1. 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.

17. **RACE OFFICIALS**

Race Committee PRO: Todd Fedyszyn
Chief Judge: Jeff Borland

18. **QUALIFICATION FOR OTHER LIGHTNING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

18.1. One or more skippers from the Women's, Junior's and Master's fleets, not previously qualified through their District, may be entitled to enter the 2024 North American Championship Regatta in accordance with Class Rules.

19. **CHARTER BOATS**

19.1. Charters may be available. Please contact Tom Allen Jr. allenboatco@gmail.com
716.994.6093

20. **HOUSING**

20.1. 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 or Text 716-876-5577) for details. First-come/first-serve. Additionally, helpful links to local hotels, campgrounds 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

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

Club contact for the regatta: Jennifer O'Connor Club Manager: Rob Cheevers

Regatta Chairman

Debbie Probst

Phone: (260) 417-2363

Email: dkprobst@gmail.com

David Starck

Phone: (716) 877-1589

Email: davestarck@icloud.com

Regatta Website:

<https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=16552>

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