



Notice of Race

2026 Ensign National Championship

Organizing Authority (OA) - Ensign Class Association (ECA)

August 13 – 16, 2026

Toms River Yacht Club and Ensign Fleet #63

1464 Riviera Drive

Toms River, New Jersey 08753

(732) 929-0888

tryc@tryc.comcastbiz.net

1. RULES

1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined by *The Racing Rules of Sailing* with U.S. Sailing prescriptions.

1.2 The Ensign Class Rules shall apply with the following exceptions:

1.2.1 Ensign Class Rules Part III Section 10 Courses, Paragraph C "Ordinarily, courses shall not be less than 4 and 1/2 or more than 9 nautical miles in length." is deleted. The race committee will have discretion to set courses any appropriate length shorter than 9 nautical miles.

1.2.2 For the Jib and Main division only, Ensign Class Rules Part III Section 9 Races and Rules, Paragraph C is replaced with "In addition to the contestant, there must be a crew consisting of not less than one nor more than four persons."

1.2.3 For the Jib and Main division only, Ensign Class Rules Part III Section 10 Course, Paragraph D is replaced with "The race Committee may shorten the course at its discretion if the following minimum course has actually been sailed: a windward leg and a leeward leg. This condition refers to legs that have been sailed and not necessarily as originally signaled."

1.3 Appendix V2 Post-Race Penalties of the RRS is in effect for this event.

1.4 All competitors and support persons are required to comply with all reasonable requests of the OA.

1.5 Rule 60.4 is changed as follows:

From : "**Protest Validity**

(a) A protest is invalid

(1) if it does not comply with the definition Protest or rule 60.2 or 60.3,

(2) if it is from a boat that alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31, but she was not involved in it or did not see the incident, or

(3) as far as it alleges a breach of rule 69 or a Regulation referred to in rule 6, unless permitted by the Regulation concerned."

To: "**Protest Validity**

(a) A protest is invalid

(1) if it does not comply with the definition Protest or rule 60.2 or 60.3,

(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or

(3) as far as it alleges a breach of rule 69 or a Regulation referred to in rule 6, unless permitted by the Regulation concerned."

1.6 All boats shall comply with RRS 78.1 at all times between arrival at the racing area and the finish of the last race each day. This changes RRS 78.1.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available no later than 0900 hours on Tuesday, August 10th, 2026 on the Notice Board on Yachtscoring.com.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1 The online official notice board is located at **Yachtscoring.com, 2026 Ensign National Championship Regatta** website.

3.2 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SIs. Failure of the race committee to make

any announcement on the VHF radio, or a boat's failure to hear any broadcast shall not be grounds for redress.

3.3 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing 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 Entry is open to all members of the Ensign Class Association (ECA) who meet the eligibility requirements of the class rules, Part III National Championship Rules, Section 6 Eligibility.

4.2 Those not qualifying under section 4.1 of the Notice of Race may apply to the ECA Governing Board for an exemption, such applications must be received by the ECA Governing Board no later than June 1, 2026. Applications must be emailed to sailorbud1085@gmail.com.

4.3 Two divisions are available, Spinnaker and JAM (Jib and Main). Five or more entries are required to form a division. The same entry fee and entry process applies to both.

4.4 Entries shall be entered and submitted on the Official Online Entry Form found on **Yachtscoring.com, 2026 Ensign National Championship Regatta**. The registration deadline is 1200 hours on August 12, 2026.

4.5 The entry form is only valid if accompanied by the applicable entry fee.

4.6 All persons in charge will be required to sign a declaration that their boat fully complies with the Class Rules and that they will abide by said Class Rules while racing. An entry is only valid if accompanied by this declaration.

5. FEES

5.1 The Regatta Entry Fee amount is determined by the date that payment is made.

5.2 Entry fees are as follows:

<u>Date of Entry</u>	<u>2026 Member US Sailing</u>
Before May 1, 2026	\$450
May 1- June 30, 2026	\$500
After June 30, 2026	\$550

5.3 Entry Fee includes admission for 4 to a welcome cocktail party on Wednesday evening and a presentation by Gary Jobson on Friday evening.

5.4 Thursday and Sunday social event/meal tickets will be available for purchase by June 1, 2026.

6. ADVERTISING

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

7. SCHEDULE

7.1 Early arrival, equipment inspection and measurement is available the weekend of August 8th and 9th by appointment.

Saturday August 8, 2026 from 0900 to 1600 hours

Sunday August 9, 2026 from 0900 to 1600 hours

7.2 Arrival, registration. equipment inspection and measurement:

Tuesday August 11, 2026 From 0900 to 1800 hours

Wednesday August 12, 2026 From 0900 to 1600 hours

7.3 Dates of Racing: Thursday August 13, 2026 – Sunday August 16, 2026

7.4 Number of Races: On Thursday, one practice race and 2 championship races are scheduled. On subsequent days 3 races are scheduled.

7.5 The scheduled time of the Warning for the First Race on Friday and Saturday is 1100 hrs. On Sunday, the scheduled Warning for the First Race is 1000.

7.6 No warning signal will be made after 1330 on Sunday, August 16th.

8. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

8.1 Measurement – Only sails without a measurement stamp from a prior Ensign Class National Championship regatta will be measured as part of registration. All sails to be used will be checked for the presence of a measurement stamp. Only two of any sail (jib, main, spinnaker) per competitor may be measured or used.

8.2 The technical committee reserves the right to inspect, weigh, or measure any part of a participant's boat and/or rigging at any time or in the event of a *protest*.

8.3 All boats shall comply with RRS 78.1 at all times between arrival at the racing area and the finish of the last race each day. This changes RRS 78.1.

9. VENUE

9.1 The racing area will be in Barnegat Bay and the surrounding waters.

10. COURSES

10.1 Courses will be described in detail in the Sailing Instructions.

11. SCORING

- 11.1 The scoring system shall be in accordance with Appendix A of the RRS.
- 11.2 One completed race is required to complete the series of the Spinnaker division. One race is required to complete the series of the JAM division.
- 11.3 If five or more races are completed, then the worst score for each competitor will be dropped.

12. BERTHING

- 12.1 Launching and Hauling will be available at Toms River Yacht Club.
- 12.2 Slips and Moorings will be available at Toms River Yacht Club or at marinas or yacht clubs in close proximity.

13. LAUNCHING AND HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 13.1 All competitors shall be launched no later than 1800 on August 12, 2026.
- 13.2 Boats shall not be hauled out after 1800 hours August 12, 2026 until after finishing the final race except with prior permission of the Protest Committee.

14. RISK STATEMENT

- 14.1 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, but are not limited to, 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. Neither the Organizing Authority, nor the host will accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.**

15. INSURANCE

- 15.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum protection and indemnity coverage of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent. Proof of such insurance shall be required at registration.

16. PRIZES

- 16.1 The Pearson Perpetual Ensign Trophy, the Most Beautiful Ensign Trophy, the Faget Trophy, the Ray and Ann Trophy Award, Most Improved and the Doug Wood Mid-Fleet Award will be awarded according to ECA Rules, Part III, section 3.
- 16.2 The Jib and Main Championship Perpetual Trophy will be awarded (if a JAM Division is formed).

16.3 A Youth Championship Award will be presented if there are at least 2 youth participants in the spinnaker division.

16.4 The "Best Fleet Award" Trophy will be awarded to the fleet represented by two or more competitors with the lowest average score of the final finish positions in the Spinnaker Division. Competitors that are members of more than one fleet must declare which fleet they will represent at registration. If entry lists more than one fleet the first fleet listed will be deemed the fleet that they are representing.

16.5 Keeper Trophies for the Spinnaker and JAM Division final results shall be awarded on the following entry schedule:

# Entries	# Awards
5	2
8	3
12	4
15	5
18	6
21	7
24	8
27	9
30+	10

Keeper trophies shall be awarded to both skippers and crews. Keeper Trophies will be awarded to the skippers winning the Most Beautiful, Faget, Torpey, Doug Wood, Best Fleet, Most Improved and Youth Championship perpetual trophies.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION

17.1 For Further information please contact:

Bud Brown, Regatta Chairman at:

sailorbud1085@gmail.com

281.468.6909 cell and text

or

Sheila Torpey, Registration, Hospitality and Housing at:

Storpey1911@gmail.com

For Registration questions, please put "Registration" in the subject line.