

Homecomers Regatta
September 27 & 28, 2008
Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club
Melville Street, Box 1007
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON, Canada



This Counter Regatta is sanctioned by the Canadian Shark Class Association.

Notice of Race

You are cordially invited to bring your Shark home to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club (NOLSC) (<http://www.niagarasailing.on.ca/>) to join us for the Homecomers Regatta. This is a counter regatta for the Canadian Shark Class Association (CSCA) Shark of the Year. Being late in the season, there's a good chance that we'll have outstanding Shark conditions on the water,

and it's a given that we'll have great conditions ashore.

Looking forward, in 2009, NOLSC will be the proud host of the **Shark World Championships** for the 50th year of the Shark. The Homecomers is the best and last opportunity to train your team in the venue of this significant event.

1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.2 The prescriptions of the Canadian Yachting Association (CYA) will apply. These can be found at <http://www.sailing.ca/racing/management/rules/index.asp>. Printed copies will be available for non-Canadian competitors at check-in.

1.3 The International Shark Class Association (ISCA) General Class Rules and Specifications will apply.

1.4 Racing rules 28.1, 35, Appendices A2 and A4 and Racing Signal 'S' will be changed as follows:

(a) 28.1- the race committee may award a finishing position to the last boat while she is still racing.

(b) 35 and Appendix A4 - boats failing to finish within 30 minutes of the first boat will be scored TLE and will be awarded points for the

finishing place two more than the number of boats finishing within the time limit.

(c) Appendix A2 - the score for a disqualification under rule 78.1 shall not be discarded.

(d) Race Signal 'S' – the finishing procedure for a course shortened at a gate will be clarified.

The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions.

1.5 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2 ADVERTISING

Advertising will be restricted to Category A.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 The regatta is open to Shark class sailboats that have a valid measurement certificate and have the current year's Class Association sticker affixed to the boat.

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- 3.2** A boat may be inspected for compliance to class rules or sailing instructions at any time prior to the prize giving ceremony. If instructed by the race committee or the protest committee, the boat shall proceed to the launch ramp for inspection. Boats informed of a measurement check shall not make any adjustments to the boat until release by the measurement committee.
- 3.3** Each boat's "person in charge" shall be a full member of ISCA.
- 3.4** A boat which does not comply with class rules concerning measurement or does not have a valid measurement certificate may compete, and will not be subject to protest under the rule, if:
- (a) it complies with all other class rules,
 - (b) it has not competed in another CSCA-sanctioned counter regatta that year,
 - (c) it has not been issued a valid measurement certificate within the past five years, and the person in charge has signed the "statement of understanding" on the Entry Form.
- 3.5** A boat may not protest another boat for allegedly breaking rule 75.2 with respect to ISAF regulation 21.1(b). This changes rule 60.1(a).
- 3.6** Eligible boats may enter by completing the attached form and sending it, together with the required fee, to NOLSC by Wednesday, September 24th.
- 4 FEES**
- Fees can be paid using cash, cheque, Visa or MasterCard. We accept US dollars at par.
- 4.1** The registration fee is \$120. This includes three hearty and delicious dinners for the skipper and two crew on Saturday evening, and unrestricted access to the freeflowing mountain of beer (until it runs dry). Additional dinner tickets are available for \$20 each.
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5 SCHEDULE

5.1 Registration:

Friday September 26	From 1700 To 2100
Saturday September 27	From 0900 To 1000

5.2 Competitors information meeting:

Saturday September 27	starting at 1000
Sunday, September 28	starting at 0900 if signalled.

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5.3 Dates of racing:

<i>Race Date</i>	<i>Scheduled 1st Warning Signal</i>	<i>No Warning After</i>
Saturday, September 27	1100	1600
Sunday, September 28	1000	1500

5.4 Number of races: A maximum of six races will be sailed over the two days.

5.5 Awards: 1700 or, if signalled after 1000, 10 minutes after flag 'E' and 2 sound signals, whichever is earlier.

6 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available at registration.

7 VENUE

7.1 Attachment A shows the location of the regatta harbour and the racing area.

7.2 If conditions prevent holding a race on the lake, the race committee reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to hold races in the Niagara River.

8 THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be as follows:

8.1 The course configuration will be windward/leeward consisting of a minimum of three legs.

8.2 In the event of river races, the best possible course will be chosen.

9 SCORING

9.1 2 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

9.2 (a) When fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

(b) When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

10 BERTHING

Boats shall be kept in their assigned places in the harbour.

11 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

12 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keel boats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

13 RADIO COMMUNICATION

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

Note that the race committee may be making announcements over the VHF as a courtesy.

14 PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

(a) The Homecomers Trophy will be awarded to winner of the regatta.

(b) Keeper trophies and/or prizes will be awarded to the top five skippers and crews.

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- (c) The Niagara Homecomers awarded as decided by the regatta committee.
- (d) There will be lots of prizes for participation.

15 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 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**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of 2 million dollars (Canadian currency) or the equivalent.

17 **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information please contact Regatta Chair Jinnie Gordon at 905-351-9499.

18 **LAUNCHING & MOORING**

Launch and haul-out is at the Shark hoist inside the club. Please follow crane use instructions at the hoist. Trailers shall be stored as directed at launch. Moorings for visiting boats are standard docking and will be assigned at launch. Boats shall use the assigned dock unless written permission to change has been granted by the regatta chair or her authorized representative. Some rafting may be required.

INVITATION

Competitors and their immediate families are invited to use the club facilities during the regatta. There is space available for camping and trailers. Please let the club know in advance if you will be bringing a trailer or RV.

FRIDAY BeerBQ

During Friday registration there will be a BeerBQ.

REGALIA

Regalia, if offered for sale at an unbelievably reasonable price, will be announced in an amendment to this Notice of Race.

Homecomers 2008 Attachment A - Venue

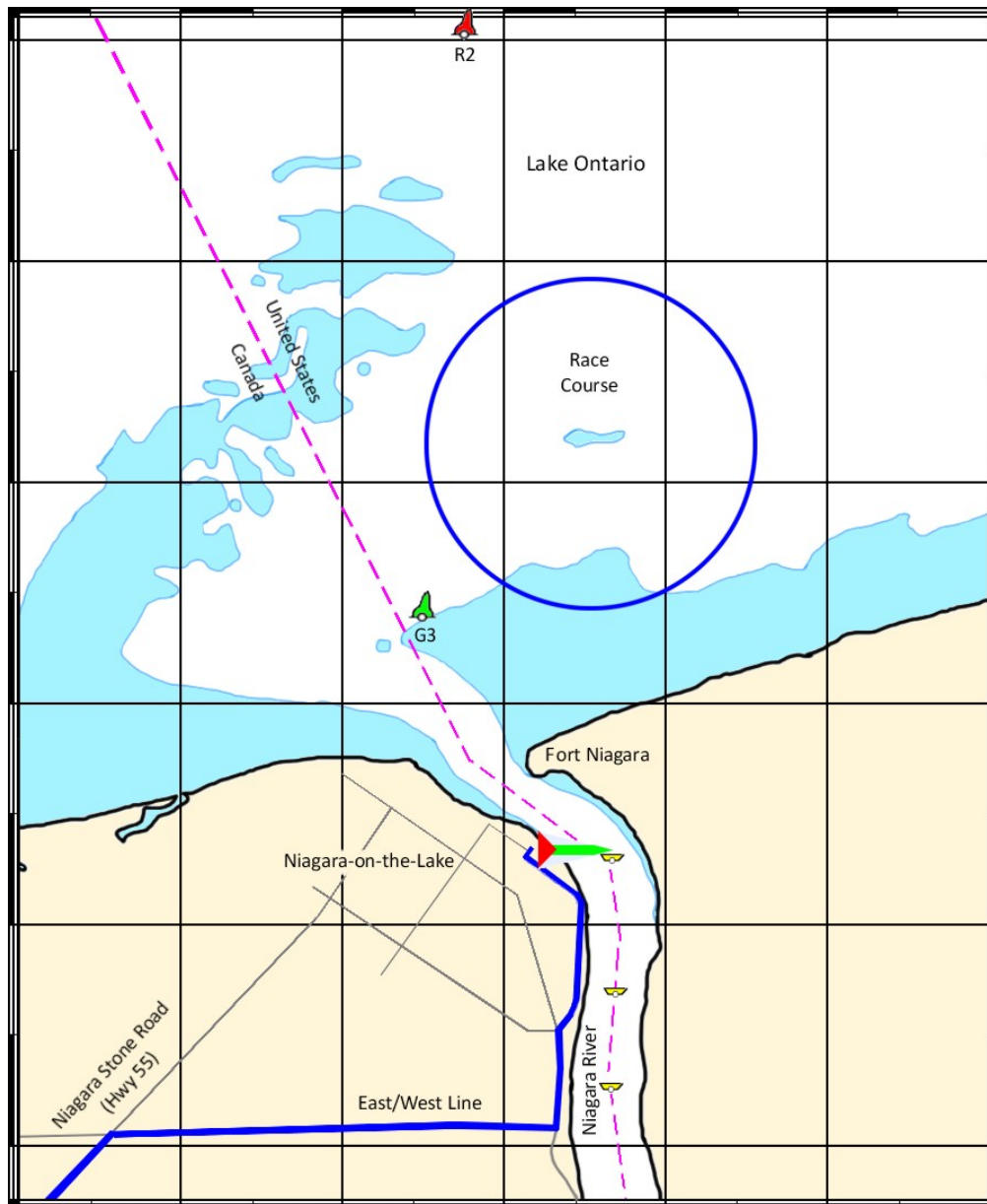


Chart and positions not to be used for navigation purposes.

Instructions by Sail

Sail to the green Niagara Light and Bell Buoy 3 (US), Canadian List of Lights (LL) 547, located approximately at N 43° 16' 24.3", W 79° 04' 30.8"

Follow the range lights LL 549 and 550 on an approximate bearing of 149 1/2° true.

The forward (North) range light (LL 549) is nearest to the entrance to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club (NOLSC) gas dock.

Hail the NOLSC gas dock on VHF 68 for advance instructions, or tie to the gas dock and request verbal instructions.

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Attachment A - Venue

Driving Instructions from the Queen Elizabeth Way

From the west (St. Catharines), take Exit 38a, Glendale Avenue (regional road 89), and turn right (north) at the stop sign for 0.5 km.

From the east (Niagara Falls), take Exit 38, Glendale Avenue, and turn Right (North) at the stop lights for 0.1 km.

Turn left at York Road (regional road 81). Use the left lane if you wish to stop at the fast food restaurants, the gas station, or that oh so important washroom break, or use the right lane to proceed directly for 0.5 km.

Turn right at Airport Road (regional road 90) for 2.8 km.

Turn right at Niagara Stone Road, regional highway 55 for 7.5 km.

Turn right at East/West Line (stoplights immediately after MacDonalds restaurant) for 3.8 km.

At the end of East/West Line, turn left onto the Niagara River Parkway for 0.7 km.

At the branch, turn right to continue following the river for 2.1 km.

Turn Right at first stop sign, Melville Street for 0.1.

Turn right into entrance to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club. On the keypad, contact the office in order to have the gate opened.

Proceed straight ahead (South). The launching ramp and hoist are midway along the roadway on your left.

Race Course

Under most conditions, a course consisting of inflatable racing marks will be set to the North-East of Fort Niagara. The distance from the harbour entrance to the centre of the race course is approximately $2\frac{3}{4}$ nautical miles from the harbour entrance.

Since this regatta is being held late in the season, it is possible to encounter strong winds so the race committee reserves the right, under its sole discretion, to run races in the Niagara River, in which case the race committee will be stationed near the harbour entrance.

Wind Conditions

Winds tend to be light to moderate. The most common direction is out of the West or Southwest. The second most common is out of the East. The other directions tend to be infrequent.

Currents

The dominant driving feature of currents is the Niagara River. At the river mouth, the current runs between 2 and $2\frac{1}{2}$ knots, diminishing as the flow fans out off shore. This current drives a large, slow, clockwise gyre in the waters to the east, where the race course is indicated. The smaller eddies associated with this gyre are entirely unpredictable.

A nice feature of the current is that it knocks down the waves in a west wind. For this reason, the general location of the NOLSC/YYC Olympic circle is the best location that can be offered for the regatta.