



**The Challenge for the Fishermen's Cup  
GLOUCESTER TO PROVINCETOWN  
Sailing Instructions**

**Race Date:** Tuesday, September 6, 2016 – rain/weather date, Wednesday, September 7, 2016

**Course:** From Gloucester, Massachusetts to Provincetown, Massachusetts

**Time Limit and Distance:** 24 hours. Approximately 43 nm start to finish

Disclaimer: Offshore sailboat racing can be dangerous. Each and every Captain is solely responsible for the safety of his/her vessel and crew at all times. Whether through equipment failure, bad weather or sea conditions, crew sickness and or injury etc., it is the sole responsibility of each vessel's Captain to determine whether they will start, continue or finish the race. The organizers of the Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta are not and cannot be held liable or responsible for injury, sickness, and damage to vessels(s), loss thereof and even the possibility of death. Whether or not to start, continue or finish the race is at the sole discretion and exclusive responsibility of each vessel's Captain.

Vessel Eligibility: The race will be open to schooners of two classes.

Class A                    rated length more than 50 feet

Class B                    rated length 50 feet or less

Class A and Class B may be combined into one open class at the discretion of the race committee.

A completed signature-required race entry form with all information correctly entered including the Handicapped Data Form must be on file with the Fishermen's Cup Race Committee no later than September 5, 2016. Entries submitted electronically will be considered signed. Late entries may be accepted at the race committee's discretion but risk being deemed ineligible to compete for cash prizes or trophies.

## Rules:

1.1 The race will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing, 2013-2016; the prescriptions of the US Sailing Association; modifications adopted at the Captains' meeting prior and/or during the race; and by these sailing instructions.

1.2 Attendance at this meeting, Monday Sept. 5, 2016, 6pm in Gloucester, Massachusetts, is required for all Captains.

1.3 All vessels will be scored using the handicapping system established by the Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race Committee. A rated length will be assigned by the race committee prior to the race start, as well as an allowance in seconds/mile. Final scoring will be based on course time with a handicapping correction.

Starting line will be from the Dog Bar Breakwater Light to Hammond Castle Twin Towers (shown on Marine Chart as Colregs line). Any change to the starting line will be presented at the Captains' meeting Monday night.

Starting time will be no sooner than 6am and not later than 7am on race day. The race committee will be on hand to mark the starting time of all vessels entered in the race. A schooner has started when her BOW crosses the line. Any changes will be announced by the Race Committee on VHF 68.

Engine Use at Start: As a safety precaution, vessels may run their engines until their start; however, your engine must be out of gear prior to crossing the starting line.

Engine Use Underway: Safety is paramount. If traffic or other emergency forces you to use your engine while racing, please log all related actions, report such events and total time lost when you finish, and submit documentation to the Race Committee.

Withdrawal: Vessels abandoning the race must notify the Race Committee on VHF 68 as soon as possible.

VHF Radio Communications : The Race Committee will use VHF 68 as a "working" Channel. The Provincetown Harbormaster and any auxiliary craft if available will monitor VHF Channel 12 & 68 at all times during the race. Additional communication numbers will be provided if necessary at the Captains' meeting.

Race Progress Log: The Captain of each schooner shall ensure that an hourly position log recording the latitude and longitude of the schooner during the race is kept.

Special Rules: Each vessel shall have an EPIRB and PFDs for each person onboard. Each vessel shall have appropriate navigational capabilities and a working VHF radio. GPS SPOT trackers will be provided to all captains for operation during the race. The tracker must be removed from the schooner after completing the course and returned to the Race Committee to avoid a DNF (did not finish) rating.

Finish Line: The finish line will be from the Long Point Lighthouse to green buoy #3, extending across the Provincetown harbor entrance. Vessels must cross the line, leaving the green buoy to port and the Provincetown Harbormaster Patrol Boat to starboard.

Finish Instructions: A schooner has finished when her STERN crosses the finish line. Record GPS time as you cross. The Patrol Boat will sound an air horn as you finish. Schooners who have not called in a finish time within the 24 hours of their start will be counted as "Did Not Finish".

Protests: The Race Committee requests that captains endeavor to avoid protesting. Should a serious rules infraction occur during the race that cannot be resolved, a Protest Committee will be convened to hear the protest using the current Racing Rules of Sailing.

Additional Instructions: Any additional instructions and/or changes deemed necessary will be given at the Captains' meeting, Monday night, September 5, 2016. Weather related changes to the Sailing Instructions may be announced prior to the Race Start and during the race. Captains are encouraged to monitor their VHF radios at all times on race day. Cell phones should be on and available for use, particularly when vessels are more than 10nm from the start or finish of the race.

#### REMINDER

YOU WILL BE RACING IN THE WATERS IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO AND IN 2 WORKING HARBORS, WHICH WILL ALSO BE ANSITED TR BY HUNDREDS OF OTHER VESSELS, LARGE AND SMALL. KEEP A SHARP LOOKOUT FOR THIS TRAFFIC, WITH THE FULL UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THE "NAVIGATION RULES OF THE ROAD" AND DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY BECOME A PRIVILEGED VESSEL SIMPLY BY VIRTUE OF YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS MARINE EVENT. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE IN MEETING, CROSSING, OR OVERTAKING SITUATIONS WITH OTHER VESSELS CONSTRAINED BY THEIR DRAFT OR RESTRICTED IN THEIR ABILITY TO MANEUVER. IF THE VISIBILITY IS LESS THAN TWO NAUTICAL MILES, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE REGSCO SIGNALS REQUIREMENT. YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO SAIL SAFELY, WITH PARTICULAR REGARD FOR HARBOR TRAFFIC, SO THAT IT WILL BE A HAPPY DAY FOR ALL.

2016 Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta / Fishermen's Cup

Sailing Instructions

Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta, Box 559, Provincetown, MA 02657  
508-487-SAIL [www.provincetownschoolrace.com](http://www.provincetownschoolrace.com)

