



Down East Challenge Yacht Race 2009

130 nautical miles, July 25-26



Great competition and a great way of getting your boat Down East for the best part of the summer! A 130 nautical mile offshore race from Marblehead, MA to Rockland, Maine, with racing and cruising divisions as well as single handed categories. This race is a qualifier for the Bermuda One-Two Yacht Race.

Sponsors: Marblehead Yacht Club, MA and Rockland Yacht Club, ME.

Rules: This event will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012 and current US Sailing Association rules and sailing instructions. Autopilots and/or wind assisted self-steering devices are allowed. Preliminary sailing instructions and entry form will be available online at www.marbleheadyc.org.

Eligibility and scoring: The race is open to all boats of 25 ft or more and 6.5 meter mini Transat boats with a valid PHRF handicap certificate. Yachts without a valid handicap that wish to race will be assigned an uncontested handicap by the race organizers based on similar boat types. Divisions are offered for racing (spinnaker) and cruising (non-spinnaker) for both single and fully crewed boats. Classes within these divisions will be established following the deadline for close of entries. Entrants must have the equipment for a Category 3 race and sign a release form. Single-handed racers must have completed a non-stop single-handed passage of at least 50 nm. The event organizers reserve the right to reject entries at their discretion.

Skipper's Meeting: Mandatory skipper's meeting for all skippers or their designated representative at 1800 hrs at the Marblehead Yacht Club on Friday, July 24. Final sailing instructions listing navigation aids that must be respected and a scratch sheet will be provided at that time. Bring your crews for free food and drink. Boats starting the race may be moored free of charge if coordinated with the Marblehead Yacht Club dockmaster beforehand.

Start/finish: First gun will be at 1000 hrs. Saturday, July 25th, vicinity of mark C1 at the mouth of Marblehead Harbor, unless changed at the skipper's meeting. The finish will be between can #1 and the Rockland Harbor Breakwater lighthouse. Time limit for all boats will be 1600, July 26th, unless extended at the race committee's discretion.

Equipment: Vessels shall comply with ISAF Special Regulations for Category 3 races subject to the following modifications: Entrants are strongly encouraged to comply with regulation 4.20, but may at their own discretion instead carry an inflatable or rigid dingy that can accommodate all crew members and that can be readily deployed in case of emergency.

Entry: Entry forms and preliminary sailing instructions are available online at <http://www.marbleheadyc.org>. Checks and entry forms can be mailed to the Marblehead Yacht Club, 4 Cliff St., PO Box 943, Marblehead, MA 01945 by 20 July, 2009. For your convenience, skippers can also go to www.marbleheadyc.org and click on the News Button where you can register and pay by credit card. Latest scratch sheets and other information will be available in the quickest possible manner.

Fees: \$80.00 if paid by 20 July; \$100.00 if late entry.