

The Northeast Lipton Challenge Cup
September 12 & 13, 2026
Hosted by Noroton Yacht Club
Darien, Connecticut, USA



NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

The Organizing Authority (OA) is Noroton Yacht Club (NYC).

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a). All times are US Eastern time. All fees are in US dollars.

1. RULES

1.1 The Northeast Lipton Challenge Cup (LCC) will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), and the Viper 640 International Class Association (VICA) class rules, except where amended in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions.

1.2 VICA class rules 10.1 and 10.5 (b) shall not apply.

1.3 Rule 60.4(a)(2) from the RRS is changed to read as follows : 60.4 (a) A Protest is invalid...
(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was neither involved in nor saw the incident, or

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1. The sailing instructions (SIs) will be posted on the [online notice board](#) on Clubspot at least 5 days before the first scheduled race.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1. The online official notice board is located at <https://norotonyc.org/regatta/lhBxF64sHi> All notices shall be posted on the online noticeboard.

3.2 As a courtesy, copies of notices may be posted on a noticeboard in the breezeway at NYC. Any failure to post a notice or remove an outdated notice from the courtesy notice board in the breezeway shall not constitute grounds for granting redress.

3.3. All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on standard US VHF channels.

3.3. Communication protocols and channels will be published in the Sailing Instructions.

4. ELIGIBILITY

4.1. The event is open to teams representing any of the following:

(A) A recognized sailing club, sailing association or yacht club based in the Northeast of America (Defined as US Sailing Area A, B, C, and E, Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces of Canada),

(B) Any other sailing club, sailing association or yacht club invited by the OA,

All entries are subject to approval by the OA

4.2 Teams where the entry is accepted or invited by the OA are the "Participant Clubs."

4.3 Each participant club shall enter with one team. In certain circumstances the OA may invite a participating club to enter a second team (for example a junior team or women's team)

4.4 The Event shall be sailed in the Viper 640 class.

5. ENTRY AND FEES

5.1 Eligible boats may enter by completing the [online entry form](#) on Clubspot. and submitting the required fees.

5.2 The Entry Fees are as follows:

Entry Fee	Payment received up to August 28th 2026	\$340
Late Entry Fee	Payment received on or after August 29th, 2026,	\$380

5.3 Up until August 12, an entry may be secured by paying a deposit of \$50. The balance due is \$290 up to August 28th and \$330 thereafter.

5.4 Checks may be made out to "Noroton Yacht Club" and mailed to The Treasurer, Noroton Yacht Club, 23 Baywater Drive, Darien CT 06820

5.5 Entry and payment can be completed online until midday on September 11th, 2026.

5.6 Entry Fee Refunds:

(i) If a competitor withdraws prior to September 1st, 2026, the entry fee will be refunded after deducting a \$75 administration fee. From September 1st, entry fees are non-refundable.

(iii) Deposits are non-refundable

5.6 Fees will include boat storage, launching and hauling of competing boats.

5.6 The Entry Fee includes three tickets to dinner on Saturday evening, September 12th. Additional tickets will be available for purchase.

6. CREW AND TEAM LIMITATIONS

6.1 All team members shall be dues paying members in good standing of the participating club or sailing association, except that in a chartered or borrowed boat, a single team member may be an "owner representative" approved by the OA.

6.2 The OA may require that an officer of the participating club sign a representation stating that team members are members of the participating club.

6.3 (NP) The Participating Club shall submit a list of team members prior to 8 pm on September 11th. Any additional team members submitted after September 11th shall only be allowed to sail if approved in writing by the OA, and shall sign the event waiver and release form.

6.4. On any one day, the boat shall be sailed by 2- 4 team members. There shall be no change in the number on board and no crew substitutions during the day without the permission of the OA or a designee of the OA.

6.5 The number of crew and the crew members may change on Sunday from Saturday,

6.6 Two or more team members shall be designated as helmspersons.

6.7 Helm Rotation: The helmsperson shall change after each race. The helmsperson shall steer the entire race from the preparatory signal to the finish. The helmsperson in the first race on Sunday shall not be the helmsperson from the last race on Saturday

6.8 An owner representative who is not a member of the participating club shall not steer.

6.9 The event is open to Group 1 and Group 3 Sailors as defined in the World Sailing Categorization Code provided however that teams comply with VICA rule 10.2, requiring that no member of the team is paid to sail in this event.

7. ADVERTISING AND MEDIA RIGHTS

7.1. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

7.2. The OA reserves the right to ask competitors to remove prominent advertising which directly conflicts with event sponsors.

7.3 Competitors give absolute right and permission to the OA for any photographs or video footage taken of themselves or their competing boat to be published in any media whatsoever; for either editorial or advertising purposes, or to be used in press information.

8. SCHEDULE

8.1.

Friday September 11	After 12.00 14.00 –17.00 17.00- 22.00 20.00 – 23.00	Dry Sailing Area and Hoists Open Practice Course Available Food & Beverages available at Upstairs Club Bar “That’s What She Said” @ Third Place, Stamford
Saturday September 12	08.00- 9.30 10.00 11.30 18.00 18.30 21.00 -24.00	Registration and Waivers Skippers Meeting First Warning Signal Links Drinks Cocktails and Debrief Dia De Muertos Dinner on Patio After Party @ The Goose, 972 Post Rd, with “Tin Sandwich”
Sunday September 13	10.00 16.00 Immediately after Racing	First Warning Signal Last Warning Signal Awards Assist Visitors Depart

8.2. The OA is targeting 3 to 5 races per day for a total of 6-10 races, dependent on weather conditions and best judgement of the PRO. The event may comprise less than 6 races or more than 10 races.

9. REGISTRATION

9.1. To complete registration the name of the designated helms and the rest of the team must be submitted to the OA..

9.2 To complete registration each team member shall submit a waiver and release form signed by each team member that sails. The waiver and release form is [here](#)

9.3 If a crew member is not registered, they shall not sail on the boat without written permission from the Event Chair or the PRO, and shall sign the event waiver and release form before sailing.

10. VENUE

10.1. The racing area will be approximately 1 to 2 miles SE to SW of G "1" at the mouth of Darien Harbor.

11. COURSES

11.1. The courses to be sailed will be a windward/leeward configuration as described in the SIs.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1. US Sailing Prescriptions Appendix V1 and V2 shall apply

12.2. The protest committee may impose penalties less than disqualification, for a violation of the class rules and racing rules other than those of RRS Part 1, Part 2 and RRS 28, 30 and 31. This changes Rule 64.2.

13. SCORING

13.1. RRS A5.3 will apply.

13.2. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

13.3. Each boat's series score shall be the total of all her race scores. This changes RRS A2.1

14. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

14.1. All support person vessels shall register with the Race Committee and will be required to comply with local law and event support regulations.

14.2 Support vessels shall carry a VHF radio, monitor Race Committee communications, and, if called upon, be available for safety assistance, or towing boats to and from the racecourse.

15. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

15.1. (a) Any participant club where the club or a member of the club does not own a Viper may apply to the OA for permission to enter by chartering or borrowing a boat from a private VICA owner member

(b) The OA may be able to provide introductions between prospective participant clubs and Viper owners willing to charter or loan their boat.

(c) The OA is not responsible for providing charter or loaner boats and any shortcomings of such boat shall not be grounds for a boat to request redress.

15.2 In accordance with RRS G3, a chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number or a hull number in contravention of her class rules, provided that the PRO has approved her sail or hull identification before the first race.

16. BERTHING AND PARKING

16.1 Further details regarding docking, moorings and trailer storage during the regatta will be posted on the notice board.

16.2. (NP) Competitor shall comply with car and trailer parking instructions be posted on the noticeboard. The Event depends on the goodwill and support of the Noroton Bay Association.

16.3. (NP) During haul out at the end of the event, the haul out and trailer sequence will give priority to those teams with the furthest to travel.

16.4 Boats proceeding to either the Milford Viper Open the following weekend or to Pensacola for the North American Championship the next weekend may leave their boats on the NYC premises in the parking lot as directed by the OA.

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Sailing is an activity that carries with it an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk and are reminded to pay special attention to rule 3, Decision to Race.

The race organizers, including the OA, Race Committee, Protest Committee, sponsors, VICA, volunteers, or any other affiliated organization or official, will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of practice for or participation in this event on the water or ashore. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

18. INSURANCE

18.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent and shall bring proof of insurance to the event which may be inspected by the OA during registration

19. PRIZES

19.1. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams.

19.2 A Women's champion award will be presented to the top woman helmsperson or helmspersons.

19.3 Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the OA

20. SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

20.1 No Single Use Plastic bottles are allowed on the racecourse.

20.2 Water bottles may be refilled at a filtered refilling station on the East wall of the clubhouse adjacent to the Junior sailing room.

20.3 Recyclable waste should be placed in the clearly marked receptacles.

20.4 The penalty for a breach of Rule 47 may include disqualification.

22. FURTHER INFORMATION

23.1. For further information please contact:

Registration : NYCViperFleet@gmail.com

Sailing Related Questions

Justin Scott: Event Co-Chair +1(781) 888-6336, NYCViperFleet@gmail.com

Shoreside Related Questions

Laurie Morrison Event Co-Chair lmorris7@optonline.net

General Manager Scott Van Dusen +1 (203) 655-7686 generalmanager@norotonyc.org

Location

Noroton Yacht Club, 23 Baywater Drive, Darien, CT 06820,
