

The 2009

Small Reach Regatta

Announcement

Sponsored by WoodenBoat Magazine
& the Downeast Chapter of the TSCA

To be held at WoodenBoat, Brooklin, Maine

July 9 – 12, 2009

Thanks for your interest in the fourth annual “Small Reach Regatta!”

This is a three-day rendezvous for traditional small rowing and sailing craft in the scenic coastal area around WoodenBoat magazine’s campus in Brooklin, Maine, and in Eggemoggin Reach.

In general, we will sail (or row) in the waters near WoodenBoat. We have lined out several alternative daysailing courses of 12 miles to 20 miles, but these are subject to change based on conditions. A day’s outing may be cancelled if the weather conditions are poor. No racing is planned.

The registration deadline is March 2, 2009.

Skippers must file the forms included in this package no later than March 2, 2009. We can’t accommodate last-minute arrivals, because we have to know what kinds of boats and how many to expect. We also have to know how many lobsters to order for the Saturday dinner! However, filing the following forms doesn’t necessarily mean that acceptance into the fleet is guaranteed. For reasons of safety and prudent seamanship, we reserve the right

to judge whether a boat is suitable for these waters and whether the skipper has sufficient expertise to navigate in the expected range of conditions. After applications are closed, our seamanship committee will meet to decide which boats will be included. Another limitation may simply be the number of boats; we had 39 boats in 2007 and 49 boats in 2008; this year, we expect comparable numbers. For those without suitable boats (or with no boats at all), it may be possible to find a crew position with a participating boat, but this is best arranged ahead of time.

After your boat is accepted into the fleet, we will send you an information packet that will include crew forms, dinner registration forms, and other information.

There are no hard-and-fast rules imposed on boat types or lengths, but in general this fleet will consist of traditional rowing and sailing boats between 15' and 20' LOA capable of putting in to a beach and relaunching without assistance. In general, a spirit of volunteerism prevails at the Small Reach Regatta, in launchings, haulouts, cleanup, and many other ways. Most participants regard this as one of the crucial parts of the experience.

The event and the particulars of equipment needs and so forth are fully detailed in the pages that follow. Further information, and a slide show of last year's boats, can be seen at <www.woodenboat.com>. If you have any questions, please contact one of the following:

- **Tom Jackson**, Senior Editor, WoodenBoat, P.O. Box 78, Brooklin, ME 04616; 207-359-4651; <tom@woodenboat.com>

or

- **David Wyman**, P.O. Box 505, Castine, ME 04421; 207-326-9406; <david@dwymanpe.com>.

We'll get back to you as soon as we can. We hope to see you in Brooklin!

Sincerely,
Tom Jackson
Senior Editor
WoodenBoat

Fees:

To cover the cost of event insurance, **our fee this year is \$30 per boat**. The only other costs associated with this event will be for dinner service on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. Participation in these dinners is not mandatory, but prepayment is required for those who wish to do so. As noted above, once your boat is accepted into the fleet, we will send out information packets with full details, prices, and registration forms, which you must return. Note: As skipper, you will be responsible for returning information for all of your crew, together with all payments for chosen dinners.

For Small Reach Regatta participants, The WoodenBoat School has waived its campground fee. If you are arranging other housing, you are on your own. NOTE: We cannot permit camping at the WoodenBoat School campground before Thursday night or after Sunday night; if you want to stay longer in the area, please make other arrangements—there is a very good private campground on Deer Isle called the Quarry Campground.

Qualification of Boats:

- **Type** — Sail- and oar-powered boats of traditional design, capable of beaching and relaunching without assistance. In general, full-keel and fixed fin-keel boats are excluded. Oars-only boats are OK, but be aware that the courses can be as long as 20 miles.
- **Size** — No precise rules; boats should be about 15' to 20' in length, capable of inshore saltwater navigation.
- **Construction** — Wooden construction, whether traditional plank-on-frame, cold-molded, or plywood, is highly encouraged, as are owner-built boats, but fiberglass boats are also acceptable if they are of traditional sail-and-oar type.
- **Required equipment** — A full equipment list follows on the next page

Restrictions:

- We can only accept boats that can be trailer-launched or can arrive by sea under their own propulsion.
- Auxiliary power is OK, but should not be used during events unless the course is abandoned because of lack of wind or if safe seamanship demands it.
- Fog is always a distinct possibility on the coast of Maine. VHF radio is absolutely required; hand-held GPS is highly recommended.

Qualification of Skippers:

- Recognize that you are responsible for the safe operation of your own vessel. You should generally be comfortable with inshore saltwater boat operations and you must be a competent leader of your crew. **No one is obligated to participate in any day's activity. If you are not at ease with the chosen route or the prevailing weather and sea conditions, the decision about whether to participate on a given day—or whether to continue once under way—is yours alone.**
- You must be capable of competently navigating your boat in partially protected but rocky waters in reasonably fair weather. Winds may vary from 0 to 20 knots or more. Fog is a constant threat. Favorable, unfavorable, or crosswise currents are possible. We anticipate that the fleet will become quite spread out because of the highly variable nature of traditional small craft, but the fleet will be accompanied by several motor launches serving as support craft. Organized communication systems will be in place and must be followed. You must be capable of reefing, striking your rig entirely, anchoring, bailing, recovering from a capsize, and all other essential boathandling skills pertaining to small craft.

Required Equipment Checklist:

- PFDs for all crew
- Flotation, permanent or temporary
- At least one anchor and rode
- Substantial bailing buckets
- Charts suitable for navigation (MapTech “Penobscot Bay and Mount Desert Island” chart book recommended.)
- Compass
- Line suitable for tow
- An emergency kit including flares, horn, and first-aid supplies
- Timepiece
- Waterproof VHF radio, to be worn on the skipper's person
- Foul-weather gear for each person aboard
- Water and food for each day
- Extra warm clothing stored in dry bags

— Additional recommended equipment —

- hand-held GPS

Note: Brooklin's marine supply store closed a few years ago, so you won't be able to easily fill in gaps in equipment. Please count on bringing with you everything you'll conceivably need.

Sailing Schedule

Thursday, July 9, arrival and check-in

Low tide, 7:08 a.m. (+0.3')

High tide, 1:13 p.m. (9.6')

Low tide, 7:16 p.m. (+1.3')

Upon arrival at the waterfront, please be prepared to show that you have all the required equipment. David Wyman will check and approve boats at this time. One person will be in charge of the launching ramp area; please follow his instructions and his alone. If your boat is easily hand-carried, we'll get it off the trailer at this time and set it up on the grassy area near the waterfront. You may launch your boat and leave it at anchor; shuttle boat service will be available. After dropping off your boat, you can park your car and trailer in the middle field, which is halfway down the hill on the west side of the road. We will also number your trailer for reference during haulout. (We'll need volunteer help; after you get settled, if you can stay and help others, that would be great.)

WoodenBoat's launching ramp is steep, rocky at the bottom, and has a long, flat runout at low tide. Four-wheel drive vehicles are required. We anticipate that most boats will stay on the lawn near the waterfront overnight, launching in the morning, with volunteer help.

Moorings will not be available. You can launch your boat on Thursday if you wish, but if you intend to leave it in the water you **must** have a suitable anchor and rode, preferably with a second anchor as backup in case of high wind. Great Cove is pretty well protected and has generally good holding ground.

Thursday afternoon informal activities could include rig tuning, casual sailing around Great Cove, boat swapping, crew swapping.

Chowder dinner, 6 p.m. at the waterfront.

Friday, July 10

Low tide, 7:43 a.m. (+0.4')

High tide, 1:48 a.m. (9.6')

Low tide, 7:52 p.m. (+1.3')

The day's course will be chosen during a skipper's meeting, 8 a.m., and the fleet will get underway by 9 a.m. Lunch (not provided) will be at an island haulout to be announced. Dinner, 6 p.m.

Saturday, July 11

Low tide, 8:18 a.m. (0.5')
High tide, 2:24 p.m. (+9.7')
Low tide, 8:30 p.m. (1.3')

As above. Lobster shore dinner will be at the WoodenBoat waterfront.

Sunday, July 12

Low tide, 8:53 a.m. (0.6')
High tide, 3:00 p.m. (9.8)
Low tide, 9:10 pm. (1.3')

As above, except that after the island lunch haulout, boats will proceed to WoodenBoat's launching ramp for final haulout. The mid-day high tide should be very favorable for this; large and heavy boats will haul out first. Volunteer assistance is critical to a smooth operation.

Shoreside Organization: Food and Accommodations

- **Trailer parking.** You can park your trailer, with or without your car, in WoodenBoat's **middle field**, to the right of the road as you drive down toward the waterfront. (A map of WoodenBoat's grounds is attached.)
- **Camping.** We cannot permit camping by SRR participants before Thursday, July 9. WoodenBoat School will waive its usual fee for campground use. We ask that you find yourself a suitable site in the gazebo area in the upper apple orchard near the white office building. To maximize space, please don't park your car there. An excellent, brand-new bathroom and shower building is available at the head of the school's campground. If your boat is set up for sleeping aboard and you prefer to do so, please feel free.
- **Inns and Hotels.** For any who do not wish to camp, there are a number of bed-and-breakfast inns in Brooklin, and hotels and inns in Blue Hill. You are on your own for making these arrangements, and you should make them well in advance.
- **Thursday night chowder dinner, 6 p.m.**
After dinner, an orientation for the weekend and a safety presentation is mandatory for all skippers and crew.
- **Friday night dinner, 6 p.m.** Details to be announced.
- **Saturday night lobster dinner, 6 p.m.** Details to be announced.
- **Other meals.** You are on your own, and please be sure you and your crew have water and food aboard for each day's outing. For various sundries, the Brooklin General Store is a good one and only about two miles away, and they stay open in the summer until 7 or 8 p.m.

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Boat and Skipper Information

Boat name _____

Please enclose a photo of your boat, preferably under way.

Type, rig, and description, including construction details:

Overall length _____ Waterline length _____ Beam _____

Draft (board up) _____ Number of oars _____ Sail Area _____

Hull weight _____ Number of crew _____

Auxiliary power? _____ Type _____

Skipper's name and address:

(List boat's owner too, if different. Crew information will be required after acceptance.)

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

(E-mail will be our preferred communication method)

Description of skipper's sailing experience:

Do you have: a waterproof VHF radio? _____ Hand-held GPS? _____

Mail to: Tom Jackson, Senior Editor, WoodenBoat, P.O. Box 78, Brooklin, ME 04616 to be received no later than March 2, 2009

END

WoodenBoat Grounds:



