

OFFICIAL COMPILATION OF CODES, RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
TITLE 9. EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
SUBTITLE I. OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CHAPTER V. MARINE AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES
SUBCHAPTER A. MOTORBOATS
PART 447. CONDUCT OF REGATTAS

*** Section 447.1.* Definitions.**

As used in this Part:

- (a) Commissioner shall mean the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.
- (b) Regatta is an organized water event of limited duration which is conducted according to prearranged schedule over a predetermined course and in which general public interest is manifested.
- (c) Regatta permit is written permission from the commissioner authorizing the holding of regattas on the navigable waters of the State, pursuant to the provisions of section 34 of the Navigation Law. However, on waters over which the Federal government exercises active control regarding the regulation of regattas, permits shall be obtained from the Federal government (United States Coast Guard), in which case a New York State regatta permit will not be required. Application for a regatta permit shall be made to the commissioner, on forms to be provided by him.
- (d) Sponsor is an individual, society, club, firm, partnership, corporation or association of persons who has organized and is conducting the regatta and in whose name the regatta permit is issued.
- (e) Special navigation inspector shall mean the person or persons appointed by the commissioner pursuant to the provisions of section 18 of the Navigation Law.
- (f) Racing shell is any boat, specially designed for racing and propelled solely by means of oars, not including lifeboats or standard type rowboats that are not specifically designed for rowing races.

*** Section 447.2.* Preliminary preparations.**

- (a) At least 15 days prior to the date of the proposed regatta, to be held on the navigable waters of the State, the sponsor of such regatta shall file an application with the commissioner and obtain a permit.
- (b) When regattas are proposed to be held on waters which generally sustain commercial traffic, this fact should be indicated on the application and the application should be filed at least 30 days prior to the date of the regatta. The sponsor shall supplement the application by a full explanation of the approximate quantity and type of commercial traffic, and the relationship between the traffic channels and the proposed regatta area.
- (c) When the application is approved, a regatta permit will be issued. The permit will specify the date or dates and the waterway upon which the regatta is to be held, and unless alternate dates are specified, the regatta must commence and terminate within the time set forth in the permit. The

permit may contain special rules and regulations, and permission to place certain equipment necessary for the conduct of the regatta.

(d) Upon the recommendation of the sponsor, at least three persons will be appointed as special navigation inspectors, and their names will be listed on the regatta permit. It shall be the duty of special navigation inspectors to enforce the provisions of the Navigation Law and the rules and regulations for the conduct of regattas, and any special rules and regulations which may be included on the regatta permit, during the period in which the regatta is authorized. Such special navigation inspectors shall receive no compensation from the State. Any expense in connection with their duties shall be borne by the sponsor of the regatta.

(e) The special navigation inspectors shall be provided with fully equipped boats of a size and speed suitable for patrolling the type of regatta in progress. The minimum equipment to be carried shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 40 of the Navigation Law, and extra equipment shall be left to the discretion of the inspector but shall be suitable for safety and lifesaving work for the type of regatta in progress.

(f) It shall be the duty of the sponsor to notify property owners in the vicinity of the regatta area, any other persons who may be affected by the regatta, and the appropriate law enforcement entity that has jurisdiction over the water body (State Police, State park police or county sheriff) of the date, time and place the regatta will be held.

(g) Permission may be granted in the regatta permit authorizing the sponsor to place equipment within the regatta area, such as buoys, markers, ski jumps, etc. However, such permission, when granted, is subject to the following provisions:

(1) Equipment may be placed in the water up to 48 hours prior to the time of the regatta for use in trial runs.

(2) Equipment shall be placed in the water after sunrise and shall be removed before sunset each day, unless properly and adequately lighted continuously during the period between sunset and sunrise, so as to warn navigation of the existence and location of such equipment.

(3) All equipment must be removed from the water before sunset on the last day of the regatta.

(4) Whenever practicable, equipment shall be colored orange, or a combination of orange and white.

(h) Prior to commencement of the regatta, the special navigation inspectors shall inspect all equipment expected to be used. The inspection shall include boats, ski jumps, tow ropes, buoys, and any other special equipment which will be used. The inspectors shall also travel the entire course of the regatta and adjacent area in order to ascertain that there are no obstructions which may be considered unsafe. The inspectors shall read the contents of the regatta permit and pay particular attention to "special rules", if any, which the permit may contain.

(i) Any educational institution or amateur rowing association that intends to sponsor a racing shell regatta, shall use the forms provided by the bureau of marine services to notify the commissioner at least 30 days in advance of the date, place, course description, and number of entrants to each race.

*** Section 447.3.* During regatta.**

(a) The special navigation inspectors shall be expected to take whatever measures are necessary, in addition to those listed below, to insure the safety of participants, spectators or any other persons during the authorized regatta.

(b) Immediately prior to the start of the regatta, at least two special navigation inspectors shall take stations whereby they are in the most suitable position to accomplish the following:

- (1) warn traffic approaching regatta area;
- (2) prevent spectators in boats or ashore from getting too close to regatta area;
- (3) give assistance in case of participant accident (unless a boat is specifically assigned to this task) or other type of mishap;
- (4) stay close to the majority of participants (during races);
- (5) summon medical aid or other type of assistance from shore; and
- (6) escort commercial and recreational traffic through the regatta course.

*** Section 447.4.* After regatta.**

(a) When the regatta is over, the special navigation inspectors shall supervise the dispersion of spectators in an orderly manner.

(b) It shall be the duty of special navigation inspectors to cause the removal of all equipment temporarily authorized for use during the regatta, prior to sunset on the last day of the regatta.

(c) Within 48 hours after a regatta, the special navigation inspectors shall compile a joint report and submit it to the commissioner. The report shall contain:

- (1) general observation of the inspectors;
- (2) report of violations of law or rules and regulations;
- (3) complete data on accidents sustained by participants, spectators or any persons in regatta area.