



WATCH HILL YACHT CLUB
WATCH HILL, RHODE ISLAND

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

42ND ANNUAL FREDERICK B. THURBER TROPHY RACE
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH AND SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2011

Special Race Note:
Vixens Ledge: Start
Saturday and Finish
Sunday!
Awards Party in
Mystic/New London Area

RULES

1. The Regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012 (RRS) and the US Sailing Prescriptions except as modified by these Sailing Instructions.
2. The Regatta is designated Category A with Rule 79 and Appendices A3 and G of the Rules.
3. ORC Category 4 equipment is required.
4. RRS Rule 77 shall not apply.
5. RRS Appendix H shall not apply.
6. Ratings are based on PHRF-LIS 2011.
7. Cruising Canvas Class Rules:
 - a. Spinnakers (including mizzen spinnakers) may not be used.
 - b. All headsails must be attached along the luff to the head stay by means of either hanks or a slotted headstay. This does not exclude roller-furling headsails. Headsail girths measured from the luff to the leach must be no greater than their proportional distances from the head.
 - c. Spinnaker poles may be used as whisker poles. Whisker pole length is limited to 80% of LP or spinnaker pole length, whichever is greater.
 - d. Only one headsail at a time, other than forestay sails, may be used. This does not prohibit a transient condition (i.e., during a sail change evolution).
 - e. Use of other sails such as mules or mizzen staysails is permitted.

CLASSES

1. Handicap Classes will include PHRF-LIS, Non Spinnaker (Cruising Canvas), and Multi-Hull. Yachts will be assigned to classes at the discretion of the Race Committee. For notice of class assignments see Scratch Sheets.
2. Any class that has less than three boats for their class will start with another class, but will be scored separately. The Race Committee will display the proper signal flags for the classes starting and will attempt to notify boats on VHF channel 72 if more than one class is having a start. Note: any class with less than 3 boats will not qualify for ECSA points per ECSA rules.
3. Yachts whose warning signal has not yet been made, shall keep clear of the starting area and of all yachts whose warning signal has been made.
4. All responsibility for the safety of the vessel and crew rests with the skipper.

ENTRIES

Entries will be accepted and assigned to classes at the discretion of the Race Committee, based on 2011 PHRF-LIS Certification.

RACE COMMITTEE BOAT

The Race Committee Boats will be flying a Race Committee "RC" flag and will monitor Channel 72. **It is required that all competitors monitor VHF Channel 72 during the race.** The Race Committee Boat flying the solid orange flag will be the designated starting and finishing line vessel.

THE START

- All yachts must hail the Committee Boat prior to the start of the race.
- The Starting Line for Saturday** will be between an orange flag on the Committee Boat and government mark, Vixens Ledge N"28VL," located between Avery Point and Mumford Point.
- The Starting Line for Sunday** will be between an orange flag on the Committee Boat and the Whistle Mo(A) "N" (red and white vertically striped), located 1-1/2 miles northeast of Ram Island (NY). Note: this is the same location as Saturday's finish.
- Classes will start in accordance with Rule 26 (System 3) as modified herein below. All starts will be separately executed (there will be no "rolling starts").
- FIRST GUN SATURDAY WILL BE AT 1000 (EDT). FIRST GUN SUNDAY WILL BE AT 0930 (EDT).**

Title	Time to Start	Sound	Visual Signal
Warning	- 5 minutes	Cannon	Class Flag UP
Preparatory	-4 minutes	Cannon	Code Flag " P " (Papa) UP
1 Minute	-1 minute	Horn	Code Flag " P " (Papa) DOWN
Start	0 minutes	Cannon	Class Flag* DOWN

- The order of start for both days follows:

Class	Code Flag
Non Spinnaker Class C	C
May be designated on scratch sheet	B
Spinnaker Class A	A

- Yachts whose Preparatory Signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all yachts whose Preparatory Signal has been made.

THE COURSES – Saturday and Sunday

Location	Marker	Leave to:
Saturday (Approximately 29.5 miles)		
Starting Line	Vixens Ledge N "28VL	
Valiant Rock	G "11"	Port
Cerberus Shoal	G "9"	Starboard
Gardiner's Point "Ruins"	Gong "1G"	Starboard
Finish Line	RW "N" Approx.1.5mi NE of Rams Head	

Sunday (Approximately 15.5 miles)		
Starting Line	RW "N" Approx.1.5mi NE of Rams Head	
Gardiner's Point "Ruins"	Gong "1GI"	Port
Silver Eel	RW "SE"	Port
Finish Line	Vixens Ledge N "28VL"	

- In the event of a course change we will use code flag "C."

THE FINISH:

1. The Finish Line for **Saturday** will be the same as the Sunday Starting Line. The Committee Boat will be flying the orange pin flag and will be located to the North of the Mo(A) whistle "N" (red and white vertical stripe). If the Committee Boat is not in place, yachts will take their own time of finish (GPS Time) when "N" is to Port within ten (10) yards of the buoy, and report your time to the Race Committee.
2. The Finish Line for **Sunday** will be in the same vicinity as the Saturday Starting Line. The Committee Boat will be located in the vicinity of the buoy N"28VL" (Vixens Ledge) between Avery Point and Mumford Point. If the Committee Boat is not in place, yachts will take their own time (GPS Time) when N"28VL" is to Port and within ten (10) yards, and report the time to the Race Committee.

SHORTEN COURSE:

1. Code Flag "S" and two (2) prolonged horn blasts indicate finish is to be between the orange flag on the Committee Boat and the nearby rounding mark.
2. If, in the opinion of the Race Committee, either the Saturday or Sunday race will not finish within the required time limit, the Race Committee may hoist Code Flag Lima at the previously prescribed starting line to communicate "Follow Me" to head to an alternate start mark where race participants may use engine power to travel to the new start line.
3. If, in the opinion of the Race Committee, the Saturday or Sunday Race will not finish within the required time limit, the Race Committee may move the finish line noted above to a different location and display the "S" Flag.
4. If in the sole discretion of the Race Committee, the race needs to be shortened at a location other than at a rounding mark, the Committee will broadcast on VHF Channel 72 the latitude and longitude of the finish line of the shortened course.
5. The Committee Boat will acknowledge calls on Channel 72 regarding either the Saturday or Sunday finish line.

TIME LIMIT:

- If any yacht shall finish the race before 1600 EDT on Saturday or Sunday, regardless of the time of the start, it shall be considered a race for that class.
- Yachts retiring from the race should notify the Race Committee on VHF Channel 72 or by cell phone to (860) 460-6772. Alternatively, Watch Hill Yacht Club may be contacted at (401) 596-4986.

PROTESTS:

The following process must be observed by a protesting yacht:

1. Immediately display a red flag in accordance with Rule 61.
2. Verbally inform the Race Committee immediately after crossing the Finish Line.
3. Provide a written protest to the Protest Committee at Shelter Island Yacht Club for the race leg on Saturday and at the location of the Awards Reception for the race leg on Sunday in accordance with Rule 61.3. Any protest must be submitted to the Race Committee within sixty (60) minutes of the docking of the Race Committee Boat.

SCORING:

1. The two (2) days' racing results will be combined by adding the corrected time for Saturday's race to the corrected time for Sunday's race. The race scores will be calculated based on Time-on-Time Method.
2. For the Decibel Bowl, Sailing Instruction 11.6 – the Low Point Scoring System – A2.2 will apply, except that the results of the two (2) WHYC Invitational Races¹ will be included. Only one Decibel Bowl will be awarded each year. A2.3 Ties will be amended. Ties will be broken by adding the lowest corrected times for the two races of each yacht tied and the lowest combined corrected time will win.

RESULTS AND PRIZES:

1. Tickets for Shelter Island Yacht Club and Awards Reception will be attached to the Sailing Instructions provided to each yacht on Friday evening or Saturday morning. Alternatively, tickets may be purchased from the Race Committee.
 - Saturday's results will be announced at the Shelter Island Yacht Club at approximately 1730 EDT. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served.
 - Trophies and prizes will be awarded during a reception held in a convenient location to competitors in the Mystic-New London Area (to be announced) starting at 1700 EDT on Sunday.
2. Prizes will be presented for first, second and third place finishers, based on the two (2) day results using Time Correction Factor (TCF) in Spinnaker and Canvas classes.
3. The O'Brien Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the Watch Hill Yacht in Cruising Canvas Class with the best-corrected time in the two offshore races¹.
4. The Decibel Bowl will be awarded in Spinnaker Class only, to the yacht with the best corrected time in the two offshore races¹.

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¹ The two (2) WHYC Invitational Races include the Horton and Thurber.