



# NOTICE OF RACE

## August 30 - September 1, 2024

[05/01/2024 – includes  
Amendment 1]

**The Officers and Members of the Stamford Yacht Club invite you to participate in the 90th Vineyard Race. The Stamford Yacht Club is the Organizing Authority for this event.**

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). The notation “[DP]” in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may be less than DSQ at the discretion of the protest committee. This modifies RRS 64.2.

### 1. RULES

Racing will be governed by:

- 1.1 The current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), except as may be modified herein and/or by the Sailing Instructions. If there is one-design racing and there is a conflict between Class Rules and the RRS, Class Rules shall apply.
  - A. Boats equipped and rated with power winches may use same. This modifies RRS 52.
  - B. Boats sailing Double-handed may use autopilots. This modifies RRS 52.
  - C. Double-handed entrants may communicate amongst themselves by VHF Radio.
  - D. Between the hours of sunset and sunrise, the rules of Part 2 are replaced with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS).
- 1.2 The US SAILING Prescriptions to the RRS will apply.
- 1.3 The current PHRF Regulations as administered by the YRA of Long Island Sound (YRA-LIS).
- 1.4 The current US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (USSER) for Coastal events. (**also see NoR 2 and 15.**) These requirements are available at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations/>. A copy of these requirements should be kept aboard while racing. In the event of a conflict between these requirements and applicable class rules, the class rules shall apply.
- 1.5 The current IMS and ORC Rating Systems rules and regulations. ([www.orc.org/rules](http://www.orc.org/rules))
  - 1.5.1 ORC Regulation 201.2 does not apply.
- 1.6 The New England Multihull Association (NEMA) RACE RULES 2024 ([www.nemasail.org](http://www.nemasail.org))
- 1.7 Tracking - [NP][DP] Each boat shall be required to carry and have continuously switched on, from the boat’s start until it finishes or is no longer sailing, a satellite tracking device (such as Spot or InReach) or AIS transponder. Such device’s ID shall be reported to the RC no later than 2000 on the day prior to the start.
  - 1.7.1 Boats racing on the Seaflower or Cornfield Point course have the additional option of transmitting their position with a third-party cellphone-based app.
  - 1.7.2 The failure of any station to receive a signal from a boat’s satellite, AIS, or cell-based (CFP or SF only) device shall not be subject to protest by a competitor or grounds for redress (this amends RRS 60.1 and 62.1(a) and RRS 63.1 shall not apply). A boat who fails to transmit may be subject to protest by the race committee.
  - 1.7.3 Please review the Event Documents for additional instructions and tracking app usage. Race tracking will be available to anyone with web access.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY:

- 2.1 The race fleet will be divided into three courses: The Vineyard Course, The Seaflower Reef Course, and the Cornfield Point Course, each with different classes and eligibility, as follows:
- 2.2 Boats sailing the Vineyard Course shall be no less than 29 feet LOA (except as provided in 2.2.4 and 2.2.5), have self-righting hulls (except multihulls), shall be properly rigged and ballasted, shall be fully seaworthy and shall comply with the current USSER for Coastal races with the following additions: (1) Each boat shall have an operating VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on Channels 05A, 13, and 16; and (2) Each boat shall carry at least one cell phone, the number for which is on file with the Race Committee, and which is kept on and

fully charged while racing. Boats sailing the Vineyard Course will be divided into classes as follows:

2.2.1 Boats, including those sailing double-handed, with a valid, current ORC certificate.

a) ORC Rule 200.1 is hereby changed as follows:

i. The combined weight of all crew on board while racing shall not be greater than the maximum crew weight as defined in ORC 102.1 and 102.2;

ii. Other than those boats sailing double-handed, one additional crew under the age of 16 is permitted and shall not count against crew or weight limit.

b) Boats with an APH of 500 or lower must have an ORCi certificate.

c) Rating changes will not be accepted after 1200 on Friday, August 23rd.

2.2.2 Boats, including those sailing double-handed, with a current YRA-LIS PHRF rating of 129 seconds/mile or faster (available at [www.yralis.org](http://www.yralis.org))

2.2.3 Based on their rating, boats sailing double-handed will be placed within ORC or PHRF classes and scored against both fully crewed and double-handed boats on their respective Course. Within the Double-handed entries, there will be additional scoring for mixed gender crews.

2.2.4 Mini-650 or Mini Transat Class boats with a minimum crew of two (2) are permitted.

2.2.5 Multihull boats with a minimum length of 25 feet LOA, not including bowsprit, and a valid, current NEMA Rating Certificate.

2.3 Boats sailing the Seaflower Reef and Cornfield Point Courses shall be no less than 27 feet LOA and 24 feet LOA respectively, have self-righting hulls (except multihulls), shall be properly rigged and ballasted, shall be fully seaworthy and shall comply with the current USSER for Nearshore races, with the following additions: (1) Each boat shall have an operating VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on Channel 05A, 13, and 16; and (2) Each boat shall carry at least one cell phone, the number for which is on file with the Race Committee, and which is kept on and fully charged while racing.

2.3.1 Racing on the Seaflower Reef Course will be conducted in PHRF classes, including Double-handed, for boats rated 69 to 147. Minimum number of crew shall be 2.

2.3.2 Racing on the Cornfield Point Course will be conducted in PHRF classes, including Double-handed, for boats rated 87 to 198. Minimum number of crew shall be 2.

2.4 All entries are to be made on-line at ([www.yachtscoring.com](http://www.yachtscoring.com)) Please note: [1-] A completed entry requires, in addition to the skipper's data, the names, emails, emergency contact, execution of a waiver, and Safety at Sea information for all onboard (see NoR 15); and [2-] All rating certificates must be dated prior to August 18th.

2.5 Corinthian Challenge Entries (-CC shall appear after the boat name on the entry):

2.5.1. Each boat shall have aboard at least one advisor ("Advisor"), who shall be at least 21 years old and experienced in overnight distance racing, shall be the Boat Owner or a designated Owner's Representative, and be capable of taking command in emergency conditions.

2.5.2. At least two-thirds of the crew shall be between the ages of 14 and 23 as of the day of the Start.

2.5.3. For boats over 45 feet, it is recommended that there be at least two advisors.

2.5.4. OWNER, OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE, AND ADVISOR RESPONSIBILITY.

For the purposes of this section, the Boat Owner shall include the Owner's Representative.

2.5.5. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: By entering, each owner is certifying that at least 80% of the crew has participated in each of the following:

2.5.5.a. Man Overboard upwind recovery

2.5.5.b. Man Overboard downwind recovery (w/spinnaker);

2.5.5.c. Reefing Mainsail;

2.5.5.d. Night Practice (after dark) including 2.5.5.a & 2.5.5.b.

2.6 The Organizing Authority reserves the right to exclude any yacht from the race due to inadequacies in design or preparation which could impair the seaworthiness of the vessel and/or safe passage of the crew.

2.7 To be scored, boats shall have sail numbers that comply with RRS Appendix G1.2 by being *clearly legible* in all light conditions. Failure to comply may result in being scored DNF. Non-compliance is subject to protest only by the RC. This adds to RRS Appendices A5 and G1.2.

### 3. ENTRY FEES:

3.1 The entry application shall be accompanied by an entry fee to be paid by credit card or PayPal. The entry fees are based on Length Overall (LOA) which may be rounded downward to nearest whole number. (e.g.: 39.71' = 39').

No entry is complete until the entry fee is received.

3.2 Entry Fees are determined as of payment date:

- 3.2.1 Vineyard Course - \$11.00 per foot LOA for entries paid before **2000 July 3rd**. For entries paid after **2000 July 5<sup>th</sup> and before 2000 August 16<sup>th</sup>**, the entry fee will be \$13.00 per foot LOA. For entries paid after **2000 August 16<sup>th</sup> and before 2000 August 23rd**, the entry fee will be \$16.00 per foot LOA.
- 3.2.2 Seaflower Reef and Cornfield Point Courses - \$9.00 per foot LOA for entries paid before **2000 July 3rd**. For entries paid after **2000 July 3rd and before 2000 August 18<sup>th</sup>**, the entry fee will be \$11.00 per foot LOA. For entries paid after **2000 August 16<sup>th</sup> and before August 23rd**, the entry fee will be \$13.00 per foot LOA.
- 3.3 Entry applications with unpaid fees as of 2000 hours on August 23rd will be discarded as if the yacht never completed any part of the entry process.
- 3.4 **Very Late Entries and/or fees received after August 23rd may be accepted at the discretion of the OA.**
- 3.3.1 Very late entry fees for the Vineyard Course will be \$20.00 per foot LOA.
- 3.3.2 Very late entry fees for the Seaflower Reef and Cornfield Point Courses will be \$15.00 per foot LOA.
- 3.5 No refunds will be given after August 19th.

#### 4. QUALIFYING SERIES

The Vineyard Race is a qualifier for the **Northern Ocean Racing Trophy**, the **Double Handed Ocean Racing Trophy**, and the **New England Lighthouse Series (PHRF)** DeCoursey Fales, Sagola, & Windigo Trophies, the du Moulin Cup for Double Handed Racing, the Youth Challenge Cup awarded by the YRA-LIS, and the Redniss Cup, which is awarded to the monohull with the best combined scores from this race having sailed the Vineyard Course and the Valeur-Jensen Stamford Denmark Race.

#### 5. SCHEDULE

First signal will be at 1200 Friday, September 1, 2023 at Red Bell "32" (The Cows) southerly of Stamford Harbor.

**6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** Sailing Instructions, scratch sheets, tracking and any other final instructions will be available on [www.vachtscoring.com](http://www.vachtscoring.com) on or about Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### 7. COURSES:

The specifics of the course will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

Generally: **START:** Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) off Stamford Harbor.

**FINISH:** Immediately northerly of the entrance to Stamford Harbor, between the Signal Boat and Green Beacon "3" on the easterly end of the westerly breakwater.

7.1 **Vineyard Course:** From the Start to the Buzzards Bay Light Tower, leaving the Tower to starboard, then leaving Block Island to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) and Nun "2" to starboard, then to the Finish for a total of 238 NM.

Note: *At the discretion of the Race Committee, a short course may be signaled by displaying Code Flag "S" prior to the warning signal for the start of any class. The short course will be: from the Start to Cerberus Shoal, leaving the G "9" to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) and Nun "2" to starboard, then to the Finish for a total of 146 NM.*

7.2 **Cornfield Point Course:** From the Start to Cornfield Point Shoal leaving Red Bell "2" to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "8" (at the easterly end of Long Sand Shoal) to starboard, then leaving RG "TE" buoy to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) and Nun "2" to starboard, then to the Finish, for a total of 116 NM.

7.2 **Seaflower Reef Course:** From the Start to 'Seaflower Reef' leaving Seaflower Reef Light to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) and Nun "2" to starboard, then to the Finish, for a total of 143 NM.

Note: *At the discretion of the Race Committee, a short course may be signaled by displaying Code Flag "S" prior to the warning signal for the start of any class. The short course will be: from the Start to R"4" off Bartlett Reef leaving the R"4" to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) and Nun "2" to starboard, then to the Finish for a total of 131 NM.*

#### 8. PENALTY SYSTEM:

[DP] The Scoring Penalty, rule 44.3 will apply. In the case of a protest involving the rules of Part 2 and OCS, the boat at fault, instead of being disqualified as a result of a hearing, may, at the option of the Protest Committee, have her corrected time increased by 2%. This modifies RRS 64.1

#### 9. SCORING

- 9.1 PHRF classes, including double-handed, will use YRA-LIS PHRF Distance Ratings scored using time-on-time with the conversion factor  $650/(550+\text{PHRF})$  rounded to 4 decimal places.
- 9.2 [NP] ORC classes, including double-handed, will be scored using a scoring option available on page 2 of current valid USA or CAN ORC certificates. The RC may announce its intended scoring option prior to the first warning signal. Note that the RC may change the selected ORC scoring option to a more suitable scoring option if there has been a material change in conditions during the race.
- 9.2.1 [NP] The decision on the scoring option and scoring parameters used for a race, and any subsequent change thereto, will be at the sole discretion of the Race Committee. This includes the length of the course, directions of the legs and the wind details such as strength and direction. These will not be grounds for a request for redress by the boat. This changes RRS 60.1(b).
- 9.3 Multihulls will be scored using NEMA Ratings.
- 9.4 Teams will be scored by using the total of each team member's percentage placement in its respective class.
- 9.5 In the event the OA elects to include a one-design class or group of boats racing level on a start with other boats, the one-design or level rating group may be scored separately.

## **10. PROTESTS:**

- 10.1 Appendix T – Arbitration will apply.
- 10.2 A Protest Committee appointed by the Organizing Authority will decide protests. Protests involving potential trophy winners will be heard at Stamford Yacht Club as soon as practicable after the boats involved have finished. Protests for other boats will be heard beginning at 1400 on Sunday, September 3rd. Special arrangements will be made for boats finishing later than that time.

## **11. COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 11.1 [NP] The Race Committee may make announcements via VHF Channel 1005 (05A.)
- 11.2 RRS 41, OUTSIDE HELP, is changed by adding: (e) Help in the form of information freely available to all boats even if that information is only accessible at a cost. "At a cost" help shall not include private forecast or tactical advice, or information customized for a particular boat or group of boats and/or her/their current situation.

## **12. PRIZES:**

- 12.1 Awards within each class, as well as perpetual trophies, will be presented at an Awards Presentation and Reception, which will be held on Sunday, September 1st at 1700 at the Stamford Yacht Club.
- 12.2 The Vineyard Race is a qualifier for the Capar, Kings Point, Mertz and Sagola season trophies, as well as the YRA Youth Challenge Cup each to be awarded by the YRA of Long Island Sound. The Vineyard Race is also a qualifier for the Stamford Trophy Series awarded at the SYC Annual Awards Dinner.
- 12.3 There will be a Corinthian Challenge (CC) award made to the boat with the best performance of CC qualified finishers on the Vineyard Course. The method of scoring used for determining that award will be based on entries and specified in the Sailing Instructions.

## **13. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for damage or personal injury, or death sustained in connection with their participation in the regatta, including events occurring prior to, during, or after the regatta. The Skipper/Owner of each boat participating in the Vineyard Race shall be responsible for the behavior of each member of the crew of his/her boat both on the water and while ashore. The destruction of property, the breach of reasonable standards of good sportsmanship by any crew member, or any other person associated with the boat, or the failure of any of those persons to comply with any reasonable request of any Race Officer, Regatta Committee member, or their representatives, may result in disqualification of the boat, and its exclusion from the regatta and future SYC events

## **14. PHOTOGRAPHERS AND MEDIA RIGHTS**

Competitors grant SYC, and its official sponsors, the unrestricted right and permission to use their name and the image for any text, photograph or video footage of either themselves or the yacht they are sailing during the event, to be published or broadcast in any media whatsoever (including but not limited to Press and TV advertisements or Internet), for either editorial or advertising purposes or to be used in press information. In this respect, competitors' names, and any biographical material of themselves may also be used or reproduced in any way known. As part of the registration process, each individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a declaration accepting this waiver of rights.

## 15. SAFETY

- 15.1 For all classes, at least 75% of those aboard the boat shall have attended a US SAILING Safety at Sea Seminar after August 31, 2019. Such seminars may be attended online ([ussailing.org/safety](http://ussailing.org/safety)) provided at least 30%, but not fewer than two members of the crew, including the person in charge, have attended an International Offshore Safety at Sea Course with Hands-on Training or a US Sailing sanctioned In-person Offshore Safety at Sea Seminar after August 31, 2019. **If the 30% requirement cannot be met due to a “Safety at Sea with hands-on training” course not being available, the requirement may be met by completing the US Sailing “Online Offshore Safety at Sea” course.**
- 15.2 All boats are strongly encouraged to follow the STC Safety Guidelines for Rendering Assistance. The Guidelines and information on available Safety At Sea courses, are available on the Storm Trysail Club website: ([www.stormtrysail.org/sas](http://www.stormtrysail.org/sas)).
- 15.3 Attention is drawn to RRS 1.2 Life Saving Equipment: “Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal buoyancy for the conditions,” including but not limited to the following:
- Between the hours of sunset and sunrise;
  - When alone on deck;
  - When reefed;
  - When the true wind speed is 25 knots or more;
  - When visibility is less than 1 nautical mile; and
  - With due consideration of the water temperature.
  - At all times when a boat is being sailed Double Handed
  - By all crew on deck at all other times unless the person in charge has indicated they may be set aside.

## 16. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance sufficient to cover liability for loss, damage, personal injury, or death.

**17. FURTHER INFORMATION:** For further information please email [VineyardRace@stamfordyc.com](mailto:VineyardRace@stamfordyc.com) or call the Stamford Yacht Club at 203-323-3161 and ask for the Chairman of the Vineyard Race.

**18. WELCOME:** The use of guest moorings (if available) will be extended to all participants from Thursday, September 1st through Monday, September 5th. For mooring reservations please contact the SYC Dockmaster at [dockmaster@stamfordyc.com](mailto:dockmaster@stamfordyc.com).

## Vineyard Race Committee

Co-Chairs - Jay Keeshan & Tina Greifzu  
Principal Race Officer – John Troy  
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