



2020 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES NOTICE OF RACE

NOTICE OF RACE:

The BIG TOM WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES (BTWNS) 2020 EVENT with City Island Yacht Club (CIYC) as the organizing authority, is open to all PHRF and One-Design boats. This is a weekly event consisting of sixteen scheduled yacht races beginning Wednesday, May 20, 2020 and ending on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 with spinnaker and non-spinnaker divisions.

RULES:

The series will be governed by, in reverse order of prevailing authority, the United States Sailing Association, The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020, the Notice of Race, and the Sailing Instructions. With the exception of specifically designated one-design classes, all boats are considered entered as "PHRF Class," and are required to sail and adhere to YRA of LIS 2020 PHRF regulations. Note that this applies to any one-design boat sailing in a PHRF Class division.

YRA of LIS regulations require PHRF events to have a "Technical Committee" to adjudicate any PHRF certificate compliance issues. CIYC has elected to use the YRA of LIS Technical Committee if necessary. See YRA of LIS website further information regarding the Technical Committee.

Non-PHRF (one-design) classes may have a rules addendum specific to those respective divisions. All boats shall have a minimum crew of two people on board at all times.

Note that crew weight limit penalties and weight credits are not in effect for the Wednesday series, and are no longer in effect for any YRA races. BTWNS may require an entry to change sail numbers to avoid conflict with boats previously registered in the series. All boats shall properly display the sail number indicated on the scratch sheet.

ELIGIBILITY:

The series is open to all sailing boats, spinnaker and non-spinnaker, with a valid 2020 YRALIS or 2020 BTWNS PHRF provisional certificate (boats without a valid PHRF certificate from a recognized rating authority will be rated and issued a provisional PHRF certificate by the governing body. This certificate will only be valid for the BTWNS). Yachts racing in a “one design” class do not need to apply for a certificate.

REGISTRATION:

NOTE THAT ALL REGISTRATION WILL BE DONE THROUGH YACHTSCORING.COM.

The registration fee for series entry is \$160. That fee must be paid before a yacht can compete (competitors may post their yacht’s intention to race on Yachtscoring.com but until the entry fee is paid they may not compete). One exception to that rule: In order to encourage new racers to join in the Wednesday night series boats that have previously not raced in a local Wednesday night series will be allowed a “free trial” race at no cost. However, they must register on Yachtscoring.com prior to that “free trial” and. If they elect to continue racing after that first free race they must pay the full \$160 entry fee.

Entries will remain open during the season, but any later entry must be received by the Monday immediately preceding the boat's first race of the season.

All entries will require either a current official PHRF certificate from a recognized race governing authority, or a BTWNS certification which will rate a boat for this series only. Officially unrated vessels may apply for a free CIYC BIG TOM Wednesday Night provisional certificate by submitting a properly filled out PHRF application form (blank forms are available on the yachtscoring.com BTWNS event page). Completed provisional certificate application forms may be submitted by regular mail or in person to **CIYC, Big Tom Wednesday Night Series, 63 Pilot Street, City Island, New York 10464**. Yachts racing in a “one design” class do not need to apply for a certificate.

A yacht's registration will be valid for the single boat hull indicated on the entry. There can be no substitution of an alternate hull or boat and merging of the series race scores for any reason. If a boat is damaged and unable to continue the series, BTWNS will allow the skipper to re-enter another boat without paying an additional entry fee; however, the races scored under the original hull will stand in the series and the scores of the new entry will stand apart. The number of races toward qualifying for each boat, and any throw-outs will be calculated separately for each boat.

SCHEDULE, LOCATION AND START TIME:

The races take place each Wednesday from May 20, 2020 through September 2, 2020. The default start line will be in the vicinity of City Island Buoy “R-2” (Big Tom). Courses will be

determined by the race committee at race time. Unless there are delays the first warning gun will be at 7:00 PM with intended 5:00 minute rolling starts until all classes have started.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Big Tom Wednesday Night Series management will attempt to notify racers via email and/or other telecommunication by 4:30 PM if conditions beyond our control or severe weather (e.g. sustained winds of 25 knots or more) indicate that cancellation of the scheduled race would be necessary or prudent. A race cancelled or abandoned will not be re-scheduled at a later time.

COURSES:

Courses will be signaled from the committee boat according to the 2020 Sailing Instructions document(s) posted on Yachtscoring.com.

DIVISIONS:

Division splits will reflect the goal of making fair and competitive groupings for the series. The factors considered will be the number of entries, the type of boat, the boat's sailing characteristics and its PHRF rating. One-design divisions will be offered if there are sufficient entries to ensure competitive racing throughout the season.

QUALIFYING:

Boats will need to be scored in half of the races sailed, rounded down, plus 1 to qualify for the series. Races started but with no finishers in division will count as races not sailed, and will therefore lower the number of races needed to qualify. Committee Duty will count toward qualifying as long as there is a finisher in the division of the yacht doing committee duty.

SCORING:

Scoring will be done using PHRF Time on Time computation.

Finish position for PHRF divisions will be established on corrected time using time-on-time factors derived from a boat's PHRF certificate rating and the formula $F = 600/(480+PHRF)$. Finish positions in any "one design" class will be determined in the order of finishers.

Overall scoring for the series will be calculated using the Cox-Sprague scoring system. Qualifying yachts will be scored for the series based on the average of their best Cox-Sprague scores in half the races sailed for their division plus one. Multiple throw-outs may be earned by yachts continuing to sail in more than the minimum number of races required to qualify.

THROW-OUTS:

All yachts will earn one throw-out for the series upon qualifying. The scoring program will discard the race that results in the highest cumulative score for the series. A DSQ or withdraw as a result of a protest hearing may not be discarded.

RACE COMMITTEE DUTY:

Should an entrant's crew be called upon to perform Race Committee duty for a race of an event, three or four members of the entrant's crew shall be obligated to do so and follow the directions of the PRO or other provided directives. Failure of an entrant's crew to fulfill their obligations as stated shall result in a non-excludable DSQ for the entrant for that race and may result in a refusal of entry in future BIG TOM Yacht Racing events.

AWARDS:

First place trophies will be awarded for each division in which there are 3 or more qualifiers; Second place for 5 or more qualifiers; Third place for 7 or more qualifiers; Fourth place for 9 or more qualifiers. Participants will be notified of the exact date and location of the awards event.

INFORMATION AND AMENDMENTS:

A BTWNS *Town Hall* skippers' meeting will be held at City Island Yacht Club on Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00PM. A pre-race Skippers' meeting will be held at 7:00PM on Wednesday, May 13th, 2020 at City Island Yacht Club. Up-To-Date additions or changes to the sailing instructions and Scratch Sheet will be posted on yachtscoring.com by no later than Tuesday May 19th, 2020. That scratch sheet will be updated to include later entries after the series' starting date.

ADMINISTRATION:

CITY ISLAND YACHT CLUB, 63 Pilot St. City Island, NY 10464 is the organizing authority and will administer the series, scoring, protests, disqualifications, etc.

For questions or more info, email:

BigTomWNS@cityislandyc.org