



## 75th ANNUAL BLOCK ISLAND RACE

Friday, May 28, 2021

# Notice of Race (ver.4.2 030921, incl. amendments)

The Storm Trysail Club is the Organizing Authority (OA) for the Seventy-Fifth Annual Block Island Race.

### 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 51.
  - B. Boats sailing Double-handed may use autopilots. This modifies RRS 51.
  - C. RRS 41 is hereby modified to allow Double-handed entrants to 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) ( see NoR **2.2 & 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 Rule (measurement) and ORC Rating Systems (ratings) rules and regulations. ([www.orc.org/rules](http://www.orc.org/rules))
- 1.6 The New England Multihull Association (NEMA) RACE RULES 2021 ([www.nemasail.org](http://www.nemasail.org))
- 1.7 Each boat shall carry an operating VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on Channels 05A, 13, and 16. and a cell phone, the number of which shall be on file with the Race Committee.
- 1.8 Tracking– Each boat shall be required to carry a transponder which will be used for position reports. Competitors are not responsible for the rental fee but are required to enter into a rental agreement with the transponder rental company. STC shall require an equipment deposit via credit card from each entrant required at time of transponder pickup. (See NOR 16) [There will be a link in the Sailing Instructions, as well as a document posted on the website which will allow anyone with web access the ability to track the progress of the race.]

### 2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1 The race fleet will be divided into two courses: The Block Island Course (186 NM) and The Plum Island Course (125 NM), each with different classes and eligibility, as follows:
- 2.2 Boats sailing the Block Island 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 Block Island 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) The maximum number of sails allowed on board while racing (not including storm and heavy weather sails required by the WS Offshore Special regulations) is defined by the ORC Rating Rule 206 as follows:

CDL	Above 17.000	17.000 - 11.501	11.500 - 9.651	Beloe 9.651
Mainsail	1	1	1	1
Headsails	8	7	6	5
Spinnakers	6	5	4	3
Mizzen staysail	1	1	1	1
Mizzen	1	1	1	1

- 2.2.2 Boats, including those sailing double-handed and Plus 1, with a valid, current YRA-LIS PHRF rating 135 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 and 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 26' LOA, not including bowsprit, and a valid, current 2021 NEMA Rating Certificate.
- 2.3 Boats sailing the Plum Island Course shall be no less than 26 feet LOA, have self-righting hulls (except multihulls), shall be properly rigged and ballasted, shall be fully seaworthy and shall comply with the current USSER for Near Shore, 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 Plum Island Course will be conducted in PHRF classes, including Double-handed, for boats rated 81 to 174. Minimum number of crew shall be 2.
- 2.4 All entries are to be made on-line via [stormtrysail.org](http://stormtrysail.org) by pressing the link "Register." Please note: [1-] A completed entry requires, in addition to the skipper's data, the names, emails, emergency contact, and Safety at Sea information for all onboard (see NoR 15); and [2-] All rating certificates must be dated prior to May 21, 2021.
- 2.5 **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

The entry application shall be accompanied by an entry fee to be paid by credit card or PayPal. Entry fees are based on Length Overall (LOA) which may be rounded downward to the nearest lower whole number (e.g., 39.71' = 39'). Entry Fees are: \$8.00 per foot LOA for entries paid before May 9th. For entries paid on or after May 9th, the entry fee will be \$10.00 per foot LOA. **Absolutely no entry will be accepted after 1800 Thursday, May 27th.**

### 4. QUALIFYING SERIES

The Block Island Race is a qualifier for the **Northern Ocean Racing Trophy**, the **Double Handed Ocean Racing Trophy**, and the **New England Lighthouse Series (PHRF)**. For more details, see the YRA Handbook or [www.stamfordyc.com](http://www.stamfordyc.com). The Block Island Race is also a qualifier for the **De Coursey Fales, Sagola and Windigo Trophies, the du Moulin Cup for Double Handed Racing and the Youth Challenge Cup** awarded by the YRA-LIS, as well as the **STC Rugg Family Youth Offshore Challenge**, and the **"Tuna Trophy"** for the best IRC combined scores in the EDLU (40%) and the Block Island Race (60%)

### 5. SCHEDULE

First signal: 1400, Friday, May 28th in the vicinity of Red Bell "32" (The Cows) southerly of Stamford Harbor.

### 6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available on or about May 16th on [www.yachtscoring.com](http://www.yachtscoring.com).

### 7. THE COURSES

The specifics of the courses 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 The Block Island Course**

Boats will sail from the Start; leave Green Bell "1BI" and Block Island to starboard, to the Finish, leaving Red Bell "32" (The Cows) and Red Nun "2" to starboard. Course distance is 186 NM. At the discretion of the race committee, a short course may be signaled by displaying code flag "C" prior to the Preparatory Signal for the first Block Island Course start. The short course shall be the Plum Island Course.

**7.2 The Plum Island Course**

Boats will sail from the Start; leave the Red & White Whistle "PI" (Plum Island) to starboard, and to the Finish. Course distance is 125 NM.

**8. PENALTY SYSTEM**

The Scoring Penalty, rule 44.3, will apply. In the case of a protest involving the rules of Part 2, the boat at fault, instead of being disqualified as a result of a hearing, may, at the option of the Protest Committee, have her elapsed time increased by 2%. The same applies to a boat that is OCS at her starting signal. 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.

9.2 The ORC classes, including double-handed, will be scored using All-purpose Time-on-Time ratings.

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. A double-handed boat's percentage will be calculated using the fully-crewed class in which it sails.

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. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

10.1 The Race Committee may make announcements via VHF Channel 05A.

10.2 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 situation.

**11. PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded at a reception at 1700 on Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at Stamford Yacht Club. A Team Race Trophy will be awarded to the club whose team compiles the best score. A team shall consist of three boats. Teams shall not have more than 2 boats sailing in the same class. In order to be scored for the Team Racing Trophy, each team must submit an application by email to [vicecommodore@stormtrysail.org](mailto:vicecommodore@stormtrysail.org) prior to 1800 Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

The STC Perpetual prizes to be awarded will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

**12. 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 Block Island 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 STC events.

**13. PHOTOGRAPHERS AND MEDIA RIGHTS**

Competitors grant STC, 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.

#### 14. PROTESTS

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.

#### 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 December 31, 2014. 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 December 31, 2014. **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 Guideline for Rendering Assistance. The Guidelines and information on available Safety At Sea courses, are available on the Storm Trysail Club website: ([www.stormtrysail.org](http://www.stormtrysail.org)).
- 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:
- a) Between the hours of sunset and sunrise;
  - b) When alone on deck;
  - c) When reefed;
  - d) When the true wind speed is 25 knots or more;
  - e) When visibility is less than 1 nautical mile; and
  - f) With due consideration of the water temperature.
  - g) At all times when a boat is being sailed Double Handed
  - h) By all crew on deck at all other times unless the person in charge has indicated they may be set aside.

#### 16. TRACKING

All boats shall mount a stand-alone tracking unit provided by the OA. Once issued, the tracking unit becomes the responsibility of the skipper/owner and loss or failure to return the unit will be charged to the skipper/owner at \$990.00.

16.1 Trackers will be available for pickup at Stamford YC on Thursday evening May 27<sup>th</sup> from 1700 to 2100 and Friday morning from 0900 to 1200.

16.2 Instructions and return procedure will be posted on the Official Notice Board on YachtScoring and will be emailed to the address listed on each entry.

#### 17. INSURANCE

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

#### 18. FURTHER INFORMATION

The Storm Trysail Club, 1 Woodbine Ave., Larchmont, NY 10538 or call 914-834-8857, or our Web Site: [www.stormtrysail.org](http://www.stormtrysail.org) or by email to [vicecommodore@stormtrysail.org](mailto:vicecommodore@stormtrysail.org).