



Notice of Race
Essex Yacht Club
69th ANNUAL SAMUEL WETHERILL RACE
Friday, May 21, 2021
Organizing Authority: Essex Yacht Club, Essex, CT

1. Rules

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), except as modified herein and/or the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 The race will be defined as a coastal race.
- 1.3 The US SAILING Prescriptions to the RRS prescriptions will apply.
- 1.4 The current ORC Rating Systems rules and regulations.
- 1.5 The New England Multihull Association (NEMA) Race Rules 2021
- 1.6 The current PHRF Regulations as administered by ECSA (Eastern Connecticut Sailing Association).
- 1.7 The current US Sailing Safety Equipment requirements (USSER) as modified by 2.2 and 14.
- 1.8 RRS 17 will be changed to read “Between the hours of sunset and sunrise, when two boats are on the same tack within three boat lengths (of the larger boat) of each other, the boat being overtaken shall maintain her proper course. The overtaking boat shall keep clear, and neither boat shall bear away toward nor luff the other.

2. Eligibility and Entry

- 2.1 The race fleet will be divided into separate divisions for ORC, PHRF and multihulls. Spinnaker and non-spinnaker entries will be divided by class within the divisions where applicable.
- 2.2 Boats shall be at least 29 feet LOA (except as provided in (2.2.4), 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: Each boat shall carry at least one cell phone, the number of which is on file with the Race Committee, and which is kept on and fully charged while racing.
- 2.3 Boats with a valid ORC certificate.
 - a.) ORC Rule 200.1 is changed as follows:

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, except that one additional crew under the age of 16 is permitted and shall not count against the crew or weight limit.
 - b.) Exclusive of storm and heavy weather sails required by USSER, a boat shall not carry aboard while racing more sails of each type than the maximum number on the boat’s ORC certificate +1 spinnaker. All sails on board must be declared and measured as applicable on her ORC certificate.

2.4 Boats sailing in PHRF, including those sailing double-handed with a valid and current or provisional ECSA PHRF certificate rating of 200 or faster.

2.5 Boats sailing in ORC, including those sailing doublehanded with a valid and current ORC certificate of a GPH of 621 or faster.

2.6 Based on their rating, boats sailing double-handed will be placed in ORC and PHRF classes, at their option, and scored against both fully crewed and double-handed boats. Within the double-handed classes, there will be additional scoring for mixed gender crews.

2.7 Multihull boats with a minimum length of 26 LOA, not including bowsprit, and having a valid NEMA Rating Certificate.

3. Entry Fees

The entry application shall be accompanied by an entry fee on yachtscoring to be paid by credit card or PayPal. The entry fee is \$100 per boat for entries received before May 1st, 2021. For entries paid on or after May 1st, the entry fee is \$150 per boat. No entries will be accepted after 1800 on Wednesday May 18th, 2021.

4. Qualifying Series

4.1 The Sam Wetherill Race is a qualifier for the New England Lighthouse series (PHRF).

4.2 The race is included in the ECSA 2021 series.

5. Schedule

The first signal will be at 1100 on Friday, May 21, approximately 0.5 miles west of the Old Saybrook lighthouse. There will be an awards presentation on Sunday, May 23 at the Essex Yacht Club at 1800.

6. Sailing Instructions

Sailing Instructions will be available no later May 17, 2021. Scratch sheets will be available by or before Thursday, May 20. Both will be available at www.yachtscoring.com.

7. Course

The course will be from the start 0.5 NM west of the Old Saybrook lighthouse around G31 southwest off of Gay Head, leaving it to starboard, then, leaving Block Island to starboard to the finish between the signal boat and the Old Saybrook lighthouse at the outer end of the breakwater. If no signal boat is on station, each yacht shall take their own finish time when the bearing to the lighthouse is 090 degrees.

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 ESCA PHRF Distance Ratings using time-on-time.

9.2 ORC classes, including double-handed, will be scored using Coastal/Long Distance time-on-time ratings.

9.3 Multihulls will be scored using NEMA ratings.

10. Radio Communications

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

11. Protests

A Protest Committee appointed by the Organizing Authority will decide protests. Protests will be held as soon as practicable after the boats involved have finished.

12. Prizes

12.1 Prizes will be awarded at the Essex Yacht Club on Sunday, June 20 at 1700. The State of Connecticut health protocols in place at the time will be strictly observed.

12.2 Prizes will be awarded for:

- a) 1st-3rd for all classes with 5 or more entries (ORC and PHRF) spinnaker and non-spinnaker, and multihull.
- b) 1st and 2nd for best doublehanded in each class.

13. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. It is the sole responsibility of the Skipper/Owner of each boat to see that she is seaworthy in all respects and that she is manned by a competent crew. The Skipper/Owner and all the members of the crew of each boat, by participating in this Race, agree to do so at their own risk, and waive any claim against and hold harmless the Essex Yacht Club, its officers, directors, committees, members, employees, sponsors, and agents against any claims arising in any way out of the participation in the Sam Wetherill Race and related activities of such boat, her Skipper/Owner and crew.

14. Safety

15.1 For all classes, it is strongly recommended that at least 30% of those aboard the boat attend a US SAILING Safety at Sea Seminar within five years prior to the start of the race.

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).

15.3 Attention is drawn to RRS 1.2 Life Saving Equipment: and modified as follows “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.

15. Insurance

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

16. Further Information

For further information, please contact the Chairman, Sam Wetherill Race at email@essexyc.com

