

# Wednesday Night Race Series

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Organizing Authority (OA) – Liberty Yacht Club

## Sailing Instructions

### 1. RULES

- 1.1 The race series will be governed by the rules as defined in the current edition of the *Racing Rules of Sailing*, including the US Sailing Prescriptions; the current PHRF regulations, as administered by the PHRF-MA and any class rules for any one-design classes.
- 1.2 Should there be a conflict between the sailing instructions and the Notice of Race (NOR), the sailing instructions will take precedence. This changes RRS rule 63.7.
- 1.3 Weight and crew limits as pertaining to PHRF certificates will be waived for the series.
- 1.4 Any Yachts racing in a one design class must comply with the requirements of that class with the exception of weight limits.

### 2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the event website: [www.YachtScoring.com](http://www.YachtScoring.com)
- 2.2. Notices regarding race cancellations or postponements due to weather, will be made via text message (or other blast communication) to all registered participants. It is the intent of the RC to announce *Racing, No Racing, or Racing TBD on water*, between **1630 and 1640pm** on the day of racing.

### 3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the schedule of races will be posted on the event website before 1645 on the day of racing.
- 3.2. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the event website before 0900 on the day it will take effect.
- 3.3. The Race Committee (RC) may make changes to these sailing instructions verbally on the water via VHF Ch 63, at its sole discretion.

### 4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Lightship at Liberty Landing Marina , NJ
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than one hour' in the race signal AP description. This changes RRS Signals

### 5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 5.1 Skipper's meeting 4/21/20 1900hrs. Location TBD

Series 1 - **4/28\***, **5/5\***, 5/12, 5/19, 5/26, 6/2, 6/9  
Series 2 – 6/16, 6/23, 6/30, 7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28  
Series 3 – 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25, 9/1, 9/8, 9/15

\* *Tune-up races, do not count towards overall scoring*

- 5.2 The warning signal for the first start will be made at 1810.
- 5.4 If time permits, there may be more than 1 race in a night, but no race shall start later than 8:00pm. Code Flag 'A' displayed either at or soon after the finish indicates that there will be no further racing that day.

## 6. CLASSES

- 6.1 Boats will be placed in classes (designated by numbers 1, 2, 3, etc.) at the discretion of the Race Committee. A listing of entrants by class will be available online on [www.yachtscoring.com](http://www.yachtscoring.com).
- 6.2 Depending on the composition of entries, it is the intent of the organizing authority to have the fleet divided into a maximum of 4 classes and as follows: Spinnaker A, Spinnaker B, Non-spinnaker, and One-Design.
- 6.3 If there are 4 or more Yachts of the same design, they will be given their own class, but it will be the discretion of the RC on the day of racing to decide if they have their own start.

## 7. RACING AREA

- 7.1 Races will be held in Upper Hudson Bay. Appendix 1 shows the approximate location of the starting area.
- 7.2 The Upper Hudson Bay is a commercial and recreational area; there will be ferries, barges, tugboats and other commercial and recreational vessels transiting the area.
- 7.3 The RC will be located on a motor yacht near the entrance to Morris Canal, and will announce their position over vhf channel 63 approximately 10 min prior to the first warning signal.

## 8. THE COURSES

- 8.1 The course to be sailed for all classes will be posted on a course board located on the RC signal boat at the starting line no later than the first class's warning signal.
- 8.3 The courses will be multi-directional using government marks. *All marks shall be rounded to port.*
- 8.4 The Race Committee will post on the RC Signal boat at the starting line the sequence of marks to be sailed. The government mark designations are listed in SI Appendix 1. NOTE: Classes are listed along the top of the board, marks along the left side.

**COURSE BOARD EXAMPLE**

	Class #			
CLASS/MARK	I	II	III	IV
1	E	C	C	E
2	C	B	FIN	C
3	D	FIN		D
4	FIN			FIN

Mark #

## 9. MARKS

- 9.0 The starting and finishing Mark will be an orange inflatable buoy near the RC boat.
- 9.1 Course Marks shall be government marks. Approximate locations of Marks are shown on the *Course Sheet* at the end of these Instructions.

## 10. THE START

- 10.0 The starting sequence will be signaled in accordance with RRS 26.
- 10.1 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 10.2 It is the RC's intent to roll the starts. (the warning signal for the second or subsequent classes will be the starting signal of the previous class).
- 10.3 The RC will notify the fleet via radio its intention as to whether they will or will not roll the starts.
- 10.4 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag by the race committee and the course side of the starting mark.

- 10.5 The Starting Area shall extend along the Starting Line in both directions for 100yards. Boats whose Preparatory Signal has not been made shall keep clear of the Starting Area and of all boats whose Preparatory Signal has been made.
- 10.6 Without infringing upon the foregoing rule, each boat should, prior to the Warning Signal of her class, sail by the Signal Boat and give a verbal check-in so that she will be assured of being recorded as a starter. **There is to be no check-in via radio.** The Race Committee will not acknowledge boats attempting to do so.
- 10.7 Classes may have a combined start if the Race Committee chooses, in order to maximize time racing.

## 11. RECALLS

- 11.0 The race committee may courtesy hail boats identified as on the course side at the start by sail number or boat name on VHF CH 63. Any actions of the RC with respect to such courtesy hails is not a basis for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## 11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1. A race may be shortened at any mark of the course by an RC boat flying code flag "S". In such case, the finish line will be between the course mark and the "S" flag on the RC boat.

## 12. THE FINISH

- 12.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a Blue flag by the RC and the course side of the finishing mark (note: starting and finishing inflatable mark will be the same).

## 13. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1. Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty unless the incident occurs in the Zone in which case the Two-Turn Penalty applies.

## 14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1. Time limit for each race will be two (2) hours for all Classes.
- 14.2. For the PHRF Spin A & B and Non spin Classes, Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course in accordance with RRS 28, and finishes will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, 63.1, A4 and A5.

## 15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

***PROTESTS ARE STRONGLY DISCOURAGED in this race series. However if you feel you absolutely must place a protest please follow the protocols set forth below:***

- 15.1. Intention to protest for a rule of Part 2 and the boat being protested shall be as follows:
  - A. A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. When her *protest* will concern an incident in the racing area that she was involved in or saw, she shall hail "protest" and conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity for each. She shall display the flag until she is no longer *racing*, and
  - B. Signal the Race Committee on the VHF Channel 63 at the finish of a race, until acknowledged by the Race Committee. This modifies rule 61.1(a).
- 15.2. Arbitration will be held in accordance with Appendix T with the following additions:
  - A. Add to Appendix T2 - Arbitration meeting may be held online via zoom at mutually agreed upon date/time.
- 15.3. One representative from each boat will meet with an arbitrator unless the protestor requests that the protest be withdrawn.
- 15.4. The arbitrator will not be a member of the protest committee that hears the protest but will be permitted to observe the testimony given and offer testimony.

- 15.5. Boats may not protest other boats for breaches of: retirement from race notification or safety equipment. The penalty for breaking these rules is at the discretion of the Protest Committee and may be less than disqualification. This changes rule 60.1(a).

## 16. SCORING

- 16.1. The scoring system will be the Low Point System of Appendix "A" of RRS and each boat's regatta score will be the total of that boat's scores in all the races.
- 16.2. Each Class will be scored separately. In order to be eligible for a series or season prize, a Yacht must have come to the starting area for at least 75% of the completed races listed in the series or the season.
- 16.3. There will be one-throw out race for every 5 races in a series a yacht is scored in.
- 16.4. The series score for each boat will be the sum of her race scores (excluding throw-outs if any) divided by the number of races for which she is scored. The qualified yacht with the lowest series score is the winner, and other ranked accordingly.
- 16.5. All Yachts not in a one-design class will be scored using their PHRF handicaps provided by the PHRF-MA and based on a time on time format.
- 16.6. One race will constitute a series.
- 16.7. Rule A5.3 shall apply. A boat that came to the starting area but did not *start*, did not *sail the course*, *finish*, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area and a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series.

## 17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1. USCG approved personal flotation devices (PFD) for all crew members shall be on board at all times.
- 17.2. Any boat withdrawing before the start or retiring from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible on VHF channel 63.
- 17.3. Security Zones – The USCG has established a 150-yard security zone around Ellis and Liberty Islands as shown in Appendix 4. Additionally there is a 100-yard security zone around all US Naval or Coast Guard vessels. These security zones are considered *obstructions* on the racecourse and no boat is allowed to sail inside the security zones. If on station, security Zones are marked with white buoys with orange bands and diamonds.
- 17.4. Weather Protocols – In accordance with the USCG Marine Event Permit, there may be no racing if the wind gusts to speeds greater than 25 knots, there is lightning, thunderstorms or visibility is less than 1 nautical mile. A race may be postponed or abandoned if any of these conditions exist. If a race is abandoned while on the water for weather, teams will be notified via VHF Ch 63 and may be directed to proceed to the berthing areas. If a race is postponed or abandoned for weather prior to heading out to the race area, teams will be notified by text and/or email.
- 17.5. Boats interacting in NY Harbor with vessels not racing are cautioned to observe the [USCG Commandant Instruction M16668.2D, Navigation Rules](#) and to yield right of way to vessels restricted in their ability to maneuver, especially to tugs, ferries, and barges. Any boat observed to impede such traffic will receive a DSQ.

## 18. EQUIPMENT

- 18.0 Yachts shall observe the recommendations of the ISAF 2018 Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) for racing "Near Shore".
- 18.1 Substitution or repair of damaged or lost equipment must comply with or conform to the class rules for those yachts racing in one-design classes.

## 19. ADVERTISING

- 19.1. Pursuant to CR 2.8 and ISAF Regulation 20, ISAF Advertising Code, including ISAF Regulation 20.5.6(a), no advertising shall be permitted on boats.

## 20. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 20.1. There are no haul-out restrictions.

## **21. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 21.1. Each boat shall carry a radio capable of transmitting and receiving on VHF channels 9, 13, 16, 63, 68, 72, 78A. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 21.2. Courtesy broadcasts to the fleet will be on VHF channel 63 however the courtesy broadcast channel may be changed on the water. Multiple courtesy broadcasts on VHF channel 63 stating the change to the new channel will be made prior to the change.
- 21.3. Assistance from Race Committee - The Race Committee may respond to any questions from sailors even after the race has started and any such answers from the race committee will not be considered outside assistance. Any RC answers are not by any means grounds for protest or redress.
- 21.4. Boats shall not hail Race Committee during any starting sequence.

## **22. PRIZES**

- 22.1. A 1<sup>st</sup> place prize will be awarded to the top boat for each Class.
- 22.2. Prizes will be awarded at the end of each series. Season Prize will be awarded at the end of the last series.

## **23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 23.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, of the RRS Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 23.2 By registering for this event, the person-in-charge of each boat agrees to be bound with all rules that govern this event, they will inform all crewmembers of the conditions stated herein for their participation and with the following:

A) My crew and I recognize that sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury, sickness and disease (including communicable diseases such as COVID-19) associated with it. We have read rule 4, Decision to Race, and hereby acknowledge and agree that we are participating in this event entirely at our own risk.

B) I acknowledge and agree that neither the organizing authority, host club nor the race committee, nor their members will be responsible for: a) any damage to the entered boat or my other property, or b) any injury, sickness or disease (including communicable diseases such as COVID-19) to my crew or me, including death, sustained as a result of our participation in this event.

C) I hereby waive all claims, which I, or any heir, representative, successor or assignee, may have against Liberty Yacht Club and its officers, trustees, members, committees, employees or agents, sponsors or any other organization or official, arising out of or in any way connected with participation in such race or activity with respect to personal injury, sickness or disease (including communicable diseases such as COVID-19) or property damage suffered by my crew or me as a result of our participation in this event, whether on the water or on shore, and hereby release the race organizers from any liability for such injury, sickness or disease (including communicable diseases such as COVID-19) or damage to the fullest extent permitted by law.

D) I have taken all necessary steps to ensure that my crew and I and my entered boat are adequately prepared for all possible contingencies, including carrying and using appropriate safety equipment as may be required by law, racing rules and that a prudent seaman would consider advisable. I agree to be bound by all rules that govern this event. I will inform all crewmembers of the conditions stated herein for their participation in such racing.

## **24. COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

- 24.1 Skippers and crews shall comply with the State, Local and Liberty Landing Marina's Covid-19 Protocols as required. A breach of this rule shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). 10.2 Please be advised that due to the current COVID-19 situation, there are increased protocols in place and limited amenities available at LYC and Liberty Landing Marina.

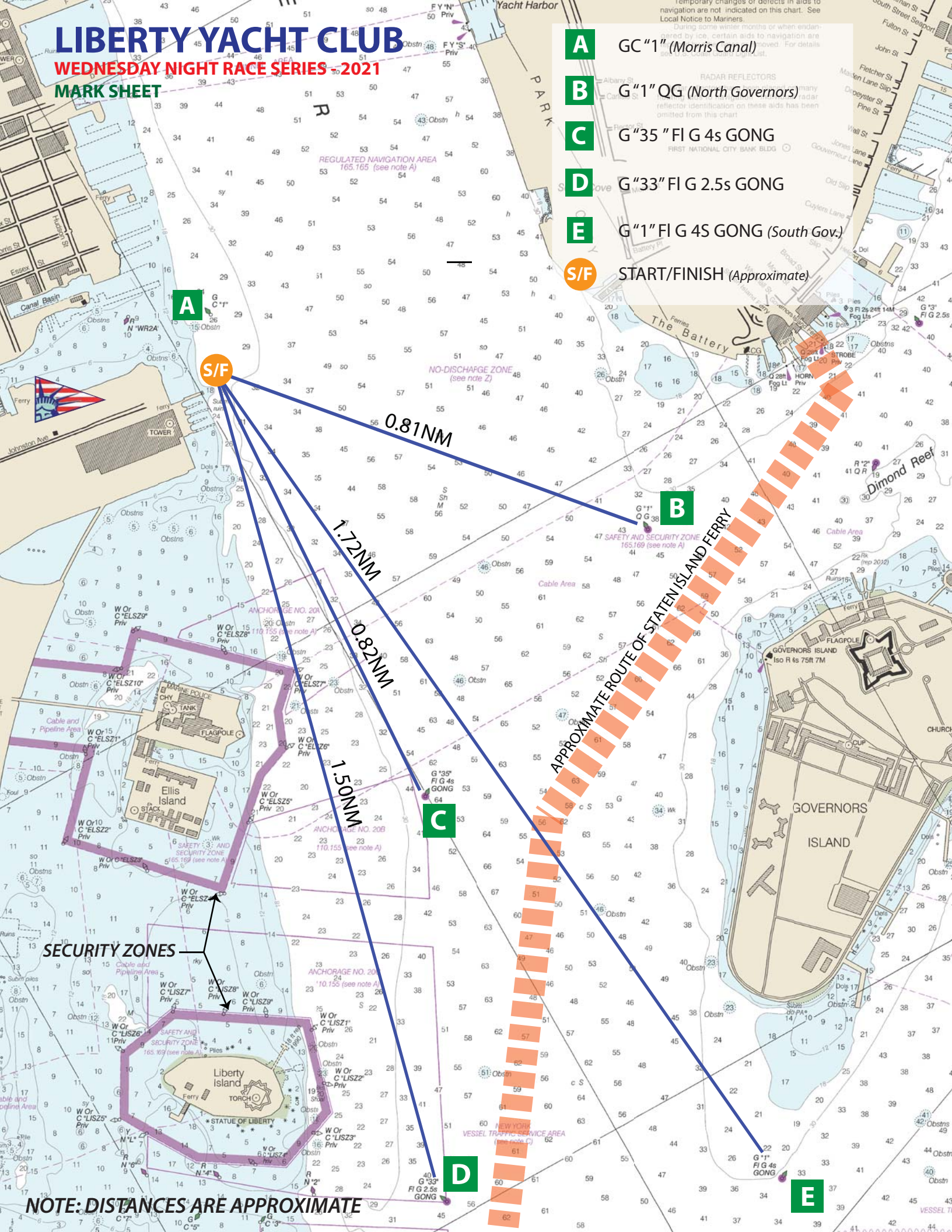
**SEE ATTACHED COURSE CHART**

# LIBERTY YACHT CLUB

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACE SERIES - 2021

### MARK SHEET

- A** GC "1" (Morris Canal)
- B** G "1" QG (North Governors)
- C** G "35" FI G 4s GONG
- D** G "33" FI G 2.5s GONG
- E** G "1" FI G 4S GONG (South Gov.)
- S/F** START/FINISH (Approximate)



SECURITY ZONES

NOTE: DISTANCES ARE APPROXIMATE