



**ESSEX YACHT CLUB**

**RUM CHALLENGE**

**22 July 2023**

The Essex Yacht Club is the Organizing Authority.

**Sailing Instructions**

**1. RULES**

- 1.1. This event will be governed by the *Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The Race Committee (RC) will broadcast on VHF Ch. 1001 (former 01A).
- 1.3. **RRS Appendix V – Alternative Penalties** is in effect for this regatta.

**2. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS**

- 2.1. Notice to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board on line on the Events Page of Yacht Scoring.com.
- 2.2. Notices will also be posted on the Bulletin Board located in the lobby of the Essex Yacht Club.

**3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted by 0800 on the day of the regatta and may be broadcast prior to the first warning signal.

**4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1. A postponement or abandonment ashore will be signaled on the RC Signal Boat at the Essex Yacht Club and by appropriate radio and text communications.

**5. CLASSES AND SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 5.1. The fleet will be divided into Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker classes using PHRF-Eastern Connecticut and ORC handicap ratings.
- 5.2. The first warning signal will be at 1200.
- 5.3. Two races are scheduled for spinnaker classes. One race must be completed to constitute a series. There are no exclusions.
- 5.4. RC will fly code flag "R" while boats are finishing to indicate a second race.
- 5.5. The Race Committee will determine the order of start on the day of the race. Numerical class designation by the Scratch Sheet does not infer your order of start. Please be attentive to the Numeral Pennants displayed on the RC Signal Boat as well as monitoring the radio.

6. **CLASS FLAGS**

- 6.1. Class Flags will be the International Numeral Pennants corresponding to each class designated by the Scratch Sheet.

7. **THE START**

- 7.1. The Starting Area will be located west of the Saybrook Light at the mouth of the Connecticut River.
- 7.2. Competitors shall check in with the RC boat on the side opposite the starting line prior to the first warning.
- 7.3. The Starting Line is between the staff with the Orange flag and Mark Y.
- 7.4. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of boats starting.

8. **COURSES**

- 8.1. The courses will be displayed on the RC Signal boat. The courses will be either **Round the Buoys** or **Windward/Leeward Courses**.
- 8.2. **Round the Buoys** - Round the Buoys courses will be designated by a horizontal arrangement of letters designating specific Marks in their order of rounding. Circled letters shall be rounded to Starboard. Uncircled letters rounded to Port. If drop marks are used, the range and bearing from the RC boat will be displayed on the course board.
- 8.3. Marks are identified in **Appendix 1**.
- 8.4. **Windward/Leeward Courses** will be designated with the number of legs posted on the top row of the course board. For example, 4 indicates 4 legs, starting to windward, then leeward, windward and finish to leeward.
- 8.5. All W/L marks shall be rounded to port.
- 8.6. The magnetic bearing and distance to the Windward mark from the RC Signal boat will be displayed on the second row.
- 8.7. The Leeward mark will be positioned approximately 100 yards to windward of the starting line.

9. **THE FINISH**

- 9.1. The Finish Line for all classes and courses will be on the side opposite the Starting Line between the staff with a Blue flag on the RC Boat and Mark Z.
- 9.2. Boats may be starting while boats from other classes are finishing.
- 9.3. A boat retiring from the race shall promptly notify the Race Committee.

10. **TIME LIMITS**

- 10.1. Spinnaker boats hopelessly mired at the back of their class shall be scored in their assumed position and asked to return to the starting area to facilitate the start of a second race.
- 10.2. No race will start after 1530.

10.3. The Time Limit for any Non Spinnaker race shall be 1630.

**11. PROTESTS**

11.1. A boat initiating a protest shall inform the Race Committee as they finish, stating the boat name and sail number they are protesting.

11.2. Protests must be filed with the Race Committee no later than one hour after the Race Committee Boat docks. The official docking time will be posted on the Notice Board and on [yachtscoring.com](http://yachtscoring.com).

11.3. Protests may be filed electronically through Yacht Scoring/General Race Forms/For Competitors at [gregprorc@gmail.com](mailto:gregprorc@gmail.com) or on paper in the downstairs bar.

**12. SCORING**

12.1. Boats will be scored using the PHRF "Time on Time" handicaps. Each boat's score for the regatta shall be the combined total of her race scores. This is an ECSA Regatta and is one of a five race series necessary to qualify for the Long Sand Shoal Cup. ORC scoring will be done separately for boats in the ORC class with a valid ORC international or club certificate.

12.2. The Essex Yacht Club will award prizes to the top 3 finishers in each class at the awards party which commences at 1700.

12.3. The Essex Rum Challenge Club Trophy will be awarded to the yacht club with the best combined class scores of any three boats using the ECSA Offshore Circuit Scoring System Matrix.

**13. RESPONSIBILITY**

13.1. The Skipper/Owner of each boat shall accept full responsibility for himself/herself and for the conduct of each member of his/her crew and guests during the Essex Rum Challenge. The Skipper/Owner has the sole responsibility for the safety of his/her crew and boat. Weather and sea conditions must be evaluated by each Skipper and his/her crew, and each participant is responsible for determining whether it is safe to participate.

13.2. The Essex Yacht Club and their respective Race Committees, Officers, Employees and event related Volunteers, are in no way held responsible for accidents, damage, or injury to property or to boats, crew, or guests arising from any cause during or related to any race or activities associated with the Essex Rum Challenge, and the Skipper/owner agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each of them from any liability, claim or expense including attorney's fees against any or all of them.

## APPENDIX 1

### MARKS OF THE COURSE

Marks are designated as follows:

2	R "2" Bell	South of Cornfield Pt
3	G C "3"	at Orient Shoal
6	R N "6"	South of Hatchett Reef
8	R Bell "8"	Saybrook Bar Lighted Bell
A	R "8A" Bell	Middle of Long Sand Shoal
C	R "8C" Bell	At Six Mile Reef
E	RG N "E"	East end of Long Sand Shoal
P	R Bell "2PG"	Plum Gut Lighted Bell Buoy
V	RG "W" Gong	West end Long Sand Shoal
W	Inflatable buoy.	Range & Bearing from RC
X	Inflatable buoy.	Range & Bearing from RC
Y	Start PIN – Inflatable buoy	
Z	Finish PIN – Inflatable buoy	(opposite side of RC from Y)