



**87th Annual Spring Series**  
**June 7-8, 2024 at Block Island**  
*Organizing Authority is the Off Soundings Club*

**Sailing Instructions**

**1. RULES**

- 1.1. This event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2. Changes to the RRS are noted with each instruction that changes a rule.
- 1.3. Double-handed and Single-handed entrants may use self-steering devices.  
***RRS 52 is changed.***
- 1.4. In the event of an abandonment signaled with N over H on Friday, the fleet shall proceed to New Harbor at Block Island for further signals. ***Race Signals are changed.***
- 1.5. ***RRS Appendix V*** - Alternative Penalties is in effect.

**2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1. Changes to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted before 0800 on the day they will take effect, except changes to the Schedule of Races shall be posted by 2000 on the day before they take effect.
- 2.2. Changes to the Sailing Instructions may also be made on the water by announcement on VHF Ch 72 prior to the first warning on both days.

**3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted online on the Official Notice Board located on Yacht Scoring at 2024 Off Soundings Spring Series accessible through [www.offsoundings.org](http://www.offsoundings.org).
- 3.2. Notices will also be posted on the unofficial Notice Board under the tent at Champlin's Marina on Block Island after Friday's race.
- 3.3. The Race Committee (RC) will broadcast on and monitor VHF Ch. 72 throughout the regatta.

**4. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 4.1. Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

**5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1. At 0830 Friday and Saturday the RC will broadcast "Off Soundings Club Harbor Start" on VHF Ch. 72, unless there is a postponement.
- 5.2. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the RC Signal Boat located at Ram Island Yacht Club on Friday and at Champlin's Marina on Saturday.
- 5.3. Appropriate notice will be posted on the Official Notice Board, announced on VHF Ch. 72 and texted to mobile numbers provided by competitors.
- 5.4. When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 1 hour". ***Race Signals are changed.***

**6. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 6.1. One race is scheduled each day of the series.
- 6.2. The first warning signal on Friday, June 7 is scheduled for 1025.
- 6.3. The first warning signal on Saturday, June 8 is scheduled for 0955.

- 6.4. Abandoned races may be resailed.
- 7. CLASS FLAGS**
- 7.1. Code flags assigned to each class are displayed in **Appendix S-1** of the Sailing Instructions and on the Scratch Sheet accessible thru [www.offsoundings.org](http://www.offsoundings.org).
- 7.2. Code flags shall be flown vertically on the bow pulpit.
- 7.3. Single handed entrants shall fly numerical pennant 1 from their backstay.
- 8. RACING AREA CHECK IN**
- 8.1. Friday the fleet shall rendezvous approximately 0.8 NM East of Watch Hill Lighted Bell Buoy 2.
- 8.2. Saturday the fleet shall rendezvous approximately 0.5 NM to the Northeast of Great Salt Pond Entrance Bell 2.
- 8.3. The RC may reposition for a better start location depending on the weather.
- 8.4. Prior to her warning signal, each boat shall pass the RC Signal boat stern to bow on the side opposite the starting line and hail the class, name and sail number of the boat.
- 9. THE COURSES**
- 9.1. The courses to be sailed will be displayed on the RC Signal Boat using a horizontal arrangement of mark symbols reading from left to right in the order of rounding. Courses will also be announced on VHF Ch. 72.
- 9.2. Circled Marks shall be rounded to Starboard. Uncircled Marks shall be rounded to Port.
- 9.3. The fleet may be divided into two Groups as follows:
- 9.3.1. *Group 1* includes Classes NS-1, C-1, C-2, H-1, H-2, H-3, D.
- 9.3.2. *Group 2* includes Classes NONS, NS-3, NS-2, A, C-4,
- 9.4. If separate courses are to be sailed, the Group designated at the far left of a row shall sail the course listed on that row.
- 9.5. If there is no Group designated, all classes shall sail the same course.
- 10. THE MARKS**
- 10.1. The Marks of the course are listed in the Marks Table **Appendix S-2** below.
- 10.2. **Marks F, X, Y, and Z** are inflatable buoys with their latitude and longitude noted in **Appendix S-2**.
- 11. THE START**
- 11.1. The Start Line each day will be between an Orange flag on the RC Signal Boat and an inflatable buoy. An auxiliary RC boat with an Orange flag may be substituted for the buoy.
- 11.2. All boats shall keep clear of any standoff buoy attached to the RC Signal Boat.
- 11.3. After the first warning, boats not starting shall keep clear of the Start Area.
- 11.4. The Start Area is a box extending into the pre-start side of the Start Line equal to the length of the Start Line on all sides.
- 11.5. **Appendix S-1** displays the initial Start Sequence.
- 11.6. The RC will attempt to announce individual OCS boats on VHF Ch. 72 or loud hail. Such communication is a courtesy only. The omission of or failure to hear or understand such a hail shall not be grounds for redress.
- 12. CHANGING A LEG OF THE COURSE**
- 12.1. A course may be changed by displaying Code Flag C with the identifier of a Mark in **Appendix S-2** which will then be the next mark. *RRS 33 is modified.*

- 12.2. If Mark W ends the leg that is changed, the range and/or bearing to the new position of Mark W is from the mark that begins the changed leg.
- 12.3. Course changes will be announced on VHF Ch. 72.

### **13. THE FINISH**

- 13.1. The Finish Line both days is between a Blue flag on the RC boat and the nearby inflatable buoy located approximately 0.5 NM bearing 045 Magnetic from Great Salt Pond Entrance Bell 2.
- 13.2. Boats shall not cross the Finish Line except when finishing. ***RRS 28 is changed.***
- 13.3. A boat withdrawing shall promptly notify the RC on VHF Ch. 72 or advise OSC officials at the shore rendezvous.

### **14. TIME LIMIT AND TARGET TIMES**

- 14.1. The time limit for each class both days is 1730 regardless of starting times.
- 14.2. Approximately five minutes after the expiration of the time limit, the RC will broadcast abandonment for classes with no finishers. No visual or sound signals will accompany this announcement. ***RRS 32.1 is changed.***
- 14.3. Boats that do not finish within the time limit shall be scored TLE and receive points equal to the number of finishers in her class plus 1. ***RRS 35 and Appendix A10 are changed.***

### **15. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 15.1. A boat intending to file a Hearing Request shall notify the RC as soon as possible after finishing and identify the boats involved in the incident.
- 15.2. Requests may be filed electronically or in person no later than one hour after the RC docks. Docking time shall be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 15.3. Digital Forms are available on Yacht Scoring under General Race Forms and may be filed to OSCProtest@gmail.com.
- 15.4. Hearing Request Forms are available at the RC Signal Boat at Champlin's Marina and may be filed in person with the RC.

### **16. SCORING**

- 16.1. One completed race constitutes a series. There are no exclusions for series trophies. ***RRS Appendix A2 is changed.***
- 16.2. Scoring system is Time on Time, explained in ***Appendix S-3 and NOR.***

### **17. PRIZES**

- 17.1. Series trophies will be awarded at the post-race rendezvous Saturday at Champlin's Marina. The top three finishers will receive trophies in each class and the top four in classes with more than 10 entries.

## APPENDIX S-1

### STARTING SEQUENCE and CLASS FLAGS

First Warning is scheduled at 1025 on Friday, 6/7 and 0955 on Saturday, 6/8

<u>ORDER</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>FLAG</u>	<u>ORDER</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>FLAG</u>
1	NONS	NONSUCH	7	C-2	OSCAR
2	NS-3	3 <sup>rd</sup> SUB	8	C-1	HOTEL
3	NS-2	GOLF	9	H-3	JULIET
4	A	ALPHA	10	H-2	TANGO
5	NS-1	UNIFORM	11	H-1	WHISKEY
6	C-4	FOXTROT	12	D	DELTA

## APPENDIX S-2

### MARKS OF THE COURSE

<b>Lat/Lon displayed as degrees minutes. decimal seconds</b>			
2	Black Rock Pt. Nun “2”	J	Pt. Judith Whistle Fl R “2”
4	SW Pt Whistle Fl R “4”	K	Great Salt Pond Bell “2”
5	NE Whistle “5”	S	SW Ledge Whistle Fl R “2”
6	Dickens Pt. Bell “6”	T	41 12.10N 071 36.15W
7	Clay Head Can “7”	W	Range/bearing from RC *
B	North Reef Bell Fl G – “1BI “	X	41 10.65N 071 37.55W
F	41 07.65N 071 32.90W	Y	41 11.65N 071 38.25W
G	Block Is. Sound “BIS”	Z	41 13.60N 071 38.90W
H	Pt. Judith Bell “4”	*	See EXCEPTION in Sec. 12.2

## APPENDIX S-3

### SCORING FOR 2024

The scoring system used in the Off Soundings Club Spring Series continues to be the Time on Time method where a Time Correction Factor (TCF) is multiplied by the Elapsed Time (ET) to calculate the Corrected Time (CT). The Low Point System awards points based on finishing position in each class race per *RRS Appendix A*.

Race results are used to award Off Soundings **Series** trophies, **ECSA** Championship points and Off Soundings Club **Perpetuals**. Each group of awards uses a different TCF to calculate the Corrected Time.

The Burden of Winning (**BOW**) displays Performance Penalty Points (**PPP**) earned by the top performers in previous series. 3 points for a 1st, 2 for a 2nd and 1 for a 3rd. Points accumulate each series to a maximum of 9 and are removed after 3 series in the order they were received. Each PPP is equal to 8 seconds subtracted from your boat's base PHRF handicap.

*Series* trophies are awarded on combined results to the best low point finishers for each weekend series using BOW to calculate the TCF. The TCF formula for the Series result is:  $TCF = 600 / (480 + (PHRF - (8 * BOW)))$ .

*ECSA* Championship points are awarded separately for *each race* and are calculated *without* the BOW with the following formula:  $TCF = 650 / (550 + PHRF)$ .

*Perpetual* Trophies are awarded for Off Soundings Club members for combined Spring and Fall results over One and Two Years. Those results are calculated *without* BOW using the Off Soundings traditional calculation.  $TCF = 600 / (480 + PHRF)$ .

For the Two Year Perpetuals, if 8 races are sailed, there is 1 exclusion allowed.

On the Scoring Scratch Sheet in this booklet, the base PHRF ratings are listed without BOW. Next is the BOW displaying the PPP, followed by the PHRF rating minus BOW (PHRF-B). The TCF listed is calculated with PHRF-B. That TCF is used to calculate the results displayed for Series trophies on Yacht Scoring. ECSA results without BOW will be posted on Yacht Scoring after the weekend.



## **SPECIAL NOTES** **from the Race Committee**

The Race Committee Signal Boat will be *TENACIOUS* owned and operated by Todd Willis. The Pin Boat will be the 28' motorboat *POP EDGAR* owned by Tom Weeks. The Mark Boat will be the 32' motorboat *CAUSEWAY*, owned by Carter Gowrie and operated by Capt. Bob Patton. Each will be flying an RC flag.

The Race Committee will be docked at Ram Island Yacht Club in Noank on Thursday night and at Champlin's Marina after racing on Block Island. The daily post-race rendezvous will be under the tent at Champlin's Marina and Resort on Block Island at 1730 or 30 minutes after the RC docks, whichever is later.

Great Salt Pond is a federal no-discharge zone. There is a \$200 fine for discharging marine toilets and holding tanks into the water. The Town of New Shoreham operates a pump-out boat at no charge.

## **SAFETY PLAN**

### **In an Emergency, call 911 to contact authorities.**

Also broadcast your MAYDAY on VHF Ch. 16 which is monitored by the US Coast Guard and the Block Island Harbormaster.

Remain calm, specify your location and the nature of your emergency.

Have your lat/lon co-ordinates ready to broadcast.

Once you have established contact with a 911 dispatcher, call the RC on Ch. 72. The Race Committee will deploy the nearest support boat available. If racing, drop your headsail only and turn your boat in the opposite direction of the racing fleet to help support boats identify your position.

Skippers should be aware of their proximity to Stonington, Pt. Judith or Block Island and head for the closest port. Listen for instructions directing you to the specific marina where emergency land crews will meet your boat.

The direct Police Emergency Number on Block Island is 401-466-3220.

The Block Island Harbormaster is 401-466-3204 and monitors Ch. 12 and Ch. 16.

The Block Island Medical Center is only open until 5 pm on Friday. It is not open on the weekends. Their number is 401-466-2974. After hours call 401-466-3220. Be aware there is no pharmacy on the island and prescription medications are not available.

The legal age for drinking alcohol in Rhode Island is 21. The Master/Captain of each entrant is fully responsible for actions of their crew.



## OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

[www.offsoundings.org](http://www.offsoundings.org)

### RACE ADMINISTRATION CONTACTS

The following OSC Officers and Chairmen are responsible for Race Administration. Contact the designated person with questions and comments.

#### **Race Committee Chairman & Principal Race Officer**

Greg Gilmartin, RRO                      [prorcosc@gmail.com](mailto:prorcosc@gmail.com)                      860-625-0094

#### **Race Secretary**

Anne Wilkinson                              [raceosc@gmail.com](mailto:raceosc@gmail.com)                              860-460-2229

#### **Technical Committee**

Paul von Maffei                              [pvm461@yahoo.com](mailto:pvm461@yahoo.com)                              203-314-7551

#### **Hearings Chairman**

Robert Austin-LaFrance                      [rjaustinlafrance@gmail.com](mailto:rjaustinlafrance@gmail.com)                      860- 912-6940

**Requests for Hearing filed via email at [OSCPProtest@gmail.com](mailto:OSCPProtest@gmail.com)**

#### **Entertainment Chairman**

Joan Kirsch                                      [sauvigne-kirsch@sacredheart.edu](mailto:sauvigne-kirsch@sacredheart.edu)                                      203- 464-9427

#### **Trophy Chairman**

James Rich III                                      [Jim@shelterisland.com](mailto:Jim@shelterisland.com)                                      (631) 506-2671

#### **Membership Chairman**

Steve Purdy                                      [steve\\_purdy@comcast.net](mailto:steve_purdy@comcast.net)                                      (860) 536-0812

### FLAG OFFICERS

#### **COMMODORE**

Bruce Kuryla  
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#### **VICE COMMODORE**

Bill Tyler  
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#### **REAR COMMODORE**

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