



BLOCK ISLAND RACE WEEK XXXI

NOTICE OF RACE (071524)

The Storm Trysail Club ("STC") is the Organizing Authority ("OA") of the 31st Storm Trysail Club Block Island Race Week ("BIRW"), to be held June 23-27, 2025.

The notation "[NP]" in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

The notation "[DP]" in a *rule* means that the penalty for a breach of the *rule* may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

1.1 Racing will be governed by: The rules, as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing; the ORC Rating System rules and regulations; the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet ("PHRF") Regulations, as administered by the Yacht Racing Association of Long Island Sound ("YRALIS"); the New England Multihull Association ("NEMA") rules and regulations; the Classic Rating Formula (CRF) rules; and the one-design rules for any one-design class racing.

1.2 The current Nearshore category of the US Safety Equipment Requirements and associated Appendices ("SER"), which will be available on the Official Notice Board. In the event of a conflict between the SER and applicable class rules, the class rules shall apply.

1.3 The US Sailing Prescriptions to the rules shall not apply with the exception of the addition of rule 61.4, and the prescriptions to rules 60.3, 67, 76.1, 88.2, Appendix V-Alternative Penalties, and Appendix T2-Arbitration.

1.4 BIRW Safety Recommendations and Emergency Procedures. These are available on the Official Notice Board on Yachtscoring.com: https://yachtscoring.com/BIRW_2025

1.5 These racing rules are changed as follows:

Rule 41 is changed by adding: "With the exception of ORC Open Class(es), once the race day begins, except as permitted by rule 41, boats racing shall not have contact with a support person."

Rule 51 is changed by adding: "The use of water ballast or canting keels is allowed for boats rated as such."

Rule 52 is changed to read: "A boat's standing rigging, running rigging, spars and movable hull appendages may be adjusted and operated by power provided by the crew or by stored power."

1.6 With the exception of ORC Open Class(es), the sails on board (including mainsails) may vary from day to day but shall remain the same for each individual race day, including multiple-race days and cases of damage to sails. The “race day” begins when the boat leaves the dock or mooring for the race course.

1.7 With the exception of ORC Open Class(es), the crew on board may vary from day to day but, once the race day begins and with the exception of injury requiring medical attention, shall remain the same for each race day, including multiple-race days.

2. ADVERTISING

2.1 Any advertising proposed to be carried by a boat must be described in the Entry Application. Advertising deemed by the OA not to be compliant with World Sailing Regulation 20 may be rejected. Competitors are requested to respect the brand exclusivity of our sponsors; their participation enhances the event for all.

2.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 All boats must be 22.00 feet LOA or larger.

3.2 Boats may compete In ORC, PHRF with handicaps faster than 177, Performance Cruising, Double-Handed, Classics, NEMA, or One-Design classes as follows:

a) Performance Cruising classes (spinnaker and non-spinnaker), and Double Handed class(es) for boats with PHRF handicaps faster than 177 if sufficient entries are received.

b) Classic, for boats with CRF handicaps faster than 24.

c) Others, including but not limited to One-Designs, Multihulls, and Classics as may be accepted at the discretion of the OA.

3.3 Teams of three boats from the same yacht club (two of which must be in separate classes), may compete for the Shelter Island Yacht Club Team Trophy.

3.4 Eligible boats may enter and pay the applicable Entry Fee via the Yachtscoring.com page for BIRW at: https://yachtscoring.com/BIRW_2025

3.5 As part of the entry process, each owner, skipper and individual participating crewmember shall sign a Crew Waiver Form available on Yachtscoring.com which shall be completed by June 16, 2025.

3.5.1 In addition to the Crew Waiver Form, all sailors shall complete all data required of the Crew List, including WS # and Sailor Group. To obtain a Sailor Classification visit - <http://sailing.org/sailors/sailor-categorisations/>

3.6 The minimum number of crew is two (2). For all classes, except the Double Handed, and one-designs sailing under class rules with specific crew limits, boats may carry one additional crew member less than 14 years of age on June 27, 2025. This additional crew will not be a part of the maximum crew or crew weight calculation. Entrants intending to carry additional crew members less than 14 years of age shall so indicate on their Entry Form.

3.7 With regard to Group 3 sailors, the following crew limitations shall apply:

3.7.1 Performance Cruising and Double-handed – no more than one (1) crew member

3.7.2 ORC, PHRF & MH

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Fewer than 7 total crew | = 1 |
| 7 – 10 total crew | = 2 |
| 11 – 15 total crew | = 3 |
| 16 or more total crew | = 4 |

3.7.3 ORC Open Class(es) – no limitation

3.8 Insurance – Each boat shall have a valid third-party liability policy that is appropriate considering the value of the boats and the type of racing in the event.

3.9 All rating certificates must be available for download by *June 9, 2025*.

3.10 No rating **changes** will be accepted after *June 16, 2025*.

3.11 With the exception of boats sailing Double-Handed, boats sailing under ORC and having an APH of 500 or lower must have an ORCi certificate. In addition, any boat that has a modified hull or appendage must have an ORCi certificate regardless of her APH rating.

4. ENTRY FEES

4.1 The Entry Fee is \$39.00 per foot of LOA for entries paid before *February 17, 2025*. To determine the Entry Fee, a boat's LOA may be rounded down to the nearest lower whole number, e.g., 39.71' = 39'. Beginning *February 17, 2025*, the Entry Fee will be \$45.00 per foot LOA. After *April 5, 2025*, the Entry Fee will be \$50.00 per foot LOA. Entry fees must be paid by May 5, 2025.

4.1.1 Regardless of the date of initial entry, the date of payment establishes the per foot fee to be paid.

4.1.2 After May 5th, late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA. The fee for late entries is \$65.00 per foot LOA.

4.2 For Performance Cruising classes, the Entry Fee will be \$34.00 per foot LOA for entries paid before *February 17, 2025*. Beginning *February 17, 2025*, the Entry Fee will be \$39.00 per foot LOA. After *April 5, 2025*, the Entry Fee will be \$43.00 per foot LOA. Entry fees must be paid by May 5, 2025.

4.2.1 Regardless of the date of initial entry, the date of payment establishes the per foot fee to be paid.

4.2.2 After May 5th, late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA. The fee for late entries is \$60.00 per foot LOA.

4.3 For Double-handed classes, the Entry Fee will be \$28.00 per foot LOA for entries paid before *February 17, 2025*. Beginning *February 17, 2025*, the Entry Fee will be \$32.00 per foot LOA. After *April 5, 2025*, the Entry Fee will be \$35.00 per foot LOA. Entry fees must be paid by May 5, 2025.

4.3.1 Regardless of the date of initial entry, the date of payment establishes the per foot fee to be paid.

4.3.2 After May 5th, late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA. The fee for late entries is \$50.00 per foot LOA.

4.4 Admittance to the week's social events ("The Tent") requires an additional fee to be posted on the ONB..

4.5 An administrative fee of \$300.00 will be applied to any cancellations prior to May 5, 2025, after which no refunds will be made.

5. PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

5.1 Saturday, June 21:

Bow numbers and boom stickers
Race Headquarters between 1400 – 1600

Sunday, June 22:

Registration, and if applicable, weigh-In for One-Design classes:
Race Headquarters between 0900 – 1700

Monday, June 23 – Friday, June 27: Racing, with the first signal scheduled for 1100 each race day.

5.2 A Lay Day may be scheduled if conditions warrant.

5.3 Social events and awards presentations schedule will be posted in advance of the Regatta on the Official Notice Board and via race communications.

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board on or about *June 15, 2025*.

7. VENUE

The Venue is Block Island and Block Island Sound, Rhode Island, USA. The regatta will be based in the Great Salt Pond (New Harbor).

8. COURSES

- 8.1 a) Windward /Leeward courses will be offered for One-Design, ORC, and PHRF classes.
b) Performance Cruising Spinnaker classes (both pursuit and rule 26 starts,) Double Handed classes, and Multihull classes will race distance races.
c) Performance Cruising Non-Spinnaker classes will race distance races with pursuit starts.

8.2 For all classes, one or more races may be the Round The Island Race (RTIR) around Block Island.

9. PENALTY SYSTEM

9.1 Appendix V will apply. This changes rule 44.1.

9.2 Appendix T2 may apply.

9.3 Appendix T, Arbitration, is modified. The penalty of Appendix T1(b) is changed to: the postrace penalty is 30%, reduced to 25% for classes with 10 or more boats racing, or 20% for classes with 15 or more boats racing. Such penalties must be approved by the Jury.

9.4 A request to take a post-race penalty in accordance with Appendix T may be made at the protest desk located adjacent to Race HQ.

10. SCORING

10.1 One race will need to be completed to constitute a series. A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores unless Class Rules require otherwise. This changes RRS Appendix A.

10.2 ORC and PHRF classes will be scored using time-on-time.

10.2.1 [NP] ORC classes, including double-handed, will be scored using one of the 5-Band A/P scoring options available on page 2 of current valid USA or CAN ORC certificates. The RC will announce its intended scoring option prior to or with the class warning signal. Note that the RC may change the selected ORC scoring option to a more suitable scoring option if there has been a material change in conditions during the race, and will announce and post such change before the first boat finishes. The race committee's choice of wind band or course type is not subject to redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b)

10.2.2 [NP] Except for the Around the Island Race, PHRF classes will use YRA-LIS Windward-Leeward Ratings using the conversion factor $650/(550+PHRF)$ rounded to 4 decimal places.

10.2.3 [NP] For the Around the Island Race, all PHRF classes, except Pursuit, will use YRA-LIS PHRF All-purpose Ratings scored using the conversion factor $650/(550+PHRF)$ rounded to 4 decimal places.

10.3 Pursuit will be scored using YRA-LIS All-purpose ratings time-on-distance.

10.4 Teams will be scored by using the average of each team member's percentage placement within its respective class.

11. RADIO COMMUNICATION

11.1 Boats will be required to carry an operating VHF radio capable of receiving weather bulletins and communications from the Race Committee as well as communicating any emergency on board.

11.2 No boat shall operate or control a remotely controlled aircraft ('drone') or other remotely controlled vehicle while racing.

12. PRIZES

Awards and Perpetual Trophies will be awarded.

13. RISK AND LIABILITY

13.1 The Storm Triesail Club, its officers, directors, members, sponsors, employees and agents, the Race Committee, the BIRW Protest Committee and any other Committee of the Club shall not be liable for any injury or damage whatsoever to persons or property which may occur during or arise out of or in connection with the Race. Notice is hereby given to all participants including spectators, officials and others that they participate in this event solely at their own risk.

13.2 The Skipper/Owner of each boat participating in BIRW shall be responsible for the behavior of each member of the crew of his/her boat, both while 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 the disqualification of the boat, and its exclusion from the regatta and its premises.

14. PRIVACY POLICY, COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA RIGHTS

As a condition of participating in the regatta, competitors shall agree to accept operational communications (voice, email, text, or other), and grant the OA, and its agents, employees, sponsors, and assigns, the irrevocable right and permission to use basic competitor information, photographs and video footage taken of themselves, their crew and their competing boat, without notification, for use or distribution in any media whatsoever for editorial or advertising purposes, or to be used in press information. Competitors shall agree to release, defend, and hold harmless the OA and its agents, employees, sponsors, and assigns, from and against any claims, damages or liability arising from or related to the use of the photographs and video footage.

15. FURTHER INFORMATION

Please address all inquiries concerning Storm Trysail Club Block Island Race Week to:

The Storm Trysail Club
1 Woodbine Ave.
Larchmont, NY 10538

Tel: (914) 834-8857 Fax (914) 834-6484

E-Mail: ExecDirector@stormtrysail.org

STC website: www.stormtrysail.org

BIRW XXXI MANAGEMENT

Event Chair: Ty Anderson j.tyander@gmail.com

Principle Race Officer: Past Commodore Dick Neville rneville@innovprop.com

TO ENTER and for Race Documents:

https://yachtscoring.com/BIRW_2025

Interested in sponsorship opportunities?

Please contact: sponsorship@stormtrysailclub.org