



80th Annual Spring Series
June 9-10, 2017
Off Soundings Club

Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

- 1.1. This event is governed by 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 harbor at Block Island for further signals.
- 1.5. The Race Committee (RC) will broadcast on VHF Ch. 72 throughout the regatta. Radio communications are for safety, convenience and courtesy. Only the RC may request redress for misunderstandings, errors or omissions that may result from such communications. ***RRS 60.1 is modified.***
- 1.6. ***RRS Appendix V*** is in effect for this series as alternative penalties.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located online at the Off Soundings Yacht Scoring Events Page. It is accessible at www.offsoundings.org. Access is also available at yachtscoring.com under the listing of “2017 Off Soundings Spring Series”.
- 2.2. Notices will also be posted on the Notice Board under the tent at the Oar on Block Island after Friday’s race.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0800 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2. Changes may be announced on VHF Ch. 72 after 0800 and prior to the first warning on both days of the regatta.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. At 0830 Friday and Saturday the RC will broadcast “Off Soundings Club Harbor Start” on VHF Ch. 72.
- 4.2. Signals made ashore will be displayed at Ram Island Yacht Club on Friday and at the Boat Basin on Saturday. Appropriate notice will also be posted on Yacht Scoring and announced on Ch. 72.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. One race is scheduled each day of the series.
- 5.2. The first warning signal on Friday, June 9 is scheduled at 1025.
- 5.3. The first warning signal on Saturday, June 10 is scheduled at 0955.
- 5.4. Abandoned races may be resailed.

6. CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1. Class flags shall be flown vertically on the bow pulpit as far forward as possible while racing. Failure to do so is not a reason for protest.

- 6.2. **Appendix S-1** displays the code flags assigned to each class. **Please note:** some class flags have changed from prior events.
- 6.3. Single and double handed entrants shall fly the appropriate numeral pennant 1 or 2 from their backstay.
7. **CHECK IN**
- 7.1. 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 committee with the name and sail number of the boat. Failure to do so may be protested by the RC.
8. **THE START**
- 8.1. Boats not starting shall keep clear of the Start Area.
- 8.2. The Start Area is a box equal on all sides to the length of the Start Line and extending into the pre start area.
- 8.3. 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.
- 8.4. Friday, the Start Area will be approximately 0.8 NM bearing 090 Magnetic from Watch Hill Lighted Bell Buoy 2.
- 8.5. Saturday, the Start Area will be approximately 0.5 NM bearing 045 from Mark K, Great Salt Pond Entrance Bell 2.
- 8.6. The RC may reposition for a better start location depending on the weather.
- 8.7. **Appendix S-1** displays the Start Sequence.
- 8.8. The RC will attempt to notify individual OCS boats on VHF Ch. 72.
9. **THE COURSES**
- 9.1. The courses 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.
- 9.2. Circled Marks are to be rounded to Starboard. Uncircled Marks are to be rounded to Port.
- 9.3. Courses will be announced on VHF Ch. 72.
- 9.4. The fleet may be divided into two Groups as follows:
- 9.4.1. *Group 1* includes Classes C-1, C-2, H-1, SB, H-3, NS-1, D.
- 9.4.2. *Group 2* includes Classes NONS, NS-2, NS-3, C-3, H-4, A
- 9.5. 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.
- 9.6. If there is no Group designated, all classes shall sail the same course.
10. **THE MARKS**
- 10.1. The marks of the course and their identifying names and approximate locations are listed in the Marks Table below:

B	North Reef Bell Fl G – “1BI “	T	41 12.10N 071 36.15W
G	Block Is. Sound Entrance “BIS”	W	Range/bearing from RC
H	Pt. Judith Bell “4”	X	41 10.65N 071 37.55W
J	Pt. Judith Whistle “2” Fl R	Y	41 11.65N 071 38.25W
K	Great Salt Pond BI Bell “2”	Z	41 13.60N 071 38.90W
S	SW Ledge Whistle “2” Fl R	4	SW Pt Whistle “4” Fl R
		5	NE Whistle “5”

- 10.2. **Mark W** is an inflatable buoy whose range in nautical miles and magnetic bearing from the RC will be displayed on the bottom row of the Course Board.
- 10.3. **Marks T, X, Y & Z** are inflatable buoys pre-positioned at the approximate latitude and longitude listed in the Marks Table 10.1.
- 10.4. All boats shall pass off shore of the following government buoys: Southwest Pt. Bell 6, Black Rock Pt. Nun 2, and Clay Head Can 7.

11. CHANGING A LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1. The RC may change a leg of the course by displaying the symbol of the new mark identified in the Marks Table 10.1. **Rule 33(a) is modified.**
- 11.2. If Mark W ends the leg that is changed, the range and/or bearing to the new position is from the mark that begins the changed leg.
- 11.3. A course change will be announced on VHF Ch. 72.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1. The Finish Line is between an Orange flag on the RC boat and Mark K. If an RC boat is not on station at the Finish Line, a boat finishing shall note her own finish in GPS time and report it per RRS 34 prescription.
- 12.2. Boats shall not cross the finish line except when finishing. **Rule 28 is changed.**
- 12.3. A boat withdrawing shall promptly notify the RC on VHF Ch. 72, or advise OSC officials at the shore rendezvous.

13. TIME LIMIT AND TARGET TIMES

- 13.1. The time limit for each class is 1730 on Friday and 1700 on Saturday regardless of starting times.
- 13.2. 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 A11 are changed.**
- 13.3. At approximately five minutes after the expiration of the time limit, the RC will broadcast abandonment for classes with no finishers. No visual and sound signals will accompany this announcement. **RRS 32 is changed.**

14. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 14.1. A boat intending to protest shall notify the RC Signal Boat as soon as possible after finishing and to identify the protested boat(s).
- 14.2. Protests shall be filed with the protest committee at the RC Signal Boat at the Boat Basin no later than one hour after the RC docks. The docking time will be posted on the Notice Board online and under the tent at the Oar.
- 14.3. Official protest forms are available from the RC Signal Boat

15. SCORING

- 15.1. Two races are scheduled. One completed race constitutes a series. There are no exclusions.
- 15.2. Scoring system is Time on Time and is explained in **Appendix S-2.**

16. PRIZES

- 16.1. Series trophies will be awarded at the post race rendezvous Saturday at the Oar. The top three finishers will receive trophies in each class and the top four in classes with more than 10 boats.

APPENDIX S-1

STARTING SEQUENCE and CLASS FLAGS

First Warning is scheduled at 1025 on Friday, 6/9 and 0955 on Saturday, 6/10.

<u>ORDER</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>CLASS FLAG</u>	<u>ORDER</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>CLASS FLAG</u>
1	NONS	NONSUCH	8	C-2	OSCAR
2	NS-3	3 RD SUB	9	SB	TANGO
3	NS-2	GOLF	10	C-1	HOTEL
4	C-3	FOXTROT	11	H-3	JULIET
5	H-4	ECHO	12	H-1	WHISKEY
6	A	ALPHA	13	D	DELTA
7	NS-1	UNIFORM			

APPENDIX S-2

SCORING CHANGES FOR 2017

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***.

In the off season, the Board of Governors voted to change the TCF formula to conform to the ECSA formula. For 2017, there are three separate calculations that will be used to satisfy the criteria for each of the three separate uses for the results, namely Series trophies, ECSA Championship points and Off Soundings Club Perpetuals.

Series trophies are awarded to the best combined finishers for each weekend series, using Burden Of Winning (BOW) penalties accrued by the top 3 finishers from previous series. The BOW penalty effectively subtracts 8 seconds per 5% of penalty from a boat's base PHRF rating which is then used to calculate a boat's Time Correction Factor. The TCF formula for the Series result is:

$$TCF = 650 / (550 + (PHRF - (2 * BOW) * .8)). \quad TCF * ET = CT$$

ECSA Championship results are calculated ***without*** the BOW penalties:

$$TCF = 650 / (550 + PHRF). \quad TCF * ET = CT.$$

Perpetual Trophies are awarded by the Off Soundings Club for combined Spring and Fall results over One and Two Years. Those results are calculated ***without*** BOW and for 2017, will use the Off Soundings traditional calculation of $TCF = 600 / (480 + PHRF)$.

On the Scratch Sheet that follows, the base PHRF ratings are listed without BOW. Next is the BOW, followed by the TCF calculated with BOW. That TCF is used to calculate the results displayed for Series trophies on Yacht Scoring. Other results will be posted on Yacht Scoring after the weekend.



SPECIAL NOTES **from the Race Committee**

The Race Committee Signal Boat will be *Nor'Easter*, owned and operated by Henry duPont IV. The Mark Boat will be 32' motorboat *Pop Edgar* owned by Tom Weeks. The Pin Boat will be the 34' *Cricket*, owned and operated by Tom Bishop. Each will be flying a race committee flag.

The Race Committee will be docked at Ram Island Yacht Club in Noank on Thursday night and at the Boat Basin after racing on Block Island. The daily post race rendezvous will be at The Oar on Block Island at 1700 or 30 minutes after the RC docks, whichever is later. Launch service will be available from Oldport Marine Services at their usual fares. The Launch monitors VHF Ch. 68.

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

Medical emergencies that cannot be handled on board should be reported immediately to the Race Committee on VHF Ch. 72. The Race Committee will co-ordinate any rescue efforts utilizing the powerful radio on *Nor'easter*, our proximity to the harbor and OSC support boats. Be prepared to change to Ch. 71 when directed to hear further instructions. If racing, drop your headsail only and turn your boat in the opposite direction of the racing fleet to help on water support boats identify your position.

If you can't raise the RC on radio, the Block Island Harbormaster monitors Ch. 12 and Ch. 16. Their direct phone line is 401-466-3204. Once the Harbormaster initiates rescue efforts, stay on Ch. 12 until directed otherwise. On land emergency crews will meet your boat at the Boat Basin.

Should an emergency occur closer to the Connecticut or Rhode Island shores, contact the RC on Ch. 72, the U.S. Coast Guard on Ch. 16 or by dialing 911 on your cell phone, in that order. Skippers should be aware of the closest port to your location and head there.

The Block Island Medical Clinic is open 9-5 Monday thru Friday. 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

RACE ADMINISTRATION CONTACTS

The following OSC Officers and Chairmen are responsible for Race Administration. Contact the designated person with questions and comments on his/her area of responsibility.

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