



2025 Spring Race Series

*The Off Soundings Club (OSC) is the Organizing Authority
June 13 and 14, 2025*

Notice of Race **(With Amendments #1 & #2)**

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

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 [DP][NP] The entry sail number shall be the mainsail number entered on the event registration. If any headsail numbers do not match the mainsail number that should be noted in the Comments section in Yacht Scoring. This changes RRS 77 and G2.
- 1.3 All boats shall conform to the current OSC Safety Equipment Requirements posted on the club website, www.offsoundings.org.
- 1.4 USGC approved PFDs shall be worn by individuals while racing aboard boats that do not have lifelines. This modifies RRS 40. The wearing of PFDs by individuals sailing aboard all other boats is encouraged.
- 1.5 [DP][NP] While racing each boat shall display a class flag as defined in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.6 RRS 47 is modified by adding the following sentence to the rule: 'However, the use of biodegradable sail stops while setting a sail is permitted.'

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Sailing Instructions and Scratch Sheets shall be posted online several days prior to the first race.
- 2.2 Amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board. It is the responsibility of each competitor to check the Official Notice Board for any amendments or other notices.
- 2.3 Race documents will not be mailed or physically distributed on the water. However, as described therein, changes to the SIs, including classification and rule changes, may be broadcast on VHF channel 72 prior to the First Warning signal on each race day.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The Official Notice Board is located online at: www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50005 which can be accessed directly or via a link from the club website www.offsoundings.org.
- 3.2 [DP] [NP] All boats shall carry a radio capable of 2-way communication on VHF Channel 72. You are reminded that handheld units have a limited range based on antenna height and line-of-sight distance.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee will attempt to make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio channel 72.
- 3.4 [DP] [NP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 All entrants shall be active or sponsored guest members of the OSC or of the New England Multihull Association (NEMA).
- 4.2 Guests shall apply and be sponsored by an active club member using the Guest Membership form available via the 'Membership' tab at www.offsoundings.org . Please allow several days for processing. Once approved, guest members may sail 2 Race Series within the next 2 years and then must apply for active membership to continue. Questions should be directed to membership@offsoundings.org .
- 4.3 Each boat entered will be allowed the registration of a maximum of 2 "Masters" who will be considered the Persons in Charge (PIC) per RRS 46 and 78. At least one designated PIC must be aboard while racing.
- 4.4 Boats must have a current handicap certificate from PHRF of ECSA, **ELIYA**, OSC, or the NEMA. See the 'Racing' tab on the club website for further information on Off Soundings handicaps for out of area entrants.
- 4.5 Minimum LOA is 23.75' and maximum LOA is 62'.
- 4.6 Maximum PHRF handicap is 275.
- 4.7 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees via Yachtscoring.
- 4.8 **The deadline for registration and payment is 2300 hours EDT, Friday May 30, 2025. Late entries will not be accepted**
- 4.9 Questions and issues should be addressed to the Race Secretary, Anne Wilkinson at raceosc@gmail.com .

5 FEES

- 5.1 Series entry fee is \$150.
- 5.2 Adult tickets for the two post-race shore gatherings are \$15, for a person under 18 years of age, tickets are \$1.

6 CLASSES

- 6.1 Classification will be done by the OSC Measurement and Classification Committee, which will strive to provide fair racing for our diverse racing fleet.
- 6.2 The final list will be posted on Yacht Scoring at least one week prior to the date of the first race. In extreme cases the list can be modified as a change to the Sailing Instructions.

7 SCHEDULE AND VENUE

- 7.1 On Friday, June 13, the first Spring Series race will start off Watch Hill, RI and sail to Block Island. The First warning is scheduled for 1025.
- 7.2 On Saturday, June 14, the second race will start outside of New Harbor, Block Island and sail in the vicinity of Block Island. The First Warning is scheduled for 0955.
- 7.3 The Race Committee (RC) may move the start area on either day as described in the SIs.
- 7.4 There will be one race each day.
- 7.5 Post race gatherings will be at Champlin's Marina, Block Island, RI.

8 PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS Appendix V is in effect.

9 SCORING

- 9.1 Each boat's series score will be the sum of her scores for all races. One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 9.2 RRS A5.3 will apply.
- 9.3 Race results are based on corrected time using PHRF and NEMA handicaps with the Time-on-Time method.

- 9.4 OSC Performance Penalty Points (PPP) are assigned to the top three finishers series winners in each class.: 1st = 3 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 point. Each Point equals 8 seconds subtracted from a boats handicap. The total PPP in effect is shown in Yacht Scoring as Burden of Winning (BOW).
- 9.5 BOW points accumulate to a maximum of 9 and expire after 3 series in the order in which they were earned. E.g., for a BOW accumulation of 2, 2, 3 the first to expire would be the first 2, followed by the next 2, then 3. In the meantime, additional success points not to exceed 9 could accumulate in the fourth and following years.
- 9.6 BOW points apply only to series awards and are removed for determining OSC perpetual trophy results and for reporting results to other organizations, such as ECSA, and NEMA for their use.
- 9.7 Race results are calculated and used in several ways:
 - 9.7.1. OSC Series Trophies are awarded for total weekend low point series score in class per RRS Appendix A using the Time Correction Factor (TCF) $650/(550+(\text{PHRF}-\text{BOW}))$
 - 9.7.2. OSC Perpetual Trophies are awarded for one or two-year low points by each individual race without BOW and OSC TCF $650/(550+\text{PHRF})$
 - 9.7.3. Results are reported to ECSA as individual races without BOW using the ECSA TCF formula $650/(550+\text{PHRF})$.

10 PRIZES

- 10.1 Series trophies will be awarded at the post-race gatherings Saturday at Champlin's Marine
- 10.2 The top three (3) finishers will receive trophies in each class.

11 RISK STATEMENT AND PERSONAL CONDUCT

- 11.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.
- 11.2 The Skipper/Owner of each boat participating in the regatta shall be responsible for the behaviour of each member of the crew of his/her boat both 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.
- 11.3 Competitors are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times.

12 FURTHER INFORMATION

Additional information regarding the Off Soundings Club and contact information for its Officers and Committee Chairs can be found at www.offsoundings.org.