



Safe Harbor Race Weekend

August 7-9, 2026 | Newport, Rhode Island

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Divisions 1, 2 and 3

SHM RW, LLC is the organizing authority (OA) of Safe Harbor Race Weekend (SHRW) to be held August 7-9, 2026 in Newport, Rhode Island, USA. There are four divisions racing. Division 1 is windward/ leeward (W/L) classes racing northeast of Gould Island. Division 2 is the IC37 class racing northwest of Conanicut Island, south of Hope Island (W/L racing only). Division 3 is the Performance Cruising Navigation classes with their starting area to be posted on the official notice board the evening prior to racing. Divisions 1 and 3 are scheduled to race around Prudence Island on Friday, August 7. Division 4 is superyacht classes racing ocean courses, with separate sailing instructions.

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

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 The US SAILING Prescriptions to the rules do not apply except for Appendix R, the prescription to the preamble to Part 5, and the prescriptions to rules 65.1, 70.3(b), 76.1 and 88.2.
- 1.3 The ORC rating system rules and regulations.
- 1.4 PHRF regulations as administered by the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet of Narragansett Bay (PHRF-NB). There are no crew weight limits.
- 1.5 Nearshore category of the US Safety Equipment Requirements (USSER) and associated Appendices ('SER'). In the event of conflict between SER and applicable class rules, the class rules shall apply.
- 1.6 Any applicable local maritime authority rules and regulations.
- 1.7 Racing Rules are changed as follows: Rule 51 – to allow for the use of water ballast or canting keels for boats rated with such. Rule 52 – to allow the use of stored power.
- 1.8 For Division 2 only, the OA supplied Velocitek units must be installed and turned on while racing.
- 1.9 In the event of a discrepancy between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions take precedence. This changes RRS 63.5.

Note: RRS 47 (Trash Disposal) will be in effect. Disposable sail stops for spinnakers will not be allowed.

2 COMMUNICATIONS: NOTICES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, VHF CHANNELS

- 2.1 Notices, including race documents, results and amendments, will be posted on the online official notice board (ONB) located at: yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=50557
- 2.2 Protest Committee information, including protest time limits and hearing schedules, will be posted on the ONB.
- 2.3 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0930 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.
- 2.4 In accordance with RRS 90.2(c), changes to the sailing instructions may be made on the water by hail on the race committee channel. The race committee will make one sound before making the announcement.
- 2.5 The race committee VHF channel for Division 1 (W/L classes) will be VHF 71, for Division 2 (IC37) VHF 79A, and on Saturday and Sunday only, for Division 3 (Performance Cruising Navigation classes) VHF 69. On Friday only, the race committee for Division 1 and 3 classes sailing the Around Prudence Island Race will be VHF 71.

2.6 Each boat shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating with the race committee.

2.7 [DP] While racing, from the first warning signal until the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data transmissions that are not available to all boats.

2.8 The Safe Harbor Race Weekend regatta office is located at Safe Harbor Newport Shipyard in the regatta tent on the northwest corner of the property.

3 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

3.1 The race committee will broadcast their intention for the day's racing at 0930 each morning Friday - Sunday over the race committee channel. Failure to make this announcement or for a boat to hear this announcement will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b).

3.2 When "AP" is signaled ashore, "one minute" is replaced with "not less than one hour". The warning signal for the first class will be no earlier than 1 hour after the race committee broadcasts that AP is lowered. The race committee will make the announcement during the 0930 VHF broadcast and no AP flag will be flown. During a postponement ashore, the race committee will broadcast updates on the race committee channel. This changes Race Signal AP.

4 EVENT AND RACE SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 6	1600-1800 1730-1800	Register at Safe Harbor Newport Shipyard (SHNSY) Captains' Briefing (SHNSY regatta tent)
Friday, August 7	0800-0930 1200 1830-2130	Late Registration (SHNSY) First scheduled Warning Signal for the Around Prudence Island Race (Divisions 1 & 3) and for the first W/L race (Division 2) Coastal New England Dinner presented by Citizens at Safe Harbor New England Boatworks (SHNEB) Wristbands required
Saturday, August 8	1200 1830-2130	First scheduled Warning Signal for Divisions 1, 2 and 3 Talk of the Town Crew Party presented by Mt Gay Rum at SHNSY Wristbands required
Sunday, August 9	1200 1730*	First scheduled Warning Signal for Divisions 1, 2 and 3* Final Prize-Giving presented by Chubb following racing (SHNSY)

* No warning signal shall be made after 1500 on Sunday, August 9. Final prize giving time will be based on the conclusion of Sunday's racing.

The organizing authority and race committee reserve the right to change the schedule at its discretion, taking into account weather conditions and other factors.

5 CLASSES, RACING FORMATS & CLASS FLAGS

5.1 **Classes:** The OA will divide boats into classes. The classes will be assigned an alphabetic designation: yachtscoring.com/event_scratch_sheet/50557

5.2 **Racing Format:** For racing on Friday, all classes in Divisions 1 and 3 are scheduled for the Around Prudence Island Race (Exhibit 1 provides the course details). Division 2 will race W/L courses Friday, Saturday and Sunday (Exhibit 3 provides W/L course details). On Saturday and Sunday, Division 1 classes are scheduled to race windward/leeward courses and Division 3 classes navigation courses using marks from the 2024-2027 [Sail Newport South Bay Race Chart](#) (Exhibit 5), with a starting and finishing area separate from the Division 1 and 2 race areas (Exhibit 3 provides navigation course details).

5.3 **Class Flags:** There will be no class flags. This changes RRS 26.

6 RENDEZVOUS LOCATIONS

6.1 The rendezvous locations are listed below.

North of Newport Bridge:

Area A	Approximately 0.5nm SSW of Halfway Rock
Area B	In the vicinity of G "7" QG off Quonset Point
Area C	Approximately 1.0nm SSE of Hope Island

Newport Harbor and near Newport Bridge:

Area D	Between Goat Island and Rose Island
Area E	West of Rose Island in the vicinity of R "2" off Jamestown Harbor
Area F	Vicinity of Potter Cove – just north of the west end of the Newport Pell Bridge

6.2 The race committee will post the Division rendezvous locations, as described in SI 6, by 2000 on the day prior to each race day on the ONB and broadcast at 0930 each morning Friday – Sunday over the race committee channel. Failure to make this announcement or for a boat to hear this announcement will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b).

6.3 It is the intent of the race committee to start the Around Prudence Island Race and to conduct all Division 1 racing in Area A. It is the intent of the race committee to start the Division 2 racing in Areas B or C, and the Division 3 races on Saturday and Sunday in Areas D, E or F.

6.4 When on station, the race committee will announce the position of the signal boat over the race committee channel. Failure to make such an announcement, or the timing of any announcement, shall not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b).

7 CHECK-IN AND RETIREMENT

7.1 [NP] Registration & Waivers: Each boat shall complete their registration and submit owner and crew waivers through Yacht Scoring. Alternately, a fillable PDF version is available on Yacht Scoring (https://event_documents/50557/waiver.pdf) and must be submitted to Veronica Brown: vbrown@shmarinas.com by Friday, August 7 before 0900.

7.2 [NP] [DP] **On-Water Check In:** Prior to the first scheduled warning signal each day, boats shall sail on starboard tack or motor by the stern of the race committee signal boat and check in by announcing their sail number and receive acknowledgement from the race committee. There will be no check in by VHF radio.

7.3 [NP] **Boats Retiring** shall inform the race committee on the race committee channel or by calling the Event Manager, Veronica Brown: (401) 855-0945.

8 COURSES AND MARKS

8.1 Courses and marks for the 'Around Prudence Island Race' are described in Exhibit 1.

8.2 Courses and marks for Division 3 navigation racing are described in Exhibit 2.

8.3 Courses and marks for Division 1 and 2 windward/leeward racing are described in Exhibit 3.

9 THE START (Divisions 1 and 3 only / Division 2 see Exhibit 6)

9.1 Starting system and OCS notification for Division 2 is found in Exhibit 6.

9.2 Races will be started using rule 26 with a horn and VHF radio transmission only. With the exception of Flag XRAY, there will be no signal flags. This changes rule 26.

9.3 The starting line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the race committee signal boat on the starboard end and a robotic mark at the port end. The robotic mark on the port end may be replaced by an inflatable mark or a race committee boat. The port end boat may hold its position with the use of their engines.

9.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting time and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to broadcast her sail number over the race committee channel. Failure to make a broadcast, the timing or order of any such broadcast, will not be grounds for request for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b).

9.5 The intended order of class starts for the Around Prudence Island race, scheduled for Friday, August 7, will be posted by 2000 the day prior and broadcast on the race committee channel at 0930 that morning.

9.6 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS A5.

9.7 [NP] Boats whose warning signal have not been made shall keep clear of the starting area from the time of the course signals for the first start in the sequence until the warning signal for their class.

10 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

A course change for any leg of the race will be broadcast over the race committee channel. The change will be signaled before the leading boat in class has begun the leg. This changes RRS 33.

11 THE FINISH

For the Around Prudence Island Race and Division 3 Navigation courses, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and the course side of a nearby robotic or inflatable mark, or a mark from the Sail Newport South Bay Race Chart. For Division 1 and 2 windward/leeward courses, the finishing line will be as described in Exhibit 3.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

With the exception of Division 2, Rule Appendix V will apply. This changes rule 44.1. For Division 2 only, the first sentence of RRS 44.1 is changed to read: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing."

13 TIME LIMITS

13.1 The time limit for the Around Prudence Island Race and Navigation courses will be 4-1/2 hours from the start of each class. Boats failing to finish within 120 minutes after the first boat in their class sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) and scored points as described in SI 16.4. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

13.2 The time limit for windward / leeward courses will be 2 hours from the start of each class. Boats failing to finish within 45 minutes after the first boat in their class sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A10.

14 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

14.1 The intent to protest and the boat being protested shall be communicated on the race committee channel to the race committee immediately after the boat intending to protest finishes until acknowledged by the race committee. This changes RRS 60.2.

14.2 Written protests or requests for redress shall be submitted through the online protest form as soon as possible, but not later than one hour after the race committee signal boat has docked. The time limit for filing a protest will be posted on the ONB.

14.3 Notice of protest hearings will be posted on the ONB as soon as possible after the conclusion of the protest time limit. Protest time limits will be scheduled to start as soon as possible after the notices are posted. The protest committee will attempt to hear protests in the order of receipt.

14.4 It is each boat's responsibility to determine if she is a party to a protest by checking the ONB or the protest desk at the end of the filing time.

14.5 Protests may be via a conference call format. If so, guidelines for virtual protest hearings will be available on the event website.

14.6 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is replaced with "if it alleges a breach of rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or"

15 ARBITRATION

15.1 Arbitration may be held in accordance with Appendix T.

15.2 One representative from each boat will meet with an arbitrator unless the protestor requests that the protest be withdrawn.

15.3 The arbitrator will not be a member of the jury that hears the protest but will be permitted to observe the testimony given to the jury and offer testimony. This changes Rule 63.3(a).

16 SCORING

- 16.1** The Around Prudence Island Race scoring will be included in the series scoring for all classes.
- 16.2** For Divisions 1 and 3, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. For Division 2, when six or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding the worst score.
- 16.3** One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.4** Boats that have started and fail to finish within the finish windows listed in SI 13 for any reason, shall, without a hearing, be scored Time Limited Expired (TLE) by the race committee and be assigned points equal to the number of boats in her class that have sailed the course and finished within the time limit, plus two, but not worse than last. This changes RRS A4.1, A4.2 and A5.
- 16.5** Corrected times for PHRF and ORC classes in Division 1 and 3 will be calculated using Time on Time (ToT).
- 16.6** Corrected times for the ORC Class for the Around Prudence Island Race will be calculated using the ORC scoring method that is the most fair for the conditions observed during the race. This scoring decision will be made prior to the first boat in class finishing. For windward/leeward racing corrected times will be calculated using the W/L 5- Wind Band Ratings. The decisions on wind range and course classification will be at the sole discretion of the race committee and shall not be grounds for a request for redress by a boat. This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b).

17 PRIZES

- 17.1** Class prizes for each day's racing will be presented to the class winner daily (Friday at Safe Harbor New England Boatworks during the Coastal New England Dinner presented by Citizens at approximately 7:45pm and Saturday at Safe Harbor Newport Shipyard during the Talk of the Town Crew Party presented by Mt Gay Rum at approximately 7:30pm).
- 17.2** Class prizes for the series and Sunday's daily prizes will be awarded at the final awards ceremony on Sunday, August 9 presented by Chubb at Safe Harbor Newport Shipyard after racing at approximately 5:30pm.

18 WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

- 18.1** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority (SHRW, LLC), all official sponsors, members of the race committee, event volunteers, affiliated companies, their representatives, staff, and their agents will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the event. Attention is also drawn to RRS 46 and USSER 1.2, Responsibility.
- 18.2** As a condition of entry, each owner, skipper and individual participating crew member shall submit an online Waiver & Release of Liability form:
The fully executed Waiver & Release of Liability form shall be submitted prior to racing. The waiver form link can be found on the event website.
- 18.3** Boats will not be scored unless the skipper/person-in-charge has submitted a Waiver & Release of Liability form.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTED AREAS

- 19.1** [NP] A boat's 'man overboard' (MOB) procedure shall be practiced aboard each boat at least once by the crew racing the regatta prior to the first race of the series. RRS 41 OUTSIDE HELP is changed by adding (e) Help to recover from the water and return any person on board provided the return on board is in the approximate location of the recovery. A boat that has a MOB incident shall immediately stop racing and either recover the person or coordinate recovery of the person with another boat or tender.
- 19.2** Restricted Channels: Competitors are reminded that Narragansett Bay and its approaches are considered restricted channels for commercial traffic and other vessels restricted in their ability to maneuver. Competitors must comply with the government right-of-way rules when in proximity to commercial or privileged marine traffic.
- 19.3** Newport Security Zone: Competitors should be aware of heightened security around the Navy base in Newport just to the north of the Newport Pell Bridge. The area may be defined by a series of white buoys marking the Newport Security Zone along the coast of the Naval Facilities from Coasters Harbor to the breakwater at the north end of Coddington Cove and the line defined by the buoys shall rank as an obstruction. Yachts shall not enter this area. A Navy patrol boat monitors the area and vessels navigating in the Exclusionary Zone may face action by Coast Guard and Naval authorities.

19.4 Additional Restricted Areas: Additional restricted areas due to Navy activity, swimming competitions, shipping or fishing operations may be described in an amendment to the sailing instructions.

20 NOTES

20.1 The event website can be found at: shmarinas.com/safe-harbor-race-weekend

20.2 Address all correspondence and questions pertaining to the regatta to:

Safe Harbor Race Weekend

Safe Harbor Newport Shipyard, 1 Washington Street, Newport RI 02840

Event Manager: Veronica Brown ybrown@shmarinas.com

Tel: (401) 846-6000 Fax: (401) -846-6001

Event Director: Tim Moll tmoll@shmarinas.com

Race Chairman: Peter Craig peter@premiere-racing.com

Exhibit 1	Around Prudence Island Race
Exhibit 2	Division 3 Navigation Courses
Exhibit 3	Division 1 and 2 Windward/Leeward Courses
Exhibit 4	On-Water Emergency Procedures
Exhibit 5	Sail Newport 2024-2027 South Bay Race Chart, Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island
Exhibit 6	Division 2 Starting System and OCS Notification