



# 2026 Spring Race Series

*The Off Soundings Club (OSC) is the Organizing Authority  
June 5 and 6, 2026*

## Sailing Instructions (SIs)

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

### 1. RULES

1.1 This event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, ECSA 2026 Offshore Racing Circuit Regulations and by the ECSA 2026 PHRF Regulations.

1.2 Double-handed entrants may use self-steering devices. This changes RRS 52.

1.3 In the event of an abandonment signaled with N over H on Friday, the fleet shall proceed to The Saturday Starting area located .5 miles to the Northeast of The Great Salt Pond Entrance Buoy "R2". This changes Race Signals.

1.4 [DP][NP] Competitors are reminded that **RRS G1.2(a)(3) states that National letters and sail numbers SHALL be of contrasting color to the body of the sail.** Boats may be protested for non-compliance of this rule.

1.5 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: (2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident.

### 2. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 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.

2.2 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 online at: <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50005> . It is the responsibility of each competitor to check the Official Notice Board for any amendments or other notices.

3.2. Notices may 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. At 0830 on Friday and Saturday the RC will broadcast 'Off Soundings Club Harbor Start' unless there is a postponement.

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. CODE OF CONDUCT

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

### 5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the RC Signal Boat located at Ram Island Yacht Club on Friday or at Champlin's Marina on Saturday.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP. This changes Race Signals AP.

### 6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 One race is scheduled each day of the series.

6.2 The scheduled time of the first warning on Friday is 1025.

6.3 The scheduled time of the first warning on Saturday is 0955.

### 7. CLASS FLAGS

7.1 Class flags for each class will be described in Appendix S-1 and on the scratch sheets posted on the official noticeboard.

7.2 [DP][NP] Class flags shall be flown vertically on the bow pulpit of each boat.

### 8. RACING AREA

- 8.1 Friday the fleet shall rendezvous approximately 0.8nm East of Watch Hill Lighted Buoy 2.  
8.2 Saturday the fleet shall rendezvous approximately 0.5nm Northeast of Great Salt Pond Entrance Bell 2.

## **9. 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. Un-circled Marks shall be rounded to Port.  
9.3 The fleet may be divided into two Groups as follows:  
    Group 1 includes Classes NS-1, C-1, C-2, H-1, H-2, H-3, D.  
    Group 2 includes Classes NONS, NS-3, NS-2, A, C-4.  
9.4 If there is no Group designated, all classes shall sail the course posted.  
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.

## **10 MARKS**

- 10.1 The Marks of the course are listed in the attached Appendix S-2.  
10.2 Marks F, X, Y and Z are inflatable buoys with their latitude and longitude noted in Appendix S-2.  
10.3 The Starting line mark and the Finishing line Mark will be inflatable buoys.

## **11. THE START**

- 11.1 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the on-course side of the inflatable mark. An auxiliary RC boat with an orange flag may be substituted for the buoy.  
11.2 [DP][NP] After the first warning, boats not starting shall keep clear of the Start Area.  
11.3 The Start Area is a box extending into the pre-start side of the starting line equal to the length of the starting line on all sides.  
11.4 Appendix S-1 displays the initial start sequence.  
11.5 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number on VHF Ch. 72. A boat may not request redress based on failure of the race committee to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

## **12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 12.1 A course may be changed by displaying Code Flag Charlie along with the identifier of a mark in Appendix S-2 which will become the next mark. This changes RRS 33.  
12.2 When the changed mark is to be 'W', the range and bearing from the location of the mark that begins the changed leg will be displayed. This changes Appendix S-2.

## **13. THE FINISH**

- 13.1 The Finish Line both days will be between a blue flag on the RC boat and the inflatable buoy located approximately 0.5nm bearing 045° magnetic from the Great Salt Pond Entrance Bell 2.

## **14 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 14.1 US Sailing Prescription Appendix V – Alternative Penalties is in effect.

## **15. TIME LIMITS**

- 15.1 On both days, the time limit for all classes is 1730 regardless of starting times.  
15.2 Boats starting but failing to sail the course within the Time Limit, and not subsequently retiring, penalized, or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one (1) more than the finishing place of the last boat that sailed the course within the Time Limit and was not penalized under RRS 30.3 or 30.4. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

## **16. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 16.1 A boat intending to file a Hearing Request is requested to notify the RC as soon as possible after finishing and identify the boat(s) involved in the incident.  
16.2 The protest time limit for all classes is one (1) hour after the RC finish boat docks.  
16.3 Digital Forms are available on Yacht Scoring under General Race Forms and may be filed by email to OSCProtest@gmail.com.  
16.4 Hearing Request Forms are available at the RC Signal Boat at Champlin's Marina and may be filed in person with the RC.

16.5 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held on the RC Signal boat located at Champlin's Marina.

16.6 When the race committee receives a scoring inquiry form, it will review its records and respond as soon as practicable.

### 17. SCORING

17.1 Scoring is Time-on-Time as explained in Appendix S-3 and in the NoR.

17.2 One (1) completed race is required to be scored to constitute a series.

17.3 A boat's series score is the total of her race scores.

17.4 No race will be excluded. This modifies RRS A.2.1

17.5 Handicap ratings of Windward/Leeward or Random Leg may be used. Before the warning of the race, the race committee will announce or post which rating system will be used for race.

### 18. Safety Regulations

18.1 [DP][NP] 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.

18.2 [DP][NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

18.3 RRS 40 (Personal Flotation Devices) is replaced by: "It shall be the individual responsibility of each competitor to wear adequate personal buoyancy when conditions warrant."

### 19. PRIZES

19.1 Series trophies will be awarded at the post-race gatherings Saturday at Champlin's Marina

19.2 The top three (3) finishers will receive trophies in each class.

### 20. RISK STATEMENT

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 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.

## APPENDIX S-1 STARTING SEQUENCE and CLASS FLAGS

First Warning is scheduled at 1025 on Friday, and 0955 on Saturday.

ORDER	CLASS	FLAG	ORDER	CLASS	FLAG
1	NONSUCH	NONSUCH	7	C-2	OSCAR
2	NS-3	3rd 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

Group 1 includes Classes NS-1, C-1, C-2, H-1, H-2, H-3, D.

Group 2 includes Classes NONS, NS-3, NS-2, A, C-4,

## **APPENDIX S-2 MARKS OF THE COURSE**

Lat/Lon displayed as degrees minutes. decimal seconds

2 Black Rock Pt. Nun "2"	J Pt. Judith Whistle FI R "2"
4 SW Pt Whistle FI R "4"	K Great Salt Pond Bell "2"
5 NE Whistle "5"	S SW Ledge Whistle FI 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 FI 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"	

## **APPENDIX S-3 SCORING FOR 2026**

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.

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:  $TCF = 650 / (550 + (PHRF - (8 * BOW)))$ .

ECSA Championship points are awarded separately for each race and are calculated without the BOW.

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