



Sail Martha's Vineyard Presents

The 2026 VINEYARD CUP REGATTA.

A CYOA Classic yacht challenge series regatta.

HOSTED BY MARTHA'S VINEYARD SHIPYARD



To Benefit Sail Martha's Vineyard
JULY 10-12, 2026

Sail Martha's Vineyard is the island's sailing non-profit, providing free sailing and windsurfing lessons to island youth for over thirty years. The opportunity for young people to take to the water is imperative not only for their personal health and wellbeing, but also to secure the future of the sport we all love and cherish. Each summer Sail MV welcomes over 350 children to the waters of Lagoon Pond, with over 70% of these children coming to us for free thanks to our island youth scholarship program. None of this would be possible without the support of the sailing community.

Proceeds from the Vineyard Cup Regatta help to support the year-round maritime programs of Sail Martha's Vineyard. The regatta is held on the waters of Nantucket Sound and Vineyard Sound off the island of Martha's Vineyard, with racing on Friday through Sunday, July 10 to 12, 2026. Sail Martha's Vineyard (SMV, www.sailmv.org) is the Organizing Authority and invites all to enjoy a great blend of sailing and fun.

While you are in the area, our friends at Edgartown Yacht Club will be hosting their *'Round the Island Race* on June 25, 2026. The time between the Edgartown Yacht Club Race Weekend and the Vineyard Cup Regatta provides an excellent opportunity to enjoy cruising the waters of Nantucket Sound, Vineyard Sound and Buzzards Bay.

One Vineyard, One Sea, One Sail MV.

2026 Vineyard Cup Regatta
Sail Martha's Vineyard
(the "Organizing Authority" or "OA")
July 10 – 12 2026
Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing ("RRS").

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Sailing Instructions for the event will be posted on the Vineyard Cup Regatta website no later than 1000 hours on July 9, 2026. There will be no paper copies.
[VINEYARD CUP WEBSITE.](#)

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1 The official notice board will be online and is located at [NOTICE BOARD.](#)

3.2 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on the relevant fleet channel.

3.3 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the Sailing Instructions.

3.4 While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions nor receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 The event is open to all:

- (a) Herreshoff 12.5 boats;
- (b) Catboats at least 18 feet LOA; and
- (c) Other boats at least 22 feet LOA and which:
 - (1) carry a PHRF rating;

- (2) carry a CRF rating; or
- (3) are a one-design class (see below).

4.2 Boats with a PHRF rating may choose between a spinnaker division and a non-spinnaker division.

4.3 Boats with a CRF rating must declare whether they will race with either their spinnaker or their non-spinnaker rating at the time of registration. No changes to this spinnaker declaration shall be permitted during the event.

4.4 Eligible boats may enter by completing the online registration form and paying the entry fee online. ENTER ONLINE. Entries and payment may also be sent to Sail Martha's Vineyard, PO Box 1998, Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts 02568.

4.5 Entries must be received by 1800 hours on July 9, 2026.

NOTE: the OA may, at its sole discretion, accept any late entry at any time. A \$50 late entry fee will apply.

5. CLASSIFICATION

5.1 Boats with a CRF rating shall be in the Classic Division.

(a) A 2026 CRF Certificate MUST be presented for all boats in the Classic Division.

(b) Boats in the Classic Division will be divided into the following Classes: Vintage, Classic, Modern Classic, Spirit of Tradition and Contemporary, based on the classification specified on the CRF Certificate. If fewer than three boats are registered in a Class, the OA may combine one or more of such Classes in its discretion.

(c) Boats in the Classic Division shall be subject to the Classic Yacht Racing Guidelines attached hereto as Exhibit A.

5.2 Boats with a PHRF rating will be divided into PHRF Spinnaker and PHRF Non-Spinnaker Divisions.

(a) A 2026 PHRF-NE Certificate MUST be presented for all boats in the PHRF Spinnaker and PHRF Non-Spinnaker Divisions.

(b) If entries in either PHRF division warrant, a division will be divided into classes to be established at the sole discretion of the OA and designated based on one-design class, rating, and/or hull material or configuration, or any combination thereof.

5.3 Eligible Catboats shall be in the Catboat Division.

5.4 Herreshoff 12.5 boats shall be in the Herreshoff 12.5 Division.

5.5 Any one-design class that has at least six boats registered may petition the OA to designate it as a separate division.

5.6 A 2026 PHRF certificate can be applied for through the Martha's Vineyard Fleet. APPLY FOR PHRF CERTIFICATE ONLINE. Complete application, pay and submit on the PHRF-NE website.

5.7 CRF certificates can be applied for through the following link. CRF RATINGS.

6. ENTRY FEES

6.1 The entry fees shall be:

- (a) Catboats \$175
- (b) Herreshoff 12.5 \$200
- (c) Classics designed after 1945 \$275
- (d) Classics designed in or before 1945 \$250
- (e) PHRF with LOA \geq 30' \$300
- (f) PHRF with LOA < 30' \$275

6.2 \$100 of each entry fee is a tax-deductible contribution to Sail Martha's Vineyard. All proceeds help to support the charitable programs of Sail Martha's Vineyard.

6.3 Registration received after the 1800 hour July 9, 2026 deadline, if accepted by the OA in its sole discretion, will be subject to a \$50 late fee.

7. CREW LIMITATIONS

7.1 All boats in the PHRF Non-Spinnaker, PHRF Spinnaker and Classics Divisions shall be sailed by a minimum of two sailors.

7.2 RRS 40.1 shall apply. RRS 40.1 states, in part, "each competitor shall wear a personal floatation device except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment."

8. ADVERTISING

8.1 A boat may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA, as permitted by the World Sailing Advertising Code.

9. PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

9.1 All Divisions (other than Catboat Division):

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026

Captains' meeting 0900 hours, [Owen Park gazebo](#).

9.2 The PHRF Spinnaker and PHRF Non-Spinnaker Divisions:

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026

First Warning Signal 1210 hours.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026

Pursuit Race First Boat Warning Signal 1030 hours.

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

Reserve Day to be used if racing is cancelled on either Friday or Saturday.

9.3 The Classic Division:

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026

First Warning Signal 1200 hrs.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026

Pursuit Race First Boat Warning Signal 1030 hrs.

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

Reserve Day to be used if racing is cancelled on either Friday or Saturday.

9.4 The Catboat Division:

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026

Captains' meeting 0800 hours, [Owen Park gazebo](#).

First Warning Signal 1200 hrs.

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

Reserve Day to be used if racing is cancelled on either Friday or Saturday.

9.5 The Herreshoff 12.5 Division:

Friday, July 10, 2026

First Warning Signal 1300 hrs.

(Second race warning to follow completion of first race.)

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026

First Warning Signal 1200 hrs.

(Second race warning to follow completion of first race.)

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

Reserve Day to be used if racing is cancelled on either Friday or Saturday.

10. VENUE AND COURSES

10.1 For all Divisions other than the Herreshoff 12.5 Division, all races will start in Vineyard Haven Harbor and may take place in Nantucket Sound and/or Vineyard Sound off the Island of Martha's Vineyard using government marks. One race per day is contemplated.

10.2 For the Herreshoff 12.5 Division, all races will start, and be sailed, in Vineyard Haven Harbor using existing buoys and/or dropped marks. Two races per day are contemplated.

10.3 Race Headquarters will be located at the Sail Martha's Vineyard office:

151 Beach Road, Unit 2C

Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

508-696-7644

admin@sailmv.org

10.4 Potential courses for all divisions/classes will be specified in the Sailing Instructions.

11. SCORING and ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

11.1 Each division and class will be scored separately for the purpose of awards.

11.2 PHRF-NE ratings will be used for the PHRF Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker Divisions. A valid PHRF-NE 2026 certificate for each boat entered must be on file with the Race Committee prior to the start of the first race.

11.3 CRF ratings will be used for the Classic Division. A valid 2026 CRF Certificate for each boat entered must be on file with the Race Committee prior to the start of the first race.

11.4 No score will be excluded in any Division or Class scoring. This changes RRS A2.1

11.5 The Scoring Penalty in RRS 44.3 shall apply for boats in the Classic, PHRF Spinnaker and PHRF Non-Spinnaker divisions.

12. PRIZES

12.1 Trophies will be awarded at the awards ceremony following racing on Saturday (or Sunday if the reserve day is used) as follows:

(a) CLASSIC DIVISION: The DANA FAMILY CUP, a perpetual trophy for the boat with the best cumulative, corrected time for all races. Second and third place overall trophies will also be awarded. First place trophies will also be awarded in the following Classic Division Classes: Vintage, Classic, Modern Classic, Spirit of Tradition and Contemporary.

(b) PHRF NON-SPINNAKER DIVISION: The VINEYARD CUP TROPHY for the boat with the best cumulative, corrected time for all races, across all Classes within the PHRF Non-spinnaker Division.

(c) PHRF NON-SPINNAKER DIVISION: The DONALD S. COHAN TROPHY "The Methuselah" for the boat with the oldest skipper with the best cumulative, corrected time for all races, across all Classes within the PHRF Non-spinnaker Division.

(d) PHRF SPINNAKER DIVISION: The VINEYARD CHALLENGE TROPHY for the boat with the best cumulative, corrected time for all races. Second and third place trophies will also be awarded in the PHRF Spinnaker Division.

(e) First, second and third place trophies in each PHRF Non-Spinnaker Class.

(f) First, second and third place trophies in the Catboat Division.

(g) First, second and third place trophies in the Herreshoff 12.5 Division.

(h) The SAIL MV TROPHY for the boat best exemplifying the spirit of Island sailing.

(i) Additional trophies may be awarded at the discretion of the OA.

If any Class or Division has less than 6 boats, then only the first-place trophy shall be awarded for such Class or Division.

13. SHORESIDE PARTIES

13.1 If the first day of racing occurs on Friday, July 10 2026, at 1700 hours, there will be an informal evening get-together at the [Sail MV Boathouse](#) with food and refreshments. A \$35 donation per person is suggested and may be paid at the event.

13.2 If the first day of racing occurs on Saturday, July 11, 2026, at 1700 hours, there will be an informal evening get-together at the [Sail MV Boathouse](#) with food and refreshments. A \$35 donation per person is suggested and may be paid at the event.

13.3 If the second day of racing is completed on Saturday, July 11, 2026, at 1700 hours, there will be a regatta party between 1700 – 2000 hours at the [Sail MV Boathouse](#).

13.4 If the second day of racing is completed on Saturday, July 11, 2026, the award ceremony will take place during the regatta party referenced in 13.3 above. If racing takes place on the Sunday, July 12, 2026 reserve day, then the awards ceremony will be held at 1700 hours at the [73 Williams st, Vineyard Haven, MA.](#)

14. ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES

14.1 The Vineyard Cup Regatta will be sailed pursuant to the Notice of Expectations, which set forth the environmental standards by which the event will be run and Sail Martha's Vineyard's expectations of the competitors as they relate to environmental practices.

15. LIABILITY

15.1 The safety of a boat and its crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Skipper/Owner who must ensure that his boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy and crewed by an experienced and physically capable crew. The decision of whether or not to start or continue a race is solely that of the Skipper.

15.2 The Skipper/Owner of each boat participating in the event shall be responsible for the behavior of each member of the crew of his/her boat, both while on the water and ashore.

15.3 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 intense 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.

15.4 Sail Martha's Vineyard (including its officers, directors, and staff), the participating Sponsors and Industry Partners of the 2026 Vineyard Cup Regatta, the race committee, volunteers, officials and protest committee do not accept responsibility or liability for any damage, personal injury or death sustained in in any way in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the Vineyard Cup Regatta.

16. INSURANCE

16.1 Each participating boat shall be adequately insured with valid third-party liability insurance that is appropriate taking into account the value of the boats racing and the type of racing.

17. AMENDMENTS TO THIS NOTICE

17.1 The OA reserves the right to amend this Notice of Race. Any amendments of the NOR will be (i) posted on the Official Noticeboard and (ii) sent to all boats registered at that time.

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

18.1 For further information please contact:
SAIL MARTHA's VINEYARD
PO Box 1998
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
508-696-7644
admin@sailmv.org
www.sailmv.org

Exhibit A

Classic Yacht Racing Guidelines

6. RIGGING AND EQUIPMENT

6.1. Rigging and Equipment details that are deemed to significantly affect performance potential may be addressed through CRF formulae and factors that will affect ratings. These details may include non-original spar and standing rigging materials, as well as structural materials or methods.

6.2. Under these guidelines, a stay is defined as a permanently-secured and taut cable that supports a headsail. A removable stay shall be considered permanent if it is secured and kept in a taut condition for the duration of an event. This definition includes luff-ropes that allow a sail to be rolled on the rope. A luff rope that supports a staysail tacked aft of the headstay and set inside the foretriangle may be removed while racing. The foretriangle is defined as the area between the foremost mast and the permanent stay that is referenced by the 'J' and 'IG' dimensions shown on the certificate.

6.3. Forestays and headsail tacks, except those of spinnaker staysails when the boat is not close-hauled, shall be attached approximately on a boat's centerline, in accordance with RRS 54.

6.4. The length of a spinnaker pole when used to pole out a spinnaker must be no longer than the SPL, which can be up to 110% of the J dimension, declared on the CRF Certificate. When in use, a spinnaker pole or whisker pole must be attached to the foremost mast in accordance with RRS 55.2.

6.5. Shifting ballast of any kind during a race, other than shifting crew weight, is not permitted. All ballast must be fixed in place against shifting. Other temporary means of augmenting stability are prohibited, including the use of trapezes. All crew must keep their torsos within the perimeter of the yacht except as allowed by RRS 49.

7. SAILS

7.1. Yachts in the Vintage and Classic Divisions shall race with sails fabricated from materials limited to Polyester (e.g., Dacron), Nylon, or Ultra-PE (e.g., Spectra, Dyneema, UHMWPE, etc.). Inclusion of carbon fiber in the materials used is specifically not allowed.

7.2. Yachts in the Vintage and Classic Divisions shall race with upwind sails (e.g., those that are attached to masts or stays) of classic light color. Resolution of uncertainties or disputes regarding upwind sail color shall be at the discretion of the OA.

7.3. Yachts in a Spirit of Tradition, Modern Classic, and Contemporary Divisions may race with upwind sails built with any fiber via any sailmaking technique.

8. SETTING AND SHEETING SAILS (Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker)

8.1. The guidelines below are intended to fit the way Classic boats are traditionally sailed with the rigging, equipment, and sails outlined in the above sections.

8.2. In accordance with RRS 55.4 and Equipment Rules of Sailing G.1.3(d), a headsail is defined as a sail whose width, measured between the midpoints of its luff and leech, is less than 75% of the length of its foot. A spinnaker is a sail whose width,

measured between the midpoints of its luff and leech, is equal to or greater than 75%. A sail tacked down behind the foremost mast is not a headsail.

8.3. All headsails and staysails (except spinnaker staysails) shall be fully attached to stays, except while being set or struck. A sail is defined as fully attached to a stay when it is secured to the stay by at least four evenly-spaced hanks or other attachments, or is continuously secured to the stay by a luff-rope in a groove or other continuous attachment.

8.4. Only one headsail may be flown on each stay in the fore-triangle at a time. This requires that when sail changes are made, the sail to be replaced must be dropped to the deck before its replacement is set on the same stay. This changes RRS 55.1.

8.5. In accordance with RRS 55.3(a), a headsail may be sheeted or attached at its clew to a spinnaker pole or whisker pole, provided that a spinnaker is not set.

8.6. A yawl or ketch racing under a non-spinnaker rating shall not fly a mizzen spinnaker but may fly a mizzen staysail. Any yacht that flies a mizzen spinnaker must race under a spinnaker rating. A mizzen staysail is an off-wind sail hoisted from the mizzen mast whose mid-girth is less than 75% of its foot length. A mizzen spinnaker is an off-wind sail hoisted from the mizzen mast whose mid-girth is equal to or greater than 75% of its foot length.

8.7. On schooners, fisherman or gollywobbler type sails are permitted.

8.8. A yacht shall not fly any sail whose dimensions exceed those shown on her CRF Certificate, and no headsail may be flown that is larger than the limits defined by the 'IG' (P2), 'J', and LP% shown on that certificate.