



BLOCK ISLAND RACE WEEK 2027

NOTICE OF RACE

The Storm Trysail Club ("STC") is the Organizing Authority ("OA") of the 32nd Storm Trysail Club Block Island Race Week ("BIRW"), to be held June 21-25, 2027.

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

1. RULES

1.1 Racing will be governed by: The rules, as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing; the ORC Rating System rules and regulations; the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet ("PHRF") Regulations, as administered by the Yacht Racing Association of Long Island Sound ("YRALIS"); the New England Multihull Association ("NEMA") rules and regulations; and the one-design rules for any one-design class racing.

1.2 The current Nearshore category of the US Safety Equipment Requirements and associated Appendices ("SER"), available [HERE](#). In the event of a conflict between the SER and applicable class rules, the class rules shall apply.

1.3 The US Sailing Prescriptions to the rules shall not apply with the exception of the prescriptions to rules 76.1, 88.2, and Appendix V Alternative Penalties. Appendix T2 Arbitration may apply.

1.4 BIRW Safety Recommendations and Emergency Procedures, to be posted.

1.5 These racing rules are changed as follows:

Rule 41 is changed by adding: "With the exception of ORC Open Class(es), once the race day begins, except as permitted by rule 41, boats racing shall not have contact with a support person."

Rule 51 is changed by adding: "The use of water ballast or canting keels is allowed for boats rated with such."

Rule 52 is changed to read: "A boat's standing rigging, running rigging, spars and movable hull appendages may be adjusted and operated by power provided by the crew or by stored power."

1.6 With the exception of ORC Open Class(es), the sails on board (including mainsails) may vary from day to day but shall remain the same for each individual race day, including multiple-race days and cases of damage to sails. The "race day" begins when the boat leaves the dock or mooring for the race course.

1.7 With the exception of ORC Open Class(es), the crew on board may vary from day to day but, once the race day begins and with the exception of injury requiring medical attention, shall remain the same for each race day, including multiple-race days.

1.8 Specific additional requirements for any class holding a championship will be posted as an Additional Document.

1.9 No boat, or support boat, shall operate or control a remotely controlled aircraft ('drone') or other remotely controlled vehicle while racing.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be posted on the official notice board on or about *June 13, 2027*.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1 The official notice board (ONB) and additional information will be located at <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50901>

3.2 Boats will be required to carry an operating VHF radio capable of receiving weather bulletins and communications from the race committee as well as communicating any emergency on board.

3.3 The race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The VHF channels will be stated in the SIs.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 All boats must be 22.00 feet LOA or larger.

4.2 Boats may compete in ORC, PHRF with handicaps faster than 177, Coastal Racing, Double-Handed, Classics, NEMA, or One-Design classes as follows:

a) Coastal Racing classes (spinnaker and non-spinnaker), and Double Handed class(es) for ORC or PHRF boats.

b) Classic, for boats with CRF handicaps faster than 24.

c) Others, including but not limited to One-Designs, Multihulls, and Classics as may be accepted at the discretion of the OA.

4.3 Teams of three boats from the same yacht club (two of which must be in separate classes), may compete for the Shelter Island Yacht Club Team Trophy.

4.4 Eligible boats may enter and pay the applicable Entry Fee via the Yachtscoring.com page for BIRW at <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50901>

4.5 As part of the entry process, each owner, skipper and individual participating crewmember shall sign a Crew Waiver Form available on Yachtscoring.com which shall be completed by June 14, 2027.

4.5.1 In addition to the Crew Waiver Form, all sailors MUST complete all data required of the Crew List, including contact information, age, and World Sailing # and Group Categorisation. To obtain a Sailor Group Categorisation visit - <http://sailing.org/sailors/sailor-categorisations/>

4.6 The minimum number of crew is two (2). For all classes, except Double Handed and one-designs sailing under class rules with specific crew limits, boats may carry one

additional crew member less than 14 years of age on June 25, 2027. This additional crew will not be a part of the maximum crew or crew weight calculation. Entrants intending to carry additional crew members less than 14 years of age shall so indicate on their Entry Form.

4.7 With regard to Group 3 sailors, the following crew limitations shall apply:

4.7.1 Coastal Racing and Double-handed – no more than one (1) crew member

4.7.2 ORC, PHRF & MH

Fewer than 7 total crew = 1

7 – 10 total crew = 2

11 – 15 total crew = 3

16 or more total crew = 4

4.7.3 ORC Open Class(es) – no limitation

4.8 All rating certificates must be available for download by *June 7, 2027*.

4.9 No rating **changes** will be accepted after *June 14, 2027*.

4.10 With the exception of boats sailing Double-Handed, boats sailing under ORC and having an APH of 500 or lower must have an ORCi certificate. In addition, any boat that has a modified hull or appendage must have an ORCi certificate regardless of her APH rating.

5. FEES

5.1 **For Windward/Leeward racing classes**, the Entry Fee is \$41.00 per foot of LOA for entries paid before *February 15, 2027*. To determine the Entry Fee, a boat's LOA may be rounded down to the nearest lower whole number, e.g., 39.71' = 39'. Beginning *February 15, 2027*, the Entry Fee will be \$45.00 per foot LOA. After *April 5, 2027*, the Entry Fee will be \$50.00 per foot LOA. Entry fees must be paid by May 5, 2027.

5.1.1 Regardless of the date of initial entry, the date of payment establishes the per foot fee to be paid.

5.1.2 After May 5, late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA. The fee for late entries is \$65.00 per foot LOA.

5.2 **For Coastal Racing classes**, the Entry Fee will be \$37.00 per foot LOA for entries paid before *February 15, 2027*. Beginning *February 15, 2027*, the Entry Fee will be \$41.00 per foot LOA. After *April 5, 2027*, the Entry Fee will be \$45.00 per foot LOA. Entry fees must be paid by May 5, 2027.

5.2.1 Regardless of the date of initial entry, the date of payment establishes the per foot fee to be paid.

5.2.2 After May 5, late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA. The fee for late entries is \$60.00 per foot LOA.

5.3 **For Double-handed classes**, the Entry Fee will be \$30.00 per foot LOA for entries paid before *February 15, 2027*. Beginning *February 15, 2027*, the Entry Fee will be \$34.00 per foot LOA. After *April 5, 2027*, the Entry Fee will be \$35.00 per foot LOA. Entry fees must be paid by May 5, 2027.

5.3.1 Regardless of the date of initial entry, the date of payment establishes the per foot fee to be paid.

5.3.2 After May 5, late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA. The fee for late entries is \$50.00 per foot LOA.

5.4 Admittance to the week's social events ("The Tent") requires an additional fee - to be posted.

5.5 An administrative fee of \$300.00 will be applied to any cancellations prior to May 5, 2027, after which no refunds will be made.

6. ADVERTISING

6.1 [DP] Any advertising proposed to be carried by a boat must be described in the Entry Application and be in compliance with World Sailing Regulation 20. Competitors are requested to respect the brand exclusivity of our sponsors, as their participation enhances the event for all.

6.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

7. SCHEDULE

7.1 Saturday, June 19

1300-1600: Bow numbers and boom sticker pick up at Race Headquarters

1300-1600: Weigh-In for One-Design classes, if applicable

Sunday, June 20

1100-1600: Registration at Race Headquarters

0900-1200: Weigh-In for One-Design classes, if applicable

Monday, June 21 – Friday, June 25

1100: First signal scheduled for racing

7.2 A Lay Day may be scheduled if conditions warrant.

7.3 Social events and awards presentations schedule will be posted in advance of the Regatta and announced via race communications.

8. VENUE

The Venue is the Great Salt Pond (New Harbor), Block Island, Rhode Island, USA. Racing will be in Block Island Sound and around Block Island.

9. COURSES

9.1 a) Windward /Leeward courses will be offered for One-Design, ORC, and PHRF classes.

b) Coastal Racing Spinnaker classes (both pursuit and rule 26 starts), Double Handed classes, and Multihull classes will race coastal races.

c) Coastal Racing Non-Spinnaker classes will race coastal races with pursuit starts.

9.2 For all classes, one or more races may be the Around The Island Race (ATIR) around Block Island.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

10.1 Appendix V will apply. This changes rule 44.1.

10.2 Appendix T2 Arbitration may apply.

10.3 The penalty of Appendix T1(b) is changed to: The post-race penalty is 30%, reduced to 25% for classes with 10 or more boats racing, or 20% for classes with 15 or more boats racing. Such penalties must be approved by the Jury.

10.4 A request to take a post-race penalty in accordance with Appendix T may be made at the protest desk located adjacent to Race HQ.

11. SCORING

11.1 One race will need to be completed to constitute a series. A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores unless class rules require otherwise. This changes RRS Appendix A.

11.2 ORC and PHRF classes, except Pursuit, will be scored using time-on-time (TOT). All PHRF TOT will be scored using the conversion factor $650/(550+\text{PHRF})$ rounded to 4 decimal places.

11.2.1 [NP] ORC W/L races will be scored A/P single number unless conditions dictate the use of an alternative ORC scoring option. The decision of the scoring criteria used, will be at the sole discretion of the race committee and will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.

ORC Coastal Racing Rule 26 classes will be scored A/P single number.

PHRF W/L races will be scored using YRALIS PHRF W/L ratings.

PHRF Coastal Racing Rule 26 classes will be scored using YRALIS PHRF W/L ratings.

11.2.2 [NP] For the Around the Island Race:

ORC classes will be scored A/P single number unless conditions dictate the use of an alternative ORC scoring option. The decision of the scoring criteria used, will be at the sole discretion of the race committee and will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.

PHRF classes will be scored using their YRALIS PHRF All Purpose rating.

One Design classes must sail in their one design configuration and winners will be scored using their YRALIS PHRF One Design All Purpose ratings.

11.3 Pursuit classes will be scored using YRALIS PHRF All-purpose time-on-distance ratings.

11.4 Teams will be scored by using the average of each team member's percentage placement within its respective class.

12. RISK & LIABILITY

12.1 The Storm Trysail Club, its officers, directors, members, sponsors, employees and agents, the Race Committee, the BIRW Protest Committee and any other Committee of the Club shall not be liable for any injury or damage whatsoever to persons or property which may occur during or arise out of or in connection with the Race. Notice is hereby given to all participants including spectators, officials and others that they participate in this event solely at their own risk.

12.2 The Skipper/Owner of each boat participating in BIRW shall be responsible for the behavior of each member of the crew of his/her boat, both while 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 and its premises.

13. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$500,000 per incident or the equivalent.

14. PRIZES

Prizes and Perpetual Trophies will be awarded. For the perpetual trophies see the event website.

15. PRIVACY POLICY, COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA RIGHTS

As a condition of participating in the regatta, competitors shall agree to accept operational communications (voice, email, text, or other), and grant the OA, and its agents, employees, sponsors, and assigns, the irrevocable right and permission to use basic competitor information, photographs and video footage taken of themselves, their crew and their competing boat, without notification, for use or distribution in any media whatsoever for editorial or advertising purposes, or to be used in press information. Competitors shall agree to release, defend, and hold harmless the OA and its agents, employees, sponsors, and assigns, from and against any claims, damages or liability arising from or related to the use of the photographs and video footage.

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

Please address all inquiries concerning The Storm Trysail Club Block Island Race Week to:

The Storm Trysail Club
1 Woodbine Ave.
Larchmont, NY 10538
Tel: (914) 834-8857

E-Mail: ExecDirector@stormtrysail.org

STC website: www.stormtrysail.org

BIRW 2027 MANAGEMENT

Event Chair: Matt Gallagher matt@stormtrysail.org

Race Manager: Past Commodore Dick Neville rneville@innovprop.com

TO ENTER and for Race Documents: _____

Interested in sponsorship opportunities?

Please contact: sponsorship@stormtrysail.org