



## Notice of Race

# Big Tom Wednesday Night Series

**Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, September 1, 2021**

The Big Tom Wednesday Night Series (BTWNS) is a weekly event consisting of sixteen scheduled yacht races with spinnaker and non-spinnaker divisions. The series is sailed in the vicinity of Eastchester Bay NY, near the Throggs Neck Bridge. It is a welcoming, inclusive event providing fun, interesting windward-leeward and navigator courses for both experienced racers and cruising boats. The series features easy qualifying, multiple throw-outs, and LOW COST! City Island Yacht Club (CIYC) is the organizing authority.

### **RULES:**

The series will be governed by, in reverse order of prevailing authority, the United States Sailing Association, The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024, the Notice of Race, and the Sailing Instructions. With the exception of specifically designated one-design classes, all boats are considered entered as "PHRF Class," and are required to sail and adhere to YRA of LIS 2021 PHRF regulations. Note that this applies to any one-design boat sailing in a PHRF Class division.

YRA of LIS regulations require PHRF events to have a "Technical Committee" to adjudicate any PHRF certificate compliance issues. CIYC has elected to use the YRA of LIS Technical Committee if necessary. See YRA of LIS website further information regarding the Technical Committee.

Non-PHRF (one-design) classes may have a rules addendum specific to those respective divisions. All boats shall have a minimum crew of two people on board at all times. Note that crew weight limit penalties and weight credits are not in effect for the Wednesday series, and are no longer in effect for any YRA races. BTWNS may require an entry to change sail numbers to avoid conflict with boats previously registered in the series. All boats shall properly display the sail number indicated on the scratch sheet.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

The series is open to all sailing boats, spinnaker and non-spinnaker, with a valid 2021 YRALIS or 2021 BTWNS PHRF provisional certificate (boats without a valid PHRF certificate from a recognized rating authority will be rated and issued a provisional PHRF certificate by the governing body. This certificate will only be valid for the BTWNS). Yachts racing in a “one design” class do not need to apply for a certificate.

### **REGISTRATION:**

*NOTE THAT ALL REGISTRATION WILL BE DONE THROUGH  
WWW.YACHTSCORING.COM.*

- The registration fee for series entry is \$160. The fee must be paid before a yacht can compete (competitors may post their yacht’s intention to race on Yachtscoring.com but until the entry fee is paid they may not compete).
- In order to encourage new racers to join in the Wednesday night series boats that have previously not raced in a local Wednesday night series will be allowed a “free trial” race at no cost. However, yachts must register on Yachtscoring.com prior to that “free trial” and, If they elect to continue racing, after that first free race they must pay the full \$160 entry fee. Entries will remain open throughout the season, with later entries to be received no later than the Monday immediately preceding the boat's first race.
- All participant vessels are encouraged to obtain an official PHRF rating certificate from the Yacht Racing Association of Long Island Sound ([www.yralis.org](http://www.yralis.org)). However, a vessel without a rating certificate may apply to the Big Tom Wednesday Night Series for a provisional rating certificate that will be valid for this series only. Such provisional ratings can be applied for by sending an email request to [BigTomWNS@cityislandyc.org](mailto:BigTomWNS@cityislandyc.org).
- A yacht's registration will be valid for the single boat hull indicated on the entry. There can be no substitution of an alternate hull or boat and merging of the series race scores for any reason. If a boat is damaged and unable to continue the series, BTWNS will allow the skipper to re-enter another boat without paying an additional entry fee; however, the races scored under the original hull will stand in the series and the scores of the

new entry will stand apart. The number of races toward qualifying for each boat, and any throw-outs will be calculated separately for each boat.

**SCHEDULE, LOCATION AND START TIME:**

The races take place each Wednesday from May 19, 2021 through September 1, 2021. The default start line will be in the vicinity of City Island Buoy "R-2" (Big Tom). Courses will be determined by the race committee at race time. Unless there are delays the first warning gun will be at 7:00 PM with intended 5:00 minute rolling starts until all classes have started.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:**

Big Tom Wednesday Night Series management will attempt to notify racers via email and/or other telecommunication by 4:30 PM if conditions beyond our control or severe weather (e.g. sustained winds of 25 knots or more) indicate that cancellation of the scheduled race would be necessary or prudent. Skippers are encouraged to provide a textable telephone number and/or email address on the Yachtscoring.com entry form to receive timely notifications of race status. A race cancelled or abandoned will not be re-scheduled at a later time.

**COURSES:**

Courses will be signaled from the committee boat according to the 2021 Sailing Instructions document(s) posted on Yachtscoring.com.

**DIVISIONS:**

Division splits will reflect the goal of making fair and competitive groupings for the series. The factors considered will be the number of entries, the type of boat, the boat's sailing characteristics and its PHRF rating. One-design divisions will be offered if there are sufficient entries to ensure competitive racing throughout the season.

**QUALIFYING AND THROWOUTS:**

Boats will need to be scored in half of the series sailed, rounded down, plus 1 to qualify for the series. Races started but with no finishers in division will count as races not sailed and will therefore lower the number of races needed to qualify.

Competitors will earn one throw-out for the series upon qualifying. Multiple throw-outs may be earned by yachts continuing to sail in more than the minimum number of races required to qualify.

**SCORING:**

Scoring will be done using PHRF Time on Time computation. Finish position for PHRF divisions will be established on corrected time using time-on-time factors derived from a boat's PHRF certificate rating and the formula  $F = 600 / (480 + \text{PHRF})$ . Finish positions in any "one design" class will be determined in the order of finishers.

Qualifying yachts will be scored for the series based on the average of their best scores in half the races sailed for their division plus one. The scoring program will discard "throw-out" races allowing it to produce a boat's highest cumulative score for the series. Note: A DSQ or withdrawal as a result of a protest hearing may not be thrown-out.

**AWARDS:**

First place trophies will be awarded for each division in which there are 3 or more qualifiers; Second place for 5 or more qualifiers; Third place for 7 or more qualifiers; Fourth place for 9 or more qualifiers. Participants will be notified of the exact date and location of the awards event.

**INFORMATION AND AMENDMENTS:**

All racers and crews are invited to join the BTWNS Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 7:00PM.

A pre-series skippers' meeting will be held at 7:00PM on Wednesday, May 12th, 2021. Up-To-Date additions or changes to the sailing instructions and Scratch Sheet will be posted on [yachtscoring.com](http://yachtscoring.com) by no later than Tuesday May 18th, 2021. The scratch sheet will be updated to include later entries after the series' starting date on [yachtscoring.com](http://yachtscoring.com).

Both meetings are tentatively scheduled to be held "face to face", but may be re-scheduled as Zoom Meetings in the event of on-going Public Health concerns and restrictions. Announcements will be made as the dates approach.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

The Big Tom Wednesday Night Series is administered by CITY ISLAND YACHT CLUB, 63 Pilot St. City Island, NY 10464. CIYC is the organizing authority and will run the series, scoring, protests, disqualifications, etc.

For questions or more info, email:

**[BigTomWNS@cityislandyc.org](mailto:BigTomWNS@cityislandyc.org)**