



# The 81st Vineyard Race

(Including the Cornfield Point & Seaflower Reef Courses)

## September 4-6, 2015

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND GENERAL CONDITIONS

#### 1. RULES and OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

1.1 The race shall be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). The US SAILING Prescriptions to the RRS do not apply, except the prescriptions to rules 61.4, 76.1, and Appendix R. Advertising is allowed in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20. Rule 51 is modified to allow the use of canting keels for all boats rated with them. Rule 52 is modified to allow the use of stored power to mechanically move canting keels.

1.2 The Notice of Race and any Amendments thereto.

1.3 The following shall apply for all classes:

1) The Scoring Penalty, rule 44.3 will be used.

2) From sunset to sunrise the following shall be substituted for rule 17:

When two boats are on the same tack within three overall lengths (of the larger boat) of each other, the boat being overtaken shall maintain her proper course. The overtaking boat shall keep clear, and neither boat shall bear away toward, nor luff, the other.

1.4 **Class Flags** - Each boat shall fly from her backstay six or more feet above the deck, the flag corresponding to her designated START group. Start assignments are indicated on the Scratch Sheets. For Multi-hulls, class flags are not required.

1.5 Any boat withdrawing before the start or abandoning the Race shall remove her class flag and *immediately* notify Race Headquarters, (203) 961-1013 or the Event Chair (203) 962-1640. It is the sole responsibility of any boat withdrawing to ensure that the Race Committee has been properly notified.

1.6 **Double-handed divisions** – The following will apply to boats competing Double-handed:

(a) Crew is limited to 2 persons, one of whom shall be at least 18 years of age.

(b) Wind vanes and/or autopilots may be used without penalty. This changes RRS 52.

(c) Properly rated asymmetrical spinnakers may be used without penalty.

(d) Safety lines (jack lines) leading forward from both sides of the cockpit to the bow, well secured at each end, shall be rigged throughout the race.

(e) Competitors sailing in the double-handed division are permitted to utilize radio communications amongst themselves while racing. This changes RRS 41.

- (f) Twin headsails may be set on two poles for downwind sailing.
- (g) For headsails, whisker poles of any length may be used without penalty, but only a rated spinnaker pole may be used with a spinnaker.

1.7 **PHRF Non-spinnaker divisions** – The following will apply to boats competing Non-spinnaker:

- (a) Whisker poles of any length may be used without penalty.
- (b) The use of any headsail whose mid-girth (mid-luff to mid-leach) is more than 50% of its measurement is prohibited.
- (c) Except when changing headsails, participating boats may not fly more than one headsail at a time.
- (d) Boats that are permanently cutter-rigged may fly their staysails.

## 2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the website <http://www.yachtscoring.com/VRNotices>. After 0800 on the day of the race, notices will also be available at Vineyard Race Headquarters in the library at Stamford Yacht Club. They shall be incorporated into these Sailing Instructions and shall be considered as having been delivered to each Captain.

2.2 To signal that a change has been posted, code flag L will be flown from the Stamford Yacht Club yardarm on the Shore Station in the front lawn.

## 3. REPORTING FOR INSTRUCTIONS:

3.1 A representative from each boat should report to the Vineyard Race Headquarters at Stamford Yacht Club between 1800 and 2100 on Thursday, September 3rd or between 0900 and 1200, or Friday, September 4th, to receive, courtesy of our sponsors, a Skipper's Bag, which will contain scratch sheets, and other complimentary items. If you are competing for the Corinthian Trophy, you must so inform the Race Committee either in person or via email at [vineyardrace@stamfordyc.com](mailto:vineyardrace@stamfordyc.com).

3.2 **Tracking:** All boats shall carry and have on at all times while racing, a KATTACK compatible tracking device. Skippers may download the Kattack App for iPhone (iPad) or Android device, or, in the alternative, use their own SPOT Tracking System device. Skippers are expected to download and run the Kattack App (**one** per boat) or notify Race Headquarters by email ([vineyardrace@stamfordyc.com](mailto:vineyardrace@stamfordyc.com)) prior to the first signal that they will be using their own SPOT device and register the appropriate data (SPOT Shared tracking package) with Race Headquarters. Failure to have and use a tracking device is subject to protest by the Race Committee only.

## 4. THE COURSES:

### 4.1 All courses:

(a) **START:** Between Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) off Stamford Harbor and a flag staff flying an orange flag on the Committee Boat lying to the South. The Committee reserves the right to place a "keep away" mark in the vicinity of the Committee boat. Such mark must be left to starboard when a boat is starting or is approaching the starting line to start and Parts 2 and 3 of the RRS shall apply with respect to such mark as if it were part of the Committee Boat. No boats shall pass between the "keep away" mark and the Committee Boat.

(b) **FINISH:** The Finish will be at the Stamford Harbor entrance *between flashing green beacon #3 on the West breakwater and a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat anchored northerly of the East breakwater.*

### 4.2 The Vineyard Race course:

a) From the Start to the Buzzards Bay Light Tower, leaving the Tower to starboard, then leaving Block Island to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) to starboard, then to the Finish, leaving Nun "2" to starboard for a total of 238 NM.

(b) Upon rounding the Buzzards Bay Light Tower, each boat shall record its time when the Tower bears due West of the boat's mainmast. "Tower Time" shall be recorded on the Navigator Time Sheet and reported to the Race Committee immediately after finishing.

(c) **Short Course: At the discretion of the Race Committee, a short course may be signaled by displaying a Code Flag "C" prior to the warning signal for the start of any class. The short course will be the Seaflower Reef course.**

**4.3 The Cornfield Point Courses:** From the Start to Cornfield Point Shoal leaving Red Bell "2" to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "8" (at the easterly end of Long Sand Shoal) to starboard, then leaving **RG "TE"** buoy to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) to starboard, then to the Finish, leaving Nun "2" to starboard for a total of 116 NM.

**4.4 Seaflower Reef Course:** From the Start to 'Seaflower Reef' leaving it to starboard, then leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) to starboard, then to the Finish, leaving Nun "2" to starboard for a total of 143 NM.

4.5 In the event that a mark of the course is not on station, it will be incumbent on each boat to round the established position of that mark. The Navigator shall report the missing mark, in writing, to the Race Committee within two hours of finishing. Rounding time and boats within sight shall also be noted.

## **5. THE START:**

5.1 Starting signals will be in accordance with Rule 26 with the following modification: 5 minutes before the Warning Signal for the first start only, Code Flag F will be displayed with one sound; 1 minute before the first Warning Signal, Code Flag F will be removed without sound. It is anticipated that all remaining classes will start at ten-minute intervals, using the Rule 26 sequence. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the failure of a sound signal shall be disregarded. The first signal shall be at 1200, Friday, September 4th.

5.2 After the Warning for the next Start and until all starting boats have started, there shall be a Restricted Starting Area running 300 yards westerly of and parallel to the Starting Line. Boats whose Preparatory Signal has not been made shall keep clear of the Restricted Starting Area and of all boats whose Preparatory Signal has been made. Boats that fail to abide by these restrictions may be subject to protest by the Race Committee. This modifies Rule 60.2. If the protest is upheld, the offending boat will be penalized by having one hour added to her corrected time

5.3 Without infringing upon the foregoing rule, each boat should, prior to the Warning Signal of her class, approach the Signal Boat so that she will be assured of being recorded as a starter. Please do **not** check in via radio. The Race Committee will not acknowledge boats attempting to do so.

5.4 Any boat failing to respond to an Individual Recall Signal will be penalized by the addition of one hour to her corrected time.

5.5 If for any reason the Race Committee determines that no starts are advisable on Friday, September 4th, flags N over A (Abandonment, no more racing today) will be displayed followed by three sounds. These signals may be made from the Committee Boat while still at the SYC dock. In that event, the starts will take place on the morning of Saturday, September 5th. The First Signal will be at 0800 and all other signals will be rescheduled at the time intervals indicated in Section 5.1.

## **6. THE FINISH:**

6.1 Boats approaching the finish are **required** to notify the Race Committee on VHF Channel 05A *as they round* Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) *or* are within 0.5 nm of the Finish if approaching from

the South, and identify themselves by boat name and sail number. At this time each Vineyard Course boat will notify the Race Committee of their tower rounding time. If finishing in darkness, each boat shall illuminate her sail numbers and notify the Race Committee on VHF Channel 05A to be sure that the boat's identity has been properly established. All communication should be brief.

6.2 If no Committee Boat is on station at the Finish, each boat shall record the time when flashing green beacon #3 on the West breakwater at the entrance to Stamford Harbor bears 260° magnetic. This time, along with her best estimate of the finish times and sail numbers of the boats immediately preceding and following, must be reported as described in SI 6.3.

6.3 For those sailing the Vineyard Course, the Navigator Time Sheet must be filed at Vineyard Race Headquarters at Stamford Yacht Club, in person or by email ([vineyardrace@stamfordyc.com](mailto:vineyardrace@stamfordyc.com)) or fax (203-348-1620) no later than two hours after finishing.

## **7. PROTESTS AND PENALTIES:**

7.1 Protesting boats shall comply with Part 5 of the Rules except as otherwise noted in these Sailing Instructions.

7.2. Immediately after finishing, a protesting boat shall verbally inform the Race Committee via VHF Channel 05A, of her intent to file a protest. All protests shall be on a standard protest form, signed by the Owner or the Person in Charge of the protesting boat, and filed with the Race Committee in the Vineyard Race Headquarters no later than two hours after her recorded finish.

7.3. In the case of a protest involving the right of way Rules, the boat at fault, instead of being disqualified as a result of a hearing, may, at the option of the Protest Committee, have her corrected time increased by 2%. This modifies RRS 64.1

7.4 Protests involving potential trophy winners will be heard at Stamford Yacht Club as soon as practicable after the boats involved have finished. Protests for other boats will be heard beginning at 1200 on Sunday for all boats finished by that time. Special arrangements will be made for later finishing boats.

**8. PENALTY SYSTEM:** The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3 will apply. A boat intending to take a scoring penalty shall, upon finishing, so inform the RC.

**9. TIME LIMIT:** There is no Time Limit. However, boats finishing after 1000 on Sunday shall follow the procedure described in SI 6. 2.

## **10. SCORING**

10.1 PHRF classes will use YRA of LIS distance ratings and will be scored using time on time.

10.2 The IRC classes will be scored by using the IRC Time Correction Factor using time on time. The overall Vineyard Lightship Trophy will be awarded to the best corrected time in the IRC Fleet.

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

10.4 Stamford Yacht Club reserves the right to correct errors in ratings, time allowances and scoring.

## **11. RADIO COMMUNICATION:**

11.1 Each boat shall carry a VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on Channels 05A and 16.

11.2 RRS 41 is hereby amended for the purpose of allowing the following:

(a) Boats sailing in a Double-handed division may communicate amongst themselves.

(b) The Race Committee will endeavor to make courtesy announcements over VHF Channel 05A before and during the starting sequence. All boats are urged to keep their radios on.

11.3 Each boat shall carry a cell phone, the number of which *shall be on file* with the Race Committee and *shall be on* during the race and for two hours after finishing.

**13. PRIZES AND RECEPTION:** A reception and awards gathering is scheduled for 1800 on Sunday, September 6th, on the lawn at the Stamford Yacht Club. All skippers, crew and guests are welcome. Dress is casual.

**14. MANAGEMENT:** The Race Committee shall have the authority to interpret the rules and conditions of the race, to assign boats to classes, to decide protests and to reject the entry of any boat.

**15. SAFETY AND RESPONSIBILITY:**

15.1 It is the sole responsibility of the master of each boat to see that she is seaworthy in all respects and that she is manned by a competent crew. The master and all the members of the crew of each boat, by participating in this race, agree to do so at their own risk, and waive any claim against and hold harmless Stamford Yacht Club, its officers, directors, committees, members, employees, sponsors, and agents against any claims arising in any way out of the participation in the Race of such boat, her master and crew.

15.2 **Assisting Boats in Distress-** In the event that a boat assists another vessel or crew in distress, and the assisting boat wishes to continue in the Race, the boat may do so provided that, in rendering assistance, with or without the use of the engine, the boat shall return promptly to the position on the course at which the Race was interrupted and resume the Race from that point. The boat shall, promptly upon finishing, report to the Race Committee all details of the assistance rendered and supply extracts from her log showing her position at time of rendering assistance, names of other competing boats in the vicinity, time spent in giving such assistance, and any other details regarding assistance rendered which might affect the boat's standing in the Race. Upon receiving and verifying the foregoing information, the Race Committee, with or without a hearing, may at its discretion record such boat as an official finisher and subtract such time from the boat's elapsed time as may be deemed fair under the circumstances. This modifies RRS 63.1.

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VICE COMMODORE  
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