



2023

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (“SI”)v4

The Storm Trysail Club (“STC”) is the Organizing Authority (“OA”) of Block Island Race Week (“BIRW”) to be held June 19-23, 2023 at Block Island, Rhode Island, USA

The notation ‘[DP]’ in a rule in the sailing instructions means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation ‘[NP]’ in a rule of the SIs means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1. RULES

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any Amendment to the Sailing Instructions will be posted prior to 0900 on the day it will take effect except that any change in the scheduled time of racing will be posted by 2000 on the day before. SI Amendments will also be emailed to the competitor’s email address provided on their entry form.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board (“ONB”) located at:
<https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=15440>

3.2 The Regatta Office is located at Champlin’s Marina & Resort.

3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on the following VHF radio Channels:

White Fleet	VHF Channel 72
Blue Fleet	VHF Channel 74
Green Fleet	VHF Channel 78A

3.4 [DP] While racing, from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data transmissions that is not available to all boats.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be made by VHF radio on each Fleet channel and posted on the ONB.

5.2 At approximately 0900 each day, the Race Committee will broadcast, on each of the Fleet channels, their intentions for the day.

5.3 At 0930 each day, the Race Committee may, with one sound, broadcast on each of the Fleet channels, a harbor start for all classes. Postponement or abandonment for some or all classes may be broadcast instead of the harbor start.

5.4 For some or all classes, the Round The Island Race (“RTIR”) may be signaled.

5.5 During a postponement ashore, the Race Committee will broadcast status messages on the respective Fleet channels. The Warning Signal for the first start will be no earlier than 1 hour and 30 minutes after the end of the postponement ashore.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 Races are scheduled during the 5 days from Monday, June 19 to Friday, June 23.

6.2 The warning signal for the first race each day is scheduled for 1100.

6.3 For White and Blue fleets, a maximum of 12 races are scheduled. The race committee plans to run as many as three races each day. Green Fleet Classes will race one race per day.

7. CLASS FLAGS & BOW NUMBERS

7.1 No class flags will be required.

7.2 [DP] [NP] For one design classes, bow numbers will be issued. Bow numbers shall be affixed to port and starboard sides of the hull, approximately 3 inches below the sheer line. The leading edge of the forward number shall be no more than 12 inches aft of the stem.

8. RACING AREAS

8.1 There will be three racing areas in Block Island Sound, designated White, Blue and Green.

8.2 The center of the White and Blue Fleet racing circles and the Green Fleet Start / Finish are:

White Fleet: approximately 041° 12.8N / 071° 37.5W
Blue Fleet: approximately 041° 10.6N / 071° 38.7W
Green Fleet: approximately 041° 11.7N / 071° 35.9W

The signal boat for the White and Blue Fleets may not go to the center of the racing circle, but will announce their location on VHF when they are on station in the starting area.

8.3 For the RTIR the starting areas will be per Appendix 3 and confirmed by VHF on each Fleet channel at 0900.

9. COURSES

9.1 White and Blue Fleet windward/leeward (“W/L”) courses are described in Appendix 1.

9.2 Green Fleet courses are described in Appendix 2.

9.3 Round The Island Race courses are described in Appendix 3.

10. MARKS

For White and Blue Fleets, marks will be robotic marks or inflatable marks. Green Fleet start and finish mark will be an inflatable mark and all other marks will be government buoys or wind farm

towers (see SI Attachment A). RTIR marks will be a combination of government buoys, Windfarm towers and inflatable marks (see SI Appendix 3 and Attachment B).

11. CHECK-IN

[DP] Prior to the first scheduled Warning Signal each day, boats shall sail on starboard tack, or motor by the stern of the race committee signal boat and check in by hailing their sail or bow number, until they receive acknowledgement from the race committee. To allow official announcements to proceed on schedule, there will be no check-in by VHF.

12. THE START

12.1 The Starting Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of a robotic or inflatable mark, or a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat at the port end.

12.2 Except for the Green Fleet pursuit starts, races will be started using rule 26 using a horn and VHF radio transmission only. There will be no signal flags. This changes rule 26 & Race Signals.

12.3 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting time and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to broadcast her bow or sail number on VHF radio. Failure to make a broadcast, or time it accurately, will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes rule 62.1 (a).

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark to a new position or set an inflatable mark in the new position.

13.2 The Race Committee will broadcast any course changes on VHF radio. This changes rule 33.

14. THE FINISH

The Finishing Line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee signal boat and the course side of a nearby robotic or inflatable mark. For Windward/Leeward races, the finish line will be on the opposite side of the signal boat from the Starting Line.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

Rule Appendix V will apply. This changes rule 44.1.

16. TIME LIMITS

16.1 The time limit for all windward / leeward races will be two (2) hours from the start of each class. Boats failing to finish within 40 minutes after the first boat in their class sails the course and finishes, will be scored TLE without a hearing. This changes rule 35.

16.2 The time limit for the Round The Island Race and Green Fleet Classes will be four hours and thirty minutes (4.5 hours). Boats failing to finish within 100 minutes after the first boat in their class sails the course and finishes, will be scored TLE without a hearing. This changes rule 35.

17. HEARING REQUESTS

17.1 Immediately after finishing, a boat intending to protest is requested to notify the race committee signal boat on the designated VHF channel and identify the protested boat(s).

17.2 Protests and requests for redress or reopening can be filed online via Yacht Scoring in the Owners Corner (see Online Protest Filing System). Editable protest forms can be found under General Race Forms. Completed protest forms may also be emailed to the Jury Secretary at serenafi@yahoo.com and the Jury Chair at mercofi@aol.com or filed at Regatta Headquarters, as

soon as possible, but not later than one hour after the protesting boat's race committee signal boat docks. The protest time limit for each fleet will be posted on the ONB. This supplements RRS 61.2.

17.3 Scoring Inquiries can be made via the event main page on Yacht Scoring. Completed forms shall be submitted by email to mercofl@aol.com and rredniss@gmail.com or delivered Regatta Headquarters, as soon as possible.

17.4 Notice of protest hearings will be posted on the ONB as soon as possible after the conclusion of the protest time limit. Protest hearings will be scheduled to start as soon as possible after the notices are posted. Representatives of boats that are parties, and their witnesses, shall remain on call near the protest desk.

17.5 It is each boat's responsibility to determine if she is a party to a protest by checking the ONB or the protest desk at the end of the protest filing time.

17.6 An International Jury may be appointed in accordance with rule 91 (b) and Appendix N. The time limit for filing a written request for a hearing under N1.4 (b) is one hour after the decision is announced. The decisions of the International Jury will be final in accordance with rule 70.5.

18. ARBITRATION

18.1 Arbitration may be held in accordance with Appendix T. T1 (b) is changed to "A post-race penalty is a 20% penalty for classes with 14 boats or less and a 30% penalty for classes with 15 boats or more, calculated as stated in rule 44.3 (c). However, rule 44.1 (a) applies".

18.2 Unless the protestor requests that the protest be withdrawn, one representative from each boat will meet with an arbitrator.

18.3 Should arbitration fail to resolve the protest, the arbitrator will not be a member of the jury that hears the protest but will be permitted to observe the testimony given to the jury and offer testimony. This changes rule 63.3(a).

19. SCORING

19.1 A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. This changes A2.1

19.2 [DP] [NP] To be scored, boats shall have sail numbers that comply with rule G1.2, by being clearly legible in all conditions. Failure to comply may result in being scored DNF. This adds to rule A5 and G1.2 (a).

19.3 One completed race will constitute the series.

19.4 ORC and PHRF will be scored time on time, except that Pursuit classes will be scored PHRF time on distance. ORC W/L races will be scored using 5 Band scoring. ORC classes in the RTIR will be scored using single number A/P ratings, unless conditions dictate alternative ORC scoring criteria. 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 rule 60.1 (b).

19.5 A boat scored TLE and not thereafter retiring, being penalized, or given redress shall be scored points equal to the number of boats finishing within the time limit plus 2 points, by the race committee without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

19.6 The overall winner of the Round The Island Race will be determined by the race committee after considering the corrected speed of each class winner and the size of the class. One Design

class winners will have their corrected speed determined using their one-design rating as issued by YRALIS PHRF.

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

19.8 The Vintage Yacht Trophy will be scored by using the average of each Vintage boat's percentage placement within its respective class.

20. SAFETY REGULATIONS

See NOR 1. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee on the designated fleet channel at the first reasonable opportunity.

21. PRIZES

21.1 Class prizes for each day's racing will be presented daily.

21.2 Class prizes for the series, Championship Awards and BIRW Perpetual Trophies will be awarded at the final awards ceremony on Friday June 23. Descriptions of the Perpetual Trophies and other trophies may be found on the event website.

30. RISK STATEMENT

Rule 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to race or 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 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.**

31. INSURANCE

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

APPENDIX 1

WINDWARD/LEEWARD COURSES for WHITE & BLUE FLEETS

A1.1 Courses shall be windward/ leeward courses leaving all marks to port.

A1.2 Before the warning signal, the Race Committee Signal Boat will broadcast on VHF on the designated fleet channel: the starting order for each class, the course for each class; and the approximate bearing (magnetic) and range (in nautical miles) to the windward mark. The courses may be posted on the signal boat.

A1.3 With the windward mark there may also be an offset mark. There may be two windward marks, short and long.

A1.4 A single leeward mark ("LM") may be set to leeward of the start/finish line.

A1.5 The leeward mark may be a gate. If used it will be located approximately 0.15nm upwind from the signal boat. If a gate is not in place, boats shall leave the single leeward mark to port.

A1.6

Course "4" consisting of 4 legs: Start; windward mark; gate, windward mark; finish to leeward.

Course "4L" consisting of 4 legs: Start; LONG windward mark; gate, LONG windward mark, finish to leeward.

Course "4LX" consisting of 4 legs: Start, LONG windward mark, leeward mark "LM" to leeward of the start & finish line; LONG windward mark; finish to leeward. For course "4LX" the start and finish line are obstructions and boats shall not pass through the start or finish lines on legs 2 and 3. For course 4LX the gate is an obstruction for legs, 2, 3 and 4.

**APPENDIX 2
GREEN FLEET
PERFORMANCE CRUISING and MULTIHULL CLASS COURSES**

A2.1 The start and finish (except for the RTIR) lines for all classes will be between a staff displaying an orange flag at the start and a blue flag at the finish, on the Race Committee Signal boat and a nearby mark, located southwest of the entrance to The Great Salt Pond at approximately 41°11.7N / 71° 35.9W.

A2.2 The start for Performance Cruising 1 and 2 classes will be a rule 26 start as described in SI 12..

A2.3 For all classes there will be pre-determined courses set and posted by Sunday, June 18 at 2000, using the Marks described in Attachment A. The course for each class will be displayed on the race committee signal boat and announced on VHF 78A.

A2.4 For all pursuit classes each course will have the starting times in the form of a spread sheet. Starting times will be based on PHRF time on distance. The Signal Boat will announce on **VHF 78A**, the next boat(s) to start and the time of their start. Times will be by GPS.

APPENDIX 3

ROUND THE ISLAND RACE (RTIR)

A3.1 If the day's racing is to include the RTIR, the Race Committee will announce this over the designated fleet VHF channels at 0900. For the White and Blue Fleets there may be a windward/leeward race before the RTIR.

A3.2 The RTIR Start for White and Blue Fleets will be located approximately 0.5nm on a bearing of 300 degrees magnetic from buoy R "2" at the entrance to the Great Salt Pond and will be between staffs displaying orange flags on race committee Boats at each end of the Start Line. The starting sequence will be posted.

If there is a W/L race before the RTIR, the Start for the White and Blue Fleets will be at the same start location as the W/L race.

The Green Fleet will start at the location per Appendix 2 and the pursuit classes will be given a RTIR Starting Sequence

A3.3 Course A: Counterclockwise Round The Island Race: The Race Committee will post Course A and may set a robotic or inflatable windward mark, WX, to be left to port. The Race Committee Signal Boat will display the approximate bearing (magnetic) and range (in nautical miles) to the windward mark, if set.

After WX, if set, the following are the marks of the course that must be left to port – see ATTACHMENT B:

G

H

D

1X (see SI A3.5)

A

B

E

Finish

A3.4 Course C: Clockwise Round The Island Race: The Race Committee will post Course C and may set an inflatable windward mark, WX, for each class, to be left to starboard. The Race Committee Signal Boat will display the approximate bearing (magnetic) and range (in nautical miles) to the windward mark, WX, if set.

After WX, if set, the following are the marks of the course that must be left to starboard – see ATTACHMENT B:

E

B

A

1X (see SI A3.5)

D

H

G

Finish

A3.5 WIND FARM RACE: Some classes may sail the RTIR using the Block Island Wind Farm as a rounding mark, *in lieu of mark 1X*. The course for those classes will be designated "A-WF" or "C-WF" on a white course board.

A 3.6 Finish

The Finish for all Fleets/Classes will be located approximately 0.5nm on a bearing of 300 degrees magnetic from buoy R "2" at the entrance to the Great Salt Pond and will be between staffs displaying blue flags on Race Committee Boats at each end of the Finish Line.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHMENT A

MARK and BUOY DESCRIPTIONS and LOCATIONS for: Green Fleet

"Marks" are robotic or inflatable drop marks. "Buoys" are government buoys. Wind Farm is towers.

MARK / BUOY DESCRIPTION		APPROXIMATE LOCATION	
	Start and Finish Lines	Per Appendix 2	
X	Robotic or inflatable Mark in Block Island Sound	Coordinates will be displayed and broadcast	
D	Red Nun "2" South of Blackrock Point	41° 08.4' N	071° 35.7' W
E	G "1 BI" FI G 4 sec bell buoy off North Reef	41° 15.5' N	071° 34.6' W
F	R "2" bell buoy off entrance to Salt Pond	41° 12.1' N	071° 35.7' W
G	Red bell R "6" West of Southwest Point	41° 9.6' N	071° 37.1' W
H	Red whistle buoy "4" South West of Southwest Point	41° 8.7' N	071° 37.3' W
I	Red whistle buoy R "2" FI R 2.5s at Southwest Ledge	41° 6.3' N	071° 40.2' W
L	GR "BIS" FI (2+1) G 6s West of Southwest Ledge	41° 7.0' N	071° 43.1' W
M	G "1" Gong FI G 4s at Eastern end of Endeavor Shoals	41° 6.1' N	071° 46.2' W
WF	Wind Farm WTG-1 All 5 wind turbines are to be rounded	41° 7.5' N	071° 30.5' W
WF5	Wind Farm WTG-5	41° 6.4' N	071° 32.3' W

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHMENT B

MARK and BUOY DESCRIPTION and LOCATIONS for: ROUND THE ISLAND RACE

"Marks" are robotic or inflatable drop marks. "Buoys" are government buoys. Wind Farm is towers.

MARK / BUOY DESCRIPTION	APPROXIMATE LOCATION
Start and Finish Lines	As per Appendix 3
WX Robotic or inflatable Windward Mark	Coordinates will be displayed and broadcast
G Red bell R "6" West of Southwest Point	41° 09.6' N 071° 37.1' W
H Red whistle buoy "4" South West of Southwest Point	41° 08.7' N 071° 37.3' W
D Red Nun "2" South of Blackrock Point	41° 08.4' N 071° 35.7' W
1X Inflatable Mark off Southeast Point	41° 09.1' N 071° 32.5' W
WF Wind Farm WTG-5 All 5 wind turbines are to be rounded WTG-1	41° 06.4' N 071° 32.3' W 41° 07.5' N 071° 30.5' W
A Green Bell G "1" off Old Harbor	41° 11.1' N 071° 33.2' W
B Green Can "7" Old Britton Rock (Clay Head)	41° 13.3' N 071° 33.2' W
E G "1 BI" FI G 4 sec bell buoy off North Reef	41° 15.5' N 071° 34.6' W