



**STAMFORD YACHT CLUB'S SEVENTY-FOURTH  
VINEYARD RACE**

**INCLUDING  
THE CORNFIELD POINT COURSE**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND GENERAL CONDITIONS**

**August 29, 2008**

**1. RULES and OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**

1.1 The Race will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing*(RRS) 2005-2008, except as may be modified by the Notice of Race or by these Sailing Instructions. In the event of inconsistencies, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

(a) The following prescriptions of US Sailing will apply: prescriptions to RRS 61.4, 68, 76.1, 76.3 and Appendix F.

1.2 (a) For IRC and PHRF classes sailing the Vineyard Race course - Minimum Equipment & Safety Recommendations of the YRA of Long Island Sound for *Category A*.

(b) For PHRF classes sailing the Cornfield Point course - Minimum Equipment & Safety Recommendations of the YRA of Long Island Sound for *Category B*.

(c) A copy of these regulations is available on the YRA of Long Island Sound web site at [www.yralis.org](http://www.yralis.org) .

(d) From sunset to sunrise the following shall be substituted for RRS 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.

1.3 (a) For IRC classes: the current IRC Rules.

(b) For PHRF classes: the current PHRF Regulations of the YRA of Long Island Sound.

1.4 **Double-handed Division** – The following will apply to boats competing in a Double-handed Division:

- (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.

1.5 **PHRF Non-spinnaker Divisions** – The following will apply to boats competing in a Non-spinnaker Division:

- (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.

1.6 **Class Flags**- Each boat shall fly from her backstay six or more feet above the deck, the flag corresponding to the class in which she is racing. Please refer to the scratch sheet for class assignments.

1.7 Any boat withdrawing before the start or abandoning the Race shall remove her class flag and **immediately** notify the Stamford Yacht Club, (203) 323-3161. It is the sole responsibility of any boat withdrawing to ensure that the Race Committee has been properly notified.

## 2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the notice board located on the dock house at the end of the pier and in the Vineyard Race Headquarters in the library at Stamford Yacht Club.

### 3. REPORTING FOR INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 A representative from each boat shall report to the Front Desk at Stamford Yacht Club between 1800 and 2100 on Thursday, August 28 or between 0900 and 1300 on Friday, August 29th, to receive scratch sheets, a complimentary Vineyard Race 2008 envelope courtesy of our sponsor Vineyard Vines and any final instructions.

3.2 Changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the dock house message board before 0800 on the day of the race. To signal that a change has been posted, code flag L will be flown from the Stamford Yacht Club yardarm. If time allows, changes will be posted on the website at [www.stamfordyc.com](http://www.stamfordyc.com).

### 4. THE COURSES:

4.1 Both courses:

(a) **START:** Between Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) off Stamford Harbor and a flag staff flying a yellow flag on the Committee Boat lying to the South.

(i) 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:** Immediately northerly of the entrance to Stamford Harbor, between a staff flying a yellow flag on the Committee Boat which will be north of the western end of the East Breakwater and the beacon on the easterly end of the West 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. The "Rounding Time" shall be recorded on the Navigator's Record of Finishing Order 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 prior to the warning signal for the start of any class by displaying a Code Flag "C". The short course will be the Cornfield Point course.**

4.3 **The Cornfield Point course:** 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 "CF" MO(A) 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 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, together with the Navigator's Time Sheet. Time of rounding and boats within sight shall also be noted.

## 5. STARTING SIGNALS

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 as shown below, 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 for the first class to start shall be no earlier than 1500 hours, Friday, August 29th, 2008.

	<i>Title</i>	<i>Signal</i>	<i>Time</i>
<b>First Start</b>	First signal	Code flag F (one sound)	1500
		Code flag F removed	1504
	Warning	Class flag(s) (one sound)	1505
	Preparatory	P flag (one sound)	1506
	One-minute	Preparatory flag removed (one long sound)	1509
	<b>Start Class</b>	Class flag(s) removed (one sound)	1510
<b>Second Start</b>	Warning	Class flag (one sound)	1515
	Preparatory	P flag (one sound)	1516
	One-minute	Preparatory flag removed (one long sound)	1519
	<b>Start Class</b>	Class flag(s) removed (one sound)	1520

Succeeding Classes will start using the same sequence as the second start until all Classes have started.

5.2 After the Warning for the next Start and until all starting boats have started, there shall be a Restricted Starting Area marked by Vineyard Vines inflatable marks and which shall extend 300 yards perpendicularly easterly and westerly of the Starting Line and 100 yards radially from its ends. 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 and hail the Committee 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 check-in via radio.

5.4 Multiple classes may be started together.

5.5 In the event of a Postponement (“AP”) or General Recall (“1<sup>st</sup> Substitute”), that signal will be removed, accompanied by an audible signal, one minute before the Warning Signal for that Postponed or Recalled class’ re-start.

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

5.7 If for any reason the Race Committee determines that no starts are advisable on Friday, August 29th, flags N over A (Abandonment, no more racing today) will be displayed followed by three guns. 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, August 30th. The First Signal for the first start will be at 0800 and all other signals will be rescheduled at the time intervals indicated in Section 5.1 of these Sailing Instructions.

## **6. THE FINISH**

6.1 At the Finish, the Committee Boat will fly the Race Committee flag, a blue “On Station” flag and display three vertical red lights at night. If no Committee Boat is on station at the Finish, each boat shall record the time after she crosses a line between the beacons on the East and West Breakwaters at the entrance to Stamford Harbor and when green beacon “3” on the West Breakwater bears 260 degrees 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 in the Navigator’s Record of Finishing Order to the Race Committee as soon as possible.

6.2 Finishing boats are requested to notify the Race Committee boat on VHF Channel 05 *as they round* Flashing Red Bell “32” (The Cows) *or* are within 1.0 nm of the Finish if approaching from the South, and identify themselves by boat name and sail number. At this time each boat will notify the Race Committee of their tower rounding time, or Flashing Red Bell “8” rounding time. If finishing in darkness, each boat shall illuminate her sail numbers and notify the Race Committee on VHF Channel 05 to be sure

that the boat's identity has been properly established. All radio communication should be kept as brief as possible.

6.3 A boat, which has finished and cleared the Finish, shall not interfere with a boat, which has not finished. Violation of this rule may be grounds for disqualification.

6.4 The Navigator's Record of Finishing Order must be filed with the Race Committee at Stamford Yacht Club, in person or by fax, no later than two hours after her recorded finish.

## **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 05, of her intent to file a protest. All protests shall be written on a standard protest form, signed by the Owner or the Person in Charge of the protesting boat, and filed at the front desk at Stamford Yacht Club between 0900 and 2100, or emailed to [vineyardinfo@stamfordyc.com](mailto:vineyardinfo@stamfordyc.com), 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%.

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 1900 on Sunday August 31, 2008 for all boats finished by that time. Special arrangements will be made for boats finishing later than that time.

## **8. PENALTY SYSTEM**

8.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3 will apply.

## **9. TIME LIMIT**

9.1 The Time Limit - Boats finishing after 0800 on September 1 will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35 and A4.

## **10. SCORING**

10.1 PHRF classes will use YRA of Long Island Sound distance ratings and will be scored using time on distance with a course distance of 238 nautical miles for the Vineyard course and 116 nautical miles for the Cornfield Point course.

10.2 The IRC classes will be scored by using the IRC Time Correction Factor using time on time.

(a) The overall Vineyard Lightship Trophy will be awarded to the boat with 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 Channel 05.

11.2 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive special communications not simultaneously available to all boats. This rule shall not apply to boats seeking or rendering assistance. Boats sailing in a Double-handed division may communicate amongst themselves – this changes RRS 41.

11.3 During the race, contestants may not receive special weather, current or navigational information except by broadcast from a publicized source available to all competitors.

11.4 Internet use is allowed for accessing all information publicly available at no fee.

11.5 The Race Committee will endeavor to make courtesy announcements before and during the starting sequence on VHF Channel 05. All boats are urged to keep their radios on Channel 05 prior to and during the start.

11.6 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 the boat's finish.

## **12. MANAGEMENT**

12.1 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.

### **13. SAFETY AND RESPONSIBILITY**

13.1 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 and agents against any claims arising in any way out of the participation in the Race of such boat, her master and crew.

**13.2 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.





CHAIRMEN

Fleet Captain Donald Wyllie  
Alec Rapaport  
Raymond L. Redniss

COMMODORE  
VICE COMMODORE  
REAR COMMODORE  
FLEET CAPTAIN  
IMMEDIATE PAST COMMODORE

Hiroshi Nakajima  
Christopher J. Hynes  
Alexander Russell  
Donald Wyllie  
Peter E. Hewitt

PRINCIPAL RACE OFFICER  
SCORER  
PROTESTS  
REGATTA CHAIRMAN  
POSTER AND LOGO DESIGN  
TROPHIES

Raymond L. Redniss  
Diane McKeever  
Michael McGuire  
Alec Rapaport  
Jeffrey H. Boal  
Rebecca Anderson  
Kerry Maloney



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