



ESSEX YACHT CLUB
2024 RUM CHALLENGE REGATTA
SATURDAY JULY 20, 2024
Organizing Authority: Essex Yacht Club
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. This event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* and US Sailing Prescriptions, and the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. Boats sailing as Double-Handed entries may use autopilots and electric winches. This modifies RRS 52.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted by 0800 on the day of the regatta and may be broadcast prior to the first warning signal.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notice to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board online on the Events Page of YachtScoring.com.
- 3.2. Notices will also be posted on the Bulletin Board located in the lobby of the Essex Yacht Club.
- 3.3. The Race Committee (RC) intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF Ch. 1001 (former 01A).

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. A postponement or abandonment ashore will be signaled on the RC Signal Boat at the Essex Yacht Club and by appropriate radio and text communications.

5. CLASSES AND SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. The fleet will be divided into an ORC Division (Windward/Leeward class), a PHRF Division (Nonsuch Round the Buoys Navigator, Non-Spinnaker Round the Buoys Navigator, Spinnaker Round the Buoys Navigator and Spinnaker Windward/Leeward classes) and a Multihull Division (Round the Buoys Navigator class). A minimum of 2 entries is required to start a class. Classes with larger entries may be split into two or more classes. Final class assignments will be determined by the Race Committee and published in the scratch sheet.
- 5.2. The first warning signal will be at 1200.
- 5.3. Two races are scheduled for the Windward/Leeward classes. One race must be completed to constitute a series. There are no exclusions.
- 5.4. RC will fly code flag "R" while boats are finishing to indicate a second race.

- 5.5. The Race Committee will determine the order of start on the day of the race. Numerical class designation by the Scratch Sheet does not infer your order of start. Please be attentive to the Numeral Pennants displayed on the RC Signal Boat as well as monitoring the radio.

6. CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1. Class Flags will be the International Numeral Pennants corresponding to each class designated by the Scratch Sheet.

7. THE START

- 7.1. The Starting Area will be located west of the Saybrook Light at the mouth of the Connecticut River.
- 7.2. Competitors shall check in with the RC boat on the side opposite the starting line prior to the first warning.
- 7.3. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 7.4. The Starting Line is between the staff with the Orange flag and Mark Y.
- 7.5. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of boats starting.

8. COURSES

- 8.1. The courses will be displayed on the RC Signal boat. The courses will be either **Round the Buoys** or **Windward/Leeward Courses**.
- 8.2. **Round the Buoys** - Round the Buoys courses will be designated by a horizontal arrangement of letters designating specific Marks in their order of rounding. Circled letters shall be rounded to Starboard, uncircled letters shall be rounded to Port. If drop marks are used, the range and bearing from the RC boat will be displayed on the course board.
- 8.3. **Windward/Leeward Courses** will be designated with the number of legs posted on the top row of the course board. For example, 4 indicates 4 legs, starting to windward, then leeward, windward and finish to leeward.
 - 8.3.1. All Windward/Leeward marks shall be rounded to port.
 - 8.3.2. The magnetic bearing and distance to the Windward mark from the RC Signal boat will be displayed on the second row of the course board.
 - 8.3.3. The Leeward mark will be positioned approximately 100 yards to windward of the starting line.

9. MARKS

- 9.1. Marks are identified in Addendum 1

10. THE FINISH

- 10.1. The Finish Line for all classes and courses will be on the side opposite the Starting Line between the staff with a Blue flag on the RC Boat and Mark Z.
- 10.2. Boats may be starting while boats from other classes are finishing.

10.3. A boat retiring from the race shall promptly notify the Race Committee.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1. RRS Appendix V – Alternative Penalties is in effect for this regatta.

12. TIME LIMITS

12.1. Spinnaker boats hopelessly mired at the back of their class shall be scored in their assumed position and asked to return to the starting area to facilitate the start of a second race.

12.2. No race will start after 1530.

12.3. The Time Limit for any Non-Spinnaker race shall be 1630.

13. HEARING REQUESTS

13.1. A boat initiating a protest shall inform the Race Committee as they finish, stating the boat name and sail number they are protesting.

13.2. Protests must be filed with the Race Committee no later than one hour after the Race Committee Boat docks. The official docking time will be posted on the Notice Board and on yachtscoring.com.

13.3. Protests may be filed electronically through Yacht Scoring/General Race Forms/For Competitors or on paper in the downstairs bar.

14. SCORING

14.1. Boats will be scored by division and by class using ORC, PHRF of Eastern Connecticut and NEMA "Time on Time" handicaps. If more than one race is sailed in a class, a boat's score for the regatta shall be the combined total of her race scores and ties, if any, shall be broken based on combined corrected times.

14.2. This is an ECSA Regatta and is one of a five race series necessary to qualify for the Long Sand Shoal Cup.

15. PRIZES

15.1. Prizes will be awarded at the awards party which commences at 1700 at the Essex Yacht Club on Saturday July 20, 2024.

15.2. Prizes will be awarded to the first-placed boats in each class. Second-place prizes will be awarded in classes with 4 or more entries. Third-place prizes will be awarded in classes with 5 or more entries.

15.3. The Essex Rum Challenge Club Trophy will be awarded to the yacht club with the highest combined class scores of any three boats using the High-Point Percentage Scoring System.

15.4. A prize will be awarded to the Double-Handed entry with the lowest corrected time in the PHRF Non-Spinnaker classes.

15.5. A prize will be awarded to the Nonsuch entry with the lowest corrected time if there is no separate Nonsuch class.

- 15.6. The Hot Flash Trophy will be awarded to the yacht with the lowest combined elapsed times of all races in the fastest PHRF Windward/Leeward class
- 15.7. The Tom Lentini Memorial Trophy shall be awarded to the yacht with the lowest corrected time in the PHRF Non-Spinnaker classes.

16. RISK STATEMENT

- 16.1. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to 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.**
- 16.2. The Essex Yacht Club and their respective Race Committees, Officers, Employees and event related Volunteers, are in no way held responsible for accidents, damage, or injury to property or to boats, crew, or guests arising from any cause during or related to any race or activities associated with the Essex Rum Challenge, and the Skipper/owner agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each of them from any liability, claim or expense including attorney's fees against any or all of them.

ADDENDUM 1

MARKS OF THE COURSE

Marks are designated as follows:

2	R "2" Bell	South of Cornfield Pt
3	G C "3"	at Orient Shoal
6	R N "6"	South of Hatchett Reef
8	R Bell "8"	Saybrook Bar Lighted Bell
A	R "8A" Bell	Middle of Long Sand Shoal
C	R "8C" Bell	At Six Mile Reef
E	RG N "E"	East end of Long Sand Shoal
P	R Bell "2PG"	Plum Gut Lighted Bell Buoy
V	RG "W" Gong	West end Long Sand Shoal
W	Inflatable buoy.	Range & Bearing from RC
X	Inflatable buoy.	Range & Bearing from RC
Y	Start PIN – Inflatable buoy	
Z	Finish PIN – Inflatable buoy	(opposite side of RC from Y)