



**NBYA ANNUAL REGATTA
AND YACHT CLUB CHALLENGES**

**August 29, 2026
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
Host Club: Bristol Yacht Club**

1. Notices:

- 1.1. Notices to competitors and amendments to the sailing instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board on theclubspot.com and will be broadcast over VHF channel 71 in the racing area at approximately ½ hour before the first Warning Signal. Any change in the Schedule of Races will be posted no later than 2000 on the day before the regatta on the Official Notice Board and will be e-mailed to competitors. The Race Committee may also use code flag Lima to call attention to an announcements on the radio.

2. Schedule of Races:

- 2.1. A total of no more than three races are scheduled for each class.
- 2.2. Time of first warning signal 1200 A rapid series of short horns about 1 minute prior to the actual warning may be used as an alert that the starting sequence is about to begin. For the first race, the spinnaker class will start first under numeral pennant 1. Cruising Class will start under numeral pennant 2.
- 2.3. No flag will be used to indicate a second or third race. A single race is run, this will constitute a series.
- 2.4. Subsequent races shall be started shortly after a class completes the prior race.
- 2.5. The display of code flag Alpha at the finish line means “No more racing today”.
- 2.6. No race shall be started after 1600 hours.

3. Racing Area –

- 3.1. In the Vicinity of Half Way Rock.
- 3.2. The intent is to use either government marks or inflatable marks for the start/finish line and the windward mark. The course and mark descriptions for the first race will be posted on a course board on the signal boat and described on VHF channel 71 prior to the first warning signal.

4. Courses:

- 4.1. Courses will be windward/leeward with the leeward mark being the pin end of the starting line.
- 4.2. Before the warning signal for each race, the committee will display on a course board:
 - 4.2.1. the approximate distance and bearing to the first mark
 - 4.2.2. the number of legs
 - 4.2.3. A description of the windward mark either the name of the government mark or that it is an inflatable.
 - 4.2.4. Indication if there is an offset mark to be rounded just after the windward mark.
 - 4.2.5. All marks will be left to port except the pin end of the finish line when finishing.
 - 4.2.6. Finish between the flag on the committee boat and the pin end of the line.

5. Marks:

- 5.1. The marks will be either an inflatable or a government mark
- 5.2. The start/finish mark will be an orange inflatable or a government mark near the committee boat

6. The Start:

- 6.1. Each yacht is requested to sail past the race committee boat's stern before the first warning signal and identify herself to the Race Committee and receive acknowledgment.
- 6.2. The start shall be in accordance with Rule 26.
- 6.3. Sometimes there is a series of horn sounds roughly 1 minute before the warning. They have no official significance. They are just an alert that the warning horn will sound soon.
- 6.4. The start line will be between an orange or red flag on the Race Committee signal boat and the start mark.
- 6.5. After the first warning signal, yachts whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.
- 6.6. A yacht starting more than ten minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS.

7. Change of the Next Leg of the Course

7.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will follow RRS 33

8. The Finish:

8.1. The finish line will be between a halyard displaying a flag on a Race Committee Boat and the pin end of the starting line.

9. Time Limit:

9.1. If no boat in a class has finished within 2 ½ hours of its Start, the race will be abandoned.

9.2. A boat finishing outside of the time limit, AND more than 60 minutes after the first finisher of a scored race for their class, shall be scored DNF (Did Not Finish) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4, and A5.

10. Protests:

10.1. In addition to the requirements of Rule 61, protesting yachts must notify the Race Committee of their intention to protest immediately after finishing the race in which the alleged infringement occurred, or as soon as practicable if the protesting yacht does not finish.

10.2. Protests shall be written and submitted to the Host Club or via email to phrf.racing@nbya.org no later than 2000 hours on the day after the regatta. If you don't get an acknowledgement by 1000 on Monday, you must submit in writing to the host club.

10.3. The protest hearing will be held at the Bristol Yacht Club at 1900 hours on Monday, August 31.

11. Penalties:

11.1. The penalty system as described in Rule 44.1 as modified by RRS Appendix V1 will apply.

12. Radio Communications & Electronics

12.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones, PDA's, or other smart devices. This is intended to prevent private communication between boats on the same team racing for the Swanson and Bay Cups.

12.2. All boats are required to monitor the RC VHF channel 71.

13. Awards:

13.1 Awards for each regatta will be presented at the NBYA Fall Awards Dinner.

14. Safety/Notes:

14.1. The Narragansett Bay race area is considered a "Restricted channel" for commercial traffic restricted in its ability to maneuver. In accordance with the preamble to Part 2, Race event participants must understand that they are subject to the Navigation Rules of the Road (COLREGS) between their vessel and one NOT racing. Participants do not automatically become "stand-on" or "privileged vessels" by virtue of participation in a marine event.

14.2. [DP] Competitors are cautioned that there are ferries and other commercial traffic in and near the race area, and that any interference with such traffic is strictly prohibited. Specifically, any boat that passes close enough to such traffic that either the race committee, protest committee, or the master of the commercial vessel deems the boat to be too close will be seen as having interfered with that traffic and protested by the race or protest committee for breach of this rule. The minimum penalty for breaking this rule is Disqualification from the race in which this rule was broken.

14.3. Boats shall Check Out with the RC either by finishing the race, or, if retiring, by so informing the RC either by hail or over the RC VHF channel.

14.4. Disposal of Trash: A competitor disposing of trash overboard may be protested only by the Race Committee or Protest Committee. This changes Rule 55

14.5. All times herein are Eastern Daylight Savings Time