



BASS RIVER YACHT CLUB

2026 PHRF SUMMER RACES

Sailing Instructions

Revision 1.1 – June 20, 2026

Changes:

- Added VHF Channel 72 communications requirements and courtesy broadcast language.
- Added VHF Channel 72 language for course changes and course shortening.

1 RULES

1.1 Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025–2028, the prescriptions of US Sailing, and the PHRF New England regulations.

1.2 Bass River Yacht Club (BRYC) is the Organizing Authority.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices will be posted on the official notice board at BRYC and on the BRYC website.

2.2 Changes to the course or shortening of the course may be communicated by the Race Committee on VHF Channel 72.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Changes will be posted at least 1 hour before the first warning signal.

3.2 Changes may be made on the water by the Race Committee in accordance with RRS 90.2(c) by displaying Flag L with one sound and communicating the change via VHF Channel 72.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals ashore will be displayed from the BRYC flagpole.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with not less than 30 minutes.

5 SCHEDULE

5.1 Racing will be conducted on Sundays as published in the BRYC calendar.

5.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1000.

5.3 Subsequent races, if any, will be started as soon as practicable after the finish of the previous race.

5.4 A competitors’ meeting is scheduled for 0830 on the BRYC deck and is intended to be brief (approximately 10 minutes). Competitors are responsible for any information provided.

5.5 The Race Committee may modify the schedule based on conditions.

6 CLASS FLAG

6.1 The class flag will be Numeral Pennant 1.

7 RACING AREA

7.1 Racing will take place on Nantucket Sound.

7.2 The starting area will be located within approximately 1 NM of Bass River R “2” Gong, or as otherwise designated.

8 COURSES

8.1 Courses will be pursuit-style distance races.

8.2 Courses to be sailed, including marks, order of rounding, and approximate distances, are described in *Appendix A – Courses (PHRF)*.

8.3 *Appendix A – Courses (PHRF)* consists of course diagrams and written descriptions provided as a separate document and made available with these Sailing Instructions.

8.4 The course to be sailed will be designated by the Race Committee prior to the warning signal.

8.5 The Race Committee may display the course on the Race Committee vessel and/or communicate it via VHF Channel 72 as a courtesy. Failure to receive such information shall not be grounds for redress. Information displayed on the Race Committee vessel shall take precedence over *Appendix A – Courses (PHRF)*.

8.6 All marks shall be rounded to port unless otherwise specified.

8.7 Diagrams in *Appendix A – Courses (PHRF)* are illustrative. In the event of a conflict, the written course description shall govern.

9 MARKS

9.1 Marks shall be as described in *Appendix A – Courses (PHRF)* and may include government marks and/or inflatable marks.

9.2 Government marks not specifically identified as marks of the course shall be disregarded and are for navigation purposes only.

9.3 The starting and finishing marks are described in Sections 11 and 15.

10 CHECK-IN

10.1 Prior to the first start, the Race Committee will display Flag L (Lima flag) to indicate that boats shall check in.

10.2 When Flag L (Lima flag) is displayed, boats shall check in by sailing past the stern of the Race Committee vessel on starboard tack and hailing their sail number until acknowledged.

10.3 If a boat is unable to check in by passing the Race Committee vessel, she may check in via VHF Channel 72 and must receive acknowledgement from the Race Committee.

10.4 A boat that fails to check in may be scored DNC without a hearing.

11 THE START (PURSUIT START SYSTEM)

11.1 This is a pursuit race. Each boat will be assigned an individual starting time based on PHRF rating and course length.

11.2 Starting times will be provided by the Race Committee and may be posted or distributed prior to the start.

11.3 The starting sequence for the first boat (the boat with the highest PHRF rating, i.e., the slowest rated boat) will use RRS 26.

11.4 The class flag will be lowered at the start time of the first boat.

11.5 After the starting signal for the first boat, no further visual or sound signals will be made.

11.6 Each boat shall start at or after her assigned start time without additional signals.

11.7 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee vessel and an orange buoy.

11.8 The starting line will be positioned approximately downwind of the Bass River R "2" Gong and may serve as the first mark.

12 RECALLS (RC MANAGED OCS)

12.1 Recalls will be in accordance with RRS 29.

12.2 In the case of an individual recall, the Race Committee will display Flag X ("X-ray"), sound a horn, and attempt to hail the yacht's sail number.

12.3 The Race Committee will actively identify OCS boats; however, failure of the Race Committee to hail, failure of a boat to hear a hail, or the order of hails shall not be grounds for redress.

12.4 The obligation to start properly remains the sole responsibility of each competitor, and the appropriate penalty will apply.

13 ABANDONMENT

13.1 The Race Committee may decide to abandon a race before all boats have crossed the start line by displaying the N flag ("November"), accompanied by a long sound signal.

13.2 The Race Committee will notify all boats by VHF radio channel 72.

14 CHANGE OF COURSE

14.1 The Race Committee may change the course in accordance with RRS 33.

14.2 Changes to the course may be communicated by the Race Committee on the water by displaying appropriate signals and/or by announcing the change via VHF Channel 72.

14.3 Failure to receive or hear such communication shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).

15 THE FINISH

15.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee vessel and the finishing mark.

15.2 The starting line may be used as the finishing line unless otherwise designated by the Race Committee.

15.3 The Race Committee may communicate finishing information via VHF Channel 72 as a courtesy.

16 PENALTY SYSTEM

16.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe).

17 TIME LIMITS

17.1 The race time limit for each boat shall be 3 hours from that boat's assigned starting time.

17.2 Boats failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes shall be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

17.3 The Race Committee may shorten the course in accordance with RRS 32.

17.4 Boats finishing after the applicable time limit will be scored DNF regardless of whether they subsequently finish.

18 PROTESTS

18.1 Protests shall be delivered to a Race Committee member within 1 hour after the Race Committee boat docks.

18.2 Hearings will be held as soon as practical after racing.

19 SCORING

19.1 Each race day shall be scored as an individual event.

19.2 Finishing positions shall be determined by the order in which boats cross the finishing line. The first boat to finish shall be the winner. Results will be based on finishing order. Corrected time will not be used.

19.3 A boat with a PHRF rating designated as “U” on the PHRF New England base handicap list (http://www.phrfne.org/page/handicapping/base_handicaps) may race but will not be scored.

20 RACE SIGNALS

20.1 Race signals used will be in accordance with RRS Race Signals.

20.2 The Race Signals are included in Appendix B for reference. Competitors are encouraged to become familiar with them.

21 SAFETY

21.1 RRS 3 states: The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.

21.2 Boats that retire shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.

21.3 When Flag Y is displayed, all competitors shall wear a US Coast Guard–approved personal flotation device at all times while afloat.

22 COMMUNICATION

22.1 All boats shall carry a VHF radio and monitor Channels 16 and 72 while racing.

22.3 The Race Committee may make courtesy broadcasts on VHF Channel 72. Failure to receive or hear such broadcasts shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

22.4 From the first warning signal until the end of racing, a boat shall neither make nor receive communications not available to all competitors, except in an emergency.

22.5 Mobile phones may be carried for emergency use only.

23 PROPULSION

23.1 Any means of propulsion, including use of an engine, may be used in case of emergency or to help a person or another vessel in danger, without disqualification from the race.