



2026 New England SOLO/TWIN

Organizing Clubs:

NEWPORT YACHT CLUB
110 LONG WHARF, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND 02840
(401) 846-9410 • www.NewportYachtClub.org

NOTICE OF RACE

Organizing Authority (OA): Newport Yacht Club

July 23 – July 25, 2026

1. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

The New England SOLO/TWIN Championships are separate races starting in Newport, RI on Friday, July 24, and organized by the Newport Yacht Club. The divisions will consist of the following:

- Single-handed Monohull Spinnaker • Single-handed Monohull Cruising Canvas (assuming 3 entrants)
- Double-handed Monohull Spinnaker • Double-handed Monohull Cruising Canvas • Double-handed Multihull

The intent of these races is to encourage competition in the tradition of shorthanded sailing and passage making. While recognizing the inherent danger in the sport, this event is organized to promote and to help develop techniques and equipment, which will foster safe and seamanlike shorthanded sailing. Because the completion of each race is a singular accomplishment, all who finish will be considered winners of the event.

2. RULES

2.1 The New England SOLO/TWIN Championships will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025-2028; the prescriptions of the US Sailing Association (*US Sailing*); the International Rules of the Road (refer to USCG booklet 1690); Inland or International (as appropriate) Regulations (COLREGS) for preventing collisions at sea; the Announcement of Race; this Notice of Race; the Sailing Instructions; and amendments or addendums to any of the aforementioned.

2.2 A yacht's auxiliary engine may only be used in emergencies or, with the gears disengaged, to charge batteries. Whenever the engine is used, the time and reason for use must be logged.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 The New England SOLO/TWIN Championships are open to offshore sailing yachts at least 24 feet (however Open 6.5 Minis are welcome) and no more than 60 feet LOA. Classes within the divisions will be established following the close of entries and are determined by handicap ratings and other measures to ensure competition as close as possible. Class scratch sheets will be provided at the Skippers' Meeting at 0900 hours on Friday, the morning of the start. **ATTENDANCE AT THE SKIPPERS' MEETING IS MANDATORY FOR AT LEAST ONE CO-SKIPPER FROM EACH BOAT.**

3.2 Rating Certificates

3.2.1. Monohull entries must have a valid 2026 rating certificate from Performance Handicap Rated Fleet-Narragansett Bay (PHRF-NB). Entries in the Monohull Cruising Canvas divisions will use PHRF-NB Non-Spinnaker ratings. PHRF-NB ratings new/renewed applications may be obtained online via www.phrf-nb.org. Any questions should be directed to Kathy Rotsky at PHRF-NB (401) 253-0207 weekdays, 9 am - 3 pm. **A copy of the rating certificate must be submitted to SOLO/TWIN Event Organizers either at the time of entry registration or by the closing of entries on the Monday before the start.** Rating

applications should be submitted via the PHRF-NB website by May 1 to ensure a finalized certificate can be submitted to the OA by entry deadline. No PHRF-NB application will be processed without payment of processing fee.

3.2.2. Multihull entries must have a valid 2026 handicap rating from the New England Multihull Association (NEMA). A copy of the rating certificate must be submitted to the SOLO/TWIN Event Organizers by the close of entries on the Tuesday before the start.

3.2.3. **NOTE: *Participants must conform to all conditions and terms of the rating certificates submitted with their entry. Violation of those conditions may result in a penalty, including disqualification.***

3.4 Previous SOLO/TWIN participants are automatically qualified, as are participants in longer shorthanded races, such as the Bermuda One-Two and Offshore 160.

3.5 New entrants in the SOLO/TWIN must provide the event organizers with a written statement of sailing experience, including evidence of at least one non-stop single-handed (SOLO) or double-handed (TWIN) passage of 25 miles or more. If the 25-mile passage is to be made in the year of the race, it must be completed no later than July 18. Statement(s) of experience for all entrants must be included with entry form.

3.6 The elder skipper shall not be less than 21 years old and the younger of a twin entry shall not be less than 16 years old.

3.7 The event organizers reserve the right to reject entries for any reason that it deems sufficient. If any entrant has made false statements, entry will be refused, and the entry fee will be forfeited.

3.8 Registration and payment will be performed online on the Newport Yacht Club website: Sailing > Offshore then the New England Solo/Twin section in the page. Or go to [Clubspot](#), select Regatta then search for Offshore 160 then click on Offshore 160 result. Beside Registration, Notice board (documents), Results and Entry list are also available.

4. FEES

5.1 Before Monday of the week of the start - \$90.00 – Single-handed Entry; \$130.00 – Double-handed Entry. Starting Monday of the week of the start - \$115.00 – Single-handed Entry; \$170.00 – Double-handed Entry.

5.2 Once an entry is accepted, the entry fee is non-refundable. Unique situations causing withdrawal may be considered for refunds by the event organizers.

5. MANDATORY CHECK-IN

A ***representative from each boat entered must check in with the race organizers on Thursday*** between 1600 and 2000 hours. Regatta representatives will be on duty at the Newport Yacht Club; they will monitor VHF Channel #72 and the NYC telephone at Duty Desk 401-619-4936 or Newport Yacht Club 401-846-9410. At check-in, any outstanding fees and/or paperwork are due, including a copy of the yacht's Required Safety Equipment check list, properly completed and signed by the entrant(s), attesting that all the required equipment is on board and ready for use. Failure to complete registration could result in disqualification of the entrant. **NOTE: *Any changes in the crew list will require updated personal information and signature on the waiver. Changes in the crew list will be accepted no later than, 0800 on Friday, prior to the start of the Skippers' Meeting.***

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing instructions are supplied to entrants upon checking in on Thursday between 1600 and 2000 hours at Event Headquarters at the Newport Yacht Club.

7. RACECOURSES –

The courses will consist of ocean triangles of 65-120 miles in length, which will begin and end in Narragansett Bay, and which will vary for the Monohulls, Multihulls and Cruising Canvas divisions.

120 NM COURSE: from the start the course is southward, rounding R “4” Fl R 6 sec Whistle (0.7 NM southwest of Southwest Point, Block Island, Light List #19735 at 41°08-43.757N, LON 71°37-20.888W); thence to Virtual Mark 1 at 40-38N, 071-37W; thence to Virtual Mark 2 at 40-43N, 071-11W; thence to R “2” Fl R 4s WHIS (3.3nm S of Pt. Judith; Light List #19460), thence to the finish line at Castle Hill Lighthouse, Light List #17795.

103 NM COURSE: from the start the course is southward, rounding R “4” Fl R 6 sec Whistle (0.7 NM southwest of Southwest Point, Block Island, Light List #19735 at 41°08-43.757N, LON 71°37-20.888W); thence to R “32” Fl R 2.5s WHIS buoy 5.3 west of Gay Head (41-22-04.917N, 070-57-25.091W, Light List # 15613); thence to G “5” WHIS (9.2nm SSW of Pt. Judith; Light List #19685); thence to the finishing line at Castle Hill Lighthouse, Light List #17795.

93 NM COURSE: from the start the course is southward, rounding R “4” Fl R 6 sec Whistle (0.7 NM southwest of Southwest Point, Block Island, Light List #19735 at 41°08-43.757N, LON 71°37-20.888W); thence to R “32” Fl R 2.5s WHIS buoy 5.3 west of Gay Head (41-22-04.917N, 070-57-25.091W, Light List # 15613); thence to R “2” Fl R 4s WHIS (3.3nm S of Pt. Judith; Light List #19460); thence to the finishing line at Castle Hill Lighthouse, Light List #17795.

77.2 NM COURSE: from the start the course is southward, rounding R “4” Fl R 6 sec Whistle (0.7 NM southwest of Southwest Point, Block Island, Light List #19735 at 41°08-43.757N, LON 71°37-20.888W); thence to the Buzzards Bay Light Tower Fl W 2.5s (Light List #15985; description: tower on red square on 3 piles with a large red tube in center with the word BUZZARDS on the side; the tower has a RACON and is at LAT 41°23.8N, LON 71°02.00W); thence to RW “NB” Fl 4 sec MO(A) Whistle RACON (4.25 NM southwest of Brenton Point; Light List #17675); thence to the finishing line at Castle Hill Lighthouse, Light List #17795.

70 NM COURSE: from the start the course is southward, rounding G “5” WHIS (9.2nm SSW of Pt. Judith; Light List #19685); thence to R “32” Fl R 4s 2.5s WHIS buoy 5.3 west of Gay Head (41-22-04.917N, 070-57-25.091W, Light List # 15613); thence to “NB” Fl 4 sec MO(A) Whistle RACON (4.25 NM southwest of Brenton Point; Light List #17675); thence to the finishing line at Castle Hill Lighthouse, Light List #17795.

64.9 NM COURSE: from the start the course is southward, rounding G “1BI” Fl G 4 sec Bell (1.5 NM north of Sandy Point, Block Island, Light List #19475); thence to the Buzzards Bay Light Tower Fl W 2.5s (Light List #15985; description: tower on red square on 3 piles with a large red tube in center with the word BUZZARDS on the side; the tower has a RACON and is at LAT 41°23.8N, LON 71°02.00W); thence to “NB” Fl 4 sec MO(A) Whistle RACON (4.25 NM southwest of Brenton Point, Light List #17675); thence to the finishing line at Castle Hill Lighthouse, Light List #17795.

60 NM COURSE: from the start the course is southward, rounding R “2” Fl R 4s WHIS (3.3 nm south of Point Judith; Light List #19460); thence to R “32” Fl R 4s 2.5s WHIS buoy 5.3 west of Gay

Head (41-22-04.917N, 070-57-25.091W, Light List # 15613); thence to “NB” Fl 4 sec MO(A) Whistle RACON (4.25 NM southwest of Brenton Point; *Light List #17675*); thence to the finishing line at Castle Hill Lighthouse , Light List #17795.

There is a provision for doing the courses in reverse also.

8. SAIL LIMITATIONS

8.1 A yacht sailing in a Cruising Canvas class may use only one headsail at a time, except briefly during a headsail change. Any headsail in use must be affixed to the headstay for the entire length of its luff. A yacht may, however, also use a single working forestaysail, provided that sail is a part of that yacht’s normal rated sail configuration.

8.2 RRS 52 Manual Power - shall not apply to hoisting of mainsails, or the reefing, furling or dousing of sails (trimming of sails is not allowed). The use of autopilots is permitted.

9. FLYING CLASS FLAGS

Yachts must fly the International Code Pennant for their class from the backstay (or similar position) to indicate that they are participants in the class assigned to the event. The following classes may be assigned: Classes 1-3 twin mono-hull spinnaker, Class 4 twin mono-hull cruising, Class 5 single mono-hull spinnaker, Class 6 twin multi-hull.

10. TIME ALLOWANCES/SCORING

10.1 Ratings will be applied Time-On-Time to determine finish positions. There will be no time limit set for the completion of these races.

10.2 The New England SoloTwin Event Organizers reserve the right to impose, after a hearing, a time penalty (e.g. going inside the Exclusion Zone, see the Sailing Instructions), a delayed start, or disqualification for any infringement of the letter or the spirit of the rules or conditions of the New England SoloTwin.

11. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

The race committee will monitor VHF Channel 72. All competitors will attempt to make radio contact with other participants and/or the race committee during the race at the appointed times, as described within the sailing instructions. Cell phones and email may be used in addition to VHF reporting to the Race Committee per the sailing instructions. It is highly recommended that you have access to VHF in the cockpit.

12. AWARDS:

Awards will be presented to yachts placing first, second and third in each class within each division. The Cliff Mitchell Family Trophy will be awarded to the best “new family team” in the past three years. “New family team” is defined as different family team makeup in the past three years (e.g. father/son on boat X last year, father/grandfather on boat X two years ago and wife/husband boat Y 3 years ago).

Every even year (non-Bermuda One-Two year) the New England ShortHanded Ocean Racing Trophy will be awarded to the best boat on corrected time that completes the Offshore 160 and doublehanded in this New England Solo/Twin.

13. EQUIPMENT SAFETY EQUIPMENT

13.1 All entrants will be required to submit written proof of self-inspection of their vessels by submitting a signed and dated Required Safety Equipment Checklist included with the addendum to this Notice of Race.

The checklist must be submitted to the Event Organizers by the Skippers' Meeting; failure to comply could result in disqualification of the entrant. Organizers reserve the authority of inspecting yachts at random before the start and inspecting selected yachts after they finish.

13.2 All boats are required to mount on an outside surface (typically the stern pulpit), visible to the sky, an event-provided (at registration) satellite tracking device per instructions. The Skipper is responsible for unreturned or damaged units at the cost of replacement (a credit card will be used as deposit for the tracker). The tracking device must be returned after finishing by the end of the day of the Awards or the skippers will be subject to the replacement fee.

14. FURTHER INFORMATION

14.1 Responsibility: The decisions to enter, to start, and to continue racing are entirely the participants' responsibility. Every participant must recognize the risk inherent in such a venture and take full responsibility for the safety and well-being of themselves, their vessels, and the other people and vessels they may encounter during the event. By electing to participate, each participant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the event organizers, the Newport Yacht Club, their officers, and all affiliated parties from any loss or damage to his or her person or property.

14.2 Questions, proof of qualifying passage(s), entry fee, statement(s) of qualifications, and completed race entries — exclusive of requests for PHRF-NB or NEMA rating certificates — should be directed to: email: offshore@newportyachtclub.org, New England SOLO/TWIN Championships, c/o Newport Yacht Club, 110 Long Wharf, Newport, RI 02840. www.newportyachtclub.org

Roy Guay, Event Chairperson
Ted Singsen, Kristen Wenzel
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