



AMERICAN YACHT CLUB 2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

for the Thomas A. Williams Trophy

Saturday, August 29, 2026

Organizing Authority (OA): American Yacht Club (AYC), Rye, NY

NOTICE OF RACE

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 Ideal 18 Class rules shall not apply.
- 1.3 American Yacht Club Expedited Hearing Procedures shall apply and will be provided in the Sailing Instructions ("SIs").
- 1.4 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or".

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The SIs will be available after 1700 on Thursday, August 27, 2026 on [Clubspot](https://sailing.americanyc.org/regatta/ACB8cf0IYY) (<https://sailing.americanyc.org/regatta/ACB8cf0IYY>).

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official notice board is located on [Clubspot](#).
- 3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on all US channels.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to make courtesy broadcasts to competitors over the loud hailer and/or the VHF. The channel will be stated in the SIs.
- 3.4 [DP] From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to all members of the American Yacht Club. Both skipper and crew shall be AYC members.
- 4.2 The event will be sailed in Ideal 18s, provided by AYC. Spinnakers will be used. Standing rigging shall not be adjusted, except by direction of the OA.
- 4.3 Eligible boats may enter by registering online at [Clubspot](#) by 1900 on Thursday, August 27, 2026.

- 4.4 The total number of entries is limited to a maximum of 18 skipper/crew teams, which will be accepted in the order that complete entries are submitted using the online form. Additional entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA.

5 FEES

- 5.1 There is no entry fee.

6 DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 6.1 A damage deposit is not required, however, members/teams will be responsible for up to \$500 (insurance deductible) if there is material damage to the Ideal 18s or other club equipment.

7 EVENT FORMAT

- 7.1 Based on the number of registrations, the event will be one of two formats. Boat assignments for the first race will be drawn by lot.

1): If there are more skipper/crew teams than boats, competitors will be separated into two (2) groups, by random draw. Each group will sail a preliminary series of no more than three (3) races. Top finishers in each group will sail a final series of no more than five (5) races. The number of finishers in each group competing in the final series will be dependent upon the number of boats available (e.g., top four (4) from each group if nine (9) boats are available or top five (5) from each group if 10 boats are available). Scores from the preliminary series will not carry over to the final series. Competitors who are not in rotation in a race that is underway are encouraged to stay in close vicinity of the race area until it is time for their rotation.

2): If the number of skipper/crew teams is equal to or fewer than the number of boats available, then one series will be run. The number of races will be at the discretion of the race committee.

8 SCHEDULE

- 8.1 Saturday, August 29, 2026
- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1230 | Competitors' Meeting on the front porch of the AYC main clubhouse |
| 1300 | Harbor Start |
| 1400 | First Warning Signal |
| Post-Racing | Live Music & Front Lawn Buffet Dinner (separate fee) |
- 8.2 If the regatta is not completed on August 29, the race committee will arrange a date to complete the regatta.

9 VENUE

- 9.1 The racing area will be in the waters off Milton Harbor in Rye, NY. The racing area and the location of the race committee signal boat for the start will be announced at the Competitors' Meeting.

10 COURSES

- 10.1 The course will be a windward-leeward course around inflatable marks.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 Appendix V will apply.

12 SCORING

- 12.1 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
12.2 A boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores.

13 SPECTATORS

- 13.1 Spectators are welcome and encouraged. Spectator boats must keep clear of the racing area (staying outside of the port and starboard corner laylines) and respect all instructions from the race committee.

14 PRIZES

- 14.1 Following the event, the event winner (skipper & crew) will be awarded the Thomas A. Williams Trophy and a separate prize.
14.2 At the AYC Annual Awards Dinner in November 2026, additional prizes will be awarded to the skippers and crews placing first, second and third.
14.3 The event winner will also win a table on Picnic Point for the fireworks event in July 2027. The winner can select a specific table, so long as the skipper notifies the General Manager of the desired table by Monday, May 31, 2027.

15 GREEN REGATTA

- 15.1 [DP][NP] In an effort to promote sustainability and reduce the amount of waste in Long Island Sound, single-use plastic water bottles shall not be used from the time competitors leave the dock until racing is concluded for the day. Reusable water bottles will not be provided by the OA, and competitors are encouraged to bring their own. Drinking water will be available from official boats for competitors to refill their reusable water bottles.

16 RISK STATEMENT

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 and any related activity sponsored, undertaken, administered, managed, or allowed to be conducted by American Yacht Club, the owner, helmsman and each crew member agree, understand and accept, for themselves and their respective successors, assigns, representatives, administrators, executors, agents, heirs or any person acting or purporting to act on their behalf ("Releasors") that sailing is an inherently dangerous and unpredictable activity due to multiple factors that cannot be anticipated or predicted with certainty, including but not limited to weather, equipment failure or malfunction, and the actions of others on or off the water, injury, sickness and disease (including communicable diseases such as Covid-19). Releasors also agree, understand and accept that sailing

presents inherent risks of serious bodily injury (including permanent disability, paralysis, and death, whether by drowning or otherwise, sickness and disease (including communicable diseases), property damage and other economic loss. Accordingly, and in consideration for being permitted to enter into and participate in this or any other sailing event sponsored, undertaken, administered, managed or allowed to be conducted by American Yacht Club, Releasors forever release and waive, to the fullest extent allowed by law, any and all claims, actions, accounts, causes of action and choses in action, whether in law, equity or admiralty, that Releasors now have, may have had or may come to have, against American Yacht Club, including its officers, directors, trustees, members, employees, agents, volunteers, staff, committees, and anyone acting on its behalf ("Releasees"), for anything arising out of or relating to Releasors' participation in such sailing events (including contracting communicable diseases such as Covid-19). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, and without in any way limiting or lessening the effect or breadth of the foregoing release and waiver, and solely for the avoidance of doubt and clarification, Releasors agree, acknowledge and understand that this release and waiver applies to any and all claims of any kind at all against Releasees arising out of or relating to injuries, deaths, sickness and disease (including communicable diseases such as Covid-19), damage to vessels or damage to personal property sustained during or as a result of any and all sailing events sponsored, undertaken, administered, managed or allowed to be conducted by American Yacht Club.

17 FURTHER INFORMATION

Questions: jenniferaleary@gmail.com

Regatta Chairperson:

Jenn Leary

Principal Race Officer:

Jenn Leary

Race Committee Chairmen:

Barry Gold & Rich Hult

Chief Judge:

Clemmie Everett

American Yacht Club

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VHF Channel 71