



RAM ISLAND YACHT CLUB, INC.
60 Front St.
Noank, Connecticut, USA
81st Annual Invitational Regatta – Saturday, August 22, 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 The provisions of Appendix V shall be in effect.
- 1.3 Double and single-handed entrants may use self-steering/auto-pilot devices only during sail changes. **This changes RRS 52.**
- 1.4 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: *(2) 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*
- 1.5 National letters and sail numbers shall be of a contrasting color to the body of the sail.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board at ClubSpot:
<https://theclubspot.com/regatta/P1BG6tTuDn/#notice-board>

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted to the official Notice Board by 0900 on the day they are to take effect, except that any change to the Schedule of Races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it takes effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the mainmast at the end of the Ram Island Yacht Club dock and will be broadcast via VHF radio on channel 1001 (01A).
- 4.2 When flag “AP” is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 30 minutes’ in the race signal AP. **This changes Race Signals**

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.1 The Race Committee (“RC”) shall communicate on VHF radio channel 1001 (01A). Only the RC may request redress for misunderstandings, errors or omissions that may result from such communications. **This changes RRS 60.1.**

- 5.2 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make or receive voice, data or video transmissions which are not available to all boats in the fleet.

6 **SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 6.1 Racing will take place on Saturday, August 22nd. In the event of cancellation or abandonment, there is no re-sail date.
- 6.2 One race is scheduled for all classes.
- 6.3 The Warning signal for the first Start is scheduled at 1055.

7 **CLASS FLAGS**

- 7.1 Class flags will be the International Code Flag corresponding to the Class letter/number listed on the Scratch Sheet.

8. **CHECK-IN**

- 8.1 Prior to her Warning signal, each boat shall pass the RC Signal boat stern to bow on the side opposite the starting line and hail the class, name and sail number of the boat. Failure to do so will result in an automatic 20% penalty added to her score. **This changes Appendix A 2.1.**

9 **THE START**

- 9.1 The starting area will be between Horseshoe Reef N "26" and the southwest end of Groton Long Point.
- 9.2 The starting line will be between the staff flying an orange flag on the Signal Boat and the on-course side of an inflatable buoy. An auxiliary RC boat with an Orange flag may be substituted for the buoy.
- 9.3 The start order will be announced by the RC prior to the Warning signal for the first Start.
- 9.4 The RC will announce individual OCS boats on VHF Ch. 1001 (01A) and/or loud hail. Failure on the part of any OCS boat to hear or understand these attempts shall not be considered grounds for a request for redress. **This changes RRS 62.1(a).**

10 **COURSES/COURSE SIGNALS**

- 10.1 The course to be sailed by each class will be displayed on a board on the Signal Boat.
- 10.2 The possible courses are designated in **Attachment "A" of these Sailing Instructions.**

11 **THE FINISH**

- 11.1 For **Courses 1, 2, and 3** - Between the staff flying an orange flag on the RC Signal Boat and the on-course side of an inflatable buoy located approximately 1/2 mile south of Mason's Point.
- 11.2 For **Courses 4, and 5** - Between a staff flying an orange flag on the RC Signal Boat and the on-course side of an inflatable buoy located approximately 1/4 mile west of North Hill bell "2".

12 **TIME LIMIT**

- 12.1 The time limit for each class is 1600 regardless of starting times.
- 12.2 Boats that do not finish within the time limit shall be scored TLE and receive points equal to the number of finishers in her class plus 1. **This changes RRS 35 and Appendices A4, A5, and A10.**

13 **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 13.1 Boats filing a protest, a request for redress, or a scoring inquiry shall inform the RC Signal Boat at their earliest opportunity after finishing.
- 13.2 Protests shall be filed with the Protest Committee at the RC Signal Boat at the RIYC docks or electronically via email to riyc.pro@gmail.com no later than one (1) hour after the Signal Boat docks. The docking time will be posted to the Notice Board at ClubSpot.
- 13.3 Hearings will be scheduled at the earliest opportunity following the completion of racing. Hearings may be held virtually online at the discretion of the RIYC Protest Committee.

14 **SCORING**

- 14.1 Corrected times for PHRF classes will be calculated using PHRF Time on Time (ToT) calculations.
- 14.2 Corrected times for the ORC Class will be calculated using single number A/P ratings, unless conditions dictate alternative ORC scoring criteria. The decisions on wind range and course classification will be at the sole discretion of the RC and shall not be grounds for a request for redress. **This changes RRS 60.1(b) and RRS 62.1(a).**
- 14.3 Corrected times for all perpetual trophies will be calculated using PHRF Time on Time (ToT) calculations.

15 **PRIZES**

- 15.1 The awards party is scheduled to start at 1700. Parking and docking is limited. Carpooling is recommended.
- 15.2 Prizes will be awarded at the after-race party at Ram Island Yacht Club no earlier than 1730.

ATTACHMENT “A”

Course – 1: Southwesterly to Race Point N “2”, leaving to port. Thence easterly along the south shore of Fishers Island to Lord’s Passage Mo (A) “L”, leaving to port. Then to Wicopesset Rock C “7”, leaving to port. Thence northerly to G “3” off the Stonington breakwater, leaving to port. Thence westerly to the finish. Course length ~15.5 nautical miles.

Course – 2: Southwesterly to Race Point N “2”, leaving to port. Thence easterly along the south shore of Fishers Island to Lord’s Passage Mo [A] “L”, leaving to port. Then to Wicopesset Rock C “7”, leaving to port. Thence northwesterly to the finish. Course length ~14.5 nautical miles.

Course – 3: Southwesterly to Silver Eel W “SE”, leaving to starboard. Thence northerly to Vixens Ledge “VL”, leaving to starboard. Thence easterly to N “16” east of Eel Grass Ground, leaving to port. Thence westerly to the finish. Course length ~11.0 nautical miles.

Course – 4: Southeasterly to Wicopesset Rock C “7”, leaving to starboard. Thence southerly to Lord’s Passage Mo [A] “L”, leaving to starboard. Thence westerly along the south shore of Fishers Island to Race Point N “2”, leaving to starboard. Thence northeasterly to the finish. Course length ~13.0 nautical miles.

Course – 5: Easterly to N “16” east of Eel Grass Ground, leaving to starboard. Thence westerly leaving Brooks Point C “1W”, Clay Point C “5” and North Hill bell “2” to port. Thence southwesterly to Silver Eel W “SE”, leaving to starboard. Thence northeasterly to the finish. Course length ~10.5 nautical miles.