



Royal Hamilton Yacht Club (RHYC)

Bill Cheek Memorial Turkey Regatta

Saturday October 10, 2026

Sailing Instructions

1 RULES

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028; the PHRF Rules or the Class Rules of any one design classes; the Notice of Race; and by the Sailing Instructions, except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the Evergreen Patio at RHYC, and on the regatta website. In the event of a conflict between versions, the copy posted on the official notice board shall prevail.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least one hour before the warning signal on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole on the North lawn.
4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 20 minutes" in race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

One race is scheduled, using a pursuit style race format.

6 SKIPPERS' MEETING

There will be a skippers' meeting at 1215 on Saturday, October 10th, 2026 on the patio at RHYC.

7 RACING AREAS

- 7.1 Racing will take place in Hamilton Harbour.
7.2 All mooring areas in the racing area are out of bounds while racing and are obstructions.

8 THE COURSE

- 8.1 The course to be sailed will be provided at the skippers meeting and will be posted on the official Notice Board on the RHYC patio.



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9 MARKS

The course may use fixed marks as well as inflatable tetrahedrons of yellow, orange and/or green colours as drop marks (DM). DM may be placed at the former locations of fixed marks, or elsewhere, at the discretion of the Race Officer. This as well will be detailed at the skipper's meeting.

10 THE START

- 10.1 The scheduled time for the warning signal is 13:25. The class flag will be numeral pennant 1. The first boat(s) will be started using Rule 26, with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.

One race is scheduled, using a pursuit style race format. Each competitor will be assigned an individual start time based on their PHRF rating, the distance of the course to be sailed and the PHRF Time On Distance formula. Start times for all boats will be presented at the Skippers Meeting

- 10.2 In the unlikely event of a postponement being signaled by the RC Signal boat, the published start times will be delayed 5 minutes, and any subsequent postponements will be in increments of 5 minutes. The RC Signal boat will advise on Channel 71 in such an event.

- 10.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag or shape on the race committee signal boat and a fixed mark.

- 10.4 Boats shall avoid the starting area until 4 minutes before their starting time.

- 10.5 Rule 29.1 is changed so that when flag X (Individual Recall) is displayed, it will be displayed for 30 seconds after the starting time of boats that infringe or cross the start line before their starting time.

11 THE FINISH

- 11.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat and a fixed mark.

12 TIME LIMITS

Boats failing to finish 3 hours after the first start signal will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rules 35 and A4.1.

13 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 13.1 Protest forms are available at RHYC. Protests shall be delivered to the race committee within the protest time limit.



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- 13.2 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the race committee signal boat docks. The time limit will be posted on the official notice board.
- 13.3 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 13.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).
- 13.5 Breaches of instructions 10.3 and 15 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.
- 13.6: Requests for redress shall be made in writing within the protest time limit or within 20 minutes of the relevant incident, whichever is later. This changes rule 62.2.
- 14 SCORING**
- Boats will be scored points equal to their finishing place. The Low Points System of RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 15 SAFETY REGULATIONS**
- A boat that retires from the race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible by VHF
- 16 RADIO COMMUNICATION**
- 16.1 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 16.2 The race committee may make broadcasts of interest to competitors on VHF channel 71. These courtesy broadcasts may include countdowns to starting times. The failure of a boat to hear such broadcasts will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).
- 17 PRIZES**
- Turkeys will be awarded to the first 3 boats in each fleet to sail the course and finish. Chickens will be awarded to all other boats sailing the course and finishing. All boats that have registered to race before midnight EDT Thurs October 8th are guaranteed to receive a prize. For later entries, prizes will be awarded on a best-efforts basis based on availability at that time. Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.



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18 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

19 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of Two Million (\$2,000,000.00) dollars or the equivalent.