

**THE KIRBY CUP**  
**Sonar Class Association Team Race Championship**  
**Hosted by Noroton Yacht Club**  
**September 26 - 27, 2026**

**NOTICE OF RACE**

**Amended 8/14/2026**

The Sonar Class Association (SCA) has granted sanction to Fleet 1 and Noroton Yacht Club (NYC) to be the organizing authority and host this regatta.

**RULES**

**1.1**

The races will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028* and the 'Kirby Cup Deed of Gift'.

**1.2**

Appendix D, Team Racing Rules, will apply as modified by the Sailing Instructions (SI).

**1.3**

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

**2 CLASS**

Sonar boats will be provided. Spinnakers maybe used, conditions permitting. Standing rigging shall not be adjusted, except by direction of the Organizing Authority. Rules for handling boats and the equipment list will be included in the Sailing Instructions.

Sonar Class Rules will not apply.

**3 TEAM**

Each competing team will consist of three boats with a helmsman and two (2) or three (3) crew members. Each helmsman shall be a member in good standing of US Sailing. Each team will be permitted to rotate crew between boats with prior approval by the OA provided each team's boats have the same number of people each day. This is an open event: there is no age or weight restriction, and sailors are not required to be members of the yacht club for which they are sailing.

**4 ADVERTISING**

A boat and her crew shall comply with ISAF Regulation 20, Advertising Code.

**5 ELIGIBILITY, ENTRY & FEES**

[Use this registration page](#) and remit the entry fee by August 31. Teams will be accepted in order of when their payments are received (a maximum of 6 teams for the regatta).

The entry fee is \$2,400 per team, and includes light breakfast and coffee on Saturday and Sunday, Saturday night buffet dinner, and refreshments after racing on Saturday and the Sunday awards presentation.

**6 BYO lunch.**

**7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

SIs will be available on or before September 25, 2026 and will be posted on the event page: [2026 Kirby Cup event page](#)

## 8 VENUE

The racing area will be approximately ½ mile south of the Noroton Yacht Club Harbor entrance. Shore activities will take place at Noroton Yacht Club, 23 Baywater Drive, Darien CT 06820

## 9 FORMAT

The planned format is a series of one or more round robins among all competing teams, and a seeded, double-elimination “knockout series” if conditions permit. The format and number of races will be described in the Sailing Instructions and at the Participants’ Meeting, and may be adjusted by the Organizing Authority due to weather and time considerations.

## 10 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

|                        |              |                                                              |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday, September 26 | 0900         | Check in, verify waivers, damage deposits                    |
|                        | 0930         | Participants meeting                                         |
|                        | 1000         | Harbor start                                                 |
|                        | 1030         | Warning signal                                               |
|                        | After Racing | Umpire debrief, refreshments                                 |
|                        | 1830         | Buffet dinner                                                |
| Sunday, September 27   | 0830         | Participants meeting                                         |
|                        | 0900         | Harbor start                                                 |
|                        | 0930         | Warning signal                                               |
|                        | 1500         | No warning signal after 1500 without agreement by all teams. |
|                        | 1600         | Prizes and refreshments                                      |

## 11 COURSE

The course will be a port-hand box as described in the SIs.

## 12 SCORING

Scoring will be in accordance with Appendix D, except as modified by the SIs.

## 13 UMPIRING

It is the intention for the regatta to be umpired in accordance with Appendix D, rule D2 as modified by the SIs. Teams will be required to provide sailors to assist the umpires when their team is not racing, which will not be considered to be a conflict of interest.

## 14 PROTESTS

When practicable, protests other than those under rule D2.2 or rule D2.3, and redress requests will be heard on the water.

## 15 PFDs & VHF RADIOS

- RRS 40.1 shall apply at all times on the water. In addition, the end of the first sentence of RRS 40.1 is changed to read “except while actively adding or removing clothing.” Competitors must supply their own USCG-approved PFDs. PFDs shall be worn outside of all clothing except team identification bibs. Bibs shall be worn over PFDs while racing. A breach of this sailing instruction may only be protested by the race committee, protest committee or Umpires. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

- All boats shall carry a marine band VHF radio capable of receiving normal US channels. Competitors shall provide their own VHF radios.

## **16 COACHES AND SUPPORT BOATS**

Coach and support boats are not permitted. Any coach may only observe racing from the change boat until the day's racing is completed. Any spectator boats will be governed by the SIs and shall not have any contact with teams.

## **17 MEALS**

Light breakfast and coffee will be provided both days. Bring your own lunch. A buffet dinner for competitors will be provided Saturday night, along with a keg, and cash bar. Additional dinner tickets for Saturday may be purchased on site (but with advance notice to the Regatta Chair).

## **18 WAIVER AND DAMAGE DEPOSIT**

- As a condition of entry, all competitors shall submit, prior to racing, an online liability waiver/media release. The link can be found on the event website.
- Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority, Noroton Yacht Club, and any official sponsors 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. Attention is also drawn to RRS 46.
- All skippers will be required to provide a \$1,500 damage deposit prior to the start of racing by providing credit card information or Noroton member number at registration. The deposit is a per-incident maximum, and includes damage to boats or race committee vessels. If a skipper has more than one incident, he or she is then liable for up to \$1,500 for each individual incident. The OA may require the damage deposit to be restored to its original amount before a team will be permitted to continue racing. Skippers should be aware that while the Team Race Representative or Waterfront Staff will attempt to identify all damage at the post-regatta inspection, often this is not possible due to the nature of the damage. The skipper is responsible for all damage, even if it is discovered only after the post-regatta report is completed and signed. In the event that there is material damage not covered by insurance and no one acknowledges responsibility (e.g., crews are rotated among the boats and no one reports the damage), the cost of repairs will be charged to all the designated skippers on a prorated basis.

## **19 PRIZES**

The winner of the regatta will be awarded The Kirby Cup by the Sonar Class, which will be retained by the Class. Keeper trophies will also be awarded.

## **20 FURTHER INFORMATION**

Event website: [2026 Kirby Cup event page](#)

For more information contact

Event Chairs:

- Connor D'Amico (connordamico98@gmail.com)
- Florian Eenkema van Dijk (floevd@gmail.com)

Sailing Director:

- Cormac Murphy (cormac@norotonyc.org)