

CONSTITUTION YACHT CLUB

Boston, Massachusetts

Sailing Instructions Wednesday Evening Series 2014

Constitution Yacht Club will be sponsoring races in Boston Harbor Wednesday evenings from May 14 through September 17. The races will be divided into three series of six races each, with awards for each series and first place awards for the full season.

The start/finish line will be between 20' committee boat and an inflatable white pyramark.

The Race Committee will monitor VHF 69 after approximately 1800 hours; channel 16 and 13 will also be monitored, per USCG requirements, for commercial inter-ship safety communications. All racers are required to monitor channel 69 for announcements, changes, over early, abandonment, shortened course etc.

No yacht may start a race without having first registered. The fees are \$35.00 (\$40 for non-CYC members) per race, \$90.00* (\$100 for non-CYC members) for each series or \$180.00* (\$215 for non-CYC members) for the season. Sailing Instructions and Registration Forms may be downloaded from the CYC web site, <https://www.regattaman.com/>.

A current year's PHRF certificate will be required to participate. If assistance is needed obtaining a PHRF certificate, contact Brian Sullivan, Fleet Handicapper, or any member of the Race Committee. New racers may participate provided their certificate is pending and will be given a provisional rating of 0, to be adjusted for subsequent races upon the receipt of the formal certificate.

The *Racing Rules of Sailing* will govern the races, except as noted in these Sailing Instructions. The ISF Racing Rules of Sailing for 2013 and the US Sailing Prescriptions thereto may be downloaded from the US Sailing web site, www.sailing.org.

These series are intended to be friendly and fun events and the CYC Board and Race Committee expect each skipper to have a thorough knowledge of the Racing Rules of Sailing and adhere to them strictly. Attention is called to RRS Rule 14, requiring a boat to avoid contact with another boat if reasonably possible, and Rule 44.1 (b), requiring a boat to retire if, as a result of breaking a rule, she caused serious damage or gained a significant advantage in the race or series. In addition the CYC Board and Race Committee expects that the skipper of any boat which causes damage to another boat in an incident which he/she could reasonably have avoided and/or as the result of breaking a rule shall reimburse the owner of the damaged boat for the reasonable cost of repair either directly or through his/her insurance carrier.

CLASSES & SCORING:

There will be two classes, "A" (up to 79), "B" (80-up) based on PHRF racing rating. Races will be sailed and scored, using the MBSA Chips scoring system, as three classes. Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in each division. Each yacht will have one throw-out per series if five or six races are held; if four or fewer races are held in a series there will be no throw-out.

***Rumble III class splits shall be as outlined by MBSA**

Once the Race Committee boat is on station (typically after 6:15 PM) all boats intending to race shall check in before her first warning signal by sailing past the Race Committee signal boat or by hailing on VHF Channel 69 when within 100 yards of the signal boat and stating her sail number and boat name.

Yachts may sail each race either as "racing" (spinnaker) or "cruising" (non-spinnaker) per their certificates. If yachts choose to race non-spinnaker they must claim so with the Race Committee boat 5 minutes before the race starting sequence. If yachts do not claim non-spinnaker they will be assumed to be in the "racing" category and will be rated accordingly. Yachts may not change their rating, e.g., spinnaker to non-spinnaker, during the race. Yachts using spinnakers may only deploy them after crossing the starting line.

In the event of an emergency, or if a boat withdraws, either the boat or an associated support boat shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

The RC will monitor channel 69 and may place a "Keep Away Buoy" at her stern, at the skipper's discretion. Any contact with this buoy will result in disqualification for that race.

CYC recognizes that US Sailing has issued a prescription requiring the wearing of flotation devices at the start and finish of offshore races as well as at all other times unless directed otherwise by the vessel's captain. In view of the fact that our Wednesday night races are conducted within Boston's Inner Harbor, the decision as to whether a yacht's crew must wear flotation devices during these races shall be left to the individual yacht's captain. No protest of such a captain's decision will be allowed.

PENALTIES AND PROTESTS

Skippers are urged to familiarize themselves with Part 5, Section A of the rules governing protests, including, but not limited to, hailing the offending yacht and flying a red protest flag. If the offending yacht is beyond hailing distance, she may be informed by a transmission on channel 69. The protesting yacht shall notify the RC by transmission on channel 69 as soon as possible after a foul is committed if it is not immediately cleared by the offending yacht, and shall confirm the information to the RC after finishing and before leaving the finish area. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in the disallowance of a filed protest.

A written protest must be filed within 24 hours. This must be on the CYC Protest form, available on the www.CYCBoston.org web site. Protest must be submitted and responded to on one continuous electronic (Microsoft Word) document. All graphics must be pasted into this document.

Rule 63.1 through 63.8, "Hearings", are hereby modified. Hearings will be "virtual", conducted over the phone, by fax and email. An attempt will be made to conclude hearings within a week's time. Interested parties may be present at hearings via phone, by fax and email on the invitation of the protest committee.

After the submission of the original protest and response, no other communication will be allowed from the interested parties unless requested by the protest committee. Evidence will be solicited by the protest committee via phone, fax and email. In person hearings may be called at the discretion of the committee.

Racers are discouraged from filing frivolous or belligerent protests. Rule 69.1, "Gross Misconduct", is hereby modified. A hearing by the protest committee to consider the conduct of a yacht will be required when she has any combination of three protests disallowed or upheld to her disadvantage in any CYC sponsored race during the year.

Rule 44.2 requiring a 720-degree penalty turn is changed to a 360-degree penalty turn.

Any yacht receiving a disqualification for any race may not drop that score. It will be used while calculating for an award. (Fundamental Rule 2)

STARTING SEQUENCE

The starting signals shall be in accordance with The Racing Rules of Sailing. There will be separate starts for each class starting with the B class followed the A class. During the start

sequences any boats not in sequence shall stay clear of the starting area; RC will be monitoring this and may protest any boats not in sequence who interfere with a boat who is in sequence.

Approximately 20-30 seconds before the Class B starting sequence begins, there will be four short blasts as an alert to all boats that the starting sequence is about to begin.

WARNING for class B is scheduled for 1830: Class flag (Blue Flag with White "B") and one sound

PREPARATORY will be one minute after the warning: Preparatory flag ("P" or "I" flag) and one sound

ONE MINUTE will be four minutes after the warning: Preparatory flag removed and one long sound

START will be five minutes after the warning: Class flag removed and one sound

There will be at least a 1 minute pause between Class B start and Class A warning.

Approximately 20-30 seconds before the Class A starting sequence begins, there will be four short blasts as an alert to all boats that the starting sequence is about to begin.

WARNING for class B is scheduled for 1836: Class flag (White Flag with Blue "A") and one sound

PREPARATORY will be one minute after the warning: Preparatory flag ("P" or "I" flag) and one sound

ONE MINUTE will be four minutes after the warning: Preparatory flag removed and one long sound

START will be five minutes after the warning: Class flag removed and one sound

The starting sequence for the Rumble III shall be similar, with the fastest boats starting last. Any yacht over early must restart. The RC will make one sound signal and fly the "Xray" flag. Any yacht over early must sail completely to the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions and have complied with rule 30.1 if it applies. The race committee will attempt to hail each boat that is determined to be on course side ("OCS") using VHF radio on channel 69. The failure to hail, the order of hail, the hail of some but not all, or the untimely hail of OCS boats, all will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

RACING

We are rounding government buoys with the permission of the Port Captain, USCG. We round all marks to **PORT** for traffic separation and convenience, except the last mark of Course #6, which will be left to starboard. **Everyone must obey the United States Department of Transportation Inland Rules of the Road.** These rules apply to all vessels. There is no special consideration for yachts involved in racing. We race in all weather, except official GALE warnings and/or when the visibility is reduced to less than two miles, per USCG requirements. Navigation lights should be used after sunset and during times of reduced visibility.

COURSES

The starting line for courses 1 thru 6 will be in the vicinity of the Boston Waterboat Marina mooring area. The starting line for courses N1 and N2 will be located in the vicinity of buoy FI G 4 sec "13" between the World Trade Center and the Airport Hilton.

The CYC starting pin is designated "0". An orange inflatable drop mark, which is designated "1", will be placed in the vicinity of Pier 6 of the former Charlestown Naval Shipyard. The remaining

marks are government buoys which can be found on the Boston Inner Harbor chart between Castle Island and the Mystic River entrance: FI G 4 sec "13" and FI R 4 sec "12".

Once the Race Committee is on station, they shall make multiple announcements on VHF Channel 69 as to the course and the number of laps to be sailed by each Class that evening.

The RC may shorten the course for any reason by hailing the fleet on channel 69 before the leading yacht has completed any "leg" This allows flexibility should the wind speed diminish to a point that would threaten the abandonment the race or if the race would interfere with commercial traffic. It is the responsibility of each boat to monitor channel 69 for the duration of the race for such an announcement.

The finish will be between the pin and the RC boat. It is recommended that all skippers take their own finish time. **Exception: On nights of low visibility which can impede the RC's ability to take finish times, each skipper is required to take their own finish time.**

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE	DISTANCE PER LAP
1	13p –G- 1p - 0	2.54 nm
2	12p –G- 1p - 0	3.85 nm
3	13p - 0	1.60 nm
4	12p - 0	2.98 nm
5	13p – 12p - 0	3.05 nm
6	13p-12p-13p-12p-13s-0	5.30 nm
N1	1p – 0	2.50 nm
N2	1p – 0p – 12p – 1p - 0	5.55 nm

All "N" courses start in a northerly direction ("1" is the first mark). The posted diagrams of the courses indicate single laps. During multiple laps for courses 3, 4, 5, 6, N1, and N2, the pin designated "0" shall serve as the leeward rounding mark and be left to port.

Courses 1 thru 6 start in a Southerly direction. For Courses 1 and 2 only, the starting line (the line between the RC boat and the starting pin) will be a "gate" through which all yachts must pass on all legs of the course. This requirement is made to allow the RC to shorten courses, due to insufficient wind or commercial traffic. The gate is designated "G", meaning that when sailing towards mark 1 as your next turning mark, the starting pin "O" will be left to starboard and that the RC boat will be left to port. When sailing towards mark 12 or 13 as your next turning mark, the starting pin "O" will be left to port and that the RC boat will be left to starboard.

Times will be taken for courses 1 and 2 at the completion of each lap, in the event the wind should drop to a level not supportive of racing, complete lap times will be used to score the race.

***Rumble III start will be in the vicinity of the World Trade Center , regardless of wind direction. CYC Courses can be downloaded from the "NOR" tag on Regattaman or from the CYC web site.**

TIME LIMITS

During May, June, and July, any race in which no yacht finishes by 2045 will be abandoned. If a yacht finishes within this time limit, the time limit for all other yachts will be 2100. Yachts not finishing by then will be scored "did not finish". In August and September, the time limits will be 2015 and 2030, respectively.

SOCIAL

Following the completion of each series there will be a fleet BBQ. Venue to be announced two weeks prior.