

2018 Great Chase Race

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

CHANGE FOR 2018 – Time on Time PURSUIT racing: This year handicap based racing in Mass Bay is going thru the biggest change in 35 years, the switch from PHRF based rating to a VPP(velocity prediction program) based rating system called **ORRez**. Exciting times! The GCR committee has decided to jump on the Change bandwagon and introduce a new pursuit race format based on the **ORRez** Time on Time ratings.

As you probably know, traditional pursuit races set a race length in nautical miles. Then a boat's Time on Distance rating is used to calculate their starting time. For example the difference in starting time for two boats is the difference between their ratings times the length of the course. If both boats sail to their rating they should arrive at the finish at the same time.

The **ORRez** time on time ratings take into account not the length of the course in miles but the length of the course in time. To apply the **ORRez** time on time ratings to the GCR we will be setting the finish line after a predetermined length of time. This system has some nice advantages.

- We don't need two courses of different lengths to be sure we can finish the race in time.
- Since we only have one course each boat will NOT have a Long and Short Start time, they will just have one Start time.
- Most importantly since we know when the finish is going to be we know when to start cranking up the party!

This will require some changes to how the race will be run. Read on for the details.

FLEETS: There will be FIVE fleets. All vessels will use the same starting line, finish line, and courses but we will award trophies in five fleets. Your division will be determined by your ORRez rating. There will be 4 Non One Design divisions and 1 One Design (Rhodes 19, J-24, Thunderbird, 110, etc.). For the Non One Design divisions, the Race committee will adjust the fleet splits up until Friday at 20:00 to balance them as evenly as possible. The split will be based on the boats ORRez Random Leg/ Medium Wind rating. The Race Committee may create new classes or adjust the Fleet Splits depending on the final entry list.

You must declare whether you will be Cruising (Jib and Main only) or Racing (Spinnaker) at the time of entry. Your rating will be your ORRez racing rating if racing or your ORRez cruising rating (No more 10 sec bump for your cruising rating, ORRez takes that into account) if you are Cruising. You may change Cruising or Racing up until the Warning Signal, however, all changes done on the day of racing must be **done online. Race committee will not accept changes by radio or in person the day of the regatta!**

The Committee will assign ratings to boats that do not have a current ORRez handicap.

STARTING PROCEDURE:

All vessels should meet east of Sheep Is. at 12:30. The Race Committee will lead the fleet to the proper starting line. Boats may check in **online** but should **NOT** check in with Race Committee. **(Please stay clear of the starting area until your start time!)**

We will try to begin the start as **close** to 13:00 as possible.

12:55	WARNING:	PREP flag goes up, Horn
12:56		Radio time announcement
12:57		Radio time announcement
12:58		Radio time announcement
12:59		Radio time announcement
13:00	START	PREP flag down, GCR flag UP and GUN

Your assigned start time is the amount of time **AFTER the START (GCR flag UP and gun)**. Skippers are responsible for keeping track of their own starting time.

The race committee will attempt to use GPS time for all signals. In the event of a Postponement for any reason (i.e., large tanker) the race committee will still attempt to use GPS time with an exact minute delay of the start. Example: the committee will announce the new starting time is 13:45:00 PM.

NOTE: ALL BOATS MUST KEEP CLEAR OF COURSE SIDE OF THE STARTING LINE FROM THE WARNING SIGNAL UNTIL ONE MINUTE BEFORE THEIR STARTING TIME. Any boat in a triangle formed by the starting marks and the first mark, before one minute prior to their start may be penalized by a 10% scoring penalty. BE FAIR TO SMALLER BOATS. 35 footers don't need to steal the starting air for a 19 foot CAT boat 30 minutes before their start.

WITHDRAWAL

If you are retiring from the race, please notify the Race Committee as soon as possible by hailing or calling on **channel 71**.

AWARDS: Prizes will be awarded to the top 5 finishers in each division. We will also award the top club. The winner is the lowest finish total of the clubs first five boats.

RADIO USE: The Race Committee will use VHF **channel 68** for communicating with the fleet.

Notices to Competitors: Notices will be posted on the Chase Race Information webpage at: http://www.regattaman.com/def_event_page.php?race_id=1&yr=2018 and emailed to all competitors.

JUDGES ON THE WATER:

A Judge boat may be on the water to watch for racing rules infractions, especially at crowded mark roundings like the first one.

If the Judge observes a rules infraction, a Red flag will be hoisted and a single horn blast. The Judge may optionally alert the violating boat using VHF on channel 68. The Red Flag will be dropped after 1 min.

Boats making a rule infraction will receive a 20% scoring penalty.

PROTESTS:

Due to the nature of this event we would like to discourage any protests if possible. We encourage skippers to accept the alternative penalty (720) when appropriate. If a protest hearing is necessary, protests need to be submitted in writing by 18:00 the day of the race. A hearing will be held at the Hull Yacht Club following the race. Decisions of the Protest Committee will be final with no appeals.

COURSES:

We will be using 4 Green tetrahedron drop marks. A sketch of a possible course setup is shown on the next page. The actual shape depends on the winds and the topography of the bay. All marks of the course will be left to port.

The Starting line will be between the Orange Flag on the Race Committee boat Harbinger and the Yellow Ducky.

Boat will continue to round the four marks in order until the Race Committee shortens the course.

SHORTENED COURSE:

The race will be shortened at a new finish line positioned such that the first boats will cross the line 2 hrs 30 min after the starting gun.

A Race Committee Mark boat will be stationed at one of the marks (green tetrahedron) on the course. They will announce the change of the course by; hoisting the change of course "C" flag, by sounding a horn, and will post the location of the new and final mark which will be the Yellow Ducky.

MARKS:

If necessary, the RC may change the shape or color of any mark without notice.

TIME LIMIT:

The Race committee will take finishers at the shortened finish line until 17:15 or 60% of the boats in each fleet have finished. At that point committee can at its discretion assign finishing position by going back thru the fleet for the remaining boats.

