

2015 Essex Rum Challenge

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

- a. This event will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing.
- b. These regulations apply to the Non-Spinnaker Classes:
 1. Headsails must be attached along their length to the head stay by means of either hanks or a slotted head stay.
 2. Spinnaker poles may be used as whisker poles. Whisker pole length is limited to 80% of LP or spinnaker pole length, whichever is greater.
- c. The Race Committee (RC) will broadcast on VHF Ch. 01 throughout the event. Radio communications are for safety, convenience and courtesy. Only the RC may request redress for misunderstandings, errors or omissions that may result from such communications. *RRS 60.1 and RRS 62 are modified.*
- d. Appendix T, SECTIONS A and B will be in effect providing alternative penalties.
- e. *Appendix T1 changes the first two sentences of Rule 44.1 to: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or Rule 31 while racing. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turn Penalty."*

2. Notice to Competitors

- a. Notice to competitors will be posted on the Official Regatta Bulletin Board located in the lobby of the Essex Yacht Club.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- a. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted by 0800 on the day of the regatta.
- b. Changes to the sailing instructions will be broadcast on VHF Ch. 01 prior to the first warning signal.

4. Signals Made Ashore

- a. A postponement or abandonment ashore will be signaled on the RC Signal Boat at the Essex Yacht Club with announcements on VHF Ch. 01.

5. Classes and Schedule of Races

- a. The fleet will be divided into Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker classes using PHRF-Eastern Connecticut handicap ratings. A Multihull class using NEMA ratings may be included if three or more entries are received.
- b. The first warning signal is at 1130.
- c. Two races may be started for all Classes. If the RC intends to start a 2nd race, it will display Second Substitute (with no sound) while boats are finishing.
- d. The Race Committee will determine the order of start on the day of the race. Numerical class designation by the Scratch Sheet does not infer your order of start. Please be attentive to the Numeral Pennants displayed on the RC Signal Boat as well as monitoring VHF Ch. 01.

6. Class Flags

- a. Class Flags will be the International Numeral Pennants corresponding to each class designated by the Scratch Sheet.
- b. Competitors are asked to fly their class pennant on the backstay.

7. Starting Area

- a. Starting Area will be located between Cornfield Point and the Saybrook Horn at the mouth of the Connecticut River. The RC may relocate to facilitate a windward start.
- b. Competitors shall check in with the RC boat once it is on station by passing on the side opposite the starting line from bow to stern and hailing your sail number.

8. Courses

- a. The course will be displayed on the RC Signal boat. The courses will be either Round the Buoys or Pre-defined Courses.
- b. **Round the Buoys**—Round the Buoys courses will be designated by a horizontal arrangement of letters designating specific Marks in their order of rounding. Circled letters shall be rounded to Starboard. Uncircled letters rounded to Port. If drop marks are used, the

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range and bearing from the RC boat will be displayed on the course board.

- c. Marks are identified in Appendix 1.
- d. **Predefined Courses**—Predefined Courses will be designated with the course number on the top row of the course board. The magnetic bearing and distance from the RC Signal boat to the windward mark will be displayed on the second row.
- e. The Predefined Courses are displayed in Appendix 2.
- f. The RC will announce courses for each class on VHF Ch. 01.

9. The Start

- a. The Starting Line will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee boat and an inflatable mark.
- b. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of boats starting.
- c. The Race Committee will attempt to identify early starters by sail number or boat name on VHF Ch. 01.

10. The Finish

- a. The Finish Line will be between the orange flag on the Race Committee boat and an inflatable mark.
- b. A boat retiring from the race shall promptly report to the Race Committee on VHF Ch. 01.

11. Time Limits

- a. Spinnaker boats hopelessly mired at the back of their class shall be scored in their assumed position and asked to return to the starting area to facilitate the start of a second race.
- b. No starting sequence shall begin after 1500.
- c. The Time Limit for any Non-Spinnaker race shall be 1600.

12. Protests

- a. A boat initiating a protest shall inform the Race Committee as they finish, stating the boat name and sail number they are protesting.
- b. Protests must be filed with the Race Committee no later

than one hour after the Race Committee boat docks. The official time will be posted on the Notice Board.

13. Scoring

- a. The Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker classes will be scored using the “Time on Time” system. The Multihull class will be scored using the NEMA “Time on Distance” system.
- b. One completed race will constitute a series. There are no exclusions.
- c. Each boat’s total score will be the sum of her scores for all races sailed. Ties will be broken by combined corrected time. Appendix A8 is changed.
- d. The Essex Yacht Club will award prizes to the top 3 finishers in each class.
- e. Awards Ceremony will commence at approximately 1900 at the Essex Yacht Club.

17. Responsibility

- a. The Skipper/Owner of each boat shall accept full responsibility for himself/herself and for the conduct of each member of his/her crew and guests during the Essex Rum Challenge. The Skipper/Owner has the sole responsibility for the safety of his/her crew and boat. Weather and sea conditions must be evaluated by each Skipper and his/her crew, and each participant is responsible for determining whether it is safe to participate.
- b. The Essex Yacht Club and their respective Race Committees, Officers, Employees, and event related Volunteers, are in no way held responsible for accidents, damage, or injury to property or to boats, crew, or guests arising from any cause during or related to any race or activities associated with the Essex Rum Challenge, and the Skipper/Owner agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each of them from any liability, claim or expense including attorney’s fees against any or all of them.

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Appendix 1

Marks of the Course

Marks are designated as follows:

- 1** GC "1" East of Hatchet Reef
- 2** R "2" Bell South of Cornfield Point
- 3** GC "3" At Orient Shoal
- 6** RN "6" South of Hatchet Reef
- A** R "8A" Bell Middle of Long Sand Shoal
- C** R "8C" Bell At Six Mile Reef
- E** RG N "E" East end of Long Sand Shoal
- V** RG "W" Gong West end of Long Sand Shoal
- W** Drop Mark. Orange inflatable. Range & bearing from RC boat
- X** Drop Mark. Yellow inflatable. Range & bearing from RC boat
- Y** PIN. Inflatable at pin end of start line

Appendix 2

Predefined Drop Mark Course Diagrams

