



66th ANNUAL STRATFORD SHOAL RACE  
THE GEARBUSTER

Saturday, October 9, 2021

Indian Harbor Yacht Club  
Organizing Authority

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

*The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).*

*The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. This changes RRS 60.1(a).*

**1 RULES**

- 1.1 This race will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing.
  - 1.1.1 PHRF measurement rules will be those as administered by the YRA of LIS. Boats will be scored using each boat's distance rating as issued by the YRA of LIS and scored using the PHRF time-on-distance format.
- 1.2 Participants shall be required to comply with basic US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) 2021 for Nearshore Category Races, available online:  
<https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Monohull-SER-2021.0.pdf>
- 1.2.1 Add to US Sailing SER 3.19.1: If no magnetic compass is permanently mounted, a handheld magnetic compass, suitable for steering at sea, may be used.
- 1.3 [DP] Each boat shall conspicuously display from its backstay the numeral pennant corresponding to its class number while racing. In the case of masts without backstays, from the stern pulpit or starboard shroud.
- 1.4 [NP][DP] All boats shall have a tracking device enabled from the time of their start until finished (see SI 4).

**2 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect,

**3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted online at [yachtscoring.com](http://yachtscoring.com) event site
- 3.2 The race office is located at Indian Harbor Yacht Club and may be reached at 203-869-2484 x32 or [frontdesk@indianharboryc.com](mailto:frontdesk@indianharboryc.com)
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF 65A
- 3.4 [DP] From the first warning signal until she has finished, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

## 4 TRACKING

- 4.1 [DP][NP] Each boat is required to use the race tracking app *Sailing Insight powered by SAP*, available free and select event “Gearbuster - 66th Annual IHYC Stratford Shoal,”
- 4.2 You may also link directly below from a **mobile device** or use QR code.
- 4.3 For information and to access post-race playback, please use:  
<https://my.sapsailing.com/gwt/Home.html#/event/:eventId=5d4e108c-aeda-4462-8090-57c483d0998d>  
**Use mobile device, will not work from desktop.**



## 5 RACE SCHEDULE

The time of the warning signal is 1055

## 6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 Class flags will be the numeral pennant associated with each boat’s class assignment as listed on the scratch sheet.
- 6.2 The scratch sheet showing class numbers, course assignments and ratings will be available on [yachtscoring.com](http://yachtscoring.com) no later than 1700 Friday October 8.

## 7 COURSES

- 7.1 **STRATFORD SHOAL COURSE:** The standard course for all boats racing in the spinnaker division shall be from the start to Stratford Shoal (Middle Ground) Light (USCG location 41° 03 35.300N / 073° 06 04.700W; Fl W 5s) leaving it to port and proceeding to the finish line as described in SI 6 FINISH LINE. The course distance is 46.5 nautical miles.
- 7.2 **EATONS NECK COURSE:** The standard course for all boats racing in the non-spinnaker division shall be from the start as described in SI 4 THE START to Eaton’s Neck Point Lighted Gong Buoy 11B (USCG location 41° 00 01.221N / 073° 23 41.625W; Fl G 4s) leaving it to port and proceeding to the finish line as described in SI 6 FINISH LINE. The course distance is 19 nautical miles.
- 7.3 **SHORT COURSE OPTION:** At the discretion of the Race Committee, a short course option may be used and will be signalled by displaying code flag C prior to the warning signal for the start of any class.  
The short courses will be different for spinnaker and non-spinnaker divisions and are as follows:
- 7.3.1 **STRATFORD SHOAL SHORT COURSE:** The spinnaker short course shall be from the start as described in SI 4 THE START to Eaton’s Neck Point Lighted Gong Buoy 11B (USCG location 41° 00 01.221N / 073° 23 41.625W; Fl G 4s) leaving it to port and proceeding to the finish line as described in SI 6 FINISH LINE. The course distance is 19 nautical miles.
- 7.3.2 **EATONS NECK SHORT COURSE:** The non-spinnaker short course shall be to Twenty-Six Foot Spot Lighted Bell Buoy 32A (USCG location 40° 58 07.042N / 073° 32 48.393W; Fl R 2.5s) leaving it to port, then to The Cows Lighted Bell Buoy 32 (USCG location 41° 00 12.880N / 073° 31 26.189W; Fl R 2.5s) leaving it to port and proceeding to the finish line as described in SI 6 FINISH LINE. The course distance is 10.9 nautical miles.
- 7.4 When approaching Captain Harbor on route to the finish, Little Captain Island East Reef Lighted Gong Buoy 1 (USCG location 40° 59 35.941N / 073° 35 51.970W; Fl G 2.5s) shall be left to port for all courses.

## **8 THE START**

- 8.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.
- 8.2 The starting line will be between the course side of Flat Neck Point Shoal Buoy 2 east of Little Captain Island (USCG location 40° 59 44.901N / 073° 35 29.289W; RN) on the port end of the line and a yellow flag on the signal boat on the starboard end of the line.
- 8.3 [DP] Prior to the warning signal of the first division, each boat shall sail past the stern of the signal boat while on starboard tack and hail her boat name, sail number and how many persons aboard. She shall do so until acknowledged by the Race Committee.
- 8.4 [NP][DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 8.5 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 8.6 A boat that does not start within fifteen minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

## **9 THE FINISH**

- 9.1 The finishing line is between the course side of Greenwich Harbor Channel Buoy 2 (USCG location 40° 59 54.351N/073° 37 16.353W; RN) inside Captain Harbor on the port end of the line and a staff displaying a yellow flag on the finish boat on the starboard end of the line.  
[Please note: This is NOT the same Nun "2" as is being used for the start. The bearing FROM this buoy TO the Great Captains Light is 199 degrees magnetic at a distance of 0.97nm.]
- 9.2 The finish boat will display a Race Committee flag, an IHYC burgee, and after sunset, one all-round white light.
- 9.3 Boats shall hail the Race Committee on VHF Channel 65A as they pass Little Captain Island East Reef Lighted Gong Buoy 1 (USCG location 40° 59 35.941N/073° 35 51.970W; FI G 2.5s) on approach to Captain Harbor.
- 9.4 If finishing in the dark, boats shall illuminate their mainsail numbers and hail the Race Committee with their sail number and boat name until acknowledged by the signal boat.
- 9.5 In the absence of a Race Committee boat at the finish line, boats shall take their own time when passing within 20 yards of the Greenwich Harbor Channel Buoy 2 (USCG location 40° 59 54.351N/073° 37 16.353W; RN) and the Great Captain Island Light bears 199° magnetic. This time shall be reported to the Indian Harbor Yacht Club by calling 203-869-2484 or emailing [frontdesk@indianharboryc.com](mailto:frontdesk@indianharboryc.com)

## **10 HEARING REQUESTS**

- 10.1 The protest time limit extends to 0800 Sunday, October 10.
- 10.2 Protest forms are available via download at <https://www.indianharboryc.com/files/us-sailing-form.pdf> Completed forms shall be delivered to the club or emailed to [frontdesk@indianharboryc.com](mailto:frontdesk@indianharboryc.com) within the protest time limit.
- 10.3 Notices will be posted and communicated via voice, text and/or email no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be 1900 Wednesday, October 13 at the Indian Harbor Yacht Club.

## **11 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 11.1 [DP] Boats withdrawing from the race shall contact the Race Committee via VHF Channel 65A or by calling the Indian Harbor Yacht Club Front Desk at 203-869-2484.

## **12 PRIZES**

- 12.1 Any Doublehanded and PHRF +1 class boats will be treated as separate classes for the purpose of awarding the Windward and Todd trophies.
- 12.2 For classes with five or more entries having finished both the Geartester and the Gearbuster, prizes will be awarded at the IHYC Annual Awards Dinner or mailed to the boat in each class deemed by the organizing authority to have had the best combined performance.

### 13 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: ‘The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.’ By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

### 14 CONTACT INFORMATION

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Scan for tracking app or use link in SI 4 from mobile device.