

Annapolis to Bermuda Race 2016

NOTICE OF RACE

1. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

The Organizing Authority is the Bermuda Ocean Race Association, Inc. supported by the Eastport Yacht Club and The Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club

2. OBJECTIVES

The Annapolis to Bermuda Race (“A2B”) is unique in that it involves both inshore and offshore racing skills combining inshore piloting and offshore navigational skills. It offers sailors a way to fulfill the goal of a blue water passage to an island of coral with sandy beaches and friendly, hospitable people.

3. RULES

3.1 The race shall be governed by:

- a. The current *Racing Rules of Sailing* (“RRS”).
- b. The *2016 Annapolis to Bermuda Offshore Safety Equipment Requirements* (“A2BSER”) based on the *ISAF Offshore Special Regulations* for Category 1 races (“ISAF Cat. 1) and *US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements*, as amended (www.sasrules.org/equipment-rules). A final copy of the A2BSERs will be published on the A2B website by January 1, 2016. Until then, please refer to the Safety Equipment FAQ and the 2014 A2B Offshore Safety Requirements as a guide: www.bermudaoceanrace.com/safety;
- c. Applicable Class Rules;
 1. Boats participating in Performance Handicap Rating Formula (“PHRF”) class categories shall be governed by PHRF of the Chesapeake Bay.
 - i. The Cruising Class will be governed by the Corinthian Class PHRF of the Chesapeake Bay, www.phrfchesbay.org/SOMD/Corinth2008.htm.
 2. Boats participating in IRC or Offshore Racing Rules (“ORR”) classes shall be governed by those rules as applicable .
 3. Boats entered in one-design fleets will follow recognized class rules.

3.2 This NOR and the Sailing Instructions as may be amended.

3.3 If there is a conflict between any *rule* in the Notice of Race and a *Rule* in the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions and any amendments shall take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7;

- 3.4 For all classes, power-driven winches and mechanical or electro-mechanical steering devices are permitted. This changes RRS 52;
- 3.5 The protest committee may impose penalties other than disqualification for violation of the A2BSERs. This changes RRS 64.1.

4. ADVERTISING

Competitor advertising will be in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20 Category C. Boats may be required to carry event advertising as provided by the OA.

5. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 5.1 This regatta is open to any single or multi-hulled sailing yacht, twenty-eight feet length overall or greater which conforms to the requirements of this Notice of Race.
- 5.2 There will be a separate demonstration class for the Mini 6.5s. Boats entered in this class must have approval by the USA Mini 6.5 Class that they meet the Mini Class rules at the date of the issuance of the class hull number. The Mini shall meet or exceed the 90 degree stability requirement of the Mini Class. The Mini 6.5 boats shall meet all the requirements as stated in this document as well as additional requirements identified for the Mini 6.5s except for the propulsion requirement.
- 5.3 Entries may be made online at www.bermudaoceanrace.com beginning September 1, 2015
- 5.4 The OA reserves the right to reject the entry of any boat at any time prior to the preparatory signal for her class.

6. FEES

- 6.1 The registration fee for all entries is a non-refundable \$50.
- 6.2 For entries received and paid by December 31, 2015, the entry fee will be \$800.
- 6.3 Starting January 1, 2016, the entry fee will be \$900.
- 6.4 Entry fees must be paid in full by May 1, 2016 and are not refundable thereafter.

7. CAPTAIN AND CREW REQUIREMENTS

- 7.1 The boats must have logged more than 500 miles of either racing or cruising, including overnight racing and/or cruising, prior to the start of the race.
- 7.2 The Captain and Watch Captains must submit with the entry resumes of their sailing

experience demonstrating their competence to participate in an ocean race.

- 7.3 Proof of attendance shall be provided for at least 30% of the crew at a recognized one or two day Offshore Safety at Sea Seminar or equivalent seminar recognized by US Sailing during the five years prior to 1 May 2016.
- 7.4 Proof shall be provided that at least 2 members of the crew have current First Aid and CPR certification from a qualified STCW course or provider recognized by US Sailing (http://www.sailing.org/classesandequipment/offshore/osr_recognized_first_aid_qualifications.php).
- 7.5 The minimum crew shall be 4, except there shall be only two persons aboard in the Double-Handed Class or Mini 6.5 demonstration class.

8. SCHEDULE

- 8.1 Registration: From 1 September 2015 until 1 May 2016.
- 8.2 There is a mandatory check in for the Captain and one crew member only at Eastport Yacht Club, 317 First Street, Annapolis, MD 21403, between 1200 and 1600 on 9 June 2016. This is followed by a mandatory pre-race briefing will be held at 1700 on 9 June 2014 at Eastport Yacht Club, 317 First Street, Annapolis, MD 21403 The captain of each boat will be responsible for receiving all information disseminated at this meeting.
- 8.3 The warning signal for the first start is scheduled for 1330 on 10 June 2016. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat and R "2" Fl R 2.5s Bell east of Tolly Point near the mouth of the Severn River.

9. MEASUREMENT

- 9.1 PHRF: Each mono-hulled boats must produce a valid, signed PHRF of the Chesapeake rating certificate for 2016 by 1 May 2016. A boat with a PHRF of the Chesapeake rating certificate may, if it desires, obtain a new certificate if it is adding sails (for example, a code zero or an asymmetrical spinnaker) or is changing to roller furling. To meet this deadline, all required information must be provided to PHRF of the Chesapeake by 31 March 2016. An application may be obtained from the PHRF of the Chesapeake website: www.phrfchesbay.com.
- 9.2 IRC or ORR: Boats shall request ORR and/or IRC measurement, if necessary, by email to an approved measurer and Offshore@ussailing.org not later than 1700, April 1, 2016 Boats shall submit a completed application, renewal, or amendment, including all measurements, to US Sailing for a "Full Measurement" ORR certificate reflecting the use of spinnakers before the Measurements Deadline: 1700, May 1, 2016
- 9.3 Multi-hulled boats must produce a valid rating certificate issued by the Chesapeake Multihull Association.

- 9.4 Boats racing under one-design class rules (e.g. If the Mini 6.5 Demonstration Class, or J120) shall not be required to obtain PHRF certificates.

10. CLASSES

- 10.1 Any class with three (3) or more entries will be scored.
- 10.2 Boats entered under PHRF, IRC or ORR will have classes established by rating
- 10.3 Other handicap class designations may include spinnaker, non-spinnaker, cruising, multi-hulled, or double-handed classes.
- 10.4 Class assignments and the starting sequence will be announced at the pre-race briefing.

11. REQUIRED EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY INSPECTIONS

- 11.1 All boats participating in this race must be inspected by a person recognized by the OA for compliance with the A2BSER. Boats are subject to inspection and re-inspection both before and after the race, including immediately after finishing. A boat's failure to comply may result in the invalidation of her entry before her start or protest after her finish.
- 11.2 Inspections shall be conducted in accordance with procedures set-forth by the Chair, Safety Committee that will be sent to all boats that have entered
- 11.3 The Captain is responsible for arranging a mutually acceptable time and place to conduct the inspection with the Safety Committee
- 11.4 Boats will not be eligible for check-in before all inspection deficiencies have been resolved to the satisfaction of the Chair, Safety Committee.
- 11.5 The race committee may waive specific provisions of these requirements upon written request from an owner or captain provided it meets the following requirements:
- a. The request for waiver will be considered where it would not unfairly disadvantage other competitors, and:
 - i. The underlying purpose of the rule(s) would not be served or would be frustrated by application of the rule, or ;
 - ii. In view of unique or unusual circumstances, application of the rule would be unfair, and there exists no reasonable alternatives , or;
 - iii. The Committee deems exemption of the rule for all competitors appropriate
 - b. Any waivers of the Safety Rules must be submitted for consideration by May 15.
- 11.6 Each boat is required to carry a tracking device which will be provided by the OA. The unit will be mounted in accordance with the instructions provided and a good faith effort made to maintain its operation throughout the race. A deposit, fully refundable on the unit's return,

will be required.

- 11.7 Each boat is required to have a Satellite Phone for daily safety and position reporting during the race.

12. SPECIAL LIMITATIONS

- 12.1 During the race, contestants may not receive weather, current, or navigational information except from a publicized source available to all competitors.
- 12.2 Subscription, password protected or restricted access web pages are considered private information and may not be used for the transmission or reception of specialized weather and Gulf Stream information. General use of the Internet and publicly available web sites to obtain weather and Gulf Stream information including all National Weather Service data is authorized. Weather routing data developed specially for the Race may not be received after the start of the race.

13. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 13.1 Competitors participate in this race entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the race.
- 13.2 The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the "person in charge", as per RRS 46, who shall ensure that the boat is seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew with sufficient ability and experience to face bad weather. S/he shall be satisfied as to the soundness of hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. S/he shall ensure that all safety equipment is at all times properly maintained and safely stowed and that the crew knows where it is kept and how it is to be used."
- 13.3 It shall be the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner and captain of each boat to see that she is seaworthy in hull, rig and gear and that she is properly equipped and competently manned and sailed.

14. RACING NUMBERS

The RRS specify the display of racing numbers on certain sails. In the event none of these sails are set when starting or finishing, these numbers are to be displayed by alternative means.

15. PRIZES

The following trophies will be awarded:

- **First to Finish Overall**

- **Fastest Corrected Time- Chesapeake Bay**
- **Fastest Corrected Time- Ocean Leg**
- **First, Second, and Third Place in each Class**
- **Storm Trysail Club Trophy-** Trophy is awarded to a club and to individual yachts. To qualify, it is necessary for at least 2 yachts skippered by members of the same club to race. The club whose top two racers achieve the best combined score wins this beautiful trophy to display in its clubhouse until the next race. High point skippers also receive a small trophy to commemorate their achievement. To enter, indicate that you wish to compete and name the club of which you are a member.
- **Weems & Plath Navigator Trophy-** Trophy is awarded to the navigator whose logs and plotting sheets are found to be complete, neat and readable. The judge(s) will look for that navigator who exhibits conservative, knowledgeable and conscientious navigation incorporating proper dead reckoning, charting some celestial and some electronic navigation. This includes keeping a proper dead reckoning tract, the plotting of lines of position and other phenomena in the proper and traditional manner, and exhibiting navigational enthusiasm. An entry form must be completed at the time of Registration. Logs must be presented to the Officer of the Day at the POC desk.
- Other Trophies as may be specified by the OA

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

Bermuda Ocean Race Association, Inc.
 317 First Street
 Eastport, MD 21403

or go to www.bermudaoceanrace.com