



# 77th ANNUAL BLOCK ISLAND RACE

## Friday, May 24, 2024

# Sailing Instructions

The Block Island Race is a qualifying race for the Northern Ocean Racing Trophy, the Double Handed Ocean Racing Trophy, the New England Lighthouse Series, the Gulf Stream Series, and a qualifier for the YRA of LIS Spring Series, DeCoursey Fales and Windigo Trophies, and “The Tuna Trophy.”

The Storm Trysail Club is the Organizing Authority for the Block Island Race. The Storm Trysail Club thanks the Flag officers and the members of the Stamford Yacht Club for the use of their facilities and their cooperation and hospitality.

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

[NP] 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)

[DP] 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.

### 1. Rules:

The Block Island Race shall be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (“RRS”), including the US SAILING Prescriptions to the rules, and the Notice of Race. The following rules are changed:

- 61.1 see SI 14 Protests & Requests for Redress
- 60.1(a) see SI 9 Recalls (also changes rules 63.1, and A5)

### 2. Changes to Sailing Instructions:

Changes and/or additions to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted on the Notice Board on the YachtScoring website by 1000 on the day of the race. Changes to the scheduled start time will be posted by 0800 on the day of the race.

### 3. Communications with Competitors:

3.1 All notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB) on YachtScoring ([www.yachtscoring.com](http://www.yachtscoring.com)) and emailed to all entrants.

3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF channel 05A.

3.3 Tracking– [NP] An operational AIS Transponder shall be carried and be switched on, such that it is receiving and transmitting throughout the race. The failure of any station to receive a signal from a boat’s AIS Transponder shall not be subject to protest or grounds for redress (this amends RRS 60.1 and 62.1(a) and RRS 63.1 shall not apply). A boat whose AIS fails to transmit for more than thirty [30] consecutive minutes may be subject to protest by the race committee.

#### 4. Signals Made Ashore:

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Shore Station (main flagpole) at Stamford Yacht Club.
- 4.2 In the event weather conditions are such that the race cannot be started within a reasonable period of time, the Start will be postponed. The RC will display flags "AP over A" with two sound signals, post a notice on the Official Notice Board, and email all entrants. The intended first Warning will be Saturday at 0855.

#### 5. Class Flags

- 5.1 Class flags shall correspond to start positions indicated on the Scratch Sheet and are identified by numeral pennants.
- 5.2 Class assignments will be made by the race committee and shall appear on the Scratch Sheets.
- 5.3 Class flags shall be flown from the backstay from the time a boat enters the general starting area until she has finished. If a boat has no backstay, the class flag shall be flown from a starboard shroud.

#### 6. Courses and Marks:

- 6.1 The courses are as follows:
- (1) Block Island Course: Boats will sail from the Start; leave Block Island to starboard, to the Finish. Course distance is 186 NM. The following Government Marks shall be considered marks of the course and left to Starboard:
- (a) "1 BI" off North Reef, Block Island
  - (b) Flashing Red BELL "32" (The Cows)
  - (c) Red Nun "2"
- (2) Plum Island Course:  
Boats shall sail from the Start; leave Flashing Red R"4" (South of Bartlett Reef) and the Red & White MOA "PI" (Plum Island) to starboard, and to the Finish. Course distance is 132 NM. The following Government Marks shall be considered marks of the course and left to Starboard:
- (a) Flashing Red R "4" (South of Bartlett Reef)
  - (b) Red & White MOA "PI" (Plum Island)
  - (c) Flashing Red BELL "32" (The Cows)
  - (d) Red Nun "2"
- (3) Block Island Reverse Course:  
A Reverse Course (code flag "R") shall be from the Start out to and around Block Island in an ANTI-CLOCKWISE direction, thence to the Finish: Block Island and "1BI" shall be left to Port, Flashing Red BELL "32" (The Cows) and Red Nun "2" shall be left to starboard. Should Course "R" be signaled, it will be announced before each Warning Signal.
- (4) All other Government Marks may be disregarded at the discretion of the Captain or Navigator.
- 6.2 At the discretion of the Race Committee, **a short course (code flag "C") may be signaled for some or all classes.** Should Course "C" be signaled, it will also be announced before each Warning Signal.
- 6.2.1 The "short course" for the Block Island Course shall be the Plum Island Course.
- 6.2.2 The "short course" for the Plum Island Course shall be from the start; leave Flashing Red RG "W" (West end of Long Sand Shoal) to starboard; leave Flashing Red "R "8C" (Six Mile Reef) to starboard, to the Finish leaving Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows) and Red Nun "2" to starboard.

#### 7. Check-in:

Without interfering with a sequence in process and before its class warning, boats are requested to check-in by sailing in the vicinity of the signal vessel and declaring their intention to start. **Boats shall NOT check-in by radio.**

#### 8. The Start:

- 8.1 Classes will be started at ten-minute intervals and in the order indicated on the top of the Scratch Sheet. This changes RRS 26.
- 8.2 The Starting Line shall be between the course side of Flashing Red BELL "32" (The Cows) off Stamford Harbor, and a staff flying an orange Flag displayed from the Signal Vessel.
- 8.3 [NP] The Starting Area shall extend along the Starting Line and 100 yards westerly thereof.
- 8.4 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area during the starting sequence for other classes.
- 8.5 Boats starting after their class's starting signal shall do so between the start of a class and the warning for the subsequent class.

## **9. Recalls:**

- 9.1 In the event of an Individual Recall, the race committee will attempt to hail OCS boats by name or sail number over VHF Ch. 1005 (05A.) The timing and order of such hails and/or the failure to hear the hail will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a)
- 9.2 A boat that is OCS and does not restart shall, without a hearing, have thirty minutes added to her elapsed time. For the purposes of rule A5, a boat so penalized shall be considered to have started properly. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.

## **10. The Finish:**

- 10.1 The Finish Line will be at the Stamford Harbor entrance between the flashing green beacon on the West breakwater and a staff displaying a blue flag on a committee vessel anchored northerly of the East breakwater. If no Committee Boat is on station at the Finish, each boat shall record the time after she crosses a line between the beacons on the East and West breakwaters at the entrance to Stamford Harbor and when the flashing green beacon on the West breakwater bears 260° magnetic. This time, together with her best estimate of the finish times and sail numbers of the boats immediately preceding and following, must be reported to the RC by telephoning 203-820-0057.
- 10.2 [NP] Boats approaching the Finish are requested to notify the race committee on VHF Channel 1005 (05A) upon rounding Flashing Red Bell "32" (The Cows). When finishing in darkness, to be sure identity has been properly established, each boat shall illuminate her sail numbers and verify identity with the RC.

## **11. Penalty System:**

- 11.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, applies.
- 11.2 [DP] In the case of a protest involving the rules of Part 2, the boat at fault, instead of being disqualified as a result of a hearing, may, at the option of the Protest Committee, have her corrected time increased by 2% or more. This modifies RRS 64.1, but does not affect SI 9.1

## **12. Protests & Requests for Redress:**

- 12.1 In addition to all other requirements of RRS 61.1(a), a boat intending to protest shall, promptly after finishing, notify the race committee over VHF Ch 1005 (05A) of her intent.
- 12.2 Protests and requests for redress shall be filed online via the Owner's Corner on YachtScoring within four hours of the protestor's finish time or by 0900 for boats finishing between 2200 and 0500.
- 12.3 The protest committee will attempt to notify the parties by telephone, text, or email.
- 12.4 Protest hearings will be held at a time and place to be determined and mutually acceptable to the parties involved.

## **13. Scoring:**

- 13.1 [NP] PHRF classes, including double-handed, will use YRA-LIS PHRF Distance Ratings scored using time-on-time with the conversion factor  $650/(550+\text{PHRF})$  rounded to 4 decimal places.
- 13.2 [NP] ORC classes, including double-handed, will be scored using a scoring option available on page 2 of current valid USA or CAN ORC certificates. The RC will announce its intended scoring option prior to or with the class warning signal. Note that the RC may change the selected ORC scoring option to a more suitable scoring option if there has been a material change in conditions during the race, and will announce such change before the first boat finishes. The race committee's choice of wind band is not subject to redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b), and adds to NoR 9.

## **14. Safety Regulation:**

Any boat withdrawing from the race is requested to break out her ensign and lower her class flag, and at the first opportunity, **SHALL** report her withdrawal to the race committee on VHF Channel 1005 (05A) or by telephoning 203-820-0057.

15. **Prizes and Reception:** A reception and awards gathering is scheduled for 1700 on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Stamford Yacht Club. All skippers, crew and guests are invited. Dress is nice casual, there is no fee. Skippers are requested to advise Stamford YC (203-323-3161) by 1200, of the number of people they intend to include.

**16. Risk Statement:**

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See rule 3, Decision to Race, and are reminded of the Disclaimer of Liability as stated in the Notice of Race and to which they agreed.

**Event Chair/PRO – John J. Troy  
STC Commodore – Ray Redniss  
STC Vice Commodore – Andrew Weiss  
STC Rear Commodore – Ty Anderson  
STC Fleet Captain – Rick Royce**

**PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
THE STORM TRYSAIL CLUB, 1 WOODBINE AVENUE  
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TEL: 914-834-8857 FAX: 914-834-6484**

**Email: [blockislandrace@Stormtrysail.org](mailto:blockislandrace@Stormtrysail.org) - Website: <http://Stormtrysail.org>**