

Sailing Instructions

2009 American Yacht Club Spring Regatta

April 25-26 and May 2-3, 2009

Organizing Authority

The American Yacht Club

1.0 RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in:
- The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)
 - The IRC Rules, Parts 1, 2, and 3
 - The current PHRF Regulations, as administered by the YRA of Long Island Sound (YRALIS)
 - ISAF Regulation 22 as it applies to class rules
 - The Minimum Equipment Recommendations of the YRALIS (Category C)

Except as any of these are changed by the Notice of Race or by the Sailing Instructions.

- 1.2. Racing Rules will be changed as follows:
- Sailing Instruction 11 changes RRS 26
 - Sailing Instruction 15.1 changes RRS 44.2
 - Sailing Instructions 16.1 and 16.2 change RRS 35 and A4.2
 - Sailing Instruction 18.2 changes RRS 61.1(a)
 - Sailing Instruction 21.6 changes RRS A4.1, A4.2 and A5

- 1.3. The crew number or crew weight limitation specified in a boat's IRC, PHRF or One Design certificate or applicable class rule shall not be exceeded, except that one additional crew member less than age 14 shall not be counted against the crew number or weight limitation.

2.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Race Committee Notice Board located on the front porch of the American Yacht Club main Clubhouse and will be broadcast on VHF channels 69 and 71 at 0930 each day.

3.0 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Race Committee Notice Board and on the AYC website at www.americanyc.org before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the main flagpole at American Yacht Club and announced on VHF channels 69 and 71.
- 4.2. If races are postponed from ashore, the first warning signal will be made not less than 90 minutes after AP is lowered. Races will not be postponed ashore later than 1130.
- 4.3. If racing for the day is abandoned from ashore, signal flags N over A will be displayed with three sound signals and announced on VHF channels 69 and 71.

5.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. Races are scheduled for April 25-26 and May 2-3.
- 5.2. The first warning signal on each Course is scheduled to be made at 1055 each day.
- 5.3. More than one race may be held on any day at the sole discretion of the Race Committee.

2009 American Yacht Club Spring Regatta

- 5.3.1. The Race Committee will signal its intent to run an additional race by displaying flag R at the finish of a race.
- 5.3.2. When numeral pennants are displayed below flag R, the additional race will be held for those Divisions only. Divisions so signaled should assemble in the vicinity of the downwind end of the course and stay clear of boats that are still racing.
- 5.3.3. The next race for each Division will begin as soon as practicable after the previous race, even though other Divisions may still be racing.

6.0 RACING AREAS AND VHF CHANNELS USED

- 6.1. There will be two separate race areas to which Divisions will be assigned, the East Course and the South Course.
- 6.2. The East Course is located approximately mid-Sound, east of Milton Point. Communications for divisions racing on the East Course will be conducted on VHF channel 71.
- 6.3. The South Course is located approximately mid-Sound South of Milton Point. Communications for divisions racing on the South Course will be conducted on VHF channel 69.
- 6.4. The approximate position of the starting areas will be announced at approximately 1015 each day for all Divisions on their respective VHF channels.

7.0 DIVISIONS AND DIVISION FLAGS

- 7.1. Boats will be placed in Divisions at the discretion of the Race Committee, designated by numerals (1, 2, 3 etc.).
- 7.2. Separate Divisions for Level and One Design classes may be established at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 7.3. Division flags will be numeral pennants. Each boat shall display the numeral pennant for its Division on its backstay or, in the absence of a backstay, from its stern rail.
- 7.4. A listing of entrants by Division and Course assignment (East or South) will be available at the Club front desk and the regatta web site, www.AmericanYC.org, at noon on the day before the first race, and from Race Committee support boats in the starting areas.

8.0 COURSES

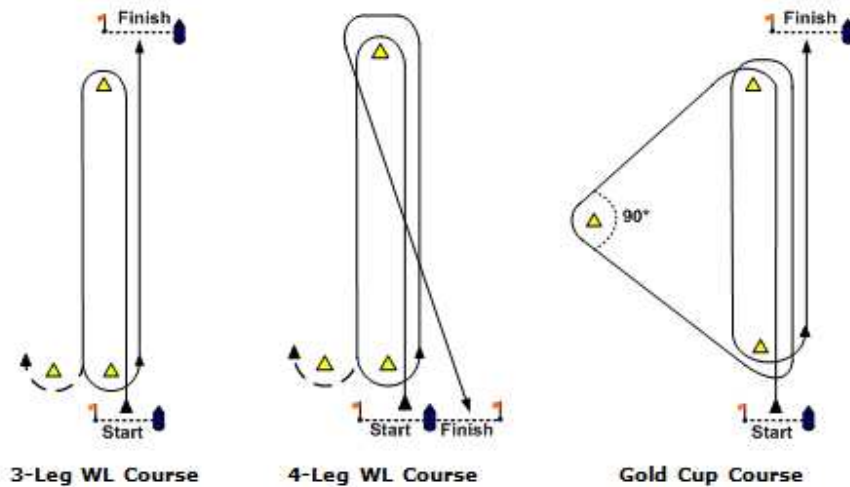
- 8.1. Except as provided in Sailing Instruction 8.5, the course for each race will be Windward-Leeward (WL) for a specified number of legs, or Gold Cup (G).
- 8.2. For WL or G courses the Race Committee signal boat will display the magnetic bearing and range, in nautical miles, from the signal boat to the windward mark. The signal boat will also display the number of legs (for WL only) or G for each Division. This information will also be announced on the race area VHF channel.
- 8.3. Sample course board and configurations for WL or G courses (labels will not be displayed):

Bearing	Range	Division	Legs
2	1	1	G
3	.5	2	4
0		3	4
		4	2

Fore

Aft

2009 American Yacht Club Spring Regatta



- 8.4. The Race Committee, in its discretion, may set a gate as the leeward mark. If the leeward mark is a gate, boats shall pass through the gate from the direction of the previous mark before proceeding onto the next leg of the course. The leeward mark or gate is not a mark of the course for a final downwind leg.
- 8.5. At the discretion of the Race Committee on each Course, one or more races in the series may be sailed around government marks. If signaled, the course will be from the start, around specified government marks and then to the finish for all Divisions on that Course.
- 8.6. If government marks are to be used, the Race Committee signal boat will signal the course by letters according to Sailing Instruction 10.0. Marks shall be rounded in the order signaled (reading the course board by column, top-down then fore-aft) and left on the hand so that the rhumb line to the next mark will not cross the rhumb line from the previous mark. If the next mark is reciprocal, the mark shall be left to port when rounding.
- 8.7. If X is signaled as a mark of the course, the course board will display the magnetic bearing and range in nautical miles from the Race Committee signal boat to mark X. Bearing and range will only be signaled if mark X is a mark of the course.
- 8.8. A sample course board using government marks is shown below (labels will not be displayed). In this example the sequence of marks for all Divisions would be: Start, F, X, A, G, A, Finish. Since the leg from G to A is reciprocal of the previous leg, G would be left on the port hand.

Mark	Mark	Bearing	Range
F	A	1	2
X		2	.0
A		0	
G			

Fore

Aft

9.0 MARKS FOR WL AND G COURSES

- 9.1. East Course marks will be large yellow inflatables. South Course marks will be large orange inflatables.

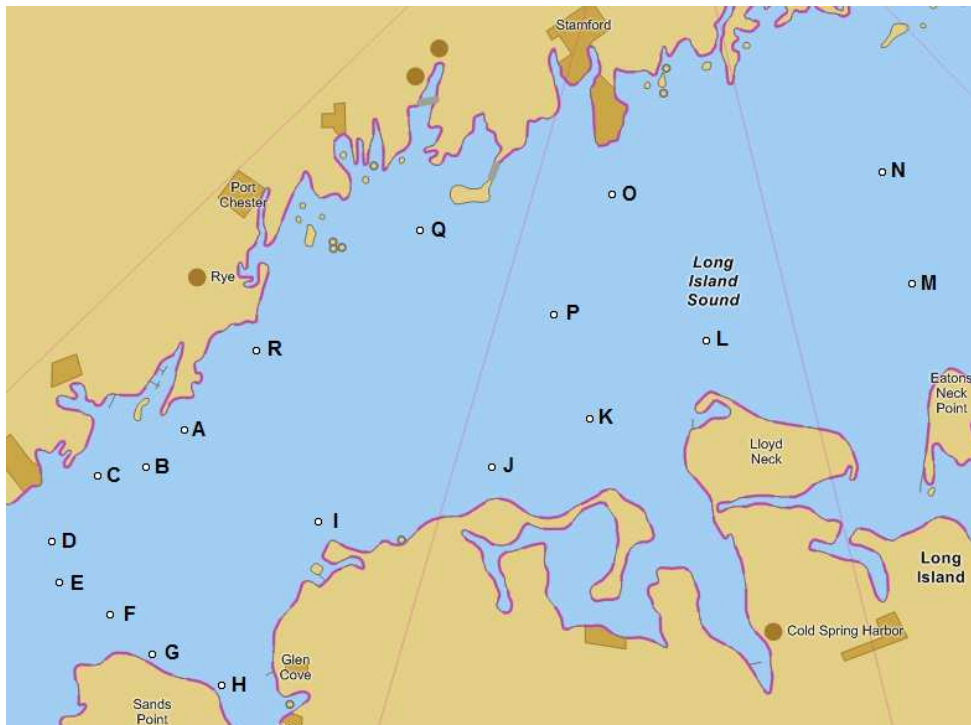
2009 American Yacht Club Spring Regatta

- 9.2. A new mark replacing an original mark will have a black band. In a subsequent change of course, the black-banded mark will be replaced with an original mark (no black band). Further course changes will follow this pattern.

10.0 MARKS FOR DISTANCE RACE

A N "40A" Sctch Caps	F G"23" Sands Point	K G"17" Oyster Bay	P R"32A" Mid-sound
B R"42" Mamaroneck	G R"4" Prospect Pt	L G"15" Lloyd Point	Q G"1" Greenwich
C G"1" Delancey Pt	H R"6" Mott Point	M GR "E" Eatons Neck	R R"38" Playland
D R"2" Larchmont	I G"21" Matinecock	N R"28C" Norwalk	
E C"1" Execution Rock	J G"19" Oak Neck Pt	O R"32" Stamford	

- 10.1. Mark X, if signaled, will be an inflatable mark located at a range and bearing from the Race Committee signal boat as displayed on the course board. Note that Mark X may be used anywhere in the course.



11.0 THE START

- 11.1. 5 minutes before the initial warning of the first Division only, flag F will be displayed with 1 sound. 1 minute before the first Division's initial warning, flag F will be removed with 1 horn. This changes Rule 26.
- 11.2. Divisions may be started in numerical order at five-minute intervals by displaying a Division flag at the start of the preceding Division, in which case the start of the preceding Division shall be the warning for the next Division.
- 11.3. The starting line for all Divisions will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and an inflatable buoy.

2009 American Yacht Club Spring Regatta

- 11.4. The Race Committee signal boat may have one or more large inflatable buoys secured to it which shall be considered to be part of the committee boat for the purpose of rule 31.
- 11.5. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.
- 11.6. A boat that starts later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS.

12.0 RECALLS

- 12.1. The Race Committee will attempt to identify recalled boats and to broadcast their sail numbers on the race course VHF channel. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such hail, shall not be cause for redress.

13.0 CHANGE OF COURSE BETWEEN STARTS

- 13.1. If the Race Committee changes the first mark following a postponement during a starting sequence after starting one or more Divisions, the windward mark for Divisions not yet started will be a course change mark in accordance with Sailing Instruction 9.2.

14.0 THE FINISH

- 14.1. The finishing line for all courses will be between an orange flag on an official boat displaying a blue flag or shape and the finish mark.
- 14.2. If a course is shortened, the finish line will be between a staff displaying flag S on an official boat and a rounding mark or between the gate marks if shortened at a gate.
- 14.3. For WL Courses with an odd number of legs and Course G, the finishing line will be located approximately 200 yards to windward of the windward mark on the same bearing as the last leg.
- 14.4. For WL Courses with an even number of legs, the finishing line will be located approximately 200 yards to leeward of the leeward mark or gate on the same bearing as the last leg and the finishing mark will be on the opposite side of the Race Committee signal boat from the starting mark.
- 14.5. For WL or G courses, boats approaching a windward finishing line to finish may ignore the windward mark. Boats approaching a downwind finishing line to finish may ignore the leeward mark or gate.

15.0 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1. At the first reasonable opportunity during, or immediately after, the race, a boat that accepted a Two-Turns Penalty shall report that fact to the Race Committee on the race course VHF channel and identify the other boat(s) involved in the incident. This changes Rule 44.2.

16.0 TIME LIMIT

- 16.1. For courses WL and G the time limit for the first finisher in each Division will be 3 hours from the starting time of that Division. Boats failing to finish within 3 1/2 hours of their start will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) and scored as described in Sailing Instruction 21.6. This changes rules 35 and A4.
- 16.2. For courses using government marks, the time limit for the first finisher in each Division will be 5 hours from the starting time of that Division. Boats failing to finish within 6 hours of their start will be scored TLE and scored as described in Sailing Instruction 21.6. This changes rules 35 and A4.

2009 American Yacht Club Spring Regatta

17.0 WITHDRAWAL

- 17.1. Any boat withdrawing before the start or retiring from a race for any reason shall notify the Race Committee at the earliest possible opportunity on the race course VHF channel or by telephone to American Yacht Club (914-967-4800).

18.0 PROTESTS

- 18.1. Rule 61.1(a) is changed to require the conspicuous display of a red flag from the backstay, or, in the absence of a backstay, on the stern rail.
- 18.2. Rule 61.1(a) is changed to include the following notice and procedures: At any time after the incident, up to and including immediately after finishing, a protesting boat shall notify the Race Committee over the race course VHF channel of its intent to lodge a protest. The Race Committee will identify all protests for that race received by the Committee by broadcast over the race course VHF channel. Broadcasts will commence approximately 5 minutes after the first boat has finished and will be repeated at approximate 15-minute intervals until the last boat has finished. These broadcasts constitute the notification of hearing to a protested boat required by rule 61.1.
- 18.3. Written protests shall be delivered to the Protest Committee desk in the American Yacht Club Clubhouse within one hour of the time that the Race Committee signal boat docks. This time limit will be posted on the official Race Committee Notice Board. A list of protests filed with the Protest Committee will be posted on the official Race Committee Notice Board.
- 18.4. Protest hearings will be held at American Yacht Club as soon as possible after each day of racing. A protest against a boat whose representative has not announced his intention to appear at the hearing by reporting to the Protest Committee desk in person or by telephone (914-967-4800) within one hour of the expiration of the time limit for filing protests (i.e. two hours after the Race Committee signal boat docks) shall be heard without representation from the protested boat as provided in rule 63.3(b).
- 18.5. It is the responsibility of the parties to ensure that their witnesses are available when called to testify. If witnesses are not in the vicinity of the protest room when called, they may not be heard.

19.0 ARBITRATION

- 19.1. For protests involving an alleged breach of the rules of Part 2 of the RRS, a short arbitration hearing will be held prior to the protest hearing. This changes Part 5, Section B of the RRS.
- 19.2. After a written protest form is filed, one representative from each boat will meet with the arbitrator. No witnesses will be allowed. Unresolved arbitration will be referred to the Protest Committee.
- 19.3. A boat that accepts fault at the arbitration hearing shall receive a penalty score equal to her finish position plus 40% of the number of boats entered (rounding 0.5 upward), except that she shall not be scored worse than DNF.
- 19.4. Decisions made during arbitration cannot be grounds for redress and cannot be appealed.
- 19.5. The arbitrator will not be a member of the Jury that hears the protest, but may be permitted to observe the testimony given to the Jury and offer testimony. This changes rule 63.3(a).

2009 American Yacht Club Spring Regatta

20.0 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

- 20.1. Each boat shall carry a radio capable of transmitting and receiving VHF channels 69 and 71.
- 20.2. The Race Committee may not respond to any radio communication by a competitor except to acknowledge withdrawals, protests, penalties taken or distress calls.
- 20.3. The Race Committee may announce changes to the starting line or the course on the race course VHF channel. Failure to hear such broadcasts shall not be grounds for redress.
- 20.4. Except as otherwise provided herein, a boat shall neither make transmissions while racing nor receive communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones and data communication.
- 20.5. Competing boats shall not communicate by radio with commercial craft, except in an emergency. Failure to comply with this instruction may result in a rule 2 hearing against the offending boat.

21.0 SCORING

- 21.1. The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply, except that if fewer than five races are completed each boat's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races. If five or more races are completed, each boat's worst race will be discarded subject to rule 90.3 (b).
- 21.2. Multiple races are scheduled, of which one shall be completed to constitute a series.
- 21.3. IRC classes will be scored using Time on Time.
- 21.4. PHRF classes will be scored using the handicaps provided by the YRALIS and the course distance.
- 21.5. Course distances as determined by the Race Committee will not be grounds for redress.
- 21.6. A boat that fails to finish within the time limit following the finish of a boat in her division shall, without a hearing, be scored by the Race Committee with points equal to the number of boats in her division that have sailed the course and finished within the time limit plus two points. This changes rules A4.1, A4.2 and A5.

22.0 PRIZES

- 22.1. Prizes will be awarded to the boats with the best total scores in each Division.
- 22.2. The RAMPANT, 1888 and EDWARD RICHARDS TROPHIES will be awarded to the boats that, in the judgment of the Race Committee, have the best performance in the PHRF, Level, and IRC fleets respectively.
- 22.3. The GERARD T. HANNON MEMORIAL TROPHY may be awarded in the discretion of the Race Committee to a boat or person demonstrating exceptional sportsmanship or fair play.
- 22.4. The ROGER SHERMAN MEMORIAL TROPHY will be awarded to the boat that, in the judgment of the Race Committee, has the best combined performance in the American Yacht Club Spring and Fall Regattas. Prizes will be awarded at American Yacht Club as soon as possible after the final race and protest hearings.

23.0 WEBSITE

- 23.1. The Race Committee will post the Notice of Regatta, Sailing Instructions, Scratch Sheet, and results at its web site, www.AmericanYC.org. Competitors should consult the official Race Committee Notice Board for final information.

2009 American Yacht Club Spring Regatta

24.0 NAVIGATION RULES

- 24.1. All boats are cautioned to observe the Navigation Rules of the Road and to yield right of way to vessels restricted in their ability to maneuver, especially to tugs and barges. Any boat observed to impede such traffic may be protested by the Race Committee.

25.0 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 25.1. As a condition of the participation of any boat in any race or related activity sponsored or undertaken by American Yacht Club, the owner and each crew member agree that the safety of the boat and her crew and the decision whether or not to start or continue to race is solely their responsibility. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. All competitors waive all claims which he or she, or any heir, representative, successor or assignee, may have against American Yacht Club and its officers, trustees, members, committees, employees or agents, arising out of or in any way connected with participation in such race or activity.

26.0 OTHER DOCUMENTS

- 26.1. Forms and documents related to this event are located on www.yachtscoring.com.

**American Yacht Club cordially extends the privileges of the Clubhouse
and harbor facilities to participants before and after the races.**

John L. Myles, Jr.	Principal Race Officer
Nicholas S. Everett	Principal Race Officer
Sandison E. Weil	Protest Committee Chairman
Glenn A. Morrison	Race Committee Chairman