



Branford Yacht Club, Inc.

*P. O. Box 384
Branford, Conn. 06405*

FIFTY SIXTH ANNUAL INVITATIONAL RACE

July 15, 2017

Dear Skipper:

You are reminded of the Waiver Statement that was enclosed with your entry form, it reads as follows:

In consideration of participating in the Branford Invitational Race, all skippers and crews hereby release and discharge the Branford Yacht Club, its agents, employees, and officers from all claims, demands, actions, judgments and executions which they ever had, or may have, or which their heirs, executors, administrators, or assignees may have, or claim to have, against the Branford Yacht Club, its successors, or assignees, for all personal injuries, known or unknown, and injuries to property, real or personal, caused by, or arising out of, the above described sports activity.

******* USCG Notice *******

All participants shall comply with Federal Navigation Rules and state boating regulations. Participants are not automatically "Stand On" (privileged) vessel by virtue of participation in the BYC Regatta. Particularly regarding the rules governing meeting, crossing and overtaking situations between participants and vessels restricted in their ability to maneuver.

AFTER THE RACE:

Commencing when the Race Committee Boat leaves its station at the Finish Line, you and your crew are cordially invited to an informal cocktail and shore party, at which time the Race results will be announced and trophies will be awarded.

Note: The Branford Yacht Club requests that race crews park in the lower or upriver lot.

Extra parking is available across the street at BYC North, 1st driveway on the left after the State Launch Ramp driveway.

Do NOT park at the launch ramp!

Skippers PLEASE inform your crew of this!

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

1.1 This regatta will be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 (RRS)*, the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association, the Notice of Race, and these Sailing Instructions. If there is a conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions will govern.

1.2 The Branford Yacht Club, Inc. is the Organizing Authority.

1.3 Sailing Instructions 5.2, 6, 7.1, 11.1, 11.2, and 14 contain changes to the *Race Signals* and/or the *RRS*.

1.4 Rule 44.3 Scoring Penalty will not apply.

1.5 PHRF class rules will apply to all boats sailing with PHRF handicaps. A valid PHRF-ECSA handicap certificate is required for a boat to race in a handicap class.

1.6 One design class rules will apply to boats sailing in non-handicap one design classes.

2. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to the Sailing Instructions, if any, will be broadcast on VHF Channel 72 at least 5 minutes prior to the First Warning Signal. This fulfills Rule 90.2 (c).

3. SCHEDULE OF RACES

3.1 The First Warning Signal is planned to be made at 1100 hours EDT on July 15, 2017.

3.2 The RC may run multiple races. The intention to run an additional race will be signaled by code flag 2nd Substitute flown during the finish of a race and a courtesy announcement on VHF Channel 72. If the 2nd substitute is flown alone all classes will sail in the next race. If class flags are flown with the 2nd Substitute, only those classes will participate in subsequent races and the other classes may leave the racing area.

3.3 No Warning Signal will be made after 1500.

4. REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Boats must be at least 20 feet LOA and have a self-bailing cockpit.

4.2 For reasons of safety it is recommended that anchors be stowed so that any part does not protrude beyond the bow perpendicular of a Boat. However, at least one set of ground tackle should be kept accessible and ready for deployment.

5. CLASSES AND CLASS FLAGS

5.1 There will be several Classes which will be assigned numbers.

5.2 The Class Flag will be the numeral pennant for the Class number, pennant "1" for Class 1, pennant "2" for Class 2, etc. *Race Signals are changed accordingly.*

5.4 Non-Spinnaker Classes may not use any type of spinnaker and may fly only one sail in the fore triangle at a time except during sail changes. Split rig Boats may fly staysails between the masts.

6. SAIL NUMBERS

Conformance to Appendix G of the Rules is preferred; however, no protests or penalties will apply for non-conformance. Boats without numbers on headsails must hail and identify themselves to the Committee Boat prior to the First Warning Signal and immediately after they finish. *Rule 77 is changed.*

7. COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 As an aid to participants at the discretion of the Race Committee VHF Channel 72 will be used for communication with

the fleet. Except as specified in SI 2 radio communications are for safety, convenience, and courtesy only. Misunderstandings, errors, or omissions that may result from such communications are not grounds for protest or redress. In case of emergency you may call the Committee Boat, which will be monitoring Channel 72 during the entire race. This changes Rule 62.1 (a)

7.2 Boats shall not conduct race-related radio or mobile telephone communications not available to all boats after the First Warning Signal.

8. MARKS

8.1 Marks are designated as follows:

B	R "26" Brown's Reef Bell	L	Special Mark on the opposite side of the Committee Boat from Mark S.
D	Special Mark, bearing and distance from Mark S as posted on Committee Boat	M	Special Mark approximately 100 yd. South of N "32" Five Foot Rock
F	Gong "15" Falkner Island	N	N "28" Negro Heads
G	R "10GI" Goose Island Bell	R	N "36" Round Rock"
H	RW "NH" MO(A) New Haven Whistle	S	Starting Mark
K	RG "KR" Kimberly Reef	T	R "10A" Townshend Ledge Bell

8.2 Special marks will be of the inflatable type colored orange or yellow and in the shape of a sphere, cylinder or pyramid. Special marks may not be in place at the time of the start.

8.3 The following will be displayed if Mark "D" is used:

Mark D		
___	___	___
(Magnetic Bearing)		
___	.	___
(Distance - NM)		

9. THE COURSES

9.1 Courses will be displayed on the Committee Boat prior to the Warning Signal. Courses will be designated on a course board by displaying columns with one or more Class numbers to which a course applies at the top followed by a vertical list of the Mark letters for that course. A numeral, if any, below a Mark letter indicates the number of times the preceding list of Marks shall be rounded to complete a race.

9.2 Courses are to be sailed by leaving each Mark after the start to Port, except that any Mark that is circled on the course board shall be left to Starboard.

10. THE START

10.1 The First Warning Signal is scheduled to be made at 1100 hours EDT. The Race Committee may sound a horn to call the fleet's attention one-minute before the First Warning Signal.

10.2 Boats are required to check in with the Committee Boat and identify themselves prior to the First Warning Signal.

10.3 Classes will start in numerical order beginning with Class 1.

10.4 The Classes will be started by Rule 26 with the warning signal 5 minutes before the starting signal for each Class. The warning signal for each succeeding Class will be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding Class.

<i>Signal</i>	<i>Flag and sound signal</i>	<i>Minutes before Class start</i>
<i>Warning</i>	<i>Class flag; 1 sound</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Preparatory</i>	<i>Preparatory flag; 1 sound</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>One-minute</i>	<i>Preparatory flag removed; 1 long sound</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Start</i>	<i>Class flag removed; 1 sound</i>	<i>0</i>

10.5 The starting line will be between a staff displaying a White or Orange Flag on the Committee Boat and Mark S. The Race Committee Boat will be stationed in the vicinity of Five Foot Rock and Branford Reef. It will fly the R-C flag. A

standoff buoy may be anchored approximately 20 yards from the Committee Boat. A Boat passing between it and the Committee Boat must restart by rounding either end of the line and crossing the line in a proper manner. Any Boat touching the standoff buoy must take a One Turn Penalty.

10.6 Boats for which the Class Warning Signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting line by 200 yards and of all Boats for which the Preparatory Signal has been made.

11. RECALLS

11.1 Any Boat starting early (OCS) and failing to restart properly will be penalized by having thirty minutes added to its Corrected Time without a protest or hearing. Rule 29.1 and Appendix A5 are changed accordingly.

11.2 In addition to the specified signal the Race Committee as a courtesy intends to announce individual recalls on Channel 72. Failure to announce any or all OCS boats or issues with the sequence and timing of such announcements are not grounds for redress. This changes Rule 62.1 (a).

11.3 General Recall procedures shall be in accordance with Rule 29.2.

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course the Race Committee will move the original mark to a new position and signal the change of bearing according to Rule 33 (a) (1) and/or length change according to Rule 33 (b).

13. THE FINISH

Unless the race is shortened per Rule 32.2, the finish line will be between a staff displaying a White or Orange Flag on the Committee Boat and Mark L. Boats finishing after the Committee Boat has left station shall take their own time when FIVE FOOT ROCK BUOY N "32" is within the two-length zone and bears 090° magnetic; GPS time is preferred.

14. TIME LIMIT

14.1 The time limit for each Class will be four (4) hours after the actual start time for that Class. If no Boat in a Class has finished within the time limit, the race for that Class will be abandoned without visual or sound signals. Listen on VHF Channel 72 for NO RACE information.

14.2 A Boat failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first boat in its class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes Rule 35, A4, and A5.

15. WITHDRAWAL

It is imperative that any Boat that withdraws from the race for any reason contact the Race Committee Boat in a timely manner by the best available means.

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

Protests are to be reported verbally to the Committee Boat immediately after crossing the finish line. Protests and Requests for Redress are to conform to Rules 61 and 62 and are to be submitted in writing to the Committee Boat within 45 minutes of the time that the Committee Boat docks, except that Boats taking their own time per SI 13 may submit protests within one hour of their recorded finish time. If possible, they should report their intent to protest to The Race Committee by radio or other means immediately after finishing.

17. SCORING AND PRIZES

Finishing positions will be determined using the "Time on Time" system with PHRF-ECSA handicaps. Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place Boats in each Class.

18. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the race entirely at their own risk; see Rule 4 Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the race.