



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

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April 23, 1999

Enclosed are the following:

1. Notice of Race for the Spring Race Series
2. Spring Race Series Entry Blank
3. Roster of Off Soundings Club Measurers
4. Off Soundings Club Minimum Equipment & Accommodations Standard (Based on ORC Category 4), dated April 2, 1994
5. General Information and Reservations Sheet

Your attention is called to the following:

1. The current Racing Rulebook is called *The Racing Rules of Sailing -- 1997 - 2000*. Members of the US Sailing Association have been sent a copy of the new Rulebook as a part of their membership services. Others should call 800-US-SAIL-1 to inquire about the Rulebook or about becoming a member of US SAILING and obtaining a Rulebook that way.
2. Boats shall conform to the Off Soundings Club Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standard (based on ORC Category 4), dated April 2, 1994 and enclosed with this Notice. Boats 28 ft LOA to 35 ft LOA which conformed to the previous standard (at least 18-inch single lifelines and pulpits) will be "grandfathered." Owners are strongly urged to upgrade their lifeline and pulpit installations to comply with the current ORC requirements for Category 4. You will also note that, while the US Prescription to the Category 4 Regulations regarding PFDs has not been incorporated into the Off Soundings Standard, captains and crew are encouraged to wear PFDs during the starting and finishing evolutions.
3. The Race Committee may select a pre-configured course OR it may devise and post on the Committee Boat the course to be sailed. The procedures will be spelled out in the Sailing Instructions.
4. The Off Soundings Club is abandoning its General Recall practice of changing Rule 29.3 to provide that a recalled class is to do its re-start last. Effective with this Race Series, Rule 29.3 will be followed, which means that a recalled class will be the next class to start.
5. The Off Soudings Club has changed its policy on Guests and the Cruising Canvas Class. Guests may now race in the Cruising Canvas Class.
6. The Deputy Race Secretary is Bob Geary. He may be reached at 860-446-9222 (H).

Good sailing, and we look forward to seeing you at Block Island.

Cordially,

Richard H. Roberts
Race Secretary
OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

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62nd ANNUAL SPRING RACE SERIES
1999
JUNE 11th and 12th

NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

1.0 Rules

- 1.1 The Race Series will be governed by the Constitution of the Off Soundings Club (which is concerned with NOR 14.0 of this Notice of Race), the Racing Rules of Sailing for 1997 - 2000 (referred to herein as "Rules" or "Rulebook"), the Prescriptions of US SAILING and by the Sailing Instructions. The Series is classed as a Category A event, as described in Appendix G.
- 1.2 Boats shall conform to the Off Soundings Club Minimum Equipment & Accommodations Standard (based on ORC Category 4), dated April 2, 1994, and enclosed with this Notice. Boats 28 ft LOA to 35 ft LOA which conformed to the previous standard (at least 18-inch single lifelines and pulpits) will be "grandfathered." Owners are strongly urged to upgrade their lifeline and pulpit installations to comply with the current ORC requirements for Category 4. NOTE that the provisions of the US Sailing Prescription to the ORC Regulations regarding PFDs have not been incorporated into the Off Soundings Club Standard. NOTE also that Rule 1.2 always applies: "Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions."
- 1.3 Off Soundings Club rules require that at least one of the persons in whose name a boat is entered (Master) must be on board for each race and in command of that boat. In the case of guests, only the guest can be the Master and must be aboard and in command for each race.
- 1.4 These regulations apply to the Cruising Canvas Classes:
 - a. Members or Guests may enter. You must mark the appropriate box on the Entry Blank to enter.
 - b. Spinnakers (including mizzen spinnakers) may not be used. Headsails must be attached along their length to the headstay by means of either hanks or a slotted headstay. This does not exclude roller-furling headsails. Headsail girths measured from the luff to the leech must be no greater than their proportional distance from the head.
 - c. Spinnaker poles may be used as whisker poles. Whisker pole length is limited to 80% of LP or spinnaker pole length, whichever is greater.
 - d. Only one sail at a time, other than forestaysails on standard double-head rigs, may be tacked forward of the mainmast (foremast on schooners). This does not prohibit a transient condition (i.e., during a sail change evolution).
 - e. Use of other sails, such as mules, mizzen staysails, is permitted.
 - f. Boats must meet all Off Soundings eligibility requirements.

2.0 Responsibility

- 2.1 The legal age for drinking in Rhode Island is twenty-one. The "Captain's Responsibility" statement printed on the reverse of the Entry Blank makes it clear that your signature denotes that, as Master/Captain, you shoulder the responsibility that your under-age crew members are advised of the prohibition on their drinking at Off Soundings Club events. Further, you take full responsibility for their actions.

- 2.2 Guest invitees who have not received prior communication please take note of this emphasis on the Master/Captain's responsibility.
- 2.3 You will note that the Entry Blank requires you to sign a certification that your boat meets the Off Soundings Club Minimum Equipment & Accommodations Standard cited in NOR 1.2 and that you agree to the waiver contained on the reverse of the Entry. As a Corinthian yachtsman, your certifying signature is the verification needed to assure that all entrants have complied and are racing fairly and truly.

3.0 Changes to the Racing Rules

- 3.1 A procedure for broadcasting corrections to the Sailing Instructions has been prescribed, under the requirement of Rule 88.2(c).
- 3.2 Visual signals have been added to Rule 25 and to Race Signals to indicate where Saturday's races are to be sailed in the event that Friday's races are Abandoned.
- 3.3 A racing boat starting early and failing to restart properly will be penalized by having thirty minutes added to her Corrected Time. Rule 29.1 is changed accordingly.
- 3.4 The Off Soundings Club is abandoning its practice of changing Rule 29.3 to provide that a recalled class is to re-start last. Effective with this Race Series, Rule 29.3 will be followed, which means that a recalled class will be the next class to start.
- 3.5 The Scoring Penalty of Rule 44.3(c) is changed in that the penalty will be 10 minutes added to the Corrected Time of the boat breaking a rule. Rule 44.2 will not apply.

4.0 Eligibility and Entry

- 4.1 The Race Series is open to those members and invited guests whose boats qualify in all respects to the provisions outlined in NOR 4.3, below.
- 4.2 The closing date for receipt of Guest Invitations Application forms is May 6, 1999 (for both the Spring and Fall Race Series) and August 12, 1999 (for the Fall Race Series only).
- 4.3 Boat eligibility is defined as follows:
 - a. For handicapping purposes, the maximum PHRF base boat rating will be 300.
 - b. The minimum L.O.A. of boats which may race in the OSC Spring or Fall Race Series is 23.75 feet. Boats smaller than this L.O.A. will not be permitted to race, nor will boats in excess of 62 feet L.O.A. Boats must have self-bailing cockpits and be capable of normal cruising (head, galley, bunks, etc.).
 - c. Excepted from this ruling are boats, owned by members, which fall outside the limits of 4.3.b above, but which have raced in a series prior to this date. Those boats will be permitted to race, using ratings based on the boat's valid Measurement Data Certificate, so long as there is no change in boat ownership.
- 4.4 Eligible boats may be entered by completing the enclosed Entry Blank and sending it by First Class Mail to Richard H. Roberts, Race Secretary, 60 Dart Street, New London, CT 06320-4512. Your entry will be acknowledged by return postcard.
- 4.5 In order to determine perpetual trophy winners accurately and assign handicap penalties equitably, it is necessary to confirm the ownership or charter arrangement of all entered boats for each race series. Please list the names of all owners or charterers, whether or not also listed as master(s), in the space provided on the Entry Blank. For reasons of space, please do not list more than two names as Master. If yours is a syndicate boat and you wish to list the syndicate name, indicate the skipper's name only.

5.0 Schedule of Events

- 5.1 The Off Soundings fleet will race from Watch Hill to Block Island on Friday, June 11th, and will race on selected courses near Block Island on Saturday, June 12th. Each evening we will rendezvous at THE OAR (Block Island Boat Basin).
- 5.2 The logistics particulars for this series are outlined on the enclosed General Information and Reservations Sheet. Information and suggestions on docking, mooring, shore facilities, transportation, emergency facilities, etc., are included therein and you are requested to make whatever reservations you wish direct and early.
- 5.3 The First Warning will be at 0950 on Friday and 0850 on Saturday.

6.0 Contribution

- 6.1 Please note that, in order to assign actual expenses equitably, there is an expected \$35 contribution per boat plus \$6 per person on board. Please make your check payable to the Off Soundings Club and enclose it with your Entry Form.
- 6.2 Non-racing members and guests are always welcome at our rendezvous parties, at the normal per-person contribution. We've included a place on the Entry Blank for you to let us know how many non-racing people to expect, and for you to include payment for them.

7.0 Measurement

- 7.1 PHRF ratings will be used for all classes. PHRF ratings will be based on the work of the PHRF of Long Island Sound (the PHRF group of the Eastern Connecticut Sailing Association), information from regional areas with PHRF experience, and additional information which may be developed by the OSC Chief Measurer. The adjustment factors will be in accordance with the procedures used by PHRF of LIS.
 - 7.2 Each boat must have a valid OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB MEASUREMENT DATA CERTIFICATE, which is one that is less than three years old, i.e., with an original date of June 11, 1996 or later. If the boat does not have a valid Measurement Data Certificate, it must be measured by one of the following: an Off Soundings Club approved measurer, your yacht club measurer, or a sailing association measurer. The Certificate should be completed in triplicate, with one copy being sent to Norman E. Rabe, Off Soundings Club Chief Measurer, 33 Valley Drive, Salem, Connecticut 06420. Your measurer should keep one copy. The third copy (original) is for your files.
 - 7.3 In determining your Off Soundings Club PHRF rating, necessary boat dimensional information will be taken from your valid Off Soundings Club Measurement Data Certificate. Owners of a class type (such as Tartan 41 or Morgan 34, etc.) must inform the OSC Chief Measurer of any substantial modifications to the boat which might affect the speed potential but which might not be evident on the Off Soundings Club Measurement Data Certificate. Examples of such modifications are added keel ballast or lightened interior joiner work. This request must be treated in a true Corinthian spirit.
- 8.0 Entry Deadline** -- The following deadlines will be adhered to. No exceptions will be permitted, Postal Service foibles notwithstanding.

Entries (together with contribution check) must be received by the Race Secretary, postmarked on or before **May 20, 1999**.

Measurement Data Certificates must be received by the Chief Measurer, postmarked on or before **May 20, 1999**.

9.0 Classes -- There will be Class A, Class B, five "C" classes and two Cruising Canvas Classes. Where appropriate, classes will be grouped generally based on PHRF rating and the rating break point for any of the classes cannot be determined until after all entries have been received. Note that selected classes will be comprised of boats deemed by the Classification Committee to be "high performance."

10.0 Class Flags

10.1 You must fly a class flag at all times during the race. This flag shall be no smaller than size "0", (i.e., 12" x 15"). It should be flown vertically, as far forward as possible, on the bow pulpit.

10.2 The following International Code Flags will be used as class flags:

A	Tango
B	Kilo
C-1	Papa
C-2	Oscar
C-3	Foxtrot
C-4	Whiskey
C-5	Juliet
CR-1	Uniform
CR-2	Golf

10.3 Class assignments will be mailed with the Sailing Instructions. Owners needing to know their boat's class flag sooner may call the following, after May 26th: R. H. Roberts at 860-443-4621 (H), R. B Geary at 860-444-9222 (H) or N. E. Rabe at 860-859-0165 (H).

11.0 Sailing Instructions -- The Sailing Instructions, together with the Entry List, by class, are scheduled to be mailed to members and invited guests on Friday, June 4, 1999.

12.0 Scoring

12.1 All Classes will be scored using the time-on-time system. Each boat's Time Correction Factor (TCF) will be based on its PHRF rating and penalty adjustment, if any. A boat's Corrected Time is obtained by multiplying its Elapsed Time by its TCF.

12.2 As is customary for Club races, standings are given on a "Corrected Time" basis computed from the combined results of two days of racing. After each day's racing, tentative results will be announced and posted. Complete results will be mailed later to members and guests.

12.3 A boat winning a first, second or third place will be awarded a penalty for three additional race series. The penalties are 15% for each first place, 10% for each second place and 5% for each third place, for a maximum of 45% total penalty. The formulation of TCF includes the penalty adjustment of 1.5% for each 5% of awarded penalty. Existing penalties will be carried over if a class changes for any reason.

12.4 Penalties will be removed after three race series, sailed or not.

12.5 If a boat is acquired by a person not associated with the acquisition of the penalty, the penalty will be dropped from that boat. If that owner then purchases or charters a non-similar boat, he also will not continue to carry the penalty. It is the responsibility of the entrant to contact the Race Secretary prior to the entry closing date if there is any question regarding the dropping of a penalty.

13.0 Alternative Penalty

- 13.1 The Off Soundings Club has established an Alternative Penalty, for use in lieu of disqualification, for the 1999 Race Series.
- 13.2 The Scoring Penalty of Rule 44 will apply, and Rule 44.3(c) is changed in that the penalty will be 10 minutes added to the Corrected Time of the boat breaking a rule.
- 13.3 The boat breaking a rule shall signal her acceptance of the Alternative Penalty by displaying a yellow flag for the remainder of the race. She shall comply with the other provisions of Rule 44.3(a), which includes notification of the Race Committee after her finish.
- 13.4 You are reminded that Rule 44.1 requires that the breach must have been of a Rule in Part 2 (When Boats Meet), must not have resulted in serious damage, and must not have given the boat breaking a rule a significant advantage.

14.0 Decisions of the Jury -- The decisions of the Protest Committee (jury) will be final, in accordance with the Off Soundings Club Constitution, which does not allow the decisions of its Protest Committee to be appealed.

15.0 Radio Communications -- The Coast Guard First District has advised that, effective April 1, 1992 and within its jurisdiction, VHF Channel 9 is to be used as the calling channel, reserving the use of Channel 16 for distress communications. Off Soundings Club Race Committee communications will be carried out on VHF Channel 72.

16.0 Prizes

- 16.1 Four prizes will be awarded in each class, except that, where there are fewer than eleven boats entered in a class, the number of trophies to be awarded will be three. Please arrange for someone to collect your trophy in your behalf if you will not be present to receive your award at the prize ceremony Saturday night. Un-claimed prizes will be held by Rear Commodore John Brooks (860-572-8066) pending a call from the recipient to arrange for pick-up of the prize. All prizes are donated by the Off Soundings Club.
- 16.2 Perpetual trophies, for members only, will be presented at the winter shore party for the boat and Master with the best corrected time, without penalties, in the year's races in several categories. For the two-year awards, trophy winners will be calculated using the low point system of Rule A2, allowing one discard if eight or more races are completed. Winners, and second and third places, will be awarded keeper plaques.

17.0 Fall Race Series -- The following are the key dates for the Fall Race Series. If you plan to be away during the entry period please write the Race Secretary in advance to request a Fall Entry Blank.

Notice of Race (including Spring results)	July 9, 1999
Deadline, Fall Guest Invitation Applications	August 12, 1999
Closing Date	August 26, 1999
Race Dates	September 17 & 18, 1999