

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

WILLIAM L. AMES, Race Secretary
9 Gravel Street
Mystic, Connecticut 06355

17 April 1981

44TH ANNUAL SPRING RACE SERIES

1981

JUNE 12TH & 13TH

FIRST NOTICE

Enclosed are the following:

1. Entry Blank
2. Roster of Off Soundings Club Measurers
3. ORC Minimum Equipment & Accommodations Standards - Category 4 (as adapted by OSC, January 1981)
4. General Information and Reservations Sheet
5. Membership Chairman's Posting of Membership Candidates*

*(Members Only)

This spring, Off Soundings will sail again from New London to Dering Harbor on Friday, June 12th, and will race on selected courses on Saturday, June 13th, in Gardiner's Bay. Both evenings we will rendezvous at the Shelter Island Yacht Club in Dering Harbor.

In order to equalize better the number of yachts participating in the "A and B" Classes and the "C" Classes, the Board of Governors, in January 1981, decided that there will be three "A and B" Classes (A-1, A-2 and B) and five "C" Classes (C-1 through C-5) this year.

Handicapping will be done using the same rules as last year. That is, Classes C-1 through C-5 and the Cruising Canvas Class will use the PHRF Handicapping System. Classes A-1, A-2 and B will use the Off Soundings Club Measurement Rule, together with the USYRU Time Allowance Tables.

The PHRF system establishes "speed potential ratings" for base boats together with adjustment factors for variations in genoa overlap, spinnaker width and length, spinnaker pole length, mast height, and propeller type. Speed potential ratings will be developed and assigned by a committee reporting to the Chief Measurer. These ratings will be based on the work of the PHRF of Long Island Sound (the PHRF group of the Eastern Connecticut Yacht Racing Association), information from regional areas with PHRF experience, and additional information which may be developed by the committee. The adjustment factors will be in accordance with the PHRF of LIS procedures. A valid Off Soundings Club rating certificate is required, from which necessary yacht dimensional information may be taken. Owners of yachts of a class type (such as Tartan 41 and Morgan 34) must inform the Race Secretary of any substantial modifications to the yacht which might affect the speed potential but which might not be evident on the Off Soundings Club rating certificate. Examples of such modifications are added keel ballast and lightened interior joiner work. This request must be treated in a true Corinthian spirit. Those entrants who apply for and receive a rating certificate from the PHRF of LIS are requested to submit a copy of that certificate with their entry, but this does not waive the requirement to have a valid Off Soundings measurement certificate.

The logistic particulars for this series are outlined on the enclosed General Information and Reservations Sheet. Information on docking, moorings, shore facilities, meals, lodging, transportation, medical facilities, etc., are included therein and you are requested to make whatever reservations you wish direct and early.

ENTRY PROCEDURE

Off Soundings Club races are open to those members and guest yachts which qualify in all respects to the provisions outlined in this FIRST NOTICE.

1. Complete the enclosed Entry Blank and send by First Class Mail, postmarked on or before May 21st to William L. Ames, 9 Gravel Street, Mystic, Connecticut 06355. Your entry will be acknowledged by return postcard.
2. In order to determine perpetual trophy winners accurately and assign handicap penalties equitably, it will be necessary to confirm the ownership or charter arrangement of all entered yachts 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.
3. Please be reminded that our rules require that at least one of the persons in whose name the yacht is entered, i.e., master(s), must be on board for both races and must be in command of the yacht.

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.

4. Have a valid measurement certificate. A valid measurement certificate is one that is less than three years old, i.e., with an original date of June 13, 1978 or later. Please read and complete the Entry Blank carefully. If the yacht does not have a valid measurement certificate, it must be measured by one of the measurers shown on the enclosed list of OSC measurers, your yacht club measurer, or a yachting association measurer. The certificate should be completed in triplicate, with one copy being sent to Norman E. Rabe, Off Soundings Club Chief Measurer, 53 Oswegatchie Road, Waterford, Connecticut 06385, postmarked not later than May 21, 1981. Your measurer should keep one copy. The third copy is for your files.

The closing date of May 21, 1981 for entries and measurement certificates is the latest possible date and will be rigidly adhered to. Absolutely no exceptions will be made.

The U. S. Postal Service has been known to lose entries and non-receipt of entries due to postal problems will not be an exception to the closing date. If you have not received an acknowledgment card from the Race Secretary prior to the deadline, please call to inquire. In addition, sending entries by certified mail can help.

Also, do not hold up your entry waiting for measurements, etc. Get the entry in and expedite the measurement separately. However, please note that measurements are also subject to the closing date.

An additional note of caution: Since postmarks govern on entry deadlines, be advised that the U. S. Postal Service often picks up outlying office or drop box mail and transfers it to a main station for cancellation. This can cause a delay in postmarking that could invalidate your last minute entry. If you are close to the deadline, ask your post office to handcancel your entry envelope immediately to insure proper postmarking.

FALL ENTRIES

The incidence of late, misplaced or forgotten entries for the Fall Race Series is always substantially higher than for the Spring Series. To minimize this problem if you plan to be away during the entry period, please write your Race Secretary in advance and request a Fall Entry Blank and return it immediately.

First Notice (Including Spring Results)	<u>July 17, 1981</u>
Closing Date	<u>August 27, 1981</u>
Race Dates	<u>September 18 and 19, 1981</u>

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ENTRANTS

Your contribution of \$7.00 per person on board is vital to the continued success of our Off Soundings Races. Please make your check payable to the Off Soundings Club and enclose it with your Entry Blank.

GUEST VESSEL INVITATION

To prevent our Off Soundings Classes from getting dangerously large, the closing date for guest invitations was set at March 25, 1981, for both the Spring and Fall Series. No more guests may be invited for 1981 racing.

Only two invitations will be issued to any acceptable non-member to participate in our racing events, each invitation being sufficient for two consecutive race series, such as Spring '81 and Fall '81. The Board of Governors may under certain circumstances elect to waive the two invitation limit.

YACHT ELIGIBILITY

1. The minimum rating for any yacht sailing in the OSC Annual Race Series is 17 feet. Yachts whose ratings calculate lower than this 17 foot minimum shall race using this 17 foot rating.
2. The minimum L.O.A. of yachts which may race in the OSC Annual Race Series is 23.75 feet. Yachts smaller than this L.O.A. will not be permitted to race, nor will yachts in excess of 62 feet L.O.A.
3. Excepted from this ruling are yachts owned by members which fall outside the limits of 2. above, but which have raced in a series prior to this date. These yachts will be permitted to race using ratings shown on the yacht's valid rating certificate, so long as there is no change in yacht ownership.
4. To qualify to race in Off Soundings Club Races, your yacht must meet all Offshore Rating Council (ORC) Category 4 requirements of January 1981 (as adapted by OSC) including lifelines and pulpits. It is your responsibility to meet these requirements. A copy of the ORC Minimum Equipment and Accommodation Standards is enclosed.

You will note that the entry blank requires you to sign a certification that your yacht meets the Category 4 requirements in all respects and that you agree to the waiver contained on the reverse thereof. As a Corinthian yachtsman, your certifying signature is the verification needed to assure that all entrants have complied and are racing fairly and truly.

5. Board of Governors action has defined Cruising Canvas Class requirements as follows:
 - a. Only Off Soundings Club members may enter. You must mark the appropriate box on the entry form to enter.
 - b. Spinnakers (including mizzen spinnakers) may not be used.
 - c. Spinnaker poles may be used as whisker poles.
 - d. Only one sail at a time other than fore-staysails 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. Yachts must meet all Off Soundings eligibility requirements.
6. United States Yacht Racing Union requirements regarding sail numbers are mandatory for Off Soundings participation. Class insignia, however, may be displayed.
7. 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 pulpit. This is of great assistance to all participants while racing, and aids the Race Committee as it finishes over 200 yachts.

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

A-1	Alpha
A-2	Echo
B	Kilo
C-1	Papa
C-2	Quebec
C-3	Foxtrot
C-4	Zulu
C-5	Juliet
Cruising	
Canvas	Charlie

Those owners unsure of their yacht's class may call me (203-536-7700) after May 27th (time will be short - do not write).

RADIO NOTICE

Race Committee communications will be carried on VHF-FM Channel 9.

OTHER RACING INFORMATION

Handicap penalties for winners are 15% for first place, 10% for second place, and 5% for third place, with a maximum penalty of 45%. Present penalties will be carried over if a class changes due to the changeover to three "A and B" Classes and five "C" Classes or for any other class change.

Handicap penalties may be worked off in three race series. To work off a penalty, you must start both races in each series and either be identified as a finisher or submit a written withdrawal as soon as possible to the Race Secretary. Handicap penalties will be removed after five race series, sailed or not.

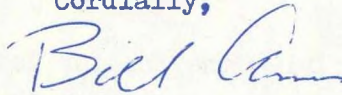
If a yacht is acquired by a person not associated with the acquisition of the penalty, the penalty will be dropped from the yacht. If the owner then purchases or charters a non-similar yacht he will also not continue to carry the penalty. It is the responsibility of the entrant to contact the Race Secretary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

CLUB TIES AND PATCHES

Club members may obtain our club tie for \$8.00, a cloth blazer patch for \$3.00, a gold bullion pin-on blazer patch for \$8.00, a tie clasp for \$6.00, and cap button for \$3.50 from your Treasurer, Walter D. Strang, Jr., 85 Tyler Avenue, Groton, Connecticut 06340.

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

Cordially,



William L. Ames
Race Secretary
OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

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GENERAL INFORMATION & RESERVATION SHEET

THURSDAY, JUNE 11th

Burr's Yacht Haven and Marster's Dock at New London have agreed to give Off Soundings participants a special rate of \$10.00 per yacht per day for Thursday night and/or from the preceding weekend for dockage or moorings. Please contact the dockmaster upon arrival for docking and/or rafting instructions. It is not necessary, but, to be on the safe side, if you wish to make advanced reservations at Burr's, contact Burr's, 244 Pequot Avenue, New London, CT 06320. Telephone: (203) 443-8457. Launch service will be available and adequate space for anchoring is available. Dock space is also available at New London's City Pier at \$7.00 per day.

Marine supplies are available at Burr's. Groceries, a package store and restaurants are within easy walking distance. Lighted municipal parking is located a block away for weekend parking.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12th

The Shelter Island Yacht Club at Dering Harbor, Shelter Island, New York will be the site of the weekend rendezvous.

Docking and Mooring

Moorings will be available on a first-come first-serve basis as assigned by the harbor master at the Club. A charge of \$10.00 per night will be made for each yacht on a club-assigned mooring, whether directly moored or rafted. This charge will help defray the cost of the launches. Anchoring is always acceptable and there is good holding in sandy mud.

Launch Service

There will be launches flying the Shelter Island burgee available for transportation ashore.

Refreshments

The familiar spigotted crocks will be arranged north of the clubhouse and may be readily identified by the code flags properly arrayed. White wine will be substituted for Rye. Timely finishes permitted, mainbrace splicing will commence at 1730. Please assist in keeping the grounds neat and tidy by using the trash barrels available.

Dinner

Friday evening from 6:00-9:00 p.m., the Shelter Island Yacht Club is putting on a steak dinner for the first 200 reservations at \$11.95 per person, including tax and tip. Reservations for dinner (with check enclosed, payable to Shelter Island Yacht Club) must be made in writing in advance to facilitate planning. Please specify a preferred time. Address to: Mr. James W. Eklund, Shelter Island Yacht Club, Shelter Island Heights, Shelter Island, New York 11965. Tickets will be mailed directly to you, time permitting.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13th

Dinner

Bar-B-Queed Spare Ribs Dinner, buffet style, for unlimited reservations will be available at the yacht club for \$9.75 per person, including tax and tip, beginning directly after the awards presentation. Advance reservations may be made with Mr. Eklund as per Friday night instructions. (Do not forget to enclose payment.)