

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

Wm Blunt White
Sec

April 19, 1968

31st ANNUAL SPRING RACE SERIES

1968

June 14th & 15th

FIRST NOTICE

Enclosed are the following:

1. Entry Blank
2. Off Soundings Club Measurement Certificate, 1968 Rule - three copies
3. List of Off Soundings Club Measurers
4. Reservation Information Sheets
5. Membership Chairman's Posting of Membership Candidates (to members only)

Entry Procedure

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

Acceptance of invitations for guest vessels may be limited or denied, if their participation is not in the best interests of the Off Soundings Club.

1. Complete the enclosed entry blank and send by First Class Mail postmarked by May 23rd, to Donald P. Robinson, Mystic Seaport, Mystic, Connecticut 06355.

Please accurately complete the description of your vessel and check the boxes for Fin Keel and Spade or semi-Spade Rudder. X
Too often in the past certain individuals have inadvertently misrepresented their vessels and it is increasingly difficult for the measurer to properly classify the yachts. Please don't forget your sail number.

2. Have a valid measurement certificate. A valid measurement certificate is one that is less than three years old, as of May 23, 1968, providing no alterations have been made which affect the measured factors entering into the rating. If the yacht does not have a valid 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 William L. Ames, Off Soundings Club Measurer, 9 Gravel Street, Mystic, Connecticut 06355, postmarked not later than May 23, 1968. Your measurer should keep one copy. The third copy is for your files.

The closing date for entries is the latest practical date and will be rigidly adhered to. No exception will be made.

Contributions from Entrants

As in the past, the cost of running the races and the shore parties will be offset by your contributions. Most skippers have been prompt and generous. We ask that this spirit continue so that our finances can remain on a sound basis. Please base your contribution on a minimum of \$3.00 per person per boat, making your check payable to the Off Soundings Club, and enclose it with your Entry Blank.

Guest Vessel Invitations

Guests may be eligible for invitation, if you comply with the following procedure:

1. Three letters of recommendation for the guest skipper must be sent to the Race Secretary not later than two weeks before the closing date.
2. Only two invitations will be issued to any acceptable non-member to participate in our racing events, each invitation being sufficient for any two (2) consecutive race series, such as Spring '68 and Fall '68, or Fall '68 and Spring '69.
3. The letters of invitation must include the following information:
 - a) Name and address of guest.
 - b) Name of his recognized yacht club.
 - c) Name of his boat.
 - d) A description of the type or class of the vessel and a statement that, to the knowledge of the member, it falls within the eligibility requirements (see below).
 - e) Indicate the races for which you wish the invitation (see 2 above).
4. When this procedure is followed and completed, an acknowledgment will be sent to the guest.



Yacht Eligibility

1. The minimum rating for any yacht sailing in the O.S.C. Annual Race Series is 17 feet. Yachts whose ratings calculate lower than this 17-foot minimum shall race using this 17-foot minimum.

- II. The minimum L.O.A. of vessels which may race in the O.S.C. Annual Race Series is 23.75 feet. Vessels smaller than this L.O.A. will not be permitted to race, nor will vessels in excess of 62 feet L.O.A.
- III. Excepted from this ruling are vessels which fall below these minimums but which have raced in a series prior to this date, owned by members or participating guests. These vessels will be permitted to race using ratings shown on the Vessel's Valid Rating Certificate, so long as there is no change in vessel's ownership.
- IV. Stars, 110's, 210's Atlantics and certain other similar yachts will not be eligible.

Racing Rendezvous Information

The warning signal for the first class to start on Friday, June 14th, will be at 8:50 a.m. EDT and on Saturday, June 15th, also at 8:50 a.m. EDT. Class B-1 will be the first to start on June 14th (as in all recent series). However, as the first leg of both short and long courses on June 15th are the same, Class A-1 will be the first to start on Saturday.

Please also note that by resolution of the Board of Governors on April 8, 1961, only properly entered boats are to be in the vicinity of the starting line or the race courses during the races. No matter how good the intentions, it is almost impossible for a non-competitor to keep completely clear of the competing boats, when trying to race "unofficially."

Handicap penalties for winners are 15% for the first place, 10% for second place, and 5% for the third place, with a maximum penalty of 45%.

Friday's races will finish at the BW Bell off Three Mile Harbor. The Friday night rendezvous will be at the Maidstone Marina.

Saturday's races will finish at the BW Bell off the entrance to Greenport and Dering Harbor, with the Saturday night rendezvous at the Shelter Island Yacht Club.

Tentative race results will be announced at Three Mile Harbor and at Shelter Island, subject to final correction. This is necessary to give the Committee time to settle protests and for final checking and verification.

Special awards will be made for One-Design vessels racing within their own Off Soundings class, if six or more of a single One-Design class finish within it. The awards will be given based on the best boat-for-boat, two-day performance.

You will only be eligible if you indicate the class of your vessel in the

appropriate space on the Entry Blank.

The division of classes will be announced in the FINAL NOTICE.

Revision of Measurement Rule

In the interest of providing similar loading of yachts to be measured in the future for Off Soundings Measurement Rating, CCA Measurement Rating and others, certain changes have been made to the April 1968 Off Soundings Measurement Certificate.

Since this change will normally make little difference in the final OSC rating and to avoid the necessity of a mass remeasurement of 500 yachts, this change is not retroactive but will apply to all yachts requiring normal measurement after July 14, 1967 due to time elapse (presently three years from date of measurement) or other changes in rig, etc.

Reservation Information

Please consult the enclosed Reservation Information and make whatever reservations you wish directly and early.

Club Ties, Buttons, etc.

Off Soundings Club members may still purchase a sterling tie clasp with color enamel Club Burgee by mailing a check for \$5.00 to the Race Secretary. Of Soundings Club cap buttons may be purchased directly from Crow's Nest, Box 2626, New York, New York 10001, and Off Soundings Club ties may be purchased from Mrs. Howard Smith, Mason's Island, Mystic, Connecticut 06355, for \$5.00 each.

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I trust our efforts to rewrite this FIRST NOTICE will make it more helpful to you. Good sailing, and we shall look forward to seeing you in New London Thursday evening, June 13th.

Cordially,

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

D. P. Robinson
Race Secretary