



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

PLEASE NOTE COMMENTS ON RADIO
COMMUNICATION CHANNELS ON
ON THE LAST PAGE

RICHARD H. ROBERTS, Race Secretary
60 Dart Street
New London, Connecticut 06320

(203) 443-4621 (R)
(203) 572-8810 (B)

55th ANNUAL SPRING RACE SERIES
1992

June 12th and 13th

April 17, 1992

FIRST NOTICE

Enclosed are the following:

1. Entry Blank
2. Roster of Off Soundings Club Measurers
3. ORC Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards - Category 4
(as adapted by OSC, January 1987)
4. General Information and Reservations Sheet

Your Board of Governors has elected to race to Block Island in the Spring. Therefore, the Off Soundings fleet will race from Watch Hill to Block Island on Friday, June 12th, and will race on selected courses on Saturday, June 13th, in the Block Island Sound area. Both evenings we will rendezvous at THE OAR (Block Island Boat Basin).

PHRF handicapping will be used for all classes. There will be three "A" and "B" classes, five "C" Classes and a Cruising Canvas Class. PLEASE NOTE that the five "C" classes will be grouped generally based on PHRF rating and that the rating break point for each class cannot be determined until all entries are received. Therefore, check the Final Notice immediately to ascertain your class for 1992.

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 PHRF of LIS procedures. A valid Off Soundings Club Measurement Data Certificate is required from which necessary yacht dimensional information may be taken. Owners of yachts of a class type (such as a Tartan 41 or Morgan 34, etc.) 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 Measurement Data 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 Club Measurement Data Certificate.

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

The legal age for drinking in both Rhode island and New York States is twenty-one. The "Captain's Responsibility" statement printed on the

reverse of the entry certificate makes it clear that your signature denotes that as Master/Captain you shoulder the responsibility that your underage crew members are advised of the prohibition on their drinking at Off Soundings Club events. Further, you take full responsibility for their actions. Guest invitees who did not receive prior communications, please take note of this emphasis on the Master/Captain's responsibility.

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. You must complete the enclosed Entry Blank and send by First Class Mail, postmarked on or before May 21st, to Richard H. Roberts, Race Secretary, 60 Dart Street, New London, CT 06320. 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, and must be an Off Soundings Club member or a 1992 guest.

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. You must have a valid OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB MEASUREMENT DATA CERTIFICATE. A valid OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB MEASUREMENT DATA CERTIFICATE is one that is less than three years old, i.e. with an original date of June 12, 1989 or later. Please read and complete the Entry Blank carefully. If the yacht does not have a valid Measurement Data 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, 33 Valley Drive, Salem, Connecticut 06420, postmarked not later than May 21st, 1992. Your measurer should keep one copy. The third copy is for your files.

The closing date of May 21, 1992 for entries and Measurement Data 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.

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)	July 10, 1992
Closing Date		August 27, 1992
Race Dates		September 18 & 19, 1992

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ENTRANTS

Your contribution is vital to allow continuation of the quality services rendered which have made our races so successful and which you have come to expect. Please note that, in order to assign actual expenses equitably, there is a \$35.00 contribution per yacht plus \$6.00 per person on board. Please make your check payable to the Off Soundings Club and enclose it with your Entry Blank.

Your Board of Governors wishes to remind you that non-racing members and guests are always welcome at our rendezvous parties, at the normal per-person rate. We've included a place on the Entry Blank to let us know how many to expect.

GUEST VESSEL INVITATION

In order to allow for proper planning and adequate notification, the closing date for guest invitations was set at March 18, 1992 for both the Spring and Fall series. No more guests may be invited for 1992 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 '92 and Fall '92. The Board of Governors may under certain circumstances elect to waive the two-invitation limit.

YACHT ELIGIBILITY

1. For handicapping purposes, the maximum PHRF base boat number will be 300.
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 1987 (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, Category 4, as adapted by OSC, January 1987, is enclosed.

You will note that the Entry Blank requires you to sign a certification that your yacht meets the Category 4 requirements as adapted by OSC 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 forestaysails on a standard double-head rig, 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 Sailing Association 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 "O", 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 upwards of 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 at (203) 443-4621 after May 27th (time will be short - do not write).

RADIO NOTICE

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 VHF Channel 16 for distress communications. Our selection of the VHF Channel for Race Committee communications will be announced in the Final Notice.

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 for any reason.

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 \$13.00, a gold bullion pin-on blazer patch for \$10.00, a tie clasp for \$8.00, cap buttons for \$5.00, burgee brooch pins for the ladies for \$5.00, and burgees 12x18 for \$20.00 and 18x27 for \$30.00 from your Treasurer, Ernest Messer, Jr., P.O. Box 1399, New Haven, Connecticut 06438 - (203) 669-1000.

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

Cordially,



Richard H. Roberts
Race Secretary
OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB
GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESERVATION SHEET
Spring Series - June 12 and 13, 1992

Thursday, June 11, 1992

Docking and mooring space at Dodson's in Stonington is available on a first-come first-served basis. They furnish launch service from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. They can be reached at (203) 535-1507.

Ram Island Yacht Club and Wadawanuck Yacht Club have generously offered their facilities to members of the fleet on Thursday night. The Committee Boat FREEDOM will be at Seaport Marine on Thursday night.

Friday and Saturday, June 12 and 13, 1992

THE OAR at the Block Island Boat Basin in Great Salt Pond, Block Island, Rhode Island will be the site of the weekend rendezvous.

Docking and Mooring

The Block Island Boat Basin has approximately 47 slips available varying in depth from 4 to 8 feet. Reservations for a slip must be made directly and as early as possible. The price is \$2.25 per foot and your reservation must be accompanied with a deposit of one night's dockage. Address and phone: Block Island Boat Basin, P.O. Box 412, Block Island, Rhode Island 02807 - (401) 466-2631. For reservations before June 1st use address 125 Steamboat Avenue, North Kingston, Rhode Island 02852, (401) 294-3361.

There are also slips available at Payne's Dock at \$1.50 per foot (\$2.00 over 40 feet): phone (401) 466-5572, and Champlin's Marina and Resort: phone (401) 466-2641. The Town of New Shoreham has red-ball moorings that are for rent on a first-come first-served basis at \$25 per night. Rafting on these moorings is not permitted.

Launch Service

There will be launches servicing the fleet of Off Soundings participants and available for transportation ashore between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday. They may also be available at other times during the course of the weekend using their normal fee schedules to individuals. The launches monitor Channel 68 and appreciate the showing of "T" flags. Please display an OSC burgee or other OSC identification (e.g. the Final Notice booklet) to the launch operators.

Refreshments and Announcements

The after-race shore party will be held at THE OAR following Friday and Saturday's races. The familiar crocks will be arranged to the side of THE OAR and your favorite beverage may be readily identified by the code flags properly arrayed. Timely finishes permitted, mainbrace splicing will commence at approximately 1730. Results of the day's racing plus the combined results of the two-day series will be announced following the party. Please assist in keeping the grounds neat and tidy by using the trash barrels available.

Facilities

Toilet and shower facilities will be made available to race participants in the lower level of THE OAR. Trash and garbage removal provisions have been arranged for and the deposit location will be in the vicinity of THE OAR.

We have been informed that boats must not discharge holding tanks or heads in Great Salt Pond. Block Island now has a boat for pumping holding tanks at no cost. Arrangements must be made with the Harbor Master in advance. Block Island has a law providing for a \$200 fine for discharge into the harbor. Further, we should display courtesy and not discharge holding tanks until a legal distance offshore.

Emergency Information

There will be a physician on board the patrol boat as well as several physician members "on call" throughout the fleet. Should you have a medical emergency on your boat, call the Committee Boat, on the Channel designated in the Final Notice; assistance will be dispatched.

While at Block Island call:

Police..... 466-2659
Rescue Squad..... 466-2211

PLEASE RETAIN THIS INFORMATION SHEET AND
BRING IT ABOARD FOR THE RACE