



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

15 July 1976

39th ANNUAL FALL RACE SERIES

OFFICE OF
RACE SECRETARY
THOMAS M. RUSSELL, III
RIVERBEND ROAD
BOX 254 A
MYSTIC, CONN. 06355

1976

September 17th & 18th

FIRST NOTICE

Enclosed are the following:

1. Entry Blank
2. Membership Chairman's Posting of Membership Candidates *
* (to members only)
3. Results of Spring Race Series

Please take special notice of the following:

1. This race series will be sailed under the rules of the I.Y.R.U. as adopted by the N.A.Y.R.U. 1973 as modified herein or in the final notice (sailing instructions).
2. Recent 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. Your normal rating will be used in calculating your handicap.
 - g. Yachts must meet all Off Soundings eligibility requirements.
3. To qualify to race in this series and thereafter, your yacht must meet all Offshore Rating Council (ORC) Category 4 requirements, including lifelines and pulpits.

4. The Measurement Rule Committee has made some improvements to the rule this year. These include:
 - a. A change in the computation of L for the case of yachts with large beam.
 - b. Changes in propeller allowances for solid propellers to reduce the credit for small diameter or narrow blade propellers. Further, propellers with an unusual pitch condition (low-drag) will be considered as feathering, or as calculated, whichever is greater. You must notify the Chief Measurer if your propeller is of a high pitch, low-drag configuration.

NOTE: The spirit of this rule is to rate only "standard" propellers with the standard propeller allowances, corrected for dimensions. Non-standard, special order, home-made, etc., are to receive the higher allowance, to go along with their lower drag characteristics.

- c. Introduction of an Underbody Form Factor.
 - d. Deletion of the requirement to include certain rudders in the determination of LWL.
 - e. A change in the rig allowances for yawls and ketches.
5. Please note that the measurement certificate enclosed with the Spring First Notice contained these significant typographical errors:
 - a. Page 2 in the calculation for L, the term which was printed as "+ 2 LWL" should read "+ $\frac{1}{2}$ LWL".
 - b. Page 2, in the formula for Rating, the denominator, "3.0", was omitted.
 - c. Page 4, PS should be defined as "= Propeller Size = PRD or 4 PBW, whichever is smaller."

All Off Soundings Club Measurers have been informed (on April 22, 1976) of these errors.

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 August 19th to Thomas M. Russell, III, Riverbend Road, Box 254A, Mystic Connecticut 06355. Your entry will be acknowledged by return postcard.

2. In order to accurately determine perpetual trophy winners and equitably assign handicap penalties, 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.
4. Have a valid measurement certificate. A valid certificate is one that is less than three years old, i.e., with an original date of September 18, 1973 or later. The 1975 and 1976 Revisions do not constitute remeasurement, which must be done every three years. Please read and complete your Entry Blank carefully. If the yacht does not have a valid measurement certificate, it must be measured by one of the OSC measurers, your yacht club measurer, or a yachting association measurer. The certificate should be completed in triplicate, with one copy being sent to Richard H. Roberts, Off Soundings Club Chief Measurer, 60 Dart Street, New London, Connecticut 06320, postmarked not later than August 19, 1976. Your measurer should keep one copy and the third copy is for your files.

The closing date of August 19, 1976 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 acknowledgement card from the Race Secretary prior to the deadline, please call to inquire! In addition, sending entries by certified mail can help.

Also, don't 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.

Contributions from Entrants

Your contribution of \$6.00 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 26, 1976 for both the Spring and Fall Series. No more guests may be invited for 1976 racing.

Only two invitations will be issued to any acceptable non-member to participate in our racing events, each invitation being sufficient for any two consecutive race series, such as Spring '76 and Fall '76 or Fall '76 and Spring '77.

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 as long as there is no change in yacht ownership.

Preliminary Racing and Rendezvous Information

The fleet will again race in Block Island Sound waters this fall. The start will be off Watch Hill and the finish off the entrance to Great Salt Pond the first day. Courses will be described in the Final Notice.

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 over 200 yachts.

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

A-1	Alpha
A-2	Echo
B-1	Juliet
B-2	Kilo
C-1	Papa
C-2	Yankee
C-3	Foxtrot
C-4	X-Ray
Cruising Class	Charlie

The Race Committee has modified its starting procedure to include the use of these class flags in the starting signals. This will be detailed in the Final Notice.

Those owners unsure of their yacht's class may call my office (203-536-4235) after August 28th (time will be short - don't write).

The Friday and Saturday night rendezvous will be held at "The Oar" adjacent to the Block Island Marina.

You should make your own reservations for slips, etc. early and directly.

Radio Notice

Because of the expiration of AM radio licensing, we will no longer broadcast on 2638kHz. Race Committee communications will be carried on VHF-FM Channel 9.

USYRU Sail Numbers

United States Yacht Racing Union requirements regarding sail numbers are mandatory for Off Soundings participation. Class insignia, however, may continue to be displayed. The warning and correction provision of Rule 25.3 does not apply for Off Soundings Races.

ORC Minimum Equipment and Accommodation Standards

Several instances of inadequate equipment and accommodations have been noted in past series. You will note that the entry blank requires you to sign a certification that your yacht meets the Category 4 requirements in all respects. As a Corinthian yachtsman, your certifying signature is the verification we need to assure that all entrants have complied and are racing fairly.

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%.

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.

Club Ties and Patches

Club members may obtain our new tie for \$8.00 and Club blazer patch for \$3.00 from your Treasurer, Walter D. Strang, Jr., 85 Tyler Avenue, Groton, Connecticut 06340. A handsome hand-stitched tie may still be ordered from Mrs. Howard Smith, Mason's Island, Mystic, Connecticut 06355 for \$6.50.

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

Cordially,



Thomas M. Russell, III
Race Secretary
Off Soundings Club