



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

38th ANNUAL FALL RACE SERIES

July 12, 1975

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

1975
September 12th & 13th

FIRST NOTICE

Enclosed are the following:

1. Entry Blank
2. Off Soundings Club Measurement Certificate, 1975 Rule
3. List of Off Soundings Club Measurers
4. Membership Chairman's Posting of Membership Candidates*
*(to members only)
5. ORC Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards - Category 4

Please take special notice of the following!

1. Significant changes have been made in the procedures governing our races. Please read this notice and the Final Notice thoroughly.
2. The "cruising canvas" class has been accepted as a permanent class. Because of the frequency of light airs, the conventional definition has been modified. The only sail you cannot fly is a spinnaker. The class will be the last to start and will sail the short course. Four prizes will be given; Past Commodore Raymond has generously offered a perpetual trophy for the class. Vessels must meet all Off Soundings requirements. Your normal rating will be used in calculating handicaps. You must put a check in the appropriate box on the entry form to be eligible.
3. To qualify to race in the Spring 1975 Series and thereafter, your vessel must meet all Offshore Rating Council (ORC) Category 4 requirements, including lifelines and pulpits. ORC specifications for lifelines and pulpits will be waived if your vessel meets M.O.R.C. requirements and you certify that you have a valid M.O.R.C. Certificate. Catboats may apply for a waiver for lifelines and pulpits.
4. Please be reminded that, to receive a propeller allowance of any kind, the propeller must be capable of propelling the yacht at a speed (in knots) equal to VLWL in smooth water with no wind.

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!

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.
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 vessel 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 original date of Sept. 13, 1972 or later. The 1973 and 1975 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 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 Associating 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, post-marked not later than August 19, 1975. Your measurer should keep one copy. The third copy is for your files.

The closing date of August 19, 1975 for entries and Measurement Certificates is the latest practical date and will be rigidly adhered to. No exceptions will be made.

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 28, for both the Spring and Fall Series. No more guests may be invited for 1975 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.

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT (continued)

- 23. (10.4) Tools and spare parts, including a hacksaw.
- 24. (10.62) Radio receiver capable of receiving weather bulletins.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- 25. (11.1) Life jackets, one for each crew member.
- 26. (11.51) Life ring(s), at least one horseshoe type life ring equipped with a waterproof light and drogue within reach of the helmsman and ready for instant use.
- 27. (11.61) Distress signals to be stowed in a waterproof container, and meeting the following requirements for each category, as indicated:
 - (11.64) Four red hand flares.
 - (11.65) Four white hand flares.
 - (11.7) Heaving line (50 foot minimum length, floating type line) readily accessible to cockpit.

Note that stern pulpits are not required by Category 4, provided that lifelines of the required height are carried aft to at least the mid point of the cockpit.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

7. (7.12) Toilet, permanently installed, or fitted bucket.
8. (7.2) Bunks, permanently installed.
9. (7.42) Galley facilities.
10. (7.53) Water in suitable containers.
11. (8.1) Fire extinguishers, readily accessible and of the type and number required by the country of registry, provided there be at least one in yachts with an engine or stove.
12. (8.23) One manual bilge pump.
13. (8.32) One anchor and cable.
14. (8.42) At least one flashlight, water resistant, with spare batteries and bulb.
15. (8.5) First Aid kit and manual.
16. (8.6) Foghorn.
17. (8.7) Radar reflector.
18. (8.9) Shutoff valves on all fuel tanks.

NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT

19. (9.1) Compass, marine type, properly installed and adjusted.
20. (9.6) Lead line or echo sounder.
21. (9.8) Navigation lights, to be shown as required by the International Regulations for Preventing Collision at Sea, mounted so that they will not be masked by sails or the heeling of the yacht.

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

22. (10.22) Heavy weather jib and reefing equipment for mainsail.

We are pleased to have participants in the M.O.R.C. Nationals sailing with us this fall as invited guests. The M.O.R.C. National Regatta is being held in Stonington the week following our Fall Race Series.

Yacht Eligibility

- I. 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.
- II. The minimum L.O.A. of vessels which may race in the OSC 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 owned by members which fall outside the limits of II above, but which have raced in a series prior to this date. 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.

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 pennant at all times during the race. This pennant shall be no smaller than size "0" i.e. 12" x 12". It should be flown vertically as far forward as possible on the pulpit. This will be of great assistance to all participants while racing, and will aid the Race Committee as it finishes over 200 boats.

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

The Race Committee has modified its starting procedure to include the use of these class pennants in the starting signals. This will be detailed in the Final Notice. However, note here that this necessitates a change in the Class C-2 pennant, to Foxtrot, to avoid confusion with the reverse-course signal.

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

Those owners unsure of their boat's class may call my office (203-536-4235) (time will be short - don't write!) after August 25th.

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.

Several instances of improper pulpits and/or lifelines were noted in the Spring Race Series. Please take the time to read the ORC Category 4 requirements enclosed with this notice and to make the effort to bring your yacht into conformance. 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.

Radio Notice

Because of the expiration of AM radio licensing, the Fall Series is the last series where we will broadcast on 2638 kHz. All future transmissions from the Race Committee will use 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 continued to be displayed.

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 will be carried for three race series. To work off a penalty you must start both races and either be identified as a finisher or submit a written withdrawal as soon as possible to the Race Secretary.

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

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 \$6.00.

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

Cordially,



Thomas M. Russell, III
Race Secretary
Off Soundings Club

ORC MINIMUM EQUIPMENT AND
ACCOMMODATIONS STANDARDS - Category 4
(Paragraphs 6.22 and 6.6 adapted by the OSC for its use)
Numbers in parenthesis refer to paragraph numbers in the ORC List

STRUCTURAL FEATURES:

1. (6.1) Hatches, companionways and ports must be essentially watertight, that is, capable of being strongly and rigidly secured. Cockpit companionways, if extended below main deck level, must be capable of being blocked off to main deck level.
2. (6.2) Cockpits must be structurally strong, self-bailing and permanently incorporated as an integral part of the hull. They must be essentially watertight, that is, all openings to the hull below the main deck level must be capable of being strongly and rigidly secured.
3. (6.22) The maximum cockpit volume below lowest coamings shall not exceed 9% LOA times Beam times Freeboard in way of the cockpit. The cockpit sole must be at least 2% LOA above the waterline. If you are unsure of meeting this requirement, ask your measurer to verify it.
4. (6.32) Cockpit drains adequate to drain cockpit quickly but not less in combined area (after allowance for screens, if attached) than the equivalent of two one-inch diameter drains.
5. (6.52) Soft wood plugs, tapered and of various sizes.
6. (6.6) Lifelines and pulpits:

Yachts of 35 feet LOA and above shall have bow pulpits and 24 inch double lifelines in accordance with Paragraph 6.61.

Yachts less than 35 feet LOA shall have bow pulpits and at least 18 inch single lifelines in accordance with Paragraph 6.62.

Yachts whose upper shrouds intersect the deck 2 inches or less from the deck edge and who must sheet genoas outside lifelines when closehauled may drop forward lifelines to a lower attachment point.

NOTE: Starting with the Spring 1976 Race Series, the 35-foot LOA cut-off will be changed to 30 feet LOA and the dropping of forward lifelines will no longer be allowed.