

## **SPRING/FALL SERIES SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2024**

### **1. RULES**

- 1.1 The NERYC Spring and Fall Series are each scheduled for four races that will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2021 – 2024 including the US Sailing Prescriptions except as any of these are altered by these Sailing Instructions, or any amendments to that.
- 1.2 The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Sail Race Committee (SRC) of North East River Yacht Club (NERYC).
- 1.3 Current PHRF of the Chesapeake Handicap Ratings are required and will apply for both series. Only one change is permitted during both series.

### **2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located by the boardwalk and/or the NERYC website. A courtesy announcement may be made at the pre-race skipper's meeting.

### **3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions including the order of fleet starts will be announced at the pre-race skipper's meeting.
- 3.2 Any change to the schedule of races will be posted on the official notice board and/or the website as soon as possible in advance of the change.

### **4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the main flag pole in front of the club house.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP.
- 4.3 When Y flag is displayed ashore, rule 40 applies at all times while afloat.

### **5. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 5.1 The SRC reserves the right to amend the scheduled race dates and times. One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that no class becomes more than one race ahead of schedule.
- 5.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each race day is 5 minutes prior to the time advertised in the Schedule of Races.
- 5.3 After a long postponement, to alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound for at least four minutes before a warning signal is displayed.
- 5.4 When more than one race (or sequence of races, for two or more classes) will be held on the same day, the warning signal for the first race and each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable.

<b>5.5 2021 Race Schedule:</b>	<b>Series</b>	<b>(RACE START TIME)</b>
Saturday, May 4th	Spring Series Race 1	11:00 am
Saturday, May 11th	Spring Series Race 2	1:00 pm
Saturday, May 18th	Spring Series Race 3	1:00 pm
Saturday, May 25th	Spring Series Race 4	1:00 pm
Sunday, September 7th	Fall Series Race 1	1:00 pm
Sunday, September 14th	Fall Series Race 2	1:00 pm
Sunday, September 21st	Fall Series Race 3	1:00 pm
Sunday, September 28th	Fall Series Race 4	1:00 pm

Note: A Skippers meeting will be held near the NERYC Flag Pole one hour prior to the race start time to announce any changes and answer questions.

## 6. CLASS DIVISIONS AND FLAGS

6.1 NERYC Spring and Fall Racing Series splits will be as follows:

6.1.1 Spinnaker Fleet - All Spinnaker boats with a current, valid PHRF Chesapeake Rating.

6.1.2 Non-Spin Fleet - All Non-spinnaker boats with a current, valid PHRF Chesapeake rating

6.2 For all non-spin classes, only one (1) headsail may be used at a time while racing, except for cutter rigs flying headsails in the normal configuration.

## 7. CLASS FLAGS



Spinnaker



Non Spin

## 8. RACING AREAS & MARKS

8.1 Each race will be in the Northeast River, beginning in the area of the Red Can #10 (Mark B), unless otherwise indicated on the official notice board and, as a courtesy, announced at the pre-race skippers meeting on the day of the event. The course marks will be NERYC race marks and/or Government channel marks as described on the NERYC racing course plotter.

## 9. THE COURSE

9.1 The course will be indicated by letters displayed on the course board on the race committee boat or when no race committee boat is available, orally by the race committee. The course board will be on the side of the committee boat away from the starting line in order to keep this area clear. The letters, reading from left to right, will indicate the order of rounding. The letters so displayed will correspond to the NERYC official racing marks as shown on the course plotter.

9.2 Twice or three times around the entire course will be indicated by the number 2 or 3 at the end of the course letters.

9.3 If 'X' is displayed before a number, you are required to pass through the start/finish line after each completed lap of the course (i.e. each time between the last mark of a lap, and the first mark of the next lap). Watch for any course change signals at the time as the race committee may consider shortening the course depending on conditions. See Section 11.

9.4 GREEN letters signify leaving the corresponding mark to STARBOARD, and RED letters signify leaving the corresponding mark to PORT.

9.5 When more than one course will be displayed, a board displaying the relevant fleet/class flags will precede the course letters. If only one course is displayed then all classes will sail the same course.

9.6 The race committee will display or announce the course no later than the race warning signal.

## **10. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

10.1 The following areas are designated as obstructions and are out of bounds:

10.2 No boats shall pass between Red Can #8 and Hances Point unless Red Can #8 is specifically called out as a mark of the course.

10.3 No boats shall enter the moorings fields of NERYC and Hances Point Yacht Club as delineated.

## **11. THE START**

11.1 Races will be started by using Rule 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.

11.1.1 Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker classes will be started at the same time.

11.2 The starting line will be between an orange flag on the committee boat and an adjacent government mark or a dropped inflatable mark. The temporary mark automatically becomes mark "Y" and may be used as a course mark.

11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.

11.4 A boat starting later than 30 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS (Did Not Start). This changes rule A4 and A5.

11.5 The starting line will also serve as the finish line unless the race must be shortened at a rounding mark (see section 12).

## **12. RECALLS**

12.1 In the event of an individual recall the Race Committee may attempt to notify vessels OCS via hail on VHF 71. This is a courtesy only - failure to hear the hail is no excuse as the burden to start correctly is on the racer. This changes RRS 29.1.

12.2 If a vessel crosses the starting line early they shall completely return behind the starting line and restart. A boat that is restarting has no rights over other boats that have or will be starting.

12.3 In the event of a general recall the First Substitute is displayed with two sounds. The start sequence is halted. The warning signal for the recalled fleet shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed with one sound. Starts for any succeeding classes shall follow the new start.

## **13. CHANGES TO THE COURSE**

13.1 The Race Committee may choose to shorten the course by:

13.1.1 Placing a boat on station at a rounding mark, displaying flag S with 2 sounds prior to the first vessel in the fleet arriving at the mark. The finish will be between the mark and a staff displaying flag S.

13.1.2 Finishing at a line boats are required to cross at the end of each lap. The Race Committee will display flag S with 2 sounds prior to the first vessel in the fleet arriving at the line.

13.1.3 Hailing on Channel 71 in the event there is no Race Committee boat.

13.1.4 This changes rules 32.2 and 33.

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## **14. THE FINISH**

- 14.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying the orange flag on the Committee Boat and the adjacent government mark or a dropped inflatable mark.
- 14.2 In a race that has not been shortened, the finish line shall be crossed from the direction of the last mark prior to the finish line, regardless of the position of the Race Committee boat on station at the finish line.

## **15. TIME LIMITS**

- 15.1 If no boat in a class has passed the first mark of the course within 75 minutes after start, the race will be abandoned for that class.
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within 3 hours and 30 minutes of their start will be scored DNF. The race committee will be on station to take times up to 3 hours after the last start, thereafter competitors will be required to take their own times using GPS time, sighting a line between Mark B and the NERYC South roof apex. At the discretion of the chief race officer, the race committee may elect to remain on station until the last boat finishes.

## **16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 16.1 Protests shall be announced to the race committee boat at the end of the race. Protest forms must be delivered to the Protest Committee within the protest time limit.
- 16.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. Protest forms are available from the SRC. (The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2.)

## **17. NOTICES**

- 17.1 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held within 30 minutes.

## **18. SCORING**

- 18.1 The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply.
- 18.2 A minimum of two vessels starting per class will constitute a race that will be scored according to Low Point Scoring for the series. In the case where less than two vessels start in a class, the vessel that competes will score equal to the average of his/her best three races of the series. (See 16.4)
- 18.3 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.4 When more than 3 races have been completed, a vessel's series score will be the total of her 3 best race scores. A Race Committee averaged score may be counted. In any case, where less than two vessels started in a class, that vessel's averaged score shall not take precedence over a race score where two or more vessels started.
- 18.5 A vessel may enter and score in one class division per series.
- 18.6 Spring and Fall Series totals shall be based on each vessel's best 3 race scores each series.
- 18.7 A skipper serving as Race Committee shall receive points for his or her service equal to the average of his/her best three races of the series, provided that his/her class is racing. He/she shall only serve as Race Committee one time in a series for the purpose of point retention.

## **19. PRIZES**

- 19.1 All trophies and awards will be awarded at the annual Sail Awards Banquet. The SRC reserves the right to introduce interim awards to be awarded after the final results of each race.

## **20. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 20.1 Competitors participate in the race series entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the series.

## **21. ELIGIBILITY**

- 21.1 Boat owners who hold a current 2024 PHRF of the Chesapeake rating certificate, will be eligible to enter the NERYC Spring and Fall Series.
- 21.2 Exceptions:
- 21.2.1 Participants may enter pending the approval of their PHRF application; however, they will not be scored until the SRC has proof of a current, valid PHRF certificate.
- 21.2.2 Subject to prior application and approval of the SRC, non-members of NERYC will be eligible to enter but will not qualify for any NERYC season championship awards.

## **22. INSURANCE**

- 22.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 and proof of insurance must be filed with the SRC before racing commences. Boats kept on NERYC slips and moorings, who had already filed such proof with the club, will not be required to provide additional proof of insurance.

## **23. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 23.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC as soon as possible.
- 23.2 The skipper/owner is responsible for assuring that their boat is seaworthy and equipped with the safety equipment appropriate for the prevailing, and expected conditions, and ensure that each crew member is familiar with the proper use and location of all such equipment.
- 23.3 Competitors shall comply with SER 2020.1 (US Sailing Near Shore) Safety Regulations as adopted by PHRF of the Chesapeake.
- 23.3.1 Details at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations/>

## **24. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**




- 24.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the SER 2020.1 Safety Regulations, class rules, sailing instructions and/or the PHRF configuration defined by the PHRF Certificate issued to the vessel.

## **25. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 25.1 Monitor channel 71 for courtesy communications from the Race Committee. Courtesy announcements may include the start order, the course, OCS announcements, postponements, course shortening and abandonment of the race. The communications will not supersede the sailing instructions or the visual signals. Neither the failure of the Race Committee to broadcast, or a failure of a competitor to hear announcements shall be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1a, nor relieve the competitors responsibility to monitor and respond to Race Committee flags and signals and comply with the Rules (as defined in section 1).
- 25.2 The race committee will not respond to transmissions from competitors who are racing except to acknowledge retirements, protests, penalties reported or taken, or requests for emergency assistance.

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## 26. START SEQUENCE FLAGS

Signal	Flag	Sound	Minutes to Start
Warning	Class flag up  	1 sound	5
Preparatory	 Preparatory Flag up	1 sound	4
One-minute	Preparatory flag down	1 sound	1
Start	Class flag down New class flag up - Repeat of sequence	1 sound	0

Sound signals may be used in instead of visual signals in the event there is no Race Committee Boat. This modifies Rule 25 in its entirety.

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## 27. OTHER FLAGS

Flag	Name	Sound	Definition
	Start mark Committee Boat End	None	Raised before racing commences
Spinnaker  Non-Spin 	Class	1 Sound	Fleet 5 minute warning
	P	1 sound	Preparatory 4 minute warning
	X	1 when raised	Individual recall
	1st Substitute	2 when raised 1 when lowered	General recall
	AP	2 when raised 1 when lowered	Postponement
	L	1 when raised	Come within hail
	S	2 when raised	Shorten course
	C	Repetitive	Change of course
	N	3 when raised 1 when lowered	Abandonment and re-sail
 	N over H	3 when raised	Abandonment and return to shore
	Y	1 when raised	Wear life jackets

