



**Thames Yacht Club
2008 Wednesday Night Series**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1.0 RULES

- 1.1 The Series will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of US SAILING, Ensign Class Rules, other One-Design class rules as applicable, Performance Handicap Racing Fleet of Long Island Sound (PHRF-LIS) Handicapping System, Thames Yacht Club (TYC) Course Symbols and Marks handout, the scratch sheet, and these sailing instructions.
- 1.2 Rules of the Road provide commercial traffic with the right of way in a restricted channel. Failure of a racing boat to keep clear, whether intentional or not, will result in disqualification.
- 1.3 The Time-On-Time handicapping system will be utilized for handicapped boats.
- 1.4 US Sailing sail numbers of Rule 77 and Appendix G are not required.

2.0 ENTRIES

- 2.1 Entries will be accepted or rejected and assigned to classes at the discretion of the Race Committee (RC).
- 2.2 Class assignment and handicaps will be based on the PHRF - Long Island Sound. At the discretion of the RC a handicap will be assigned to a boat without an established rating. The RC reserves the right to adjust any handicaps based on performance.

3.0 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS - Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Racing Information bulletin board prior to 1710 on the day it is to take effect if the first Warning Signal is not delayed.

4.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES & THE START

- 4.1 The Wednesday Night Racing will be split into 2 series; 7 Spring races and 7 Summer races as follows:
- 4.2 Spring series races on May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 2 and 9.
- 4.3 Summer series races on July 16, 23, and 30 August 6, 13, 20 and 27.
- 4.4 Class assignments are given in the scratch sheet, class flags are as follows: The numeral pennant section of Postponement Signals does not apply. This changes Race Signals.

<i>Class</i>	<i>Class Flag</i>
Ensigns	Class Flag
Class B	Numeral Pennant 2
Class A	Numeral Pennant 1

- 4.5 First warning will be at 1810. Races will be started as provided in RRS 26, with classes starting in the order posted on the Course Board. It is intended to make the Warning Signal for a class simultaneously with the Starting Signal for the preceding class, although the RC retains the option of delaying any Warning Signal. The Preparatory signal is Flag 'P' or a Starting Penalty Flag – Flag 'I' (Rule 30.1), Flag 'Z' (Rule 30.2), Flag 'I' and 'Z', or a Black Flag (Rule 30.3).
- 4.6 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Queen Merry and the starting mark East of the Queen Merry.
- 4.7 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose warning signal has been made. **Failure to comply may result in disqualification.**

- 5.0 SKIPPERS' MEETING** - The skipper, or a representative of each entry, shall meet at the clubhouse at 1700, Wednesday, May 28. The scratch sheet, Course Symbols and Marks handout, and Sailing Instructions will be made available at this meeting.
- 6.0 COURSE**
- 6.1 Courses will be posted on the Queen Merry. Marks will be identified on the Course Symbols and Marks handout. The course designation procedures, as given on its reverse side, will be followed. Note the requirement to cross the starting line to begin the second round when the symbol "2" is used. **SPECIAL MARKS:** The RC may set as many as 2 special marks (orange inflatable buoys) identified and positioned as follows: **SPECIAL MARK "M"** may be set southerly of the Queen Merry on the west side of the channel. **SPECIAL MARK "B"** may be set northerly of the Queen Merry on the west side of the channel.
- 7.0 RECALLS**
- 7.1 Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.1 and Race Signals. The RC will attempt to hail each boat over early via voice or VHF/FM Channel 72. A racing boat crossing the line early and failing to return to make a proper start will be penalized 30 minutes. Rule 29.1 is changed accordingly.
- 7.2 General Recall signals and procedures will be as specified in Rule 29.2 and Race Signals. The class recalled will be the next class to start. Normal starting sequence shall then resume.
- 8.0 FINISH** - The Finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Queen Merry and the finish mark.
- 8.1 Boats unable to finish the race are instructed to notify the RC before retiring from the race course.
- 9.0 TIME LIMIT** - The time limit for each class is 2 hours after its start.
- 10.0 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS:** Communications with the RC will be carried out on VHF/FM Channel 72.
- 11.0 PROTESTS**
- 11.1 A boat intending to protest shall comply with rule 61.1. A written protest shall be delivered to a race official at the clubhouse within one hour after the RC comes ashore.
- 11.2 Notices of protest hearings will be posted on the Racing Information bulletin board. It is intended that any protest be heard as soon as feasible after the day's racing. Failure of either party to appear may result in a judgment against the absentee.
- 12.0 SCORING**
- 12.1 Each series will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the RRS, using the Low Point System. Rule A9 also applies. A boat must start five races (ten for one design) in a series to qualify. Boats with more than five races in a series will use their best five scores.
- 12.2 **If only one boat from an established class starts a race, that boat will be scored an average of their other series points for that race.**
- 12.3 A handicapped sailboat winning first or second in the Spring Race Series shall carry a penalty in the Summer Race Series. A penalty is a reduction in PHRF Number of 4 seconds/mile for First Place, or 2 seconds/mile for Second Place.
- 13.0 PRIZES**
- 13.1 Race results shall be announced at the Clubhouse after each day's racing. Beer trophies will be awarded weekly. Series trophies will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd boat in each class with at least five entries at Skippers' Night, Friday, September 5, 2008.
- 13.2 The Spring and Summer Series will be combined for perpetual awards. Penalties do not apply to the combined results. There must be a minimum of three boats qualify in any class to be eligible for a perpetual trophy .
- 14.0** Each boat entered in the Series will volunteer to staff the Race Committee (RC) for one race during either the Wednesday Night or Chowder Series.. The **skipper of the boat and at least one regular crew member**, preferably two, will report not later than 1715 (Wed Night Series) or 1200 (Chowder Series) to the Rear Commodore or his representative for RC duty. **The boat assigned to RC will not participate that race, but will be scored an average of their other series points for that race.** Boats failing to meet these requirements will be disqualified and the penalty score will not be excluded from the series totals.