

1st Annual HYC Women's Cup NOR

in conjunction with

World Wide Summer "Sailstice" Yachting Day

Schedule: This event will be on June 21 (Thursday) and will be run the same as the Weds. Night series; Sonar Class and PHRF Class (1800 start time).

Eligibility of Skipper and Crew: Each boat's skipper must be a woman. Crew may be mixed or not. Trophies will be presented at the annual meeting for the 1st place finish in both classes. If there is not a woman on your boat, please invite a friend or club member to take over the helm for the race.

Additional One Designs Races: Should other one designs desire to have a separate start, e.g., 420s or Lasers please notify the HYC Race Committee Chair at least one week in advance (that would be by June 14) of the race date. It is imperative that we have a week's notice in order to arrange for additional on the water race committee staff, oversight, and safety to accommodate everyone.

General Information: You do not need to be a HYC member to race. This is a competitive and fun race; please observe all the current right-of-way rules. The 720 rule will apply for all infractions of right-of-way rules. Protest guidelines are simplified to make this a great learning experience for all. See below.

There will be two classes, each with its own start: Sonars and PHRF. All boats larger than dinghies are invited to race in the PHRF series. The race courses may be different for the two classes; the race committee will decide and notify racers as they come within hail distance before the start.

This longest day of the year has been declared World Wide Summer "Sailstice" Yachting Day. The objective is to get as many recreational boaters out on the water around the globe to celebrate and promote safe and fun boating. Whether you participate in the race or not all members and friends are encouraged to come out on the water this evening in their respective vessels and take part in the celebration by being there.

Timing and signals: (slight changes to better visualize sequence)

- 5:59PM – Attention horn blown several times to signal one minute to Warning
- 6:00PM – Warning horns for Sonar and PHRF, White Flag up (start 3-minute countdown)
- 6:02PM – One minute to Sonar Start, White Flag Down
- 6:03PM – Sonar Start horn, Red Flag up
- 6:04PM – Red Flag down (one minute to begin PHRF 5-minute countdown)
- 6:05PM – PHRF Preparatory horn, Blue Flag up

6:09PM – Blue Flag down

6:10PM – PHRF Start horn, Red Flag up

Sonar 3-minute start sequence in detail: (after attention horn is sounded)

3 minutes to Start: 3 long horn/whistle blasts and White Flag up

2 minutes to Start: 2 long horn/whistle blasts

1 minute to Start: 1 long horn/whistle blast (white flag down)

30 seconds to Start: 3 short horn/whistle blasts

20 seconds to Start: 2 short horn/whistle blasts

10 seconds to Start: 1 short horn/whistle blast

Loud verbal count down last 5 seconds: “5,4,3,2,1” – Sonar start with one long horn blast and Red Flag up; (2 minutes to PHRF Prep horn)

Other Flags:

Postponement Flag - Red and white vertical stripes races not started are postponed. The start warning signal will be made 1 minute after postponement flag removal.

Abandonment signal flag - Blue and white checkered. All races started are abandoned. Return to the starting area. The start warning signal will be made 1 minute after Abandonment signal flag removal.

Individual recall flag - White with blue cross. Signals a boat was over early. An attempt will be made to notify the infracting vessel by hailing number.

Course Change flag -White with Blue Square in the center. The course has been changed, sometimes shortened as well.

720 Rules:

A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity and must fly a red flag off the back stay immediately and until finishing the race. This will notify the race committee and an offending boat of the need to do a 720. The boat that may have broken a rule should take the penalty after getting well clear of other boats as soon after the incident as possible. The 720 is two turns in the same direction including two tacks and two gybes.

Protest Committee HYC Simplified:

To improve compliance and offer more chances to learn the rest of the rules, we have created a Wednesday Night Series protest procedure for these casual races. You never learn a rule better than when in a protest hearing. It follows, then, if we can make fast, open protest hearings the norm for Wednesday Night races, legitimate protests would be filed, not dropped, and everyone would learn the rules better by listening to the proceedings.

We will limit protest hearings to no more than 5 minutes and encourage everyone in the fleet to observe, silently. We will choose a judge both parties accept and give each person a minute to tell their side of the story and another minute for cross examination. Then make a decision and, to take the sting out of losing such a protest, use a percentage penalty (20% see USSA rule 44.3c) if there was no collision with damage. This will provide a refresher for those who haven't reread the rulebook since junior sailing class, and new racers won't feel so intimidated by all the rules they have not learned.

A general discussion of the situation and applicable rules after the hearing would be entirely appropriate and healthy. On a day with no protests, a mock hearing or discussion of hypothetical incidents could also be fun and useful. Justice might not be served up perfectly in these instances, but progress toward an overall goal of deciding races on the water would be advanced as, gradually, the more advanced rules would be unveiled.

Allegations of breach of rules, good manners or sportsmanship:

Sometimes we need to be reminded what Wednesday Night Racing is all about. We wish to keep the honor and integrity and most of all appreciation of all sportsmanship at a high level. Please see USSA Racing rules (69.1) for advice on conduct. The Race Committee Chair has the HYC Board's support of the following. It is the RC Chair's decision that a crew or skippers arguing race results to any degree will receive a warning; and prolonged or chronic arguing will result in being excluded from the next race or race series at the discretion of the RC Chair. Proper race management by the committee and adherence to the rules by participants are equally important to maintain the relaxed and fun atmosphere of Wednesday night races.

Scoring and Handicapping:

PHRF Class: You do not need a PHRF certificate to race. We will use the PHRF number for your boat in the New England region. If your actual PHRF certificate is different from the book number, the actual certificate number will be used. Boats without certificated ratings or book ratings will be assigned provisional ratings by the Scorer, which are subject to change during the season. In order to more equitably handicap those boats that race without spinnakers, and to promote family participation, we will increase (improve) their "racing" handicap number by 12 seconds per mile. If you decide to race under this "cruising" handicap and will not use a spinnaker, you must notify the committee of that fact before the race. Those who do not notify the committee boat before the race will be presumed to have raced with and used their spinnakers during the race, and "racing" handicap numbers will be used in scoring.

Sonar Class: The Sonar class will race as a one-design class with no "racing" or "cruising" handicaps.

If your boat is new to the scene, please identify your boat name and boat type to the race committee before the start of each race.

A race will be held for each class even if there are only two boats on the line. If there are less than 2 boats on the line for a class, there will be no race that day.

Scoring: In the event of multiple races, we will use Low Point Scoring for both classes: 1 point for 1st place; 2 points for 2nd; 3 points for 3rd; etc. PMS, DSQ, DNF = 1 point more than the number of boats in a class for that race. DNS = 1 point more than the greatest number of boats in the class for the event. Lowest score at the end of the event wins.

The race committee may elect to run 2 or more shorter races class if the conditions are favorable. If this happens, those races will be scored individually as described above. And then the lowest combined score will place first and receive 1 point for the night; 2nd lowest combined score will receive 2 points, etc. This may lead to some ties for the night, and they will be scored appropriately as if it was a tie in one race. (E.g. two boats tied for 2nd would receive 2 ½ points for the night) For purposes of a tie, the combined results of a multi-race evening will count as one race.

Ties: If a tie results at the end of the event, the winner will be the boat or skipper with the greatest number of 1sts, 2nds, 3rds, etc. in races counted for each boat. Further ties are decided by the best head-to-head results in all races in which both boats rank as starters (the winner is the boat which beats the other the greatest number of times regardless of actual finish position). Further ties will be decided by the greatest number of 1sts, 2nds, 3rds, etc. in all of the races of the event. If necessary, the final tiebreaker (PHRF only) will be the lowest combined corrected times for all races in which both boats race and count in the scoring.

Throw outs: This is a one night event; there are no throw outs.

Trophies: First place in each class.

Good Luck and Safe Sailing!

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