

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**  
**THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GEORGE MOFFETT RACE**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2015**  
**ORGANIZING AUTHORITY: HOLMES HOLE SAILING ASSOCIATION**  
**11:10 AM WARNING GUN**

ENTRY DEADLINE BY MAIL: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th  
OR ON THE WEBSITE BY: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 BY 9:00 AM

**1 RULES**

The Moffett Race will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* 2013–2016 and these Sailing Instructions.

**2 ENTRIES**

Competitors may enter by mailing a completed entry form to: HHSA, c/o Gates, 26 Ocean View Farm Road, Chilmark, MA 02535, so that it will arrive no later than Friday September 4, 2014. [Do not hand-deliver to mailbox; post office will confiscate!] **Online entries and/or payments** are also available from our website: [www.holmeshole.org](http://www.holmeshole.org). If using online method, all entries and payments must be completed by Tuesday, September 8.

**3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board at Race Headquarters located at the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club.

**4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located at the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club on the north side of Vineyard Haven harbor.

**5 COURSES and MARKS**

The courses to be sailed will be chosen from the following (or their reverse, as applicable). **NOTE: All boats shall honor N "4" and C "23A" at the entrance to Vineyard Haven Harbor, and consider the space between them as a gate through which all boats must pass either outbound from the starting line or inbound to the finish line.**

COURSE 1: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave C "23A" and G "23" Bell off East Chop to starboard; leave GR Bell, east end of Squash Meadow to starboard; R "2" Bell off Edgartown Harbor to starboard; both G "23" Bell and C "23A" off East Chop to port. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark off Eastville. Nominal distance: 10.1 nm.

COURSE 2: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave N "14" to Starboard, G "23" to starboard, leave R "2" off West Chop to port. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark off Eastville. Nominal distance: 10.9 nm

COURSE 3: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave RG N to port, C "15" at the west end of L' Hommedieu Shoal to Starboard, R "2" off Waquoit to port, C "15" to port, RG N to starboard. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Nominal distance 10.9 nm

COURSE 4: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave C "15" to port, leave G "27" to port, leave C "25" to starboard. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times.. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark off Eastville. Nominal distance: 14.6 nm.

COURSE 5: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave RG N to starboard, C "11" at the east end of L' Hommedieu Shoal to starboard, R "2" off Edgartown to starboard, G "23" to port. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark. Nominal distance 16.2 nm.


COURSE 6: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave RG N at west end of Hedge Fence to port; Falmouth R "16" to starboard; GR C at east end of Succonesset Shoal to starboard; C "11" at east end of L'Hommedieu Shoal to starboard; RG N at west end of Hedge Fence to port. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark off Eastville. Nominal distance: 18.8 nm.

COURSE 7: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave C "23A" and G "23" Bell to starboard. Leave all the following marks to port in the following order: GR Bell at east end of Squash Meadow; R "10" Bell southwest of Wreck Shoal; R "2" Bell off Waquoit; C "15" at west end of L'Hommedieu Shoal. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark off Eastville. Nominal distance: 19.3 nm.

COURSE 8: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave RG N at west end of Hedge Fence to port. Leave all of the following marks to port in the following order: R "16" Bell off Falmouth Harbor; G "23" Bell off East Chop; R "2" Bell off Edgartown Harbor; R "22" Gong at east end of Hedge Fence; G "23" Bell off East Chop. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark off Eastville. Nominal distance: 19.7 nm.

COURSE 9: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave N "4" to port, leave C "25" to port, leave R "26" to port,, leave G "27" to port, leave C "25" to port, leave R "26" to port, leave G "27" to port, leave C "25" to starboard. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark off Eastville. Nominal distance: 20.7 nm.

COURSE 10: Start between an inflatable mark and the Committee Boat. Leave N "4" to port, leave R "2" to port, leave C "25" to port, leave G "27" to port, leave GR C "LS" to port, leave C "25" to starboard, leave R "2" to starboard. Regard N "4" and C "23A" at all times. Finish between Committee Boat and an inflatable mark off Eastville. Nominal distance: 21.2 nm

**Course Designation:** The course will be the same for both divisions and will be designated by the appropriate number displayed on a white board on the starboard side of the Committee Boat. If a course designation is followed by "R ", the course is to be sailed in the reverse order as shown above. In that case, code flaG "R "  (red with yellow cross) will also be displayed.

**The diagrams in the Appendix show the courses and course designations. They are attached for convenience and should not be relied upon for navigation.**

## 6 THE START

The start will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee Boat and an inflated yellow buoy.


The starting sequence which changes Rule 26 shall be:

<b>Signals Sequence</b>	<b>Time Sequence</b>	
<u>Division II</u>	<u>AM</u>	
Yellow flag or shape	11:10	Warning Gun
Blue flag or shape	11:15	Preparatory Gun
Red flag or shape	11:20	Starting Gun

<b>Signals Sequence</b>	<b>Time Sequence</b>	
<u>Division I</u>	<u>AM</u>	
Red flag or shape	11:20	Warning Gun
Blue flag or shape	11:25	Preparatory Gun
Red flag or shape	11:30	Starting Gun


Watch the shapes — do not depend on the gun.


Check In: All boats shall sail by the stern of the Committee Boat on starboard tack and check in prior to their warning signal. The Race Committee may deploy a small orange inflatable spherical buoy at a distance of eight to ten feet from the transom of the Committee Boat, the purpose of which will be to keep starting boats well clear of the Committee Boat. Such buoy and its painter, if deployed, will be deemed to be an extension of the Race Committee Boat.

**Postponement: In accordance with Racing Rule 27.3 the Race Committee may postpone the Race prior to its start by displaying Code Flag AP (answering pennant)  and two guns up, one gun down. If the Race is not abandoned pursuant to Section 9 hereof, the warning signal will be made one minute after the AP is removed with one gun. If a postponement is signaled ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than one hour after the AP is lowered.**



## 7 Recalls/Restarts

An **Individual Recall** will be signaled in accordance with Racing Rule 29.1 (Code Flag

X, blue cross on white field  and one sound signal). The Race Committee will also attempt to hail the boat's sail number or name, and on VHF Channel 73. The Penalty for failing to start properly is 15 minutes or disqualification at the discretion of the race committee.


A **General Recall** and a subsequent restart will be signaled in accordance with Racing Rule 29.2 (Code Flag 1) Substitute, yellow triangle with blue border  and two guns up, one gun down). What is substitute?

## 8 Abandonment

**Abandonment** of the race will be signaled by the display of Code Flags N  (White and Blue checkerboard) over A  (Vertical White, Blue swallowtail) and firing 3 guns.

## 9 Shortened Course

The Race Committee at its discretion may shorten the course by finishing the race at

any prescribed turning mark, flying code flag S  (white flag with blue square), displaying a blue flag and firing two guns. Boats will finish between the prescribed turning mark and the Race Committee boat.

## 10 Time Limit

If no boat has finished after five hours from the Div. II start, then the race is abandoned. If a boat fails to finish within two (2) hours of the first boat to finish in her Division she will be scored DNF. This changes former rule RRS 35 from prior years.

## 11 The Finish

The finishing line will be between staffs displaying orange flag on the Race Committee Boat and an inflated yellow buoy.

## 12 Protests

Protests shall be delivered to the Race Committee at Race Headquarters located at the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club within one hour after the Race Committee boat moors. Hearings will be held as soon as possible, and the schedule thereof will be posted.

[There is no stigma in protesting what you believe to be a real infringement. This is the traditional way of keeping the sport clean and friendly. You may exonerate yourself by doing 2 circles (720°) as soon after the incident as safely possible as described in Rules 44.1 and 44.2: Penalties for Breaking Rules of Part 2.]

## 13 Violation of "Ferry" Channel

A racing boat that causes any Steamship Authority vessel, or other large commercial vessel, southwest of a line at the mouth of Vineyard Haven harbor between R N "4" and C "23A" to: alter course, slow down, back down, or that passes in front of such vessels and does not yield them right of way, or which in the judgment of the Race Committee passes too close, shall be disqualified without protest or hearing. This changes former rules RRS 35 and A4.1.

## 14 Scoring

Scoring is based on The Holmes Hole Sailing Association Moffett handicap system. The handicap system has worked well for over 30 years and it is based on the type of vessel and its assumed performance. HNSA Handicaps are recorded in seconds/mile from which Time Allowances & Corrected Times are calculated. Scratch Sheets may show rounded minutes of allowance but seconds/mile will prevail in scoring.

## 15 Restrictions

No spinnakers or loose-luffed sails; however, fishermen's staysails may be set on any gaff rigged boat. Running of engines for the purpose of propulsion after the preparatory signal will disqualify a yacht, Racing Rule 42.1. All ferries are deemed restricted in their ability to maneuver and shall have the right of way.

## 16 Safety Requirements

Life-Saving Equipment and Personal Buoyancy: It is strongly recommended that life jackets should be worn at all times while racing; this changes RRS 40.1. The committee will monitor Channel 73 for emergency purposes. Please notify the Committee Boat if leaving the race area with the intention of not completing the race (VHF channel 73 or cell phone #508-627-0509).

## 17 Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the Moffett Race entirely at their own risk. See Racing Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority, its members, agents, employees or representatives nor the Race Committee will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the event, and will not provide emergency towing or rescue vessels or services in connection with the race.

**SKIPPERS' MEETING: Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM** at Gannon & Benjamin. Please attend for Division assignment, Division streamer, Sailing Instructions, and crew availability.

**DIVISION ASSIGNMENT:** The fleet will be divided into two divisions; the scratch sheet will show division assignments. Division II boats will start first, and fly a green streamer from the permanent backstay or the end of the aft boom. Division I boats will fly a red or orange streamer. **You are responsible for obtaining your division assignment and streamer** at or after the Skipper's Meeting, at Gannon & Benjamin. Failure to fly the proper streamer will result in a 15-minute penalty.

**ALTERNATE RACE DAY:** Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. The decision will be made no later than the Friday night Skippers' meeting on September 11. Check Friday night or Saturday morning for a "C" Flag on rigging pole at Vineyard Haven Yacht Club or monitor the website ([www.holmeshole.org](http://www.holmeshole.org)) if you are unable to attend the Skippers' Meeting.

**ENTRY FORM: If mailed** send Entry Form and \$40.00 made out to Holmes Hole Sailing Association to **arrive by Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>**.

>>>>>Late entries **will not** be accepted. <<<<<<

**Mail Entries to: HOLMES HOLE SAILING ASSOCIATION, c/o Gates, 26 Ocean View Farm Road, Chilmark, MA 02535** *[Do not hand-deliver to mailbox; post office will confiscate!]*

**ONLINE ENTRY:** From the [www.holmeshole.org](http://www.holmeshole.org) website; click on the Moffett option and theN "2015 Enter Online" for entry submission.

**AWARDS PARTY:** 5:00 PM after the race. The Vineyard Haven Yacht Club has graciously agreed to open their facility (at the foot of Owen Little Way) for our use. We will supply chowder and race results. We ask that any boat with more than three crew members at the party make a donation of \$5.00/head to help defray the cost. We also strongly encourage carpooling, walking, and/or arriving by water as parking at VHYC is limited.

**PRIZES:** George Moffett Trophy, a beautiful half-model made by Nathaniel West of the gaff sloop LUCIA, for first on corrected time, with winner's name and yacht inscribed. To be raced for annually. Pewter keeper prizes are awarded for first through fifth places, overall.

**COMMITTEE:** Brock Callen, Principal Race Officer; Roger Becker and Charlie Felder, Chief Race Scorers; Jerry Goodale, Commodore; Irving Gates, Moffett Race Secretary-Treasurer (645-9870); Steve Besse, Philip Hale, and Nat Benjamin.

***PAT WEST MEMORIAL GAFF RIG & SCHOONER RACE will be held Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Call 508-693-4658 or email [gandb@gannonandbenjamin.com](mailto:gandb@gannonandbenjamin.com) for entry and other information.***

**Important dates:**

**September 4** Written entries must be received.  
**September 8** Electronic (website) entries must be received by 9AM  
**September 11** Skipper's Meeting 5PM  
**September 12** Moffett Race First warning gun (Division II) 11:10AM  
**September 12** Awards Party 5PM  
**September 13** Alternate Day for Moffett Race