



2016 Offshore 160 Singlehanded Challenge

Friday, July 15 - Sunday, July 17

Sponsored by the Newport Yacht Club
Newport, Rhode Island

NOTICE OF RACE

1. OBJECTIVE OF THE OFFSHORE 160 SINGLE-HANDED CHALLENGE

The OFFSHORE 160 Single-Handed Challenge is intended to be a sporting event encouraging seamanship and fellowship among offshore sailors. Although it is a competitive event, the major emphasis is on safety, navigation, and acquiring long-distance sailing experience and boat-handling techniques for shorthanded passage makers.

At the discretion of the Offshore Race Committee, the participant and boat combination may be recognized as qualified for the next BERMUDA ONE-TWO.

2. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

2.1 The OFFSHORE 160 is organized by the Goat Island Yacht Club, Ltd. and the Newport Yacht Club.

2.2 The Goat Island Yacht Club, Ltd. and the Newport Yacht Club reserve the right to change this Notice of Race, including the required safety equipment checklist, at any time. Provisional entrants will be notified immediately in writing of any such changes.

3. RULES

The OFFSHORE 160 will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016; the prescriptions of the US Sailing Association (US SAILING); the International Rules of the Road (refer to USCG booklet 1690); Inland or International (as appropriate) Regulations (COLREGS) for preventing collisions at sea; the Announcement of Race; this Notice of Race; the Sailing Instructions; and amendments or addendums to any of the aforementioned.

4. COURSE AND DATES

4.1 The race will consist of a course of approximately 160 NM in length, to be sailed single-handed.

4.2 The Course: from a starting area south of Rose Island and the Newport Bridge and west Goat Island; entrants will proceed to the following marks in this order:

- to RW "NB" Fl 4 sec MO(A) Whistle RACON (4.25 NM southwest of Brenton Point),
- to R "31" Fl G 4s GONG (1.3 NM North West of Gayhead, Martha's Vineyard),
- to Y ODAS "44017" Fl(4) Y 20s PA (Light List #665) 23.3 nm south south west of Montauk Point,
- to RW "A" Mo(A) Horn RACON buoy southeast of Block Island,
- thence to the finish line at R"2", Brenton Reef at the entrance to Narragansett Bay.

NOTE: Race Organizers reserve the right to reverse the order of mark roundings on this course.

Short Course: from a starting area south of Rose Island and the Newport Bridge and west Goat Island; entrants will proceed to the following marks in this order:

- to RW "A" Mo(A) Horn RACON buoy southeast of Block Island,
 - to Y ODAS "44017" Fl(4) Y 20s PA 23.3 nm south south west of Montauk Point,
 - to RW "A" Mo(A) Horn RACON buoy southeast of Block Island,
- thence to the finish line at R"2", Brenton Reef at the entrance to Narragansett Bay.

4.3 The first class start is scheduled for 1200 hours on Friday, July 15. A Skippers' Meeting will be held on Friday, July 15 at 0900 hours at the Newport Yacht Club, which will be the race headquarters for this event. As pertinent material and information needed for this race are to be distributed at the Skipper's Meeting, **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ALL ENTRANTS.**

4.4 Complete information about the start and courses will be provided in OFFSHORE 160 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS, which will be made available to all entrants at the Skippers' Meeting.

5. ELIGIBILITY

5.1 Yachts must be seaworthy, self-righting monohulls with enclosed cabin and watertight, self-bailing cockpit. The yacht's LOA shall not exceed 60 feet or be less than 28 feet. The Open 6.5 Mini's are welcome.

5.2 The OFFSHORE 160 is categorized as a Category 3 offshore event, as described in the Recommendations For Offshore Sailing Including Offshore Racing Council (ORC) Special Regulations booklet, governing minimum equipment and accommodation standards. This booklet should be used as a guide in the preparation of the vessel. The seaworthiness of each yacht should conform to guidelines based on the Special Regulations, and for the MINIMUM equipment required, as detailed in REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT addendum to this Notice of Race.

(If you so desire, the booklet on the Special Regulations may be obtained by contacting US SAILING, Publications Department, 1-800-US-SAIL-1 or 401-683-0800, or by writing US Sailing, PO Box 1260, Portsmouth, RI 02871. US SAILING members get a discount on the purchase.)

5.3 The OFFSHORE 160 Event Organizers reserve the right to exclude any yacht from the race due to inadequacies in design or preparation which could impair the seaworthiness of the vessel and/or safe passage of the skipper.

5.4 The yacht entered need not be owned by the skipper.

6. ENTRIES AND FEES

6.1 Applications for entry must be fully completed, including fee and required attachments, and returned to the OFFSHORE 160, c/o Newport Yacht Club, 110 Long Wharf, Newport, RI 02840 by 2000 hours, Wednesday, July 11. Applications for entry will only be accepted on the official OFFSHORE 160 APPLICATION FOR ENTRY included with this Notice of Race.

6.2 The fee for the OFFSHORE 160 is \$50.00. This fee is non-refundable unless the Event Organizers decide the entry is not acceptable.

7. QUALIFICATION

7.1 With the OFFSHORE 160 Entry Form, applicants must submit a brief resume of offshore and general boat-handling experience, including direct experience with the boat they are entering. See also 7.2 and 7.3 below.

7.2 To be accepted as an entry in the OFFSHORE160, an applicant must have completed a singlehanded passage under sail (i.e. wind power only) of at least 25 NM aboard the yacht that skipper will be sailing in the race and not in company with any other vessel. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to get as much singlehanded experience aboard their respective yachts as possible.

7.3 First-time entrants must submit a signed comprehensive log, conforming to good nautical practice, showing the vessel's progress and positions throughout the qualifying voyage or race.

7.4 Should an applicant be found to have submitted false or deliberately misleading information about their experience or qualifying race or voyage, their boat may be disqualified and their entry fee forfeited.

8. EQUIPMENT SAFETY CHECK

All entrants will be required to submit written proof of self-inspection of their vessels by submitting a signed and dated Required Safety Equipment Checklist included with the addendum to this Notice of Race. The checklist must be submitted to the Event Organizers by the Skippers' Meeting; failure to comply could result in disqualification of the entrant. Organizers reserve the authority of inspecting yachts at random before the start, and inspecting selected yachts after they finish.

9. REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

A complete list of Required Safety Equipment for the OFFSHORE 160 is included in the addendum to this Notice of Race.

10. OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

10.1 All tanks for transferable ballast and storage of transferable stores must be within the interior of the hull and below main-deck level. A maximum of 10 degrees of static heel is permitted.

10.2 Only the wind may be used to propel the yacht. The yacht's propulsion engine may be used only in emergencies or to charge batteries. When the engine is used for any purpose, the time on and off, and reason must be properly logged in the Race Log.

10.3 No stores or gear may be received from other vessels or aircraft after the start and before the finish. Communication with other competitors is, however, encouraged and may consist of information such as current position, wind and sea conditions.

10.4 All entries are required to maintain a Race Log at regular intervals and at mark roundings, by using a standard form which will be issued to competitors along with the Sailing Instructions.

10.5 All entries will be required to maintain radio surveillance throughout the race and to attempt contact with other competitors either 15 minutes before or after each mark rounding. Radio communications for the duration of this race will be on VHF Channel 72; all communications are to be noted on the Race Log.

10.6 All entrants are required to take their own finishes. Said finishes are to be recorded on the Race Log. Entrants are to attempt to make contact with the race committee when they are within 30 MINUTES of their predicted finish AND when they cross the finish line via VHF Channel 72 or phone call to the Race Duty Desk 401-619-4936.

10.7 Immediately after finishing, each skipper will be required to sign a compliance declaration included in the Race Log, confirming that the yacht sailed the race in conformity with all its rules and conditions, and to submit the Race Log to the Race Committee.

Signed Race Logs must be received by a member of the Race Committee at Race Headquarters (Newport Yacht Club) by 1000 hours on Sunday, July 17 or within three hours of the yacht's finish, whichever is later.

11. HANDICAPPING, TIME ALLOWANCES AND CLASSES

11.1 The OFFSHORE 160 will be sailed using PHRF spinnaker ratings, as determined by Performance Handicap Rated Fleet of Narragansett Bay (PHRF-NB) guidelines. A PHRF-NB rating certificate must be submitted before any vessel will be accepted as an official entry and be received by the Event Organizers no later than 2000 hours on Wednesday, July 13.

11.2 2014 PHRF-NB ratings may be requested from Pat Beausoleil at PHRF-NB, PO Box 356, Washington, NC 27889 (Phone: 401-253-0207, Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; Fax: 401-369-9319). The fee for a new certificate is \$35.00; renewals are \$30.00. The PHRF-NB certificate process with PHRF-NB should be started by the end of March.

PLEASE NOTE: DO NOT SEND RATING APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFSHORE 160

ORGANIZERS! PHRF-NB is an independent agent, and entrants must deal directly with them to expedite processing of applications. When applying for a rating, be aware that PHRF-NB will not accept and/or process any faxed rating applications without receipt of the accompanying fees. However, they may fax or email copies of COMPLETED ratings.

11.3 The OFFSHORE 160 will be scored using PHRF-NB ratings, applied to time-on-time.

11.4 All entries will be assigned to classes, based on PHRF-NB ratings, and scratch sheets will be distributed at the Skippers' Meeting.

11.5 There will be no time limit for this race.

12. PENALTIES, REFUSALS, POSTPONEMENTS

12.1 The OFFSHORE 160 Event Organizers reserve the right to impose, after a hearing, a time penalty, a delayed start, or disqualification for any infringement of the letter or the spirit of the rules or conditions of the OFFSHORE 160.

12.2 The OFFSHORE 160 Event Organizers reserve the right to refuse or reject an entry at any time. If this should occur before 2000 hours on Wednesday, July 13, the Event Organizers will make a determination on refunding entry fees.

13. AWARDS

13.1 Prizes will be awarded at a time and location to be announced at the Skippers' Meeting.

13.2 Awards will be given as appropriate..

Roy Guay, Event Chairman
OFFSHORE 160



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ADDENDUM TO THE NOTICE OF RACE

The following items are required equipment based on ORC Regulations for Category 3 offshore events, and must be carried during the OFFSHORE 160. Items listed here should be assembled and/or stowed in their proper place on board your vessel.

Entrants should be prepared to show any and all required equipment to race committee officials and/or demonstrate procedures for proper use should a random spot safety check of any vessel(s) be mandated by the Race Committee - either prior to or after the race.

Please do not ask the Race Committee or Event Organizers to take it on faith that any incomplete or unchecked items will be aboard prior to the start. It is your responsibility to provide documentation that all required items are on board the vessel. Your signature attests to compliance at the time the list is signed, dated, and turned over to the Race Organizers.

The completed and signed checklist must be submitted to the Event Organizers by no later than 0800 hours on Friday, July 15. Attendance at the Skippers' Meeting is mandatory for all participants and will be held at the Newport Yacht Club.

REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- 1)___ Each yacht must have a system for self-steering.
- 2)___ Each yacht must carry a VHF marine radiotelephone. Channels 16 and 72 - required for race communication - must be operational.
- 3)___ Carrying a self-inflating liferaft is strongly recommended but not required. (NOTE: The survival gear for the life raft should include an "abandon ship kit" with water, food, knife, flares, etc.)
- 4)___ Each yacht must have jack wires or lines, running from near the cockpit to the foredeck, so that the skipper can move from the stern to the forestay without disconnecting a safety harness.
- 5)___ A safety harness must be worn and attached to the yacht from the time the yacht leaves the dock or mooring before the start, until it is secured after finishing, except when the skipper is below decks.
- 6)___ Visual distress signals must include two orange smoke signals and six red meteor or parachute flares. Three white flares or a powerful flashlight or spotlight independent of the yacht's electrical system must also be carried.
- 7)___ The yacht must have a system for re-boarding, such as looped lines or a ladder, in place at all times.
- 8)___ A radar reflector must be in place at least fifteen feet above the water at all times.

- 9)___ Proper sail numbers must be displayed on the mainsail, spinnakers, and all headsails larger than a working jib. In the event of duplicate sail numbers, the later entry will be required to change.
- 10)___ Yachts must fly International Code Flag class numeral (one, two, etc.) from the backstay (or similar position) to indicate the class they are participating in.
- 11)___ Each yacht shall carry suitable anchor(s) and cable(s) and adequate rode all ready for immediate use.
- 12)___ Each yacht shall carry soft-wood plugs of suitable size for emergency closure of through-hull fittings.
- 13)___ There shall be companionway blocking arrangements (washboards, hatchboards, etc.) capable of being secured in position with the hatch open or shut and secured to the yacht to prevent their being lost overboard. The blocking must prevent a full cockpit from flooding.
- 14)___ In lieu of a liferaft, at least one Type One USCG approved life jacket fitted with reflective tape, an attached personal overboard light, and a whistle is required to be on board.
- 15)___ Each yacht shall have an effective method of reefing the mainsail and a headsail suitable for use in heavy weather.
- 16)___ Each yacht should have aboard suitable charts, navigational equipment, compass, and a copy of all sailing instructions.
- 17)___ Each yacht is required to have working navigational lights.
- 18)___ Each yacht shall carry two (2) waterproof flashlights.
- 19)___ Each yacht shall have a manual bilge pump.

Entrant's Signature

Entrant's Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Yacht's Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Date of Compliance