

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

22th Annual BassAckwards Race

Saturday July 27, 2019

Red Brook Harbor, Cataumet, MA

Starting Sequence Begins at 11:55AM

The race is an informal, friendly sailing competition designed to present a sporting challenge to experienced and novice racers alike. There will be a Racing (spinnaker) and Cruising (non-spinnaker) with trophies awarded for each class.

The race will be managed by the Old Sigh Race Series who will have the authority to interpret the rules and conditions of the race, and to reject the entry of any boat at any time prior to the preparatory signal for the start of the race that, in their opinion, is not seaworthy or does not comply with the spirit of the rules and conditions of the race.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The race will be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing, including US SAILING Prescriptions and supplemented by these sailing instructions.

Time allowances have been determined by the Race Committee based on a yacht's PHRF-NE rating, or as assessed by the Race Committee.

OWNERS' AND SKIPPERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The safety of the boat and her crew is the sole responsibility of the skipper, who must assure that the boat is seaworthy and manned by a competent crew. The skipper must assure that all equipment is properly maintained and stowed, and that the crew knows where it is kept and how to use it. Neither the establishment of equipment regulations nor any inspection of a boat in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibilities of a boat's skipper. It is the sole and exclusive responsibility of the skipper and crew of a boat to decide whether or not to start or continue in the race. The Old Sigh Race Series are is no way responsible for accidents or injury to boats or personnel suffered in any way or from any cause during or related to the BassAckwards Race.

RACE COURSE. START AND FINISH

The race will start and finish in the vicinity of Eustis Rock RG"ER" in Outer Red Brook Harbor, between Scraggy Neck and Wings Neck in Bourne, MA. **Start/Finish Line will be between the committee boat and a race marker – NOT THE "ER" BUOY.** The race will follow the traditional BassAckwards course, with 4 marks:

1. First Mark: Bird Island – KEEP G"3" GREEN CAN to PORT – RN"2" off SW Ledge on the way to PORT
2. Second Mark: Cleveland Ledge – AROUND LIGHTHOUSE, KEEPING IT TO PORT
3. Third Mark: PASS CHANNEL MARKER R"8", KEEPING IT TO PORT
4. Fourth Mark: KEEP G"1" GREEN CAN TO STARBOARD AND RETURN TO START/FINISH LINE

The BassAckwards Race is a pursuit race of all boats on the same course, with a staggered start in order from the highest rating on down as indicated on the Scratch Sheet.

There will be a race starting sequence:

1. 11:50 (GPS TIME) – one long blast from the committee boat
2. 11:54 – clearing signal (multiple short blasts)
3. 11:55 – 5 minute signal (one long blast)
4. 11:56 – 4 minute signal (one long blast)
5. 11:59 – 1 minute signal (one long blast)
6. 12:00 – RACE START (for first boat) signal (one long blast).

After 11:50AM, registered boats are required to keep away from the starting line area until five minutes prior to their start time.

The race will use GPS time – The Committee Boat will intermittently call out actual GPS time.

Starting time on the scratch sheet is the time that your boat should cross the starting line – **not early!** If a boat crosses the starting line early the Committee Boat will call the boat OCS (On Course Side) on the radio and the boat will need to restart. If the boat does not respond and restart, ten minutes will be added to its finish time.

All race communication will take place on VHF 78. Competitors should check-in with the Committee Boat once the orange flag is raised.

The finish position of a boat is the actual order of finish.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

If any boat is observed by the Race Committee to obstruct a starting boat's progress in the immediate vicinity of the starting line, the Committee may add up to thirty minutes to the obstructing boat's finish time.

Port/Starboard rules must be observed at the line and at all marks.

COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC (tugs, barges, ships, etc.) HAS THE RIGHT OF WAY IN ALL CASES.

PROTESTS: Protests are discouraged. Race participants are encouraged to rectify any rule infractions by executing a 360 degree turn (change from RRS) on the race course during the race as soon as possible and before the next mark.

A protesting yacht should attempt to notify the protested yacht on the race course and must notify the Race committee upon finishing or retiring. All protests will be filed in person with the Race Committee at the Kingman Yacht Club approximately 1 hour after the finish of the last yacht. Protests should not be made via VHF radio. Protest will be decided by the Protest Committee which will be determined by the Race Committee and will be made up of three disinterested parties (at a minimum not racing in the same class).

POSTPONEMENT AND ABANDONMENT

The Race Committee may decide to postpone or delay the race for weather-related reasons. In the event of postponement, the race will be sailed at the same time on Sunday, July 28th. If inclement weather persists the second day, the race will be canceled by the Race Committee. Boats should call the KYC Race Committee on VHF channel 78 if there are any questions of weather-related postponement.

The Race Committee reserves the right to abandon and/or shorten the race. In the event that the course is shortened, the Committee will use handicaps recomputed for the shortened course.

Any boat deciding to retire from the race shall inform the Committee Boat either by hail or VHF channel 78.

Starting of an engine while on the course will be considered as retiring from the race.

