

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**  
**FOURTY-SIXTH ANNUAL GEORGE MOFFETT RACE**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023**  
**ORGANIZING AUTHORITY: HOLMES HOLE SAILING ASSOCIATION**  
**11:10 AM FIRST WARNING SIGNAL**

ENTRY DEADLINE BY MAIL: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 2023  
OR ON THE WEBSITE BY: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, BY 23:59  
LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR A \$100 LATE FEE UNTIL: FRIDAY SEPT. 8, 17:00 SKIPPER'S MEETING

**1 RULES**

The Moffett Race will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021–2024 (Racing Rules) and these Sailing Instructions.

**2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Moffett Web Page: <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/24042>

**3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

**4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

There will be no signals from shore. All advance alerts including any postponements on shore on the day of racing will be by email and posted to the race website. In the event of a postponement on shore, racing will not start until at least 1 hour after the postponement is lifted. In the event of a postponement on shore, the answering pennant will not be flown. This changes Racing Rule 27.3 and Race Signals.

**5 SCHEDULE OF RACE**

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

<b>Signals Sequence</b>	<b>Sound Signal</b>	<b>Time Sequence</b>	<b>Means</b>
<b><u>Division 2</u></b>		<b><u>AM</u></b>	
Pennant 2 [Blue with White Circle] Flag Displayed	One	11:10	Warning Signal
Preparatory Flag [P]	One	11:11	Preparatory Signal
Preparatory Flag Lowered [P]	One	11:14	One Minute
Pennant 2 Flag Removed	Starting Signal	11:15	Start
<b><u>Division 1</u></b>			
Pennant 1 [White with Red Circle] Flag Displayed	One	11:20	Warning Signal

Preparatory Flag [P]	One	11:21	Preparatory Signal
Preparatory Flag Lowered [P]	One	11:24	One Minute
Pennant 1 Flag Removed	Starting Signal	11:25	Start

Watch the flags or shapes — do not depend on the sound signals.

Check In: All boats shall sail by the stern of the Committee Boat on starboard tack and check in prior to the Division 2 warning signal. The Race Committee may deploy a small orange inflatable spherical buoy 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 sound signals up, one sound signal 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 sound signal.

## 6 COURSE AND MARKS

The course 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 Succunneset 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 G "29" 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: 23.5nm

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.

## 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 on VHF Channel 73. The Penalty for failing to start properly is 15 minutes or disqualification at the discretion of the Race Committee. This changes Racing Rule 28.1

A General Recall and a subsequent restart will be signaled in accordance with Racing Rule 29.2 (Code Flag First Substitute, yellow triangle with blue border  and two sound signals up, one sound signal down).

## 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 3 sound signals.

## 9 SHORTENED COURSE

The Race Committee at its discretion may shorten the course by finishing the race at any prescribed rounding mark, flying code flag S  (white flag with blue square), and two sound signals. Boats will finish between the prescribed rounding mark and the Race Committee boat.

## 10 THE FINISH

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

## 11 TIME LIMIT

If no boat has finished after five hours from the Division 1 start, then the race will be 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 Racing Rule 35. 2 & A5.

## 12 PROTESTS

Protests shall be delivered in writing 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 on the notice board on the deck at Race Headquarters.

Penalties-Racing Rule 44.1 and 44.2 shall apply. These Racing Rules generally require a single 360 degree penalty turn for a Racing Rule 31 violation (i.e. touching a mark) and two 360 degree penalty turns for other violations - including Racing Rule Part 2 violations (i.e. when boats meet).

## 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 Racing Rule 63.1 & A5. All ferries are deemed restricted in their ability to maneuver and have the right of way

## 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 ELECTRIC WINCHES

Electric Winches are permitted without penalty, this changes Rule 52 Manual power

## 16 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.

## 17 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Life-Saving Equipment and Personal Buoyancy: It is strongly recommended that U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets should be worn at all times while racing. The committee will monitor VHF Channel 73. 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) 680-6477).

## 18 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Each owner, skipper and individual participating crew member ("Person") agrees to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing. Furthermore, each Person agrees that the sole responsibility for the seaworthiness of the boat, her rigging, the safety equipment on board, the wearing of PFD's and the competence and behavior of her crew is that of the Owner/Charterer/Skipper of the boat.

Each Person participates in the Moffett race entirely at his/her own risk and represents that he/she is acquainted with Racing Rule 3 which states, "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone." HHSA will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

Each participant also agrees to relieve from any responsibility or liability HHSA, its Directors, employees, volunteers, members, agents and sponsors and their representatives in respect of any claim arising from participation in the Moffett Race, to include loss of life, injury or loss of or damage to any vessel or property.

### APPENDIX:

SKIPPER'S MEETING: Friday, September 8th, 17:00 at Gannon & Benjamin[G&B]. Please attend for Division assignment, Division streamer and Sailing Instructions.

DIVISION ASSIGNMENT: The fleet will be divided into two divisions; the scratch sheet will show division assignments. Division 2 boats will start first, and fly a green streamer from the permanent backstay or the end of the aft boom. Division 1 boats will fly a red or orange streamer. You are responsible for obtaining your division assignment and streamer at or before the Skipper's Meeting, at Gannon & Benjamin.

Streamers will also be available at G&B starting on Thursday Sept. 8 for those who may not be able to attend the meeting. Division assignments will be posted by 09:00 Thursday Sept. 7. Failure to fly the proper streamer will result in a 15-minute penalty, this changes Racing Rule A5.

ALTERNATE RACE DAY: Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. The decision will be made no later than the Friday night Skippers' meeting on September 9th. Monitor the website for updates and if you are unable to attend the Skippers' Meeting.

RESULTS ANNOUNCED & RECEPTION: The later of 17:00 or 1 hour after the last boat finishes, outdoors on the beach and deck at the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club. BYOB

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 third places overall.

COMMITTEE : Charlie Felder, Principal Race Officer; Roger Becker, Chief Race Scorer; Mo Flam, Moffett Race Chair; Thomas Wescott, Commodore; Wendell Colson Moffett Race Secretary-Treasurer (508) 878-9061; Steve Besse, Jerry Goodale, Lorne Lewis and Nat Benjamin.

Important dates:

September 1	Deadline for Mailed Entries
September 4	Website entries must be received by 23:59
September 7	Division Assignments Posted/ Streamers Available at G&B 09:00
September 8	Skipper's Meeting 17:00 PM
September 9	Moffett Race First warning signal (Division II) 11:10
September 9	Results Announced & Reception 17:00 VHYC
September 10	Alternate Day for Moffett Race