

2025 Force 5 North American Championship

August 14, 15 and 16, 2025

Thames Yacht Club, New London, CT

AMENDED NOTICE OF RACE

This amended NOR completely supersedes the previous NOR.

1. **TITLE:** The event is titled the Force 5 North American Championship at the Thames Yacht Club, New London, CT. The organizing authority shall be the Thames Yacht Club, hereinafter TYC.
2. **RULES:** The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
3. The other documents that apply are and are considered rules are: the current Force 5 class rules, this amended NOR and any amendments to this NOR and the Sailing Instructions, unless amended.
4. **CLASSES: The Classes shall be limited to the Force 5 standard rig and the Force 5 short rig:**
5. Skippers choosing at registration to sail the short rig must sail with the short rig for the entire championship and will be eligible for separate awards. Skippers registered as sailing with standard rigs during the championship will be scored with the standard rigs even if they choose to use the short rig for some or all races.
6. The event is open to all competitors with a class legal Force 5.
7. **REGISTRATION AND ENTRY:** The regatta is open to all boats of the Force 5 class and all skippers must be a member of the Force 5 class and pay the class membership fee prior to competing. Eligible boats may enter by registering in Regatta Network. Registration forms will be available at the Club. Late registration is available until 1 hour before the skipper's meeting on the first day of racing.

REGISTRATION FEES: Required fees are as follows:

\$150.00 -US Sailing Members (if paid by before July 15, 2025. Late registration fee is: \$165.00

\$165.00 – Non-US Sailing Members (if paid before July 15, 2025. Late registration fee is \$180.00.

Registration includes, breakfast 2 days, lunch 3 days, Thursday night pizza after racing, Friday night dinner at the Lighthouse Inn, cookout after racing on Saturday, competitor shirt and awards.

In regatta network, you can register and pay on-line or print your form and pay when you arrive at the regatta. Please register and pay in advance, if possible.

8. **PFD's:** See Force 5 rules which state: **Article VIII. PERSONAL SAFETY:** Section 8.01 U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices must be carried on board at all times while racing (NOTE: non-Coast Guard-approved "buoyancy aids" do not satisfy this requirement). While the Force 5 Class strongly encourages sailors to wear Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices at all times while sailing, these devices must be worn whenever the sailing instructions or the Race Committee so indicate(s).. This changes the Part 4 preamble. If the signal boat notice board states that all competitors must wear their PFD while racing or code flag is displayed, all skippers must wear their PFD's while racing. We highly recommend that everyone wear a PFD at all times on the water.
9. **SCHEDULE:**

August 13, Wednesday

Club Open for offloading and trailer parking instruction, No racing.

August 14, Thursday:

9:00 am -10: 30 am Welcome, registration and rigging.

10:30 am Mandatory Skipper's Meeting

11:00 am Harbor Start (Harbor Start means, you must be ready to leave the beach by this time)

12:00 am First Warning for Race# 1.

No first warning attempted after 4:00 pm

As many races as possible at the discretion of the PRO.

Pizza and refreshments after beaching.

August 15 Friday:

8: 30 am-9:45 am- Continental Breakfast

10:00 am Harbor Start

11:00 am First Warning of the day

Lunch break

No first warning attempted after 4:00 pm

As many races as possible at the discretion of the PRO

6:30 pm Cocktails at Lighthouse Inn

7:30 pm Dinner at Lighthouse Inn

August 16, Saturday:

8:00 am- 9:00 am Continental Breakfast

9:30 am Harbor Start

10:00 am First Warning

As many races as possible at the discretion of the PRO

No first warning attempted after 2:00 pm

3:30 pm Cookout and awards

10. All national (US Sailing) prescriptions will apply.
11. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** The sailing instructions will be available on or before Wednesday August 13th at noon in the TYC clubhouse and may be posted on Regatta Network. We remind all competitors that they should carry the notice of race and sailing instructions, hereinafter SI's, as we will not repeat what was discussed in this NOR or any amended NOR.
12. **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:** Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the TYC on the first floor and may be posted on Regatta Network.
13. **CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 9:00 am on the day it will take effect, on the official notice board, except that any change to the schedule or times of future races will be posted by 8:00 pm on the day before it will take effect. Changes may also be posted on Regatta Network.
14. **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:** There will be no signals made ashore.
15. **CLASS FLAGS:** Class flags will be a Force 5 class flag for the standard rig. The short rig class flag shall be a solid red flag.
16. **RACING AREAS:** The racing area is directly in front of the TYC.
17. **THE COURSES:** The diagrams posted on the official regatta notice board show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
18. No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg and the course to be sailed.
19. The start/finish line will be in the center of the course.
20. Course "T" is a triangle with a finish to windward. If there is a "2" next to the "T", that means 2 times around the triangle.

Course "W" is windward-leeward with a windward finish on the other side of the signal boat. If there is a "2" next to the W, that means windward and leeward 2 times before finishing.

Course "M" is a triangle, followed by a windward-leeward and a windward finish.

21. **MARKS:** Starting and finishing marks will be yellow or orange marks. All others will be yellow or orange marks. The other end of the start or finish line may be a boat (separate from the signal boat) displaying an orange flag.
22. **THE START:** Races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
23. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on signal boat and the adjacent starting mark or boat displaying an orange flag.
24. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races. A penalty for violating this rule will be a "Discretionary Penalty," hereinafter DP.
25. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule A4. Rule A5.2 is modified to include a boat that violated the time limits.
26. If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line before her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to announce her sail number. Failure to make an announcement will not be grounds for a request for redress.
27. **SCORING:** The scoring system is as follows: Appendix A, low point scoring system. Appendix A is modified so that when 6 or more races are completed in the regatta, a boat's series score will be the total of the boat's scores excluding the boat's worst score. One race is required to be completed to constitute a championship series.
28. **TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES:** The time limit will be 60 minutes from the start for each individual race. If no boat has finished within the time limit, the race shall be abandoned.
29. Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.
30. **WITHDRAWING:** A boat withdrawing from a race or regatta shall, if possible, inform the race committee as soon as practicable. A boat failing to conform to this rule may be scored DNC for the regatta. This changes RRS A5. DP.
31. **RADIO COMMUNICATION:** Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
32. **PRIZES:** Prizes will be given as follows: Trophies will be awarded to the top 5 finishers in the standard rig division and top 3 in short rig division.
33. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority 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. In addition to RRS 4, DECISION TO RACE, the safety of a boat and her entire management shall be the responsibility of the owner(s), and the person in charge. Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in these events participate entirely at their own risk. The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including disease and death, sustained as a result of participation in these events. By participating in these events, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any, and all liability associated with participation in the event to the fullest extent permitted by law.
34. **COACHES AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL:** Before participation in this event, owner(s), competitors, coaches and/or support personnel shall sign the Waiver of Liability available from the race committee. Compliance with this rule shall be the responsibility of the vessel owner and/or the person in charge and failure to comply will subject the boat to disqualification from the regatta or regattas.
35. **TRASH DISPOSAL:** Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats. Do not throw any trash in the water. Help us keep our bay clean! The penalty for violating this rule may be less than disqualification, at the discretion of the protest committee.
36. **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS:**
Protest forms may be available at the TYC. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the official notice board box or hand delivered to the PRO within the appropriate time limit.
37. For each class, the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the signal boat docks. The time the signal boat docks shall be posted shortly after they dock and placed on the official notice board.
38. Notices will be posted no later than 10 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the TYC. Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under

- rule 61.1(b) and shall be posted within 30 minutes after the signal boat docks. This changes Rule 61.1(b).
39. On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered
- (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
 - (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.
- This changes rule 66.
40. On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.
41. **SAFETY COMES FIRST!**
If you see a competitor in trouble, his or her safety is far more important than you finishing a race.
Help out and seek redress, if needed.

TYC Fleet #32 NA committee:

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We look forward to you joining us at the Thames Yacht Club!