



2025 Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club

August 30 2025

The 41st Oar Race Regatta

NOTICE OF RACE

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club (FHYC) is the Organizing Authority for this regatta.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the current Rules of Sailing; the prescriptions of USSailing; the N.C. Wildlife Commission; and U.S. Coast Guard safety regulations.
2. RRS Appendix T - Arbitration applies.
- 2.1 RRS Appendix V - Alternative Penalties, Section V1 applies.

2 ELIGIBILITY

1. The regatta is open to sailboats 21 feet or longer LOA with a current NC-PHRF rating certificate.
 - 1.1. NC-PHRF rating certificates may be obtained at www.ncphrf.com. Completed and signed Applications must be received no later than 1 week prior to the regatta.
 - 1.2. A provisional/temporary NC-PHRF certificate may be issued dependent upon sufficient notice prior to the start of the regatta.

3. ENTRY AND REGISTRATION

- 3.1 Anticipated fleets are Spinnaker and Non-spinnaker.
- 3.2 Eligible boats may enter by registering for this event online at:

<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/29986>

4. FEES

- 4.1. The entry fee for all classes is \$40.00. A late fee of \$10.00 is added to entries submitted after 1930 on August 23. Entries close Thursday August 28 at 2200.
- 4.2. Members of US Sailing, or FHYC, or NYRA or BSC receive a \$5 discount.
- 4.3. Saturday evening Shore Party tickets, at Oriental, may be purchased for \$30 per person registering or separately online by clicking this link:-
https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_storefront.php?regatta_id=28413&clear_session=1
- 4.4 Free hat for first 8 boats to register by 19th Aug.

5. SCHEDULE

Saturday Aug 30

- 0900 Competitor's meeting on the deck at Blackbeard Sailing Club.
- 1055 First signal for racing
- 1730 Shore Party – see 4.3.

Sunday Sept 1

6. There will be a return race back to New Bern organized by the Neuse Yacht Racing Association(NYRA)

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be posted on the event page on Regatta Network by or before 1200 Aug 28 2025.

8 COURSES

- 8.1 Courses to be sailed by all boats will be approximately 22 miles on the Neuse River between the vicinity of Fairfield Harbour and Oriental
- 8.2 All starts and finishes will be recorded by the Race Committee.

9 SCORING AND HANDICAPS

1. The Low Point System as described in Appendix A of the RRS will be used for scoring.
- 9.2 Corrected scores will be determined using time-on-time calculation.
- 9.3 Spinnaker and or Non-Spinnaker Fleets may be split into classes dependent upon the number of entries.
- 9.4 To determine the overall winner the non- spinnaker handicaps will be adjusted by 15 seconds per mile.

10 AWARDS

- 10.1 Prizes will be awarded based on number of entries in each class or fleet.
- 10.2 The overall winner will receive a miniature oar on a plaque and have her or his name and boat name added to the perpetual original oar that was used in the historic retreat from Dunkirk, that is now on display in the FHYC Community Center..
See additional information in the Appendix to this document.

11 SAFETY CONDITIONS AND ABANDONMENT

- 11.1 Racing may be canceled or abandoned at the discretion of the PRO at any time prior to or during racing. However RRS 3 also states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone."
2. Notice of any cancelation prior to race day will be sent to all registered skippers via email as soon as the determination has been made.

12 INSURANCE, SAFETY & DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 12.1 Each boat must be insured with an adequate valid third-party liability policy.
- 12.2 By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling error, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform, and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.

13. DOCKAGE

Friday night prior to the Oar Race, for those traveling from other areas to sail in this regatta, the Organizing Authority will endeavor to locate complimentary dockage.

14. FURTHER INFORMATION

For questions or further information, please contact Leigh Hart, 919-801-7123 or dol123@mac.com. For Saturday dockage contact Oriental Marina 252 -249-1818

Appendix to NOR

Early in the Second World War the British had sent an expeditionary force into Europe. They were pushed back to the beaches of Belgium near the harbour of Dunkirk. The harbour was severely damaged by German bombing.

Between May 26 and Jun 4 1940 a total of 338,000; 198,000 BEF and 140,000 French and Belgian men, were evacuated from the beaches of Dunkirk back to England, some 30 miles away, by a rag-tag flotilla of 850 vessels, mostly volunteer amateurs. That's an average of almost 400 men per boat. You know that they all had to make multiple trips. Some rowing, some sailing, and some under power.

A retreat it may have been but the humiliation of defeat generated the "Spirit of Dunkirk" that ultimately led to victory. That spirit is the ability of a people to come together and rise above adversity.

The retreat from Dunkirk was perhaps second only to D Day in winning the war.

One of those vessels was the yacht Clara.

Clara's owner was a friend of John Walsh, a now deceased member of FHYC. He gave John an oar that was actually used during the evacuation. What we do each year in the Oar Race is to remember those stalwart volunteers who made this evacuation possible, by sailing a race of a distance similar to Dunkirk to England. The award is a replica oar and to have the winners name added to the original oar which is displayed in the FFH Community Center.