



## 2023 Bill Harding Memorial Regatta

August 9-10, 2025

Buzzards Yacht Club: Pocasset, Massachusetts 02559

### Sailing Instructions

**Organizing Authority:** Buzzards Yacht Club (BYC)

**Regatta Headquarters & Hosts:** Buzzards Yacht Club & Ballentine's Boat Shop

**PREAMBLE:** The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

#### 1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* ("RRS").
- 1.2. Each class is additionally governed by their respective class rules. For H12's, the current H Class Association Rules.
- 1.3. Crew changes require advance written permission from the Race Committee, which will be given only in case of an emergency (only H12 fleet).
- 1.4. RRS 61.1(2) will be deleted. Protest flags are required.
- 1.5. By participating in this regatta, each competitor grants to the organizers and hosts the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any photographs, motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television or other reproductions of him or her made during the period of the regatta without compensation.

#### 2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect.

#### 3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1. All boats encouraged to carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on Channel 72.
- 3.2. On the water, the Race Committee will hail verbally to competitors, and will also make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on the VHF radio on Channel 72. To hear all communications, we encourage use of the VHF.
- 3.3. [DP] While racing, from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make or receive voice or data transmissions that are not available to all boats.

#### 4. CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

#### 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1. **Schedule & Number Of Races:** The race committee intends to run as many races as practicable. Race committee will attempt to sail 4 races on Saturday.

Saturday, Aug 9:   08:30 Check-In & Welcome (Coffee and Snacks Available)  
                          09:00 Skippers Meeting at Ballentine's Boat Shop  
                          11:00 First Warning for SK's  
                          11:15 First Warning for H12's  
                          18:30 Reception/Dinner at Ballentine's Boat Shop (not included with entry fee)

Sunday, Aug 10:   11:00 First Warning for SK's  
                          11:15 First Warning for H12's  
                          15:00 No warning signal after this time  
                          After Racing: Awards and refreshments at Ballentine's Boat Shop

#### 6. RACING AREA

6.1 The racing area will be in between Wings and Scraggy Neck, extending into Buzzards Bay. The race committee will attempt to keep the two fleets separate by sending SK's closer to the canal.

6.2 Addendum C shows the racing area.

#### 7. COURSES & MARKS

7.1 Addendum B shows the courses that will be used for both fleets.

7.2 Courses will be posted on a board on the starboard side of the committee boat.

7.3 Each class will have its own instructions posted from the committee boat and will be listed horizontally as follows: Class insignia, numbered course to be sailed, and/or marks to be sailed, and number of times around if applicable.

7.4 If no course number is displayed, boats will round marks displayed and finish at the committee boat.

7.5 A red letter is to be left to port, a green letter is to be left to starboard. Inflatable marks are designated IM. Lettered marks are government buoys, with the exception of "C" which is a yellow cylindrical shape.

7.6 The starting and finishing lines where the start and finish is in the middle of the course will be open to racers on the course.

#### 8. MARKS

8.1 A yellow inflatable mark will be used for the Start line. Turning marks will be orange inflatable marks and will be labeled as IM on the course description.

#### 9. CLASS FLAGS

9.1 H12 class flag has an H12 on it. The Stuart Knockabout Class Flag has an SK on it.

#### 10. THE START

10.1 The starting line will be between a staff with an orange flag on the committee boat and a mark.

10.2 A boat whose warning signal has not yet been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all yachts whose warning signal has been made. Failure to do so will be grounds for disqualification.

10.3 A boat failing to start 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing.

10.4 Addendum A describes the starting procedure.

## **11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark before the lead boat begins the leg. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 11.2 Race committee and crash boats will attempt to hail on VHF and verbally the change in course.

## **12. THE FINISH**

- 13.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing vessel and the finishing mark, which will be a red ball.
- 13.2 If the Race Committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time and her position in relation to nearby boats to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **13. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 13.1 Rules 44.1 and 44.2 apply.

## **14. TIME LIMITS**

- 14.1 The Time Limit for for each race will be 90 minutes for the first boat to finish.
- 14.2 The Finishing Window is 30 minutes for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized, or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place two more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

## **15. PROTESTS AND HEARING REQUESTS**

- 15.1 All protests must be made in accordance with Part 5, Section A of RRS. Written protests must be filed in person or by email with the Race Committee Officer within 120 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the Race Committee signals no more racing for the day, whichever is later.
- 15.2 Competitors wishing to protest shall inform the Race Committee of their intention.

## **16. SCORING**

- 16.1 The scoring system is RRS A4 Low Point System.
- 16.2 Multiple races are scheduled, of which one shall be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.3 If fewer than five races are completed, each boat's series scores shall be the total of her race scores. If five or more races are completed, each boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst excludable score.
- 16.4 Rule A5.3 applies.

## **17 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 17.1 Prior to the warning signal for the first race on each day, a boat shall check in with the Race Committee by sailing by the stern of the Race Committee Signal Boat on starboard tack and hailing its sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee.
- 17.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 18.1 Requests for crew substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

## **19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

19.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

## **20 RISK STATEMENT**

20.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' 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 errors, 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.

## BILL HARDING MEMORIAL REGATTA COURSE CHART

### ADDENDUM A: The Starting Sequence

When possible, warning horns or whistles will be blown approximately 1 minute before the 5 minute warning.  
When possible, horns or whistles will accompany each signal.

| Signal      | Flag                        | Minutes To Start |
|-------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Warning     | H12 or SK Class Flag Raised | 5                |
| Preparatory | Preparatory Flag Raised     | 4                |
| One-Minute  | Preparatory Flag Lowered    | 1                |
| Start       | Class Flag Lowered          | Start            |

### ADDENDUM B: The Courses

-The committee boat will display the course as follows. Courses will be designated by their type listed below. If no course type is listed, marks will be sailed in the order designated on the board, using the letters shown for government marks in addendum C.

| Class Logo       | Course Type       | Number of times around | Additional Notes   |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| For example: H12 | 3 (IM) or 2 ( C ) | 2                      | Windward mark is C |



