



SCOTCH BONNET LIGHT RACE

June 23rd – 25th, 2017

Genesee Yacht Club

Rochester, New York, USA



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The race will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* including US Sailing Prescriptions.
- 1.2 All boats must comply with Customs and Immigration Rules as listed in Appendix A.
- 1.3 All boats must carry the minimum required offshore equipment listed in Appendix B. The race committee reserves the right to inspect any boat to assess compliance.
- 1.4 Inland navigation rules shall apply between Sunset and Sunrise.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors shall be located at the official notice board on a window facing the patio at Genesee Yacht Club.

3 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted by 6:25PM on Friday June 23rd shortly after the skippers meeting.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole at Genesee Yacht Club located at the North-West corner of the grounds.
- 4.2 When Flag AP is displayed ashore '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 Minutes'. This changes Race Signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The Skippers Meeting will start at 6:00 PM Friday June 23rd
- 5.2 An Attention Signal may sound as a courtesy at 7:29PM Friday June 23rd
- 5.3 The First Warning will be at 7:30PM Friday June 23rd

6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 Division starts will follow RRS Rule 26. Code flags "1" through "8" corresponding to the division numbers defined by the final fleets splits shall signal each start. The starting signal for each division shall be the warning signal for the next. Fleet splits will be circulated at the Skippers Meeting and posted on the official notice board.

7 RACING AREA

- 7.1 The racing area shall be the open waters of Lake Ontario.
- 7.2 Appendix C shows the racing area which covers both coastal and open waters of lake Ontario.

8 COURSES

The diagram in Appendix C illustrates the intended course. Spinnaker boats will sail the **RED** triangular course depicted from start about .25NM northwest of Rochester pier light to Wautoma Shoals buoy approximately 10NM NW and then north to Scotch Bonnet Island returning to Rochester for the finish. Genoa Only boats will sail the **BLUE** course from the same starting line to Scotch Bonnet Island and back to Rochester for the finish. Marks of the course will be left to starboard. The race committee Island Boat is NOT a mark and does NOT constitute a gate. Be sure to keep clear of both the island and the RC island boat.

9 THE START

- 9.1 The starting line will be located approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of entrance to the Genesee River at Rochester Harbour.
- 9.2 The Starting Line will be between the orange flag on the Signal Boat and the nearest starting mark course side edge.
- 9.3 An attention signal may be given approximately 1 minute before the first warning. This is not an official time signal and should not be treated as such.
- 9.4 Boats not Racing – While other boats are racing, boats that are not racing shall stay outside a rectangle defined by the line between the starting buoy and signal boat and extending 35 yards windward and 35 yards to leeward of that line. This is a change to RRS rule 23.1. Boats failing to do so shall be subjected to a 10-minute penalty to their corrected time.
- 9.5 Boats not in the starting area 30 minutes after the last start may use propulsion to cross the starting line to the pre-start side. No less than 5 minutes after discontinuing the use of propulsion she may properly start
- 9.6 Boats starting later than 60 minutes after the final start shall be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes rule A4.
- 9.7 The race committee shall attempt to announce boats in violation of RRS 29.1 (Individual Recall) or 30.1 (I Flag Penalty) via VHF channel 71. Failure to make a broadcast or to time it accurately will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a)

10 TIME LIMITS

- 10.1 A boat in each division must finish by 6PM Saturday to constitute full course scoring for that division. The race committee will decide if shortened course scoring will apply per section 12.2 if no boat has finished by this limit.
- 10.2 Any boat failing to finish by 11:59PM Saturday in a division that has met 10.1 shall be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes rule 35.

11 PROTEST TIME LIMIT

11.1 Protests shall be filed within 2 hours of finishing the race.

12 SCORING

12.1 Scoring shall be based on PHRF-LO Handicap Time-on-time.

12.2 In the event of boats not being able to complete the race within the final time limit, the time taken at the Scotch Bonnet Island may be used to score some or all of the boats. All boats shall take their own GPS times when they are due north of the metal light tower and make note of the position of any other boats in the vicinity. The Island Boat will be taking rounding times for scoring if present.

13 SAFETY REGULATIONS

13.1 Single-Handed Divisions

13.1.1 The use of Auto-pilots and or self steering devices shall be permitted for Single handed sailors only.

13.1.2 While racing and on deck single handed sailors shall wear a PDF and tether to jack lines or sound clipping points.

13.2 Boats Retiring

13.2.1 Boats retiring from the race shall contact the base officer, Bob Jurena (or his delegate), as soon as possible. Please indicate your disposition and departure sailing or cruising plans. Contact methods are:

- VHF Channel 16 - Genesee Yacht Club (when in radio range)
- GYC Clubhouse - 585-266-9796
- Base Officer: Bob Jurena - 585-944-6414

13.2.2 Retired boats no longer need to check in with US Customs.

13.2.3 Retired boats shall contact Canadian Customs at the new CANPASS phone number, 888-226-7277, because your intent to sail to Canadian waters will be reported to Canadian Customs when the race begins.

14 FINISHING

14.1 **Upon returning to Rochester , ALL skippers must make sure that they have call into Canadian Customs CANPASS number 888-226-7277 before the start of the race or after the completion of the Race** *If there are any issues/problems - for example if someone has an equipment problem and needs to land in Canada or never goes into Canadian waters, they can then call The Port of Rochester at 585-263-6293.*

14.2 All boats shall record their own GPS time when crossing the finish line.

14.3 The Finishing line for all divisions shall extend between the Rochester east pier light and a committee boat or buoy to the east side of the pier.

14.4 Race Committee shall be on station from 6:00 AM to 11:59 PM on Saturday. In the absence of a committee boat on station US perscription to RRS 34 shall apply.

14.5 In the event there is no committee boat on station, boats shall record their own GPS time finishing east of the eastern pier of the Rochester Harbour. This time shall be reported to the Base Officer or Race Committee no later than 30 minutes after finishing. Contact methods are noted in section 13.2.1.

15 RADIO COMMUNICATION

15.1 It is mandatory that all boats have VHF radios that are able to communicate on channel 9, 16, 68, 71, and 72.

15.2 All boats shall monitor VHF Channel 71 during the start and Channel 16 during the rest of the race. The Island Boat and Finish Boat will monitor Channel 71.

15.3 This race has a long standing history of limited boat to boat VHF radio communication for the sake of safety during the night time crossing. Boats should minimize communication and refrain from exchanging information that would change the conduct of the race for any competitors. This excludes the exchange of location specifics for commercial vessels in the shipping lanes. Emergency communications are fully allowed and expected. The restrictions above also apply to mobile, satellite, and cellular telephones.

15.4 The Race Committee will use VHF channel 71 to communicate to the fleet, including countdown to the start, location of the starting area, OCS, general recalls and postponements. Failure to make such broadcasts or failure to hear them shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1 (Redress).

16 PRIZES

16.1 Participation flags will be awarded to all boats entering the race. Trophies will be awarded to the 1st place finisher in each division and flags will be awarded to the top three finishers in each division. The following six perpetual trophies and plaques will also be awarded:

- 1) Founder's Cup for the first GYC yacht under 30' LOA to finish the regular course of the Scotch Bonnet Light Race
- 2) Allen Trophy for the Best Corrected Time of the entire Spinnaker Fleet
- 3) Giambra Trophy for the First Mono-Hull to Finish, Elapsed Time
- 4) Stewart Trophy for the best Corrected Time of the entire Non-Spinnaker Fleet
- 5) Warren Miller "New Issue" Trophy for the first new skipper to finish on corrected time, Genoa Only course.
- 6) SBLR Ernie Coleman Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the participating yacht club with the best 3 finishing mono-hull boats in either the Spinnaker and/or Genoa Only fleets. Each club must have at least 3 boats participating in the race to qualify for the Coleman Trophy.
- 7) Genoa Only Cruising Plaque will be awarded, on corrected time, to the first place winner of the Genoa Only Cruising division.

17 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

17.1 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.

18 OWNER/SKIPPER RESPONSIBILITIES

18.1 The safety of a sailing yacht and her crew is the sole responsibility of the owner and the skipper. The owner and the skipper must make certain that the yacht is fully found seaworthy and well crewed. They must satisfy themselves as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails, and equipment. They must see to it that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed, that the crew has been instructed in its use, and that the equipment is deployed when necessary. Neither the minimum required equipment, nor the inspection of a yacht by the race committee for compliance, limits the responsibility of the owner and skipper for the safe operation of a sailing yacht in this race.

Appendix A – US and Canadian Customs and Immigrations Rules

U. S. Customs & Border Protection (C&BP) has notified Genesee Yacht Club that boats and crews will not be required to check in with C&BP when they return to the Rochester harbor after participation in the Scotch Bonnet Light Race provided that the boat and crew:

1. Did not stop in Canada for any reason, AND
2. Did not have contact with a hovering vessel (19 USC 1401(k)). During the Scotch Bonnet Light Race, a hovering vessel is any vessel that is encountered during the race outside of U.S. waters, including the mark boat at Scotch Bonnet Island. Other race boats are not considered to be hovering vessels. Contact with a hovering vessel includes visiting, delivering or receiving merchandise or passengers outside of U.S. waters. Boats and crews that stopped in Canada or that had contact with a hovering vessel may use the videophone to check in when they return to Rochester. The acceptable forms of identification are:
 - a. Passport
 - b. Nexus Card
 - c. Active I-68 registration
 - d. Enhanced driver's license

All sailors should have acceptable identification, as noted above, in the event that the boat must stop in Canada for repairs or emergency medical service. Such identification may also be necessary in the event that a boat and crew are compelled to provide assistance to a distressed vessel outside of U.S. waters. In either case, acceptable identification may be required for check in with C&BP using the Rochester Harbor videophone.

~~Canadian Customs requests that you call the new CANPASS number, 888-226-7277 either before entering (i.e. starting the race) or returning from Canadian waters (i.e. finishing the race).~~

Appendix B – Minimum Equipment Requirements

The following list of equipment is required aboard all yachts entered in the Scotch Bonnet Light Race. All yachts are subject to an equipment inspection before and after the race. Any yacht found to be not in compliance will either not be started or will not be given a finish position. The items are in addition to any and all equipment aboard required by law.

1. Sea cocks or gate valves on all through-hull openings below the waterline except for openings for integral deck scuppers, shaft logs, speed indicators, etc.
2. Soft, tapered wooden plugs sized to fit various through-hull openings in the boat.
3. Fixed stanchions and lifelines or pulpits completely enclosing the deck. (OEM)
4. Marine head that complies with Lake Ontario regulations.
5. Permanently-installed bunks for at least half the number of crew. (OEM)
6. Adequate supply of fresh water.
7. Sail numbers on the mainsail. Numbers on all other sails is highly recommended. Sail numbers must match on all sails.
8. Piloting equipment.
9. Manual bilge pump.
10. Self-bailing cockpit.
11. Rigid 2-gallon pail, with lanyard attached.
12. Anchor and rode, properly sized for the boat.
13. Water resistant flashlights (2) with spare batteries and bulbs.
14. First aid kit and manual.
15. Radar reflector, assembled, mounted and operational at night and during poor visibility.
16. Shutoff valves on all internal fuel tanks.
17. Personal Flotation Device (PFD) with whistle and waterproof light attached, for each crewmember.
18. Safety harness for each crewmember.
19. Properly installed and adjusted marine compass and an emergency spare.
20. Companionway blocking arrangement (to above deck level).
21. Depth finder or lead line.
22. Emergency steering equipment.
23. Suitable tools and spare parts for the boat and motor.
24. Rigging cutter or hacksaw, capable of cutting the largest diameter wire in the boat's standing rigging.
25. Operable VHF marine radio.
26. Buoyant heaving line at least 50 feet long, readily available to the helmsman and crew.
27. Man-overboard safety rig, mounted within reach of the helmsman, and a system for rapid deployment. The safety rig to consist of (a) a horseshoe-type or Life Sling type throw-able PFD; (b) a self-igniting waterproof light, whistle, and drogue attached to PFD; (c) a man-overboard pole connected to the PFD and constructed to display a flag at least six feet above the water when deployed.
28. When on deck, single handed sailors will be required to use PFD's and a tether to jack lines or sound clipping points, for the duration of the race. A device must be rigged to allow re-boarding the boat in case of fall-over. Auto helms will be permitted only for single-handed sailors.

Appendix C – Racing Area Chart (not to be used for navigation)

RED Course=Spinnaker BLUE Course=Genoa Only

