

Thames Yacht Club  
Thames River Championship  
Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>  
Sailing Instructions

1. RULES- This Regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of US Sailing, Finn US Association rules, Force 5 Class Rules and these Sailing Instructions. **Rules of the Road provide commercial traffic with the right-of-way in a restricted channel. Failure of a racing boat to keep clear, whether intentional or not, will result in disqualification at the discretion of the Race Committee.**
2. ENTRIES- Entries will be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee. There is no entry fee for this regatta. A minimum of two boats per class must start a race in order for it to be scored. The Race Committee will attempt to conduct as many short races as possible with a goal of at least five races. There will be a lunch break after a couple hours of racing.
3. CHANGES- Any changes to these Sailing Instructions will be made at the Skipper's Meeting which will be held at 10:00 am on the day of the Regatta.
4. STARTING LINE- The starting line will be between an orange flag on the Queen Merry and an inflatable buoy- usually to the east of the Queen Merry.
5. COURSES- The courses will be relayed verbally to the racers from the Queen Merry. The courses will be simple short courses that are designed to be completed in 20 minutes or less. Special Marks: The Race Committee may set as many as two special marks identified and positioned as follows: Special Mark "M" may be set southerly of the Queen Merry on the west side of the channel. Special Mark "B" may be set northerly of the Queen Merry on the west side of the channel. The Race Committee will try to keep all racecourses out of the New London commercial channel. Please see the attached Thames Yacht Club Course Symbols and Marks Handout.
6. FIRST WARNING/STARTING SEQUENCE- There will be separate starts for the Force 5 and Finn Classes. The first race warning will be at 11:00 on the day of the Regatta. The Three Minute Dinghy Starting System of RRS App. S3, described as follows will be used:

3 Minutes	3 standard blasts
2 Minutes	2 standard blasts
1 Minute, 30 Seconds	1 standard blast and 3 short blasts
1 minute	1 standard blast
30 Seconds	3 short blasts
20 Seconds	2 short blasts
10 Seconds	1 short blast

5 Seconds down  
Start

1 short blast for each second  
1 Long Blast

7. RECALLS – Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.1. The Race Committee will attempt to hail each boat that is over early. A boat over early and not returning for a proper start will be scored OCS. General Recall procedures will be as specified in Rule 29.2. The normal starting sequence will be used in a general recall.
8. FINISH- The finish line shall be between an orange flag on the Queen Merry and an inflatable buoy as designated by the Race Committee which is usually east of the Queen Merry.
9. TIME LIMIT- The first boat in each race must finish within thirty minutes of the start.
10. SCORES- Scoring will be done with the Low Point Scoring System. First place gets one point, second place, two, third place, three, etc.
11. PRIZES- There will be appropriate prizes for the Force 5 and Finn class winners.
12. PROTESTS- A boat intending to protest need not display a read flag, however, all other aspects of Section A, Part 5 of the RRS shall be complied with. A written protest shall be delivered to a race official at the TYC Clubhouse prior to one hour after the race committee comes ashore. It is intended that any protest shall be heard as soon as feasible after the day's racing. Failure of either party to appear may result in a judgement against the absentee.
13. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY- Competitors participate 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.