

# **THAMES YACHT CLUB**

## **2026 CHILI SERIES**

### **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **RULES;**

- 1.1. The series will be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, the Prescriptions of US Sailing, rules of the PHRF of Eastern Connecticut and the rules of participating one-design classes.
- 1.2. Rules of the road provide commercial traffic with the right of way in a restricted channel. **Failure of a racing boat to keep clear as signaled by 5 horns from a ferry, whether intentional or not, will result in disqualification from that race.**
- 1.3. Time-on-Time handicapping will be used for PHRF classes.
- 1.4. This is a non-spinnaker event. Whisker poles may be used. Trapezes are NOT permitted.





2. **ENTRIES;**

- 2.1. Entries will be accepted or rejected and assigned to classes at the discretion of the Race Committee (RC).
- 2.2. Class assignment and handicaps will be based on the PHRF of Eastern Connecticut. At the discretion of the RC a handicap will be assigned to a boat without an established rating. The RC reserves the right to adjust any rating based on performance.

3. **CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS;** Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the **TYC racing site** no later than one hour prior to the first warning on the day they are to take effect.

4. **SCHEDULE OF RACES & THE START;**

- 4.1. Races are scheduled on Sunday, May 17, 24 and Sunday, May 31.
- 4.2. The first warning will be at 1200 each day.
- 4.3. Two to four races are scheduled each day. Races will be started as soon as possible after the finish of the previous race.
- 4.4. Class assignments are given in the Scratch Sheet. Class flags are as follows;

Class	Ensign	Class C1	Class C2	Class C3
Class Flag	Ensign Class Flag	Pennant 2	Pennant 3	Pennant 4
				

- 4.5. Races will be started as provided in RRS 26, with classes starting in the order shown here and posted on the course board. The order will be announced at the skippers meeting. Also, the order of starts will be listed on the course board on the Queen Merry. Courses will also be announced on VHF 72 by the RC before each race. It is intended to make the Warning Signal for a class simultaneously with the Starting Signal for the preceding class, although the RC retains the option of delaying any Warning Signal. The Preparatory Signal may be flag “P” or a Starting Penalty Flag - flag “I” (rule 30.1), flag “Z” (rule 30.2), flags “I” & “Z”, or a Black flag (rule 30.3).
- 4.6. Boats whose Warning Signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose warning signal has been made. **Failure to comply may result in disqualification.**
- 4.7. Signals from ashore: The race committee may postpone or abandon before leaving the dock by broadcasting on Channel 72 and displaying the appropriate flags from the flagpole at the TYC dock, along with the appropriate sound signals. When a postponement is signaled from ashore, the starting sequence shall begin approximately 20 minutes

after lowering AP along with one sound signal. Five horns will be sounded from the Queen Merry approximately one minute prior to the warning signal. This modifies the RRS description of Race Signals.

5. **SKIPPER'S MEETING;** -The skipper, or a representative of each boat shall meet at the clubhouse at 10:30 AM on the day of the first race. The scratch sheet, Course Symbols, and Marks handout will be made available at this meeting.
6. **COURSE;**
  - 6.1. Courses will be displayed on the Queen Merry. Marks and course designation procedures are as stipulated on the **Course Symbols & Marks document.**
  - 6.2. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Queen Merry and a starting mark east or west of the Queen Merry.
  - 6.3. The numbers "2, 3 or 4" at the end of the mark sequence are used when the same course is to be sailed multiple times. Each time around, boats are required to cross the starting line.
    - 6.3.1. Additional Symbol "A" shall not be used as a mark of the course when the symbol "2, 3 or 4" is used.
  - 6.4. The RC may set as many as two Special Marks.
    - 6.4.1. Mark "M", an orange inflatable set southerly of the Queen Merry on the westerly side of the channel.
    - 6.4.2. Mark "B", an orange inflatable set north of the Queen Merry on the west side of the channel.
7. **RECALLS;**
  - 7.1. Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.1 and Race Signals. The RC will attempt to hail each boat over early via voice or VHF/FM Channel 72.
  - 7.2. General Recall signals and procedures will be as specified in Rule 29.2 and Race Signals. The class recalled will be the next class to start. Normal starting sequence shall then resume.
8. **FINISH;**
  - 8.1. The finish line will be between a staff displaying orange flag on the Queen Merry and a finishing mark east or west of the Queen Merry, unless the course is shortened at another mark of the course.
  - 8.2. Boats unable to finish shall notify the RC before retiring from the race course.
9. **TIME LIMIT** – The time limit for each class is 1 hour for the first boat in each class to finish. If no boats have finished within this time, the race will be abandoned for that class. All boats in a class must finish within 90 minutes of their start.
10. **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS;** - All yachts are expected to monitor VHF-FM Channel 72 during races. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that are not available to all boats.
11. **PROTESTS;**
  - 11.1. A boat intending to protest shall follow Rule 61.1. A written protest shall be delivered to a race official at the clubhouse within one hour after the RC comes ashore, unless prevented from doing so through no fault of the protesting party, in which case the party shall provide notice as soon as reasonably possible on the day of the race.
  - 11.2. Notices of protest hearings will be posted on the Racing Information bulletin board. It is intended that any protest be heard as soon as feasible after the day's racing. Failure of either party to appear may result in a judgment against the absentee.
12. **SCORING**
  - 12.1. The series will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the RRS, using the Low-Point Scoring System. Rules A5.3 also applies.

Rule A5.3. A boat that came to the starting area but did not start, did not sail the course, did not finish, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area, and a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the division for the series that completed at least one race.
  - 12.2. Four races are required to be completed to constitute a series. When from 5 to 9 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When 10 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

- 12.3. If only one boat from a class starts a race, that boat shall be scored an average of their other series points for that race.
- 12.4. A boat that serves on Race Committee duty must race in the other two Chili race days to qualify and will be scored the average of their other scores for those races.
13. **AWARDS:**
- 13.1. Race results will be announced at the Clubhouse each day after all races are completed.
- 13.2. Trophies will be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, place boats in each class with at least four entrants. Trophies will be awarded at Skipper's Night, at the TYC Clubhouse. Date TBD.
- 13.3. For Thames YC members, results will be consolidated with the Fall Chowder Series for the perpetual trophies.
- 13.3.1. Class C1 and C2 boats shall be eligible for the LeBeau Trophy for combined Chili-Chowder Winner.
- 13.3.2. ENSIGNS shall be eligible for the Robert Raimondi Memorial Trophy for the combined Chili-Chowder winner.
- 13.3.3. In order to qualify for a perpetual trophy, each class must have a minimum of three boats that race in both Chili and Chowder series. The three same boats must race in both series.
14. **RACE COMMITTEE DUTY:** Each boat in the Series will volunteer to staff the Race Committee (RC) for one race of either this series or the Wednesday Night or Chowder Series. The schedule for RC duty is posted on the **TYC Racing page**. Email the Rear Commodore to volunteer for a date ([racing@thamesyc.org](mailto:racing@thamesyc.org)). The **skipper of record for the boat and at least two (2) regular crew members** will report to the Rear Commodore or his, her or their representative no later than 1100 for RC duty. **Boats participating in this series which have not signed up for a RC date by July 1st will be assigned a date.**
15. **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.
16. **Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows:** (2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or