



THAMES YACHT CLUB
2026 Chowder Series
September 20- October 25

1. **RULES:** Races will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, the Prescriptions of US Sailing, rules of the PHRF of Eastern Connecticut and the rules of participating one-design classes. Time-on-Time handicapping will be used for PHRF classes. This is a non-spinnaker event.
2. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** In the event of a conflict between this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.
3. **ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY:** The series is open to all racing and cruising handicap boats and to certain one-design classes of at least three (3) entrants. Entries will be accepted and assigned to classes at the discretion of the race committee. This is a non-spinnaker event. All yachts should have a current PHRF certificate (whether from ECSA or from the Thames Yacht Club) on file.
To enter please go to the [Registration at TYC Racing](#)
4. **FEES:** \$45 per boat. Deduct \$5.00 if skipper is a member of US Sailing.
TYC members can join at [US Sailing](#) or at a discounted rate through the [ECSA MVP program](#).
5. **SCHEDULE:** First Warning at 1300 each day. One (1) long race is scheduled each day. Chowder Series race dates will be Sundays, Sept 20 through Oct.25.
6. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** Sailing Instructions and initial Scratch Sheets will be available at the TYC web site <https://thamesyc.org/2026-chowder-series/>) no later than September 20.
7. **COURSES:** Courses will be determined by the Race Committee each day, and will be displayed on the race committee vessel "Queen Merry". Marks are as stipulated on the [Course Marks and Symbols Chart](#). Special Marks will be stipulated in the Sailing Instructions. Starting line will be to the east or west of the "Queen Merry", off the TYC Clubhouse. The finish line shall be the same as the starting line unless the course is shortened.
8. **SCORING:** The series will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the RRS, using the Low-Point Scoring System. Rule A9 also applies.
 - 8.1. The completion of any four (4) races shall constitute the Series. When four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - 8.2. 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.
 - 8.3. For every 5 races complete, there will be one score excluded from the final tally.
 - 8.4. If a skipper is serving as Race Committee, a score that is the average of the other scores for this series (before throwout) will be entered for that day's race.
9. **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS:** VHF-FM Channel 72 will be used for communication between the race committee and competing boats. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions

while racing nor receive communications not available to all boats. This restriction applies to mobile telephones and other portable devices.

10. **PRIZES:** Series Trophies will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place boats in each class with at least five (5) entrants. Individual race results will be announced at the Clubhouse after each race. For TYC members, results will be consolidated with the Spring Chili Series for combined awards:
 - a. PHRF yachts shall be eligible for the LeBeau Trophy
 - b. Ensigns shall be eligible for the Robert Raimondi Memorial Trophy
11. **RACE COMMITTEE DUTY:** Each skipper in a Series will volunteer to staff the Race Committee (RC) for one race during either the Chili, Wednesday Night or Chowder Series. The skipper of record and at least two (2) regular crew members will report to the Rear Commodore or their representative no later than one hour before the first warning for RC duty. The boat assigned to RC will not participate in that race but will be scored an average of its other series points for that race. The schedule for RC duty is posted on the **TYC Racing page**. Email the Rear Commodore to volunteer for a date (racing@thamesyc.org). **Skippers participating in this series who have not signed up for a RC date by July 1st will be assigned a date.**
12. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate entirely at their own risk; see Rule 3, 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.

Register on-line at: [TYC Racing](#)