



# 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Oscar Kerman Fun Race Series

August 8, 2026

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. RULES:

- 1.1. The race will be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, the Prescriptions of US Sailing, the rules of the PHRF of Eastern Connecticut, and by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. Coast Guard regulations state that commercial traffic has the right of way in a restricted channel. **Failure of a racing boat to keep clear, whether intentional or not, will result in disqualification.**
- 1.3. Time-on-Time handicapping will be used for PHRF classes.
- 1.4. US Sailing sail numbers of rule 77 and appendix G are not required.
- 1.5. Spinnakers or Bloopers are NOT permitted. Whisker poles may be used. Trapezes are NOT permitted.
- 1.6. There will be a single class. A minimum of 3 boats must appear in the starting area in order to have a race started.
- 1.7. **This race is intended to be a fun race for both competitive racers and casual sailors who don't normally race. It is a good time to allow crew, significant others, friends or children to steer the boat. Provided safety is maintained, water cannons and other activities to make the race fun and distract the competition are permitted.**

### 2. ENTRIES:

- 2.1. Skippers of record must be members of the Thames Yacht Club.
- 2.2. Handicaps will be based on the PHRF of Eastern Connecticut or TYC. At the discretion of the RC a handicap will be assigned to a boat without an established rating.

### 3. SCHEDULE OF RACES & THE START:

- 3.1. Two races are scheduled. The first warning for the morning race will be at 1030. The first warning for the afternoon race will be at 1400 (tentative).
- 3.2. The completion of at least one race shall constitute a series.
- 3.3. The starting sequence of RRS 26 will be used. There will be a series of horns starting about 10:30 AM to mark the time (5 min, 4 min, 1 min, start). Boats will have **ten minutes** from the starting signal to cross the starting line and the RC will record the start time. All boats crossing after 10 minutes will be assigned the same time (start time plus 10 minutes). All boats will have their elapsed time calculated from the time each vessel starts to the time it finishes. This changes RRS Rule A.1.6.
- 3.4. Class flags are as follows:

Class

Class B

*Class Flag*

G



3.5.

3.5. Races will be started as provided in RRS 26.

Time	Signal	Sound	Visual
10:30	Warning	Horn	Class flag raised
10:31	Preparatory	Horn	Code flag "P" raised

10:34	One minute to start	Horn	Code flag "P" lowered
10:35	Start	Horn	Class flag lowered

4. **SKIPPER'S MEETING:**

- 4.1. The skipper, or a representative of each boat should meet at the clubhouse at 0900 on race day. Class assignments, Course Symbols, and Marks handout will be made available at this meeting.
- 4.2. Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be announced at the Skipper's meeting and posted on the Racing Information bulletin board immediately after.

5. **COURSE:**

- 5.1. Courses will be displayed on the Queen Merry. Marks are as stipulated on the Course Marks and Symbols Chart. The course designation procedures as outlined on the Course Marks and Symbols Chart will be followed.
- 5.2. 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.
- 5.3. **Note the requirement to cross the starting line to begin the second round when the "2" symbol is used.**
- 5.4. The RC may set as many as two Special Marks.
  - 5.4.1. Mark "M", an orange inflatable set southerly of the Queen Merry on the westerly side of the channel.
  - 5.4.2. Mark "B", an orange inflatable set northerly of the Queen Merry on the westerly side of the channel.

6. **FINISH:**

- 6.1. The finish line will be the same as the starting line unless the course is shortened.
- 6.2. Boats unable to finish are instructed to notify the RC before retiring from the race course.

7. **TIME LIMIT:** The time limit for each race is two hours after the starting signal.

8. **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 8.1. 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 such as "blackberrys."

9. **PROTESTS:**

- 9.1. A boat intending to protest shall comply with Rule 61.1. A written protest shall be delivered to a race official at the clubhouse within one hour after the RC comes ashore.
- 9.2. 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.

10. **SCORING:**

- 10.1. Time-on-Time handicapping will be used.
- 10.2. The boat with the lowest corrected time shall be the winner of each race. **The boat with the lowest combined corrected time shall be the winner of the series.**

11. **AWARDS:**

- 11.1. Race results will be announced at the Clubhouse after all races are completed.
- 11.2. Prizes will be awarded at Skippers' Night, at the TYC clubhouse on November 11.
- 11.3. The name of the winning boat and skipper will be engraved on the Oscar Kerman Trophy.

12. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:**

- 12.1. Competitors participate entirely at their own risk, see Rule 4, Decision to Race. By entering this race, each participant agrees that 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.