



2024 Offshore 160 Singlehanded Challenge

Friday, July 12 - Sunday, July 14

Sponsored by the Newport Yacht Club
Newport, Rhode Island

NOTICE OF RACE

1. OBJECTIVE OF THE OFFSHORE 160 SINGLE-HANDED CHALLENGE

The OFFSHORE 160 Single-Handed Challenge is intended to be a sporting event encouraging seamanship and fellowship among offshore sailors. Although it is a competitive event, the major emphasis is on safety, navigation, and acquiring long-distance sailing experience and boat-handling techniques for shorthanded passage makers.

At the discretion of the Offshore Race Committee, the participant and boat combination may be recognized as qualified for the next BERMUDA ONE-TWO.

2. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

2.1 The OFFSHORE 160 is organized by the Newport Yacht Club.

2.2 The Newport Yacht Club reserves the right to change this Notice of Race, including the required safety equipment checklist, at any time. Provisional entrants will be notified immediately in writing of any such changes.

3. RULES

The OFFSHORE 160 will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024; the prescriptions of the US Sailing Association (US SAILING); the International Rules of the Road (refer to USCG booklet 1690); Inland or International (as appropriate) Regulations (COLREGS) for preventing collisions at sea; the Announcement of Race; this Notice of Race; the Sailing Instructions; and amendments or addendums to any of the aforementioned.

4. COURSE AND DATES

4.1 The race will consist of a course to be sailed single-handed.

4.2 The Course: from a starting area south of Rose Island and the Newport Bridge and west Goat Island; entrants will proceed to the following marks in this order (142 NM):

- to Y ODAS "44017" Fl(4) Y 20s PA (Light List #665) 23.3 nm southwest of Montauk Point, keeping GR "BIS" Fl (2+1) G 6s (3.8 nm southwest of Block Island, Light List 19845) to the west,
- to R "32" Fl R 2.5s WHIS 5.3 west of Gay Head (41-22-04.917N, 070-57-25.091W, Light List # 15613),
- thence to the finish line at R"2", Brenton Reef at the entrance to Narragansett Bay.

Short Course (114 NM): from a starting area south of Rose Island and the Newport Bridge and west Goat Island; entrants will proceed to the following marks in this order:

- to Y ODAS “44017” Fl(4) Y 20s PA (Light List #665) 23.3 nm southwest of Montauk Point, keeping GR “BIS” Fl (2+1) G 6s (3.8 nm southwest of Block Island, Light List 19845) to the west,
- thence to the finish line at R”2”, Brenton Reef at the entrance to Narragansett Bay, keeping GR “BIS” Fl (2+1) G 6s (3.8 nm southwest of Block Island, Light List 19845) to the west.

4.3 The first class start is scheduled for 1200 hours on Friday, July 12. A Skippers' Meeting will be held on Friday at 0900 hours at the Newport Yacht Club, which will be the race headquarters for this event. As pertinent material and information needed for this race are to be distributed at the Skipper's Meeting, **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ALL ENTRANTS.**

4.4 Complete information about the start and courses will be provided in OFFSHORE 160 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS, which will be made available to all entrants at the Skippers' Meeting.

5. ELIGIBILITY

5.1 Yachts must be seaworthy, self-righting monohulls with enclosed cabin and watertight, self-bailing cockpit. The yacht's LOA shall not exceed 60 feet or be less than 28 feet. The Open 6.5 Mini's are welcome.

5.2 The OFFSHORE 160 is categorized as a Category 3 offshore event, as described in the Recommendations For Offshore Sailing Including Offshore Racing Council (ORC) Special Regulations booklet, governing minimum equipment and accommodation standards. This booklet should be used as a guide in the preparation of the vessel. The seaworthiness of each yacht should conform to guidelines based on the Special Regulations, and for the MINIMUM equipment required, as detailed in REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT addendum to this Notice of Race.

(If you so desire, the booklet on the Special Regulations may be obtained by contacting US SAILING, Publications Department, 1-800-US-SAIL-1 or 401-683-0800, or by writing US Sailing, 1 Roger Williams University Way, Bristol, RI 02809 or online at www.ussailing.org (download or purchase). US SAILING members get a discount on the purchase.)

5.3 The OFFSHORE 160 Event Organizers reserve the right to exclude any yacht from the race due to inadequacies in design or preparation which could impair the seaworthiness of the vessel and/or safe passage of the skipper.

5.4 The yacht entered need not be owned by the skipper.

6. ENTRIES AND FEES

6.1 Applications for entry must be completed online at <https://www.newportyachtclub.org/sailing/offshore/offshore-160/>, including fee by 2000 hours, Wednesday just before the race.

6.2 The fee for the OFFSHORE 160 is \$80.00 through the Sunday before the race. Starting Monday, the fee will be \$105.00. This fee is non-refundable unless the Event Organizers decide the entry is not acceptable.

7. QUALIFICATION

7.1 With the OFFSHORE 160 Entry Form, applicants must submit a brief resume of offshore and general boat-handling experience, including direct experience with the boat they are entering. See also 7.2 and 7.3 below.

7.2 To be accepted as an entry in the OFFSHORE160, an applicant must have completed a singlehanded passage under sail (i.e. wind power only) of at least 25 NM aboard the yacht that the skipper will be sailing in the race and not in company with any other vessel. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to get as much singlehanded experience aboard their respective yachts as possible.

7.3 First-time entrants must submit a signed comprehensive log, conforming to good nautical practice, showing the vessel's progress and positions throughout the qualifying voyage or race.

7.4 Should an applicant be found to have submitted false or deliberately misleading information about their experience or qualifying race or voyage, their boat may be disqualified and their entry fee forfeited.

8. EQUIPMENT SAFETY EQUIPMENT

8.1 All entrants will be required to submit written proof of self-inspection of their vessels by submitting a signed and dated Required Safety Equipment Checklist included with the addendum to this Notice of Race (see 9 below). The checklist must be submitted to the Event Organizers by the Skippers' Meeting; failure to comply could result in disqualification of the entrant. Organizers reserve the authority of inspecting yachts at random before the start, and inspecting selected yachts after they finish.

8.2 All boats are required to mount on an outside surface, visible to the sky, an event-provided (at registration) satellite tracking device per instructions. The Skipper is responsible for unreturned or damaged units at the cost of replacement (a credit card will be used as deposit for the tracker). The tracking device must be returned after finishing by the end of the day of the Awards or the skippers will be subject to the replacement fee.

9. OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

9.1 All tanks for transferable ballast and storage of transferable stores must be within the interior of the hull and below main-deck level. A maximum of 10 degrees of static heel is permitted.

9.2 Only the wind may be used to propel the yacht. The yacht's propulsion engine may be used only in emergencies or to charge batteries. When the engine is used for any purpose, the time on and off, and reason must be properly logged in the Race Log.

9.3 No stores or gear may be received from other vessels or aircraft after the start and before the finish. Communication with other competitors is, however, encouraged and may consist of information such as current position, wind and sea conditions.

9.4 All entries are required to maintain a Race Log at regular intervals and at mark roundings, by using a standard form which will be issued to competitors along with the Sailing Instructions.

9.5 All entries will be required to attempt contact with other competitors either 15 minutes before or after each mark rounding. Radio communications for the duration of this race will be on VHF Channel

72; all communications are to be noted on the Race Log. The use of email (e.g. Delorme's InReach, single sideband, etc.) is allowable in addition to VHF reporting.

9.6 All entrants are required to take their own finishes. Said finishes are to be recorded on the Race Log. Entrants are to attempt to make contact with the race committee when they are within 30 MINUTES of their predicted finish AND when they cross the finish line via VHF Channel 72 (and phone call to the Race Duty Desk 401-619-4936 if no reply from the Race Duty Desk on VHF 72).

9.7 Immediately after finishing, each skipper will be required to sign a compliance declaration included in the Race Log, confirming that the yacht sailed the race in conformity with all its rules and conditions, and to submit the Race Log to the Race Committee.

Signed Race Logs must be received by a member of the Race Committee at Race Headquarters (Newport Yacht Club) by 1000 hours on Sunday, July 15 or within three hours of the yacht's finish, whichever is later. Instead a copy of the Race Log may be sent via email to Roy Guay at roy@royguay.net or text to mobile 401-862-7125 with the same time limits.

10. HANDICAPPING, TIME ALLOWANCES AND CLASSES

10.1 The OFFSHORE 160 will be sailed using PHRF spinnaker ratings, as determined by Performance Handicap Rated Fleet of Narragansett Bay (PHRF-NB) guidelines. A PHRF-NB rating certificate must be submitted before any vessel will be accepted as an official entry and be received by the Event Organizers no later than 2000 hours on the Wednesday before the start.

10.2 2024 PHRF-NB ratings may be acquired at www.phrf-nb.org where you can either renew an existing certificate or create a new certificate online. Should you need help contact Kathy Rotsky at PHRF-NB, (Phone: 401-253-0207, Monday-Friday). The fee for a new or renewal certificate is \$50.00. The PHRF-NB certificate process with PHRF-NB should be started by the end of March to allow time for processing.

10.3 The OFFSHORE 160 will be scored using PHRF-NB spinnaker ratings, applied to time-on-time.

10.4 All entries will be assigned to classes, based on PHRF-NB ratings and other factors, and scratch sheets will be distributed at the Skippers' Meeting.

10.5 There will be no time limit for this race.

11. PENALTIES, REFUSALS, POSTPONEMENTS

11.1 The OFFSHORE 160 Event Organizers reserve the right to impose, after a hearing, a time penalty, a delayed start, or disqualification for any infringement of the letter or the spirit of the rules or conditions of the OFFSHORE 160.

11.2 The OFFSHORE 160 Event Organizers reserve the right to refuse or reject an entry at any time. If this should occur before 2000 hours on Wednesday, July 13, the Event Organizers will make a determination on refunding entry fees.

12. AWARDS

12.1 Prizes will be awarded at a time and location to be announced at the Skippers' Meeting.

12.2 The first boat to finish will be awarded the William Dubuc Trophy. Skipper's finish position will be combined with the New England Solo/Twin Twin position (if raced also) for calculating the winner of the New England ShortHanded Ocean Racing Trophy given at the New England Solo/Twin Awards.

12.3 Awards will be given as appropriate..

Roy Guay, Event Chairman
Ted Singsen, Kristen Wenzel
OFFSHORE 160