



2025 NEWPORT YACHT CLUB

Summer Series Racing – General Information

NEWPORT YACHT CLUB

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REGATTA COMMITTEE

Steve White (Chair), Denis Ferreira, Scott Walker, Avram Dorfman, Doug Smith, Joy McGuirl-Hadley, Jackie Dietrich

regatta@newportyachtclub.org

INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to the 2025 racing season. The Newport Yacht Club (NYC) Regatta Committee aims to provide racing participants with a safe, fair, and fun experience. The following pages contain general information not incorporated in the Notice of Race (NOR) or Sailing Instruction (SI) but which may be beneficial to help ensure a successful and enjoyable summer of racing.

We encourage all competitors to review the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) for 2025-2028*, *NOR*, and *SI* before participating.

Note: The NYC Regatta Committee will consider all options to offset earlier sunset times in August so that all competitors will be off the water by sunset. This is to accommodate those boats that are being chartered from Sail Newport. Sailing Instructions will be modified when necessary and posted on the NYC website, as required in the NOR and SI.

Please email the Regatta Committee if you have any questions at regatta@newportyachtclub.org.

PHRF CLASS

The splits of the PHRF classes are determined based on entries, ratings, and participant feedback. The splits will be announced on the club website and Notice Board before the first day of racing for the series. There will likely be one spinnaker PHRF class and, potentially, two non-spinnaker PHRF classes. There must be at least **two (2)** boats registered, with valid 2025 PHRF certificates from PHRF-NB, in each class 24 hours before the first race for the class to be scored.

J/22 CLASS

The J/22s chartered from Sail Newport are not class-legal and, therefore, sail as a separate class.

Sail Newport J/22 charter boats can register and race as either spinnaker or non-spinnaker on Tuesday nights and non-spinnaker on Wednesdays.

Each Sail Newport J/22 crew shall pick a **Team Name**. **THIS IS MANDATORY**. The team name is used instead of the skipper's name when scoring. Each Sail Newport J22 is **required** to give the Race Committee your **Team Name** when you check in on each race day.

Non-Sail Newport J/22s with current rating certificates may sail as PHRF entrants on Wednesday nights.

WEATHER

First and foremost, the individual skipper must decide whether the conditions are appropriate for their crew and boat. (*RRS 3 – Decision to Race*)

The NYC Regatta Committee uses the following weather **guidelines** to judge whether racing should be postponed or canceled on any given day. To the maximum extent possible, decisions will be made based on weather observations at 5:00 pm (1700) on the evening of the race. Consideration will be given to the forecast and stability of the conditions, keeping in mind that not all racing boats are equipped with the necessary navigation systems or lights to operate safely in restricted visibility.

Decisions related to weather conditions will be communicated by appropriate postponement or abandonment flag and sound signals (RRS inside back cover & as shown below) at NYC and broadcast over VHF channel 73.

Wind

- Criteria:
 - Sustained winds greater than 20 knots or below 5 knots – racing canceled
 - Sustained winds of 18-20 knots -- racing is at the discretion of the RC

Fog

- Criteria: Visibility less than 1 nm – Race postponed or canceled
- Determination of visibility:
 - If the New York Yacht Club flagstaff is visible from NYC, visibility is approximately 1 nm.
 - Captain's on-scene conditions report from a vessel underway.

Rain / Lightning

- Criteria:
 - Thunderstorms or lightning forecast or observed within 10 miles of NYC – Race delayed until the storm passes or canceled.
 - Rain alone will not necessarily be a reason to cancel racing.

Weather Information sources include, but are not limited to, those listed below. The designated Principal Race Officer (PRO) makes the final determination regarding racing for the evening.

- NOAA VHF weather broadcasts and website – www.weather.gov/box
- NOAA Station NWPR1 – Newport (Coasters Harbor) - http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=nwpr1
- Sailflow (Rose Island Station) - www.sailflow.com
- NYC Clubhouse Weather Station

START SEQUENCE

NYC uses a rolling start for each class on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. In this process, except for the first class, the starting signal for one race is the warning signal for the next.

In accordance with RRS 26, “races shall be started by using the following signals. **Times shall be taken from the visual signals: absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.**”

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
5*	Class flag	One	Warning signal
4	P, I, Z, Z with I, U, or black flag	One	Preparatory signal
1	Preparatory flag removed	One long	One minute removed
0	Class flag removed	One	Starting signal


*or as stated in the notice of race or sailing instructions

The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

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Race Signals

Postponement Signals




AP Races not started are postponed. The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is postponed again or abandoned.

↑ • • •



AP over H Races not started are postponed. Further signals ashore.


↑ • •



AP over A Races not started are postponed. No more racing today.


↑ • •

AP over a numeral pennant 1–9 Postponement of 1–9 hours from the scheduled starting time.




1

↑ • • •




2

↑ • • •




3

↑ • • •




4

↑ • • •




5

↑ • • •




6

↑ • • •




7

↑ • • •



8


↑ • • •



9


↑ • • •

Abandonment Signals




N All races that have started are abandoned. Return to the starting area. The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is abandoned again or postponed.

↑ • • •




N over H All races are abandoned. Further signals ashore.

↑ • • •



N over A All races are abandoned. No more racing today.

↑ • • •




Safety

↑ —


V Monitor communication channel for safety instructions. (see rule 37)

Preparatory Signals




P Preparatory signal.

↑ • • —




I Rule 30.1 is in effect.

↑ • • —




Z Rule 30.2 is in effect.

↑ • • —



U Rule 30.3 is in effect.


↑ • • —



Black flag. Rule 30.4 is in effect.


↑ • • —

Recall Signals



X Individual recall.


↑ •



First Substitute General recall. The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal.

↑ • • •


Shortened Course




S The course has been shortened. Rule 32.2 is in effect.

↑ • •


Course Change Signals




C The position of the next mark has been changed: — — — —




to starboard;



to port;




to decrease the length of the leg;



to increase the length of the leg.


Other Signals



L Ashore: A notice to competitors has been posted.


↑ •

Afloat: Come within hail or follow this vessel.




M The object displaying this signal replaces a missing mark.

— — — —




Y Wear a personal flotation device. (see rule 40).

↑ •



Orange flag. The staff displaying this flag is one end of the starting line.

(no sound)



Blue flag. The staff displaying this flag is one end of the finishing line.

(no sound)

The meanings of visual and sound signals for 2021–2024 are stated above. An arrow pointing up or down (↑ ↓) means that a visual signal is displayed or removed. A dot (•) means a sound; five short dashes (— — — — —) mean repetitive sounds; a long dash (—) means a long sound. When a visual signal is displayed over a class flag, fleet flag, event flag or race area flag, the signal applies only to that class, fleet, event or race area.

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