



**Stamford Sail &Power Squadron
and Halloween Yacht Club
2011 Race Instructions**



DATE: The race to be held Saturday, August 20, 2011 unless unsuitable weather causes it to be postponed to Sunday, August 21.

RULES: The SSPS/HYC race is open only to single-hulled cruising yachts. The Racing Rules of US Sailing for 2009-2012 published by the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) will govern, except as modified by these Instructions. Ratings will be assigned by the SSPS/HYC Race Organizing Committee (ROC).

DIVISIONS: All yachts will race in a single non-spinnaker division, and shall race with main and jib only. For this purpose, a jib is defined as a headsail with its luff attached to the headstay along its entire length. A reaching strut or whisker pole of any length may be used if the inboard end is attached to the mast.

IDENTIFICATION: A sail number on the mainsail is required. All yachts should fly either the HYC or SSPS burgee in the starboard rigging. Each yacht is responsible for checking in with the Race Committee Boat before the race and for making certain the Race Committee can identify it at the finish. Checking in by radio on the open channel 71 is permitted and is recommended as a check of radio function.

START & FINISH: Between Buoy "32" (The Cows) and a yellow flag on the committee boat.

GOV'T MARKS: Except when it is a mark of the course, Buoy "32" must be passed on the channel side. Otherwise, government marks other than turning marks may be passed on either side.

ENGINES: A yacht's engine must not be running after the preparatory signal for the division in which the yacht is starting. In accord with RRS42.3h, engines may be started and used for propulsion immediately after finishing.

COURSE SIGNALS: The RC will signal the Code Group of the course to be sailed with Code Flags (A,B,C,D,T). The first course signal will be set before the Attention, but the course may be changed without notice up to the first Warning, after which the course cannot be changed without a Postponement.

The Course Selection Sheet shows the marks which will be rounded, in order, so that the angle between the two legs is less than 180 degrees. If any successive legs are reciprocal, the mark will be rounded as indicated. Displayed under the course flags, code flag "T" means "twice around" and code flag "R" means "reverse course."

POSTPONEMENT: Postponement of the start will be for five minute intervals, signaled by the code flag "AP" and two horn blasts. The "AP" flag will be dropped with one horn one minute before resuming the starting sequence with the Attention (white), followed in five minutes by the Warning signal for the next division. During the postponement, the course may be changed at the option of the Race Committee.

STARTS: Starts will be conducted as described in Rule 26, except that an Attention signal (white flag) will be set 5 minutes before the first Warning. A solid blue flag may be used for the Preparatory signal in place of the "P" flag. The RC will make sound signals (horns or gun) as well as the visual signals (flags). However, the visual signals govern, and failure of a sound signal will not be remedied. The planned times for the starting sequence are as follows:

SSPS/HYC Race Starting Sequence

TIME	EVENT	SIGNAL
1200	Attention	White up Horn
1205	Warning	White Down "1" up Horn
1206	Prep	"P" or blue up Horn
1209	1 Minute	"P" or blue down Long Horn
1210	START	"1" down Horn

SHORTENED COURSE: The course may be shortened for any or all divisions at any mark of the established course. The RC will establish a finish line on the side such that a yacht making a normal rounding will make a proper finish. Once in position, the RC will sound two horns and display code flag "S." The finish line is between the Committee Boat's yellow flag and the mark.

RECALL: Signaled by one horn and hail for each yacht starting early. All yachts are requested to pass the word to the recalled yacht. The RC may try to inform recalled yachts via Channel 71, and also may fly flag "X". Any yacht which is over early must return around either end of the starting line in order to restart.

GENERAL RECALL: Signaled by several horns and hails from the RC. The new start will begin with an Attention, followed in five minutes by the Warning. The RC may fly flag "1st Substitute."

CANCELLATION: Code flag "N" and three horn blasts. In case of inclement weather, call the ROC (203 554 1032) and monitor Channel 71 for information.

WITHDRAWAL: Any yacht withdrawing during a race for any reason must notify the Race Committee verbally or by VHF with confirmation.

PROTESTS: A protesting yacht must display code flag "B" from her backstay promptly after a rule infringement and should inform the helmsman of the infringing yacht. The yacht must notify the Race Committee of her protest upon the completion of the race. Protest meetings will be scheduled at the club house following the race. The US Sailing protest form, available at the club house, must be used.

LIABILITY: Ultimate responsibility for the conduct and safety of each participating yacht rests with her captain and/or owner. They are jointly and severally liable and, by entering the yacht in this event, accept all risks of participation. They further agree that the Halloween Yacht Club, the Stamford Sail and Power squadron, their Officers and/or committee members will not be held responsible for any personal injury, or loss of life, or damage to or loss of yachts or gear.

RADIO: The Race Committee shall monitor Channel 71. The RC will use radio to announce abandonment of the race or recalls, and to acknowledge withdrawals. Flag signals take precedence in governing the conduct of the race. However, RC may announce courses, shortening of courses, warnings, postponements, starting sequence, or other relevant race information over the open Channel 71 to all racers. Checking in by radio on the open Channel 71 is permitted and is recommended as a check of radio function. The RC will not respond to individual requests for information either by radio or cell phone.

COLLISIONS: In the event of a collision causing damage, the Race Committee may, at its own discretion, disqualify one or more yachts.

TIME LIMIT: The race ends at 1400 for all yachts. This replaces RRS 35. The Race Committee will leave station at that time and yachts not yet finished will be scored as DNF. Only boats sailing the course as required by RRS 28.1 and finishing before this curfew will be scored.

SCORING: The races in each series and each division will be scored using the Cox-Sprague scoring system. A PHRF rating is assigned to each boat based on YRALIS ratings. If no YRALIS rating is available, a rating will be assigned by the ROC.

POST RACE REVIEW: All skippers and crew should return to the HYC Clubhouse for a post race meeting for results and review of race tactics and strategies. Results will be posted at the HYC Clubhouse, on the SSPS web site (<http://www.usps.org/localusps/stamford/>) and distributed by e-mail to participants.

REFRESHMENTS: Will be provided after the race at the HYC Clubhouse until 1645.

2011 SSPS/HYC Race Courses

Courses		Bearing of 32 from RC boat.		Suggested Conditions	
Code Group	Division 1	Start Line	Finish Line	Wind Direction	Wind Strength
A	G1(p)	045	045	NW or N	Light
AB	G1,32A	045	335	NW or N	Light
AC	G1,32A	045	100	NW or N	Brisk
B	34(p)	000	335	W or E	Light
BA	34,32A	000	335	W	Light
BC	34,32A	000	045	W	Brisk
C	32A(s)	310	310	SW	Light
CA	32A,34	310	335	SW	Light
CB	32A,15	310	100	SW	Brisk
D	15(s)	250	100	SE or S	Brisk
DA	15,32A	250	100	SE or S	Brisk

G1 - Gong #1 at Stamford Harbor Entrance

(s),(p) - Leave to starboard or port, respectively. If not so indicated, for triangular courses, marks are to be rounded in accordance with the string rule.

Code flag 'T' displayed below the course signal denotes "Twice around". If "32" marks a reciprocal change of course, it should be rounded in the same direction as the previous mark.

Code flag 'R' displayed below the course signal denotes "Reverse course". The course shall be sailed in the opposite direction.

Except when it is a mark of the course, Buoy "32" must be passed on the channel side.