

The 53rd Annual



to benefit



Sunday August 17, 2025
Nantucket, Massachusetts USA

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Organizing Authority (OA):
Nantucket Community Sailing

Affiliated Organizations:
Nantucket Yacht Club (NYC)
Great Harbor Yacht Club (GHYC)
The Opera House Cup Committee
The Nantucket Race Week Committee
Classic Yacht Owners Association (CYOA)

The Opera House Cup encourages the appreciation, understanding, restoration and celebration of classic wooden boats sailed by amateur crews. It is part of the 2025 CLASSIC YACHTS CHALLENGE SERIES, organized by the CYOA.

As of 06/09/25



1 RULES

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 The US Sailing Prescriptions shall apply, except the US Sailing Prescriptions to (i) the preamble of Part 5, Section B, and (ii) to RRS 63.1 shall not apply.
- 1.3 Competitors from outside the U.S. may carry personal flotation devices approved by their nation's certification authority to meet the carriage requirements.
- 1.4 The protest committee may impose penalties less than disqualification [DP], for violation of the class rules and racing rules other than those of RRS Part 1 and Part 2. The notation "[DP]" in a rule in these Sailing Instructions means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 1.5 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or".
- 1.6 The rules of the 2025 CYOA Classic Yachts Challenge Series will apply for boats participating in that Series. Rules may be found at [Classic Yacht Series](#).
- 1.7 Under World Sailing Development Rule DR21-01, the definition of *Start* is changed as follows:
Start A boat *starts* when her hull having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side either
 - (a) at or after her starting signal, or
 - (b) during the last five (5) minutes before her starting time.When a boat *starts* in accordance with item (b) of the definition *Start*, she shall not return to the pre-start side of the line, and the starting penalty shall be ten (10) minutes added to her elapsed time.

2 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the Opera House Cup Official Notice Board by 0830 August 17, 2025.

3 COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The Official Notice Board is online at www.operahousecup.org.
- 3.2 A notice will be posted on Sunday, August 17 by 0830 listing the course and each boat's starting time for the course.
- 3.3 On the water, **the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio on channel 74**. All competitors shall monitor channel 74 throughout the race.
- 3.4 The course to be sailed will be announced over VHF 74 starting at 0900. **Boats will check in over VHF 71**, see SI 8.

RC Communications	VHF 74
Boat Check-in only	VHF 71

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole at the Nantucket Yacht Club.



- 42 When flag AP is displayed ashore, RRS Race Signals is changed to replace '1 minute' with 'not less than 60 minutes'.

5 SCHEDULE

All times are in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

- 0830 The Check-In boat location, Course, starting and finishing area locations and each boat's starting time will be posted on the [Official Notice Board](#).
- 0900 Cannon fire from the Lynx and announcement over VHF 74 of the Course and starting area and finishing area locations.
- 0900 Parade of Wooden Boats begins out of Nantucket Harbor
- 0940 Rainbow Parade start (please be aware of the smaller boats near Brant Point Lighthouse and the ferries in the channel)
- 1045 OHC Warning Signal for 1100 base start

6 RACING AREA & COURSE

The racing area is shown on the chart attached as Addendum A. The course will be a geographic course around government buoys and/or inflatable drop marks.

NOTE: In an effort to comply with the CYOA's recommendation of setting courses which balance upwind, downwind and reaching legs, the Organizing Authority has supplemented previous years' portfolio with additional marks and starting/finishing area locations. This will provide the RC with greater flexibility to configure a course that aligns with the CRF rating system.

7 MARKS

The mark descriptions and locations are listed below and shown on the chart attached as Addendum A.

MARK	LAT	LON	DESCRIPTION
A	41°24.312' N	70°09.795' W	Gov't Buoy Green #1
B	41°26.580' N	70°11.226' W	Gov't Buoy Green #17
C	41°26.202' N	70°05.007' W	Gov't Buoy Green #15
D	41°22.260' N	70°06.641' W	Yellow Inflatable Tetrahedron
E	41°20.555' N	70°10.914' W	Yellow Inflatable Tetrahedron
F	41°20.788' N	70°03.926' W	Yellow Inflatable Tetrahedron
Z	41°22.882' N	70°03.050' W	Yellow Inflatable Tetrahedron

8 CHECK-IN

- 8.1 Boats shall pass by the Check-in boat, located per the table below, and check-in by radio over VHF 71. The boat shall hail her name, sail number, and the number of people on board. The Check-in boat will acknowledge each boat's radio transmission and confirm the course.

Check-in Boat Position	LAT	LON	Distance & Bearing from NB Buoy
Check-In East	41°19.335' N	70°05.925' W	0.4 nm, 048° Mag
Check-In West	41°19.271' N	70°06.872' W	0.5 nm, 308° Mag

82 Boats may begin to check-in after 0930.

9 THE START



9.1 The location of the Check-In boat and the starting area will be posted on the [Official Notice Board](#) at 0830, and announced on VHF 74 at 0900, together with the course information and each boat's starting time. The starting area will be positioned in one of the following locations:

Signal Boat Position	LAT	LON	Distance & Bearing from NB Buoy
RC1	41°19.760' N	70°05.568' W	0.9 nm, 048° Mag
RC2	41°19.656' N	70°08.097' W	1.5 nm, 308° Mag
RC3	41°20.010' N	70°09.988' W	3.0 nm, 303° Mag
RC4	41°21.391' N	70°05.623' W	2.4 nm, 025° Mag

92 The starting line will be between an orange flag on the signal vessel "SERENA" at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.

93 A Pursuit Starting Sequence utilizing GPS time will be used. Each boat will have an assigned starting time calculated using her CRF 2025 Non-Spinnaker rating. This changes RRS 26.

94 For the 1100 assigned starting time the following sequence will be utilized:

Time	11 AM Start	Sound	Flag	Visual	Timing
1045	Warning Signal for 11:00 AM Start	1		11:00 AM Start Flag Up	15 Minutes to 11:00 AM Start
1056	Preparatory Signal for 11:00 AM Start	1		Preparatory Flag Up	4 Minutes to 11:00 AM Start
1059	One minute to 11:00 AM Start	1 Long		Preparatory Flag Down	1 Minute to 11:00 AM Start
1100	11:00 AM Start	1		11:00 AM Start Flag Down	11:00 AM Start

95 Boats shall not start more than 10 minutes after their assigned starting time.

96 If postponement has been signaled, the Race Committee will announce a new base starting time and display the warning signal 10 minutes prior to that time. All boats shall calculate their new starting time based on the length of the postponement. This also applies if the race is abandoned and re-started.

- 9.7 As stated in SI 1.7, in accordance with World Sailing Test Rule DR21-01, a boat crossing the starting line during the last five (5) minutes before her assigned starting time shall not return to the prestart side of the line, but will have ten (10) minutes added to her elapsed time.
- 9.8 Boats shall keep clear of the starting area until five minutes prior to their assigned start.

10 THE FINISH

- 10.1 The finishing area will be located at one of the Signal Boat Positions listed in SI 9.1, above, and will be posted and announced together with the Course as stated in SI 5. Note: The finishing area may be in a different location than the starting area location area.
- 10.2 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing vessel at the port end and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 10.3 Any boat still racing at 1800 will be given a finish time of 1800. This changes RRS 35.

11 SCORING

- 11.1 The race will be scored using the CRF 2025 non-spinnaker handicap system, with time-on-distance allowances applied to the individual starting times.
- 11.2 If the course is shortened, each boat's corrected time will be calculated from her assigned starting time and the actual course length.
- 11.3 Results will be posted on the Official Notice Board as soon as possible following the race.

12 RETIRING FROM THE RACE

If a boat retires, she shall notify the race committee on VHF 74. If the race committee does not acknowledge the call, they should attempt to call any auxiliary race committee vessel and request that they pass along the hail or call the RC PRO Hank Stuart on cell phone 585-414-6105.

13 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 13.1 Hearing request forms are available from the Protest Desk outside the NYC Sail Room.
- 13.2 Protests or requests for redress shall be delivered to the Protest Desk within 60 minutes after the race committee finish vessel personnel come ashore. The time will be posted on the [Official Notice Board](#).
- 13.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 13.4 Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2(a)(2).
- 13.5 A request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered to the Protest Desk no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted.
- 13.6 Hearings will be held as soon as possible.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, will apply. RRS 44.3(c) is changed by replacing 20% with 30%. There are no penalty turns.
- 14.2 As required in 44.3(a) "A boat takes a Scoring Penalty by displaying a yellow flag at the first reasonable opportunity after the incident."



- 143 As required in 44.3(b) "When a boat has taken a Scoring Penalty, she shall keep the yellow flag displayed until *finishing* and call the race committee's attention to it at the finishing line. At that time she shall also inform the race committee of the identity of the other boat involved in the incident. If this is impracticable, she shall do so at the first reasonable opportunity and within the protest time limit."
- 144 Boats shall provide their own yellow flag.

OPERA HOUSE CUP RACE COMMITTEE BOAT

Serena is a 74' motor yacht built in 1964 by Feadship. Fifty-four years after her launch in the Netherlands, *Serena* was on her way to becoming mothership of a small fleet of historic sailing yachts owned by Matt Brooks and his late wife Pam Rorke Levy. *Serena's* sleek mid-century styling is a natural complement to the fleet's flagship *Dorade*, a 1930 Sparkman & Stephens yawl, and *Lucie*, a 1931 Six-Metre designed by Clinton Crane. *Serena* was acquired after a seven-year search that took Brooks and Levy to boatyards across the U.S. and throughout Europe. They were looking for a motor yacht with an illustrious and colorful history and considered boats from as far back as the late 1800s. Thank you to Matt for donating *Serena* to Nantucket Community Sailing over the past several years.

ATTENTION SAILORS

A REMINDER TO COMPETITORS THAT THE CHANNEL LEADING INTO NANTUCKET HARBOR AND AREAS OF NANTUCKET HARBOR ARE RESTRICTED AND SAILING VESSELS DO NOT HAVE RIGHT OF WAY OVER A VESSEL UNDER POWER WHICH MAY BE RESTRICTED IN HER ABILITY TO MANEUVER.

EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY OR INJURY

HAIL YOUR RC on the Course Channel 74

If no RC available, hail **VHF 16** or call **911**

1. PROVIDE DETAILS – “THE 4 P’S”

- **Position** – Give Location – Coordinates – Boat Name
- **People** – How many injured? On board boat?
- **Problem** – Identify – Injury - Severity
- **PFD’S** – Any being worn?

2. DROP SAILS

3. TEND TO EMERGENCY – Await Instructions from PRO or First Responder

4. DO NOT MOVE INJURED – Give no pills or fluids

USCG will direct if and where to go ashore

Waterfront AED locations: US Coast Guard Brant Point, NYC, GHYC, Boat Basin, Town Pier

THIS CHART IS NOT FOR NAVIGATION

