



2017 RYC Solstice Race Sailing Instructions Rockland Yacht Club

1. **Rules:** Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016.
2. **Entries:** All comers welcomed! We will provide you with a handicap. If you have a PHRF certificate please submit it with you registration. All boats must carry all equipment required by the USCG.
3. **Notices to Competitors:** Notices to competitors in case of cancellation: All competitors are encouraged to call Vince Bemis at **207-542-8150** (cell) at 1000 on the day of the race if they are concerned about possible race cancelation.
4. **Signals Made Ashore:** At this time Rockland Yacht Club has no plans to display signals ashore.
5. **Schedule of Races:** One race is scheduled for Saturday June 24, with the first warning gun at 1130.
6. **Class Flags:** No class flags will be used. Instead the solid Red flag will indicate Division 1 and the solid Yellow flag will indicate Division 2. The “W” flag (red, white, and blue) will be used for the non-spinnaker fleet.
7. **Racing Area:** Racing for both divisions will be held in West Penobscot Bay (chart 13302)

8. **Check in Before Start:** Boats shall check in before the start. This is done by sailing past the stern of the Race Committee after it has set the pin end and has anchored on the line. Boats that withdraw from a race or decide not to start after coming to the racing area, shall advise the Race Committee as soon as reasonably possible.

9. **Marks:** At the pre-race meeting, a course will be announced based on forecasted wind directions and speed. Course marks will be limited to the list below and the course will be announced based on the letters associated with each mark. If weather conditions warrant, the race course may be modified.

a) **Can “1”** – Rockland Harbor

b) **RW “PB” Mo(A) Gong** – central West Penobscot Bay

c) **R “12” Bell** – off Robinson Rock

d) **RW “RO” Bell** – off Rockport Harbor

e) **R “2” Bell** – off Camden Harbor

f) **G “11” Fl G 4s Bell** – off Monroe Island

g) **RW “PA” Mo(A) Gong** – southern end of West Penobscot Bay

h) **RW “TBI” Mo(A) Whistle** – off Two Bush Channel

i) **RW “WP” Mo(A)**– north of Matinicus Island and Zephyr Ledges

j) **R “26” Gong** – off Fiddler Ledge

10. **The Course:** The course will be posted on the white board located on the stern of the Committee Boat and/or on VHF Channel 68. The order in which the marks are passed and the side on which each mark is to be left will be as illustrated on the board.

11. **Starting:** Prior to initiation of the Starting Sequence at the beginning of the racing the Race Committee will hail all yachts on Channel 68 and inform them that racing will begin within 2 minutes. The starting sequence is as follows:

- a) **At approximately 11:30—**
- b) **1 minute prior to the start of the sequence – there will be three short horn blasts.**
- c) **First Signal to start the sequence will be:**
- d) **15 Minutes signal indicated by the “W” Flag (Warning) (Non- spinnaker) up/one horn blast.**
- e) **14 Minutes – P (Preparatory) Flag up/one horn blast**
- f) **11 Minutes – P (Preparatory) Flag down/one horn blast**
- g) **10 Minutes – “W” Flag down (Non-spinnaker) /one horn blast**
- h) **10 Minutes - Yellow Flag (Div 2) up Warning)**
- i) **9 Minutes – P (Preparatory) Flag up/one horn blast**
- j) **6 Minute – P (Preparatory) Flag down/one horn blast**
- k) **5 Minutes – Yellow Flag down (Div 2 Start)/one horn blast**
- l) **5 Minutes – Red Flag (Div1) up/one blast**
- m) **4 Minutes – P (Preparatory) Flag up/one blast**
- n) **1 Minute – P Flag down/one blast**
- o) **0 Minute – Red Flag Down (Div 1 Start)/one blast**

A. Please note: The flags indicate the timing of the sequence – not the horn.

B. Over Early: The “I” flag rule (RRS 30.1) is in effect at all times. The Round-an-End Rule is that if a boat is over early during the minute before the start “she shall thereafter sail from the course side across an extension to the pre-start side before starting.” You must round either the Committee Boat or the pin end and reenter the starting line (no dipping). Also remember that while you are heading for an end to round, that you will have no rights, (not even starboard!).

12. Individual Recalls: The Race Committee will give one horn blast, “X” flag up, and hail the individual boats. The RC will attempt to hail over early boats on Channel 68 or verbally if within earshot. Boats will be hailed by yacht name. The RC is not required to hail boats, this is courtesy of the RC. The failure to hail, the hail of some but not all boats, or untimely hail of a boat or boats shall not be grounds for granting redress (changes RRS 62.1(a)).

13. General Recalls: If more than three boats are over early the Race Committee will give two horn blasts, “First Substitute” flag up. The recall will be announced on Channel 68. In the case of a general recall, three blasts will signal a new countdown sequence.

14. Shorten Course: The Race Committee may shorten the course for any reason. The Race Committee will raise the “S” flag, give two blasts of the horn, and hail the fleet(s) over channel 68 informing them of the changes.

15. The Finish: The finish line will be between Rockland Breakwater Light and Can “1”, unless specifically communicated otherwise at the skippers meeting.

16. Time Limit: There is a 4 hour time limit for this race. Boats failing to finish within one hour of the first boat to finish will be awarded a finish

score equal to the average score that would have been awarded to all boats that failed to finish had all such boats finished.

17. Penalty System: The RC has determined that given the particular conditions of the RYC races, normal Two Turns penalties as described in RRS 44.1 and 44.2, can be taken as a One Turn penalty. After getting well clear of other boats as soon after the incident as possible, a protested boat can take a One Turn Penalty to exonerate herself. When a boat hits a mark the penalty is still one turn.

18. Protests: Protests and Requests for Redress: follow RRS 60 – RRS 62.2. A protesting yacht must hail ‘protest’ and conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity (RRS 61.1a). Also boats intending to protest will, after finishing, notify the Race Committee at the finishing line. The notification shall include the sail number or yacht name (PHRF) of the protested boat. After receiving this notification the Race Committee will announce over Channel 68 that a protest is pending and that a meeting will occur. The protesting yacht must fill out a protest form and deliver it to the Protest Committee (not Race Committee) in the Club House no later than one hour after the last finish of that day. Protest Forms are available online at <http://www.ussailing.org/racemgt/documents/ussapf.pdf>, please print copies and have them on your boat. The Protest hearing will begin 15 minutes after the form is submitted provided all parties are in attendance.

19. Scoring: The low point scoring system shall be used with the first place being awarded one point. Boats scored OCS, DNF, and DSQ will be awarded a finish score 1 greater than the number of boats that started the race (RRS A9). A race will only be scored for a Division in which 2 or more boats start.

20. Safety Requirements and Equipment: Each competing boat is required to carry at least the following equipment; Prescribed Coast Guard safety equipment, a working VHF Radio, visual signals for

daytime use, and a suitable anchor and line for the class and sailing area. Radio Communications & Emergency Conditions: Emergency conditions should be reported to the Race Committee on channel 68. The Race Committee will monitor channel 68 from the time they leave the dock until they return to the dock at the end of the day. Boats in need of assistance can also call the Rockland Coast Guard on channel 16. The Committee Boat carries an emergency first aid kit and a cell phone with emergency phone numbers.

21. Disclaimer of Liability: Competitors participate in the Racing Program entirely at their own risk (RRS 4, decision to race). 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 Racing Program.