



2004 Offshore 160 Singlehanded Challenge

Friday, July 16, 2004 - Sunday, July 18, 2004

Co-Sponsored by Goat Island Yacht Club, Ltd. and Newport Yacht Club
Newport, Rhode Island

NOTICE OF RACE

1. OBJECTIVE OF THE 2004 OFFSHORE 160 SINGLE-HANDED CHALLENGE

The 2004 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 race may be recognized as a qualifying passage for the 2005 BERMUDA ONE-TWO.

2. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

2.1 The 2004 OFFSHORE 160 is organized by the Goat Island Yacht Club, Ltd. and the Newport Yacht Club.

2.2 The Goat Island Yacht Club, Ltd. and the Newport Yacht Club reserve 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 2004 OFFSHORE 160 will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2001-2004; 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 of approximately 170 NM in length, to be sailed single-handed and with spinnaker.

4.2 The Course: from a starting area south of Rose Island and the Newport Bridge and west of the entrance to Newport (RI) Harbor, entrants will proceed to the following marks in this order:

- to RW "A" Mo(A) Horn RACON buoy southeast of Block Island,
- to RW "MP" Mo(A) WHIS Racon buoy southeast of Montauk Point,
- to R"2" FL R 4s WHISTLE buoy south of Nomans Land,
- to FL 2.5s HORN Racon Buzzards Tower,
- to RW "A" Mo(A) Horn RACON buoy southeast of Block Island,
- to R"2" FL R 4s WHISTLE buoy south of Nomans Land,
- thence to the finish line at R2, at the entrance to Narragansett Bay.

NOTE: Race Organizers reserve the right to reverse the order of mark roundings on the course.

4.3 The first class start is scheduled for 1200 hours on Friday, July 16, 2004. A Skippers' Meeting will be held on Friday, July 16, 2004 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 will be provided in 2004 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 in LOA.

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, PO Box 1260, Portsmouth, RI 02871. The price is \$7.50 for non-members of US Sailing, \$5.50 for members.)

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 fully completed, including fee and requested attachments, and returned to the 2004 OFFSHORE 160, c/o Newport Yacht Club, P.O. Box 488, Newport, RI 02840 by 2000 hours, Wednesday, July 12, 2004. Applications for entry will only be accepted on the official 2004 OFFSHORE 160 APPLICATION FOR ENTRY, included with this Notice of Race.

6.2 The fee for the 2004 OFFSHORE 160 is \$25.00. This fee is non-refundable, unless the Event Organizers decide the entry is not acceptable.

7. QUALIFICATION

7.1 With the 2004 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.

7.2 To be accepted as an entry in the 2004 OFFSHORE 160, an applicant must have completed a singlehanded passage under sail (i.e. windpower only) of at least 25 NM aboard the yacht that 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 New entrants must submit a comprehensive log, conforming to good nautical practice, showing the vessel's progress and positions throughout the qualifying voyage or race. This log must be received by the OFFSHORE 160 Event Organizers no later than 2000 hours on Wednesday, July 14, 2004.

7.4 Qualifying passages must be completed by 2400 hours on Sunday, July 11, 2004, and evidence thereof must be received by the OFFSHORE 160 Event Organizers no later than 2000 hours on Wednesday, July 14, 2004.

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

8. EQUIPMENT SAFETY CHECK

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. The checklist must be submitted to the Event Organizers by the Skippers' Meeting; failure to comply could result in disqualification of the entrant from starting the race.

9. REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

A complete list of Required Safety Equipment for the 2004 OFFSHORE 160 is included in the addendum to this Notice of Race. (Please see the end of this Notice Of Race.)

10. OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

10.1 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.

10.2 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 whatever purpose, the time and reason must be properly logged.

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

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

10.5 All entries will be required to maintain radio surveillance throughout the race, and 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 73; all communications are to be noted on the Race Log.

10.6 All entrants will be 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.

10.7 Immediately after finishing, each skipper will be required to sign a declaration included on 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 18, 2004 or within three hours of the yacht's finish, whichever is later.

11. HANDICAPPING, TIME ALLOWANCES AND CLASSES

11.1 The 2004 OFFSHORE 160 will be sailed using PHRF ratings, as determined by Performance Handicap Rated Fleet of Narragansett Bay (PHRF-NB) guidelines. A 2004 NB-PHRF 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 Wednesday, July 12, 2004.

11.2 2004 PHRF-NB ratings may be requested from Pat Beausoleil at PHRF-NB, PO Box 73, Bristol, RI 02809-0073 (Phone: 401-253-0207, Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; Fax: 401-254-1495.) The fee for a new certificate is \$35.00; renewals are \$25.00.

PLEASE NOTE: DO NOT SEND RATING APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFSHORE 160

ORGANIZERS! PHRF-NB is an independent agent, and entrants must deal directly with them to expedite processing of applications. When applying for a 2004 rating, be aware that PHRF-NB will not accept and/or process any faxed rating applications without receipt of the accompanying fees. However, they will fax copies of COMPLETED ratings.

11.3 The 2004 OFFSHORE 160 will be scored using PHRF-NB ratings, applied to time-on-distance.

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

11.5 There will be no time allowance for this race.

12. PENALTIES, REFUSALS, POSTPONEMENTS

12.1 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 2004 OFFSHORE 160.

12.2 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 12, 2004, the Event Organizers will make a determination on refunding entry fees.

13. AWARDS

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

13.2 Awards will be given to the first three (3) boats in each class on corrected time; the number of classes will be determined at the end of registration, and will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting.

Roy Guay, Event Chairman
2004 OFFSHORE 160