



GUILFORD CUP SAILING



Guilford Cup

SHYC – GYC Interclub Racing
Sailing Instructions
Summer 2016

1. **RULES** Races shall be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing except as modified by these instructions.

2. **ENTRIES** Any cruising sail vessel with a LOA of 22 feet or more, a current PHRF certificate on file issued by the Eastern Connecticut Sailing Association, that has a galley, sleeping berths and is self-supporting for a weekend cruise, and that is skippered by an active member of the GYC or SHYC may enter this competition. For each race all boats must attempt, upon reaching the start area, to check-in with the race committee (RC) boat by hailing or by VHF radio. Entrants should give boat name and sail number upon checking in.

The ECSA can be joined easily and a PHRF measurement certificate obtained at <http://ecsa.net/>. Membership and a PHRF certificate costs \$50 – not even close to covering the countless hours of volunteer work done by your fellow ECSA members so that we can have a pretty decent rule to race under!

Boats have until July 20th to register with the ECSA. Contact the Guilford Cup Organizing Committee in the event of a required exception.

3. **THE COURSES and MARKS** The start will generally be in the vicinity of R N “16” off of Vineyard PT. Courses will be determined at the Race Committee’s (RC) discretion, and will typically include a windward leg. Courses for Spinnaker Division and Headsail Division may not be the same on a given night. Please see Table 2 below for courses commonly selected. Courses other than those listed in Table 2 also may be determined and announced prior to the starting sequence, which may also include an announcement to sail the course “twice around”. Course selection for the evening will be announced over VHF channel 72 and/or by hail from the RC boat.

Marks of the course will include government marks, and/or race committee (SHYC, GYC) temporary marks. Please see Table 1 below for a list of commonly used marks.

Marks not indicated in Table 1 may also be selected by the Race Committee and will be described when notifying competitors of the course prior to the starting sequence. All Government marks not designated as turning marks of the course must be passed on the normal, channel side, and shall be deemed marks of the course. Yachts while racing shall not pass between Goose Island and Falkner Island.

Table 1 - Marks

GYC/SHYC Race Series Mark Name	Latitude Longitude	USCG Light List Name	Light List Number
R16	41° 14' 24" N 072° 41' 05" W	Indian Reef Southwest Buoy 16	21595
R4	41° 15' 02" N 072° 39' 13" W	Guilford Harbor Lighted Bell Buoy 4	23715
G15	41° 13' 23" N 072° 39' 15" W	Falkner Island Reef Lighted Gong Buoy 15	21590
R20	41° 14' 20" N 072° 42' 19" W	Chimney Corner Reef Buoy 20	21600
10gi	41° 12' 08" N 072° 40' 28" W	Goose Island Lighted Bell Buoy 10GI	21175
Floater	41° 13' 06" N 072° 42' 00" W	SHYC/GYC Wed Night Race Series Temporary Mark	N/A

Table 2 – Courses

Course Number	Marks	Course	Distance	Overall Distance
C01	R16 to G15	141° Mag / 126° True	1.7 nm	1.7 nm
C02	R16 to R4	080° Mag / 066° True	1.5 nm	1.5 nm
C03	R16 to Floater	222° Mag / 208° True	1.5 nm	1.5 nm
C04	R16 to R20	280° Mag / 266° True	0.9 nm	0.9 nm
C05	R16 to G15 G15 to R16	141° Mag / 126° True 321° Mag / 306° True	1.7 nm 1.7 nm	2.4 nm
C06	R16 to R4 R4 to R16	080° Mag / 066° True 260° Mag / 246° True	1.5 nm 1.5 nm	3.1 nm
C07	R16 to Floater Floater to R16	222° Mag / 208° True 042° Mag / 028° True	1.5 nm 1.5 nm	2.9 nm
C08	R16 to R20 R20 to R16	280° Mag / 266° True 100° Mag / 086° True	0.9 nm 0.9 nm	1.9 nm
C09	R16 to Floater Floater to G15 G15 to R16	222° Mag / 208° True 096° Mag / 082° True 321° Mag / 306° True	1.5 nm 2.1 nm 1.7 nm	5.3 nm
C10	R16 to R4 R4 to G15 G15 to R16	080° Mag / 066° True 195° Mag / 181° True 321° Mag / 306° True	1.5 nm 1.6 nm 1.7 nm	4.9 nm
C11	R16 to R 20 R20 to G15 G15 to R16	280° Mag / 266° True 126° Mag / 112° True 321° Mag / 306° True	0.9 nm 2.5 nm 1.7 nm	5.2 nm
C12	R16 to Floater Floater to R20 R20 to R16	222° Mag / 208° True 003° Mag / 349° True 100° Mag / 086° True	1.5 nm 1.3 nm 0.9 nm	3.7 nm
C13	R16 to 10gi 10gi to R16	182° Mag / 169° True 002° Mag / 349° True	2.3 nm 2.3 nm	4.6 nm
C14	R16 to 10gi 10gi to R20 R20 to R16	182° Mag / 169° True 341° Mag / 328° True 100° Mag / 086° True	2.3 nm 2.6 nm 0.9 nm	5.9 nm
C15	R16 to 10gi 10gi to Floater Floater to R16	182° Mag / 169° True 324° Mag / 310° True 042° Mag / 028° True	2.3 nm 1.5 nm 1.5 nm	5.3 nm
C16	R16 to 10gi 10gi to R4 R4 to R16	182° Mag / 169° True Select your own Course 260° Mag / 246° True	2.3 nm 3.0 nm (buoy to buoy) 1.5 nm	6.9 nm

4. THE START

4.1 RRS rule 26 will generally be used, preceded by an alert signal. Rule 26 is a 5-minute sequence. See Rule 26. Typically, the Spinnaker Division will have a “5-minute” sequence, then the Headsail Division will have a clearly separated “5-minute” sequence.

4.2 The alert will consist of multiple short blasts on air horn. The time period between the alert and the Warning will be APPROXIMATELY 30 seconds.

4.3 The starting line is between the race’s designated starting mark (normally R N “16”) and the orange flag on the committee boat. If the committee boat has no flag use the highest point on the boat.

4.4 Before the first few races of the season the RC may elect to have a practice start before the official race. These will be announced over the VHF.

4.5 In the event that a Race Committee boat cannot be on station, a “Rabbit Start” format may be used. The race organizers will notify competitors on VHF 72 prior to the scheduled start time that a Rabbit Start format will be used. Executive Board members from the two participating yacht clubs who are participating in that evening’s racing will organize the Rabbit Start from aboard a competing boat and will announce their intentions on VHF 72 in the starting area.

5. COURSE CHANGES - A race may be shortened or finished at any mark.

6. FINISH The finish location will be announced by the RC for every race, but will normally be between the Committee Boat and the starting mark, and should be crossed in the direction of the course most directly from the last mark (i.e. there is not a fixed side in each race on which either the RC boat or the mark must be passed in order to cross the finish line, and the RC boat may, and often will, be moved from its position at the start of the race to create a more direct finish line that is closer to perpendicular to rhumb line. Boats should not expect to have to sail past a finish line to then “dogleg” back in order to cross). In the event that a Race Committee boat is not on station at the time a boat is completing the course, the boat shall record its own finishing time and report that to the Guilford Cup Scoring Officer, ideally providing time of day in hours/minutes/seconds, validated by GPS, when the boat is within one boat length of the finish mark, and any part of the hull, crew or equipment in normal position crosses an imaginary line running through the finish mark that is at a right angle to the rhumb line from the prior mark of the course.

7. RECALLS

7.1 Individual recall will be signaled by one long blast on air horn. The RC will endeavor to announce boats over early on the VHF, however it is the skipper’s responsibility to make a proper start, regardless of being notified or not by the RC for being over early.

7.2 General recall will be signaled by three long blasts on the air horn as well as a VHF announcement.

7.3 The RC may disqualify any boats that cause 7.1 or 7.2 as a result of overly aggressive sailing.

8. Wednesday Night GC racing will include both a “Headsail” (non-spinnaker) Division and a “Spinnaker” Division. Yachts must declare prior to participating in their first race of the season the Division in which they intend to participate. Spinnaker Division yachts may not choose to race in the Headsail Division during Wednesday Night races. A Spinnaker Division yacht may switch to Headsail Division partway through the season, but any races completed in Spinnaker Division will be considered DNC for purposes of season scoring. A Headsail Division yacht may choose to participate in Spinnaker Division races on Wednesday Nights as many as 3 times during the season, provided the yacht completes no fewer than 7 Wednesday Night races total for the season. In the event that a Headsail Division yacht fails to complete 7 races for the season, her races sailed in the Spinnaker Division may not exceed 30% of her total Wednesday races sailed (using the general rule for rounding numbers – less than .5 rounds “down”, .5 and above rounds “up”). Races sailed by a Headsail Division yacht in the Spinnaker Division in excess of the applicable limit will be considered DNC for purposes of season scoring. In the event that a Headsail Division yacht races in the Spinnaker Division (and qualifies for season scoring as noted), her score in each Spinnaker race, for the purpose of overall season points calculation, will be based on the better of either her corrected position in that race, or her average score in the Headsail Division races for the entire season (excluding discarded scores but including any other DNFs or DNCs).

8.1 For Races other than Wednesday Night Races, Spinnakers may be used. It will be assumed that boats with spinnaker ratings on their PHRF certificates entering these races will be flying spinnakers and will be scored accordingly, unless the boat notifies the Race Committee of its intent to race non-spinnaker prior to the 5 minute warning during these races, or by email to his club’s fleet captain a minimum of 24 hours prior to a Pursuit Races (this will allow start time calculation based on non-spinnaker rating when the middle-distance race format will be pursuit/staggered start). A spinnaker rated boat that has so notified the Race Committee that it will not be flying a spinnaker(s) during the race may not subsequently fly a spinnaker(s) and request they then be scored using their spinnaker rating (in other words, no waiting until underway to see if the actual course/wind combination favors spinnaker or non-spinnaker sailing!).

9. PROTESTS / MARK INFRINGEMENT If you need to absolve yourself of a penalty you may do a 720 turn. In the words of Buddy Melges, “Don’t get yourself in a position where you have to protest.” A boat that has touched a mark shall get clear of the course and complete a 360 turn. In both cases the boat doing penalty turns should stay clear of other competitors, as she will have no rights during the turns. The RC will not hear protests. All disputes shall be settled on the water.

10. SCORING

10.1 Wednesday Night Series.

Wednesday Night Series races will be scheduled at 18:00 hours on the dates indicated in the club calendars. Skipper trophies will be determined using low point scoring for the Wednesday night series. A boat’s two worst scores in the series will be discarded (i.e. two throw-out race results will be used in the series scoring).

10.2 The Guilford Cup.

This competition includes the Wednesday night races, the SHYC Summer Series races, and both club's Pursuit and other scheduled races. The Guilford Cup will go to the club with the best aggregate score based on the club's top two results in each of the Spinnaker and Headsail Divisions on Wednesday Nights (4 total scores per club per Wednesday Night), and top three results per club from the whole fleet in other scheduled completed events.

10.3 SHYC Summer Series Races.

GYC members are invited to participate in the SHYC Summer Series and Holiday races and SHYC Staggered Start Race, but will be scored separately as part of the best boat overall and the Guilford Cup competition as stated above.

The SHYC summer series races will use different courses than those described above, and these will be announced on channel 72 prior to the race. Visit www.shyc.club to download Sailing Instructions (Racing Circular) specific to SHYC Summer Series Races which includes important information about marks and courses. NOTE: THE MARK & COURSE INFORMATION IN THIS GUILFORD CUP WEDNESDAY NIGHT SAILING INSTRUCTIONS DOES NOT APPLY TO THE SHYC SUMMER SERIES RACES!

10.4 GYC Pursuit Races.

Middle-distance Pursuit races are scheduled for Sunday mornings, 11:00 AM starting times with the starting area near RN16. The course will be announced on channel 72 prior to the race.

10.3 Guilford Cup Boat of the Year

The Boat of the Year award will be awarded to the skipper with the best score in the Guilford Cup competition (with no drop races in the scoring). A skipper winning the "Boat of the Year" award will not again be eligible for this award until five years later (for example, 2011's winner would not be eligible for BOTY until the 2016 Guilford Cup Series).

10.4 Scoring System

10.4.1 Race Scores

Scoring of individual boats for the various series will be calculated as per the Racing Rules of Sailing.

The qualified boat with the best Wednesday Night Series total score is the overall Wednesday Night Series winner, and others are ranked accordingly.

A boat's score for a given race will be based on the number of eligible boats racing on that specific date (DNS, DNF, DSQ will be based on eligible entrants racing on that date, not the total number of boats registered in the series for the season).

11. AWARDS / TECHNICAL RACE DISCUSSIONS

11.1 Trophies and other awards will be presented at an awards ceremony, date to be determined.

11.2 Attendance at a post-sailing debriefing with beverages will be encouraged after every race at a time and place to be determined.

12. COMMUNICATION

12.1 The race committee boat will use channel 72 for communication with boats –in the event that radio communication is not occurring, boats are asked to come within hailing distance of the RC boat for hailed instructions.

13. TIME LIMIT

13.1 There will be a default time limit for Wednesday Night races of 3 hours from the start of the race – or as announced by the race committee. The Middle Distance Races will have a time limit of 7 hours (i.e. to count as a finisher, you must complete the course within 7 hours of your start time) – or as announced by the race committee. Please refer to Sachem's Head YC's Sailing Instructions for the Summer Series and Holiday Races to obtain information about time limits, etc. for those events.

14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

14.1 All competitors participate in the races and series entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, decision to race. The organizing authorities, their officers, race committee members or general members will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, or prior to, during or after the races or series.

The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole responsibility of the owner or skipper, who must do his best to insure that the yacht is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy and managed by an experienced crew who is physically fit. He must insure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed, and that the crew knows where it is kept and how it should be used.

It is recommended that each boat's skipper hold a safety briefing prior to racing and should include, as a minimum, location and operation of safety equipment and crew overboard procedures.

15. Not to Scale rendering of Sailing Area

The image below was originally produced using Garmin Software, but it has been moved from one program to the next and sized manually in a manner that makes it useless for navigation. It is provided here to give a quick visual reference of the general locations of the marks. **DO NOT USE IT FOR NAVIGATION.**

