

# BRISTOL YACHT CLUB

## COMMODORE'S CUP REGATTA

July 2, 2025

### Notice of Race / Sailing Instructions

The BYC Commodore's Cup Regatta is intended to introduce family members and sailing students to the excitement of sailboat racing. Members who regularly race their boats and those who usually cruise or day sail are invited to participate in this fun race running counter-clockwise around Hog Island.

**Rules:** US Sailing's "Racing Rules of Sailing" as amended and these instructions.

**Entries:** Boats will register by completing online registration on the Bristol Yacht Club website (Bristolyc.com) no later than 18:00 on 1 July. Scratch sheets, starting times and Student Crew assignments will be distributed to all competitors via email no later than 12:00 on 2 July.

**The Start:** Races will be conducted as a pursuit race with specific time staggered starts based on each participant's 2025 PHRF-NB Rating as indicated in Attachment 1. The first start will be at 18:00 hours using rule *RRS 26* with an attention signal (flurry) made 6 minutes before the first starting signal and the warning signal made 5 minutes before the first starting signal only (17:55). All subsequent starts will have a starting signal at the time each boat is scheduled to start.

The Starting Line will be in Bristol harbor, off State Street dock between an orange, inflatable buoy and a staff displaying an orange or white flag on the Race Committee signal boat.

Each boat shall check in with the Race Committee boat on the starting line before the race providing the following information – sail number, number of people on board.

**Starting Sequence:** The Attachment 1 Scratch Sheet listing the starting times for all racers will be made available prior to the race at the Bristol YC

or emailed to the address on the applications. Timing will be based on GPS time.

**Finish Line:** Same as starting line.

**Course:** Millard Series Course #22. 5.5 nautical miles;  
Start to RN"2" southwest point Hog Island to G"3" FL 4.0 sec bell south of Hog Island to RN"2" Bristol Pt. to finish line. All marks left to port.

**Special Instructions:**

Leave GC "3", Usher's Cove to starboard.

Leave FL R 6s 26ft 3M "2", Castle Rock to port.

Leave RG "PP" QK FL(2+1) R6s Bell, Poppasquash Point to starboard.

Leave GC"3", Hog Island shoal to port.

**Sails:** Spinnakers are allowed only if you are racing under your PHRF Spinnaker rating. Headsail changes are allowed. Only a single headsail, fully hanked to the headstay is allowed except during rapid change of headsail.

**Poles:** Spinnaker and Whisker poles are allowed.

**Protests:** Yacht being protested must be notified at earliest convenient moment.

The Race Committee must be notified after crossing finish line. Protest will be heard immediately following the race.

**Time Limits:** All boats must complete the course by 20:00.

**Cancellations and Postponements:** Abandonment Signals will be in accordance with *RRS* Race Signals. A postponement will be signaled by hoisting the Answering Pennant (AP) with two sound signals. After a postponement has been made, the Answering Pennant will be lowered with one sound signal followed one minute later by the Warning Signal. The Race Committee may precede the lowering of the Answering Pennant by a flurry of sounds to call attention to it. All starts will proceed per the original starting sequence, plus the added amount of time added to the first start.

The abandonment of all races will be signaled by hoisting flags N over A with 3 sound signals.

**Scoring:** Because this is a staggered start event, there will be no time handicap taken at the finish. The first boat to cross the finish line within the time limit will be the winner, the second boat to cross the line will be scored as second, etc.

**Safety Regulations:** A boat shall Check-In with the Race Committee prior to racing by identifying herself by sail number and reporting the number of Crew aboard. It is each boat's responsibility to assure acknowledgement from the race committee. A boat shall Check-Out with the race committee by finishing the race, or, if retiring, to do so as soon as possible by radio on VHF Channel 71, or by passing within hailing distance of the RC boat and so communicate verbally and receiving an acknowledgement by the race committee. A yacht that has withdrawn must not cross the finish line.

**Radio Communication:** VHF Channel 71 will be used for any announcements by the race committee and for communication with competitors. The race committee will make efforts to broadcast courtesy racing information such as weather, courses, starting sequence, starting violations, time limits, etc. Failure to do so will not be grounds for redress.

**Prizes:** Prizes will be awarded at the Millard Series Award Dinners.

**Trash Disposal:** Boats shall not put trash in the water.

**Disclaimer of Liability:** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See *RRS* rule 3, 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 regatta.

**Skipper's Waiver:** The Skipper's waiver is attached to the BYC Racing Website. You are required to read and indicate acceptance of the waiver in the 'Additional Information' space of the registration page.

**Insurance:** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance. The Policy carrier, Policy number, and Policy expiration date must be provided with your registration in the 'Additional Information' space.