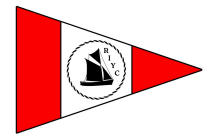


ASSA Albemarle Challenge 2024

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

September 26-29



Osprey Yacht Club - Albemarle Plantation - Hertford, NC



1. JURISDICTION AND RULES

The regatta is hosted by the Osprey Yacht Club and under the jurisdiction of the Albemarle Sound Sailing Association and its race committee. All races will be sailed in accordance with the [“World Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024”](#) and the US Sailing Association’s [21-24 Prescriptions](#) except as modified by these sailing instructions.

2. ELIGIBILITY

The regatta is open to all keel boats with a valid 2024 PHRF rating. Skippers who are members in good standing at each of the ASSA member clubs, CYC, EYC, OYC, PRYC, and RIYC are eligible to compete for their club and the Albemarle Challenge Cup. All participants compete at their own risk.

3. NOTICES and COMMUNICATION

The Race Committee will post official notices and race results at Marina Park and via email. All communications from the Race Committee will be on VHF Channel 72. Execution of penalty turns, withdrawal, protests and emergencies should be reported to the race committee as soon as it is safely possible.

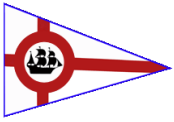
- Skippers shall pass by the Committee Boat within hailing distance prior to the first warning signal of the first race each day and announce their presence, boat name, and sail number.

4. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

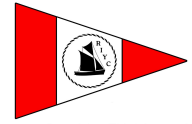
- Thursday, September 26
 - 1700-1900 Welcome Reception hosted by OYC, Check in and packet pick up at Marina Park under the tent, hors d'oeuvres and BYOB.
- Friday, September 27
 - 0730-0830 Continental Breakfast for skippers, crew, race officials at the at OYC Center
 - 0800 Skippers Meeting at the OYC Center
 - 1000 First Race, each day's format will be announced in advance, depending on wind and weather.
 - There will be 1 start for all classes for round the buoys racing.
 - Pursuit start and start times will be announced in advance for the distance pursuit race.
 - 1600 Protest Hearings at the OYC Center if needed. Proper procedures shall be followed. See Protest bullet below.
 - Pay as you go Pizza and Beer and Wine Night at Dockside
- Saturday, September 28
 - 0730-0830 Continental Breakfast for skippers, crew, race officials at the at OYC Center
 - 0800 Skippers Meeting at the OYC Center
 - 1000 First Race, each day's format will be announced in advance, depending on wind and weather.
 - There will be 1 start for all classes for round the buoys racing.
 - Pursuit start and start times will be announced in advance for the distance pursuit race.
 - 1600 Protest Hearings at the OYC Center if needed and proper procedures are followed
 - Oktoberfest, Brats with all the fixins hosted by your ASSA Board at Marina Park, BYOB
- Sunday, September 29
 - 0730-0830 Continental Breakfast for skippers, crew, race officials at the at OYC Center
 - 0800 Skippers Meeting at the OYC Center
 - 1000 First Race, each day's format will be announced in advance, depending on wind and weather.
 - There will be 1 start for all classes for round the buoys racing.
 - Pursuit start and start times will be announced in advance for the distance pursuit race.
 - 1600 Protest Hearings at the OYC Center if needed and proper procedures are followed
 - 1700-1900 Awards Dinner and TSO Armor Awards Presentation, BYOB at Marina Park

5. CLASSES AND STARTING ORDER

- Each boat must fly their designated class ribbon from the back stay or other prominent position near the stern of the boat.
 - Class A - Red Ribbon
 - Class B - Blue Ribbon
 - Class C - Yellow Ribbon
- All classes will start together and be scored separately.



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6. RACE COURSES

- The race courses will be sailed in the Albemarle Sound approximately 1.5 NM due south of the Yeopim River Entrance Marker #1 depending on wind direction.. The Start and Finish line is between the ORANGE flag on the Committee Boat and an ORANGE pennant off the port side of the Committee Boat. The Finish will be crossed in the direction of the course from the last mark.
- Three race formats are planned. Three short around the buoy races (triangle, windward, leeward), Two intermediate around the buoy races (Olympic format, large triangle, windward, leeward), and one longer pursuit start, distance race. Each day's race format will be announced in advance, depending on weather and wind conditions.
- [Race Course Diagrams are linked here](#) and will be discussed in detail at each skippers meeting.
- Races will be started using rule 26 and rule 30.1. Around the ends rule is in effect and will be observed by the race committee; penalties applied per rule 30.2.
- Three short around the buoys races
 - The course will be a triangle and a windward-leeward leg around drop marks. There will be one start for all classes using a standard 5 minute sequence. All turns will be to port
 - A fleet sails a triangle and a windward-leeward
 - B fleet sails a triangle and a windward-leeward
 - C fleet sails a triangle
- Two Intermediate around the buoys races
 - The course will be an Olympic format, large triangle and a windward-leeward around drop marks. There will be one start for all classes using a standard 5 minute sequence. All turns will be to port. Note: after starting, no boat may cross the start-finish line between the pin and committee boat unless they are finishing their race.
 - A fleet sails a large triangle and a windward-leeward
 - B fleet sails a large triangle and a windward-leeward
 - C fleet sails a triangle
- Pursuit start, distance race
 - 1 race is planned
 - All fleets will participate in a pursuit start format. Start times and course directions will be distributed at the Skippers Meeting
 - The course will be a quadrilateral and approximately 8.5, 10.0 or 12.1 nm long, depending on weather

7. SPECIAL SIGNALS

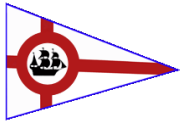
- Postponement: 2 horn blasts and VHF (channel 72) announcement will indicate a delay in scheduled time to start.
- The 3 horn blast warning signal will be repeated just prior to resuming the start sequence.
- Shortened Course: Two horn blasts and VHF announcement will precede a shortening of the course. Watch for committee boat repositioning and listen for announcement of course change.
- Abandonment or Cancellation: 3 horn blasts and VHF announcement.
- General Recall: 2 horn blasts and VHF announcement. A new starting sequence will be initiated
- Individual Recall: 1 horn blast and VHF hailing of the offending boat(s) indicates one or more yachts have started prematurely. The Race Committee will endeavor to notify each yacht over early by hailing via VHF.

8. TIME LIMIT

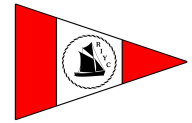
- The next race on station signal and start sequence will begin approximately 45 minutes after the proper finish of the first boat in the fleet, 3 horn blasts on station, one minute before the next race's starting sequence.
- A class race may be abandoned if no boat in a class has finished within 2 hours for around the buoys racing and 3 hours for a longer pursuit start, distance race. If no boat finishes in the allotted time, the race committee may terminate the race and score all remaining boats in that class in their positions at that time

9. PROTEST, TURNS PENALTY, RETIREMENT

- Protests must be written and filed with the Protest Committee using the [US Sailing Hearing Request form](#), in addition to all of the following:
 - Display a code flag "B" or its equivalent (red pennant) conspicuously in the rigging at the first reasonable opportunity.
 - Inform the yacht protested as soon as possible by hailing using cupped hands or VHF.



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- File a written protest with the Protest Committee at the OYC Center within 30 minutes of the Race Committee's return to the dock, citing the rule infraction with description from the [World Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024](#) and the US Sailing Association's [21-24 Prescriptions](#) except as modified by these sailing instructions.
- Attend a Protest Hearing with the Protest Committee at OYC Center at 1600.
- [From US sailing Prescriptions of the Racing Rules of Sailing](#), Rule 44.1, Turns Penalty – Any yacht who recognizes she has infringed a rule of Racing Rules-Part 2 (When Boats Meet) or is protested and thinks she is in error should retire immediately OR avail herself of the alternate turn penalty by carrying out the turns as indicated in Rule 44.1 and by notifying the race committee via VHF.
 - Rule 31 Touching a mark = 1 turn penalty, including a tack and a gybe (360°)
 - Rule 44.1 When one or more rules from Part 2 are broken in one incident, the penalty shall be a 1 turn penalty, including one tack and one gybe (360°)
 - Rule 44.1 When one or more rules from Part 2 are broken in one incident within the “zone” (3 boat lengths) around a mark, the penalty shall be a 2 turns penalty, including two tacks and 2 gybes (720°)
- Retirement – Any yacht retiring from a race after starting for any reason shall inform the Race Committee via VHF and will be scored DNF.

10. SAFETY

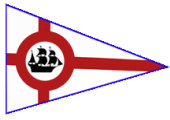
- Each yacht participating must:
 - Carry on board USCG approved PFD for each person aboard plus a throwable.
 - Carry on board a towline suitable for the yacht and an appropriate size anchor.
 - Stay clear of safety and committee boats during and between all races except in case of an emergency.
 - Allow the OYC Safety Committee to inspect for safety equipment at any time and accept disqualification for cause.
 - Racing may be postponed or canceled with sustained winds of 25 knots or more.

11. POINT SCORING

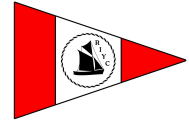
- Around the buoy races will be scored using time on time and the distance race will be a pursuit start format and boats will be scored in finishing order for each class.
- Low Point System scoring will be used (1 point first place, 2 for second and 3 for third, etc) as provided in Appendix A of the racing rules.
- If all races are completed, 1 race (worst finish) will be dropped from the 5 around the buoy races that are planned. The pursuit start, distance race will count for everyone, regardless of finish. If any around the buoy races are canceled, then all around the buoy races will be scored, regardless of finish.
- Codes DNS (came to start area but did not start; score #starters+1; can be dropped), DNC (did not start, did not come to the start area; score #class entries+1; cannot be dropped) and DNF (started but did not finish; score #boats that started +1; can be dropped) will be used when appropriate.
- Tie break will follow Appendix A, A8, A8.1, and A8.1 in the [2021-2024 Racing Rules of Sailing](#).
- The top four boats from each ASSA member club will be scored for the Albemarle Challenge Cup, awarded to the member club with the best overall performance. The skipper of each boat must be a member in good standing of the club they represent to be considered eligible.

12. SPECIAL RULES

- Skippers shall pass by the Committee Boat within hailing distance prior to the first warning signal of the first race and announce their presence, boat name, and sail number.
- There will be no restriction on whisker pole length.
- To reduce the advantage that boats with two slotted head foils have over boats without, the following will apply: Boats may fly a single jib attached only at the tack and head, with no hanks to forestay. When changing sails, the new sail may be hoisted before lowering the old sail; however, the new sail must be on the same side as the old sail. Except for the above, a boat may only fly a single headsail unless she is cutter rigged.



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12. SPECIAL RULES continued...

- Colored Class Ribbons issued by the Race Committee shall be visibly flown from the back of all racing boats attached either to the backstay or by other suitable means for boats without backstays.
- NOTE: You MUST HAVE A SAIL NUMBER on your mainsail and have a class ribbon displayed on the backstay, or equivalent, to be scored. If numbers appear on both the mainsail and the jib, the mainsail number will be used for scoring.
- Electric winches are allowed for boats and crew who can justify the need for successful and safe participation.
- If a skipper is single handed, they are allowed to engage the auto pilot temporarily in order to adjust lines, trim sails, and BE SAFE!

13. COMMUNICATION WITH RACE COMMITTEE AND REGATTA OFFICIALS

- Communications with the Race Committee Regatta Officials is prohibited beginning with the Warning Signal of the first race and continuing until the awarding of trophies, except for the following:
 - Skippers shall pass by the Committee Boat within hailing distance prior to the first warning signal of the first race and announce their presence, boat name, and sail number.
 - Questions and comments related to yacht identification upon crossing the finish line
 - On course notification of intended protest
 - Notification of withdrawal from a race
 - Requests for emergency assistance shall be directed to the Race Committee
 - Requests for information by the Race Committee for information from a skipper(s) shall be promptly answered.
 - Regatta results will be posted prior to award of trophies. All questions or comments regarding the posted results shall be made to the Race Director.
 - Profane or uncivil comments that are directed to or about the Race Committee or Regatta Officials before, during or after a regatta will be subject to disciplinary action by ASSA as provided by Rule 69 of U.S. Sailing.
 - Discipline may include disqualification from the current regatta and denial of participation in other ASSA sponsored regattas.
 - Skippers shall be liable for the conduct of their crew.

14. Other Items of note...

- Bagged ice is available at the Dockmaster's Office in the cooler for free.
- The race committee has created a [Crew on Loan sheet](#) that Skippers may use to find additional crew.