

VERNON YACHT CLUB
2024 WOMEN'S RACING SERIES
NOTICE OF RACE & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1.0 RULES:

1.1 The 2024 Women's races will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) - (2021 – 2024), the prescriptions of Sail Canada, the Notice of Race (NOR) and Sailing Instructions (SIs) for these series, and any changes posted on the VYC Official notice board (see 1.3 below).

1.2 Registration is mandatory for all skippers, crew, spare crew and coaches prior to participating in the Tuesday Night Women series. Registration and payment of fees will be accepted up to and including May 1st. Fees are \$60 per person excluding mentors, coaches or volunteers.

1.3 The Official notice board will be located on the gate to the docks. Updates to the NOR and SIs will be posted to the webpage at www.vernonyachtclub.com.

2.0 RACE SCHEDULE:

2.1 Practice and Races will be held on Tuesday nights starting May 7, 2024 through to June 25, 2024, with a possible Saturday or Sunday mini regatta July 6th or 7th, 2024.

2.2 See SI Addendum A for Schedule Table. The schedule will also be posted on the VYC web site by May 1, 2024. Practice nights will be held May 7 – May 21.

There will be a race series – May 28 to June 25 and a mini Regatta (if there is sufficient interest) Saturday, July 6 or Sunday July 7.

2.3 The first warning signal will commence no earlier than 6:30 pm (1830 hrs) and will be held in the bay in front of the Vernon Yacht Club.

2.4 The first warning signal will commence no earlier than 10:00 am (1000 hrs) if second series of races are held on a weekend, and will be held in the bay in front of the Vernon Yacht Club.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY, ENTRY AND CLASSIFICATION

3.1 Sailboats participating in the Tuesday Night Women Sailing shall be owned by members of Vernon Yacht Club (VYC). Sailboats shall carry appropriate insurance (valid 3rd party liability insurance) with a minimum \$2,000,000 liability of which proof shall be on file at VYC. Boats shall have correct, consistent, legible sail numbers on the main sail. Boats without current PHRF certificates will be assigned a handicap.

3.2 Boats can/will be divided into two fleets depending on the roles performed of those on board. Boats that sail with no coach and with only women on board are in a non coached fleet. Boats which have a coach on board are in a coached fleet.

4.0 ORDER OF CLASS STARTS:

4.1 With two fleets, both Fleets may be started at the same time or separately. Fleet flags shall be a red flag for Coached fleet and yellow flag for the uncoached fleet.

Starting sequence (coached or uncoached starting first) is at the discretion of the Committee Boat. Number of races each night will be at the discretion of the Committee Boat.

5.0 COURSES AND MARKS: (see SI Addendum 2)

S = the start line (between the orange flag on the committee boat and north yellow tower)

F = the finish line (between the Blue flag on the committee boat and south yellow tower)

Mark 'A' is a yellow tower-shaped buoy. It is the most westerly placed buoy.

Mark 'B' is a yellow tower-shaped racing buoy. It is the first buoy to the west of the start line.

Mark 'C' is a yellow tower-shaped racing buoy. It is the first buoy to the east of the start line.

Mark 'D' is a yellow tower shaped buoy. It is the most easterly place buoy.

Mark 'E' is a yellow tower racing buoy. It is between A and B and to the south.

Courses 1 to 6

Marks are to be left to PORT

Course 1	SBFCF	1.49 NM
Course 2	SAFCF	2.40 NM
Course 3	SCFBF	1.49 NM
Course 4	SDFBF	1.96 NM
Course 5	SBEFCF	1.76 NM
Course 6	SCFBEF	1.76 NM

6.0 STARTING SYSTEM: The starting sequence will be as follows:

6.1 Approximately 60 seconds before the first starting sequence, there will be 5 short blasts on the horn to advise the fleets that the starting sequence will begin shortly. This is only necessary for the first race. As per RRS rule 26, races shall be started by using the following signals:

Warning Signal	Fleet flag (Red/Yellow) up	1 horn	5 minutes to start
Prep Signal	Prep Flag up	1 horn	4 minutes to start
One minute Signal	Prep Flag down	1 horn	1 minute to start
Start Signal	Fleet Flag(s) down	1 horn	Start

6.2 An alternative starting system will be the reverse handicap or pursuit race style start. This will only be used if no committee boat is available. Slowest boats start first at 6:30, and depending on the race course chosen, other boats will start at a delayed sequence according to their handicap. Each boat must record the time when they finish the race (cross the finish line) and provide that time to the person tallying results or to the race chair.

7.0 TIME LIMIT:

7.1 For Tuesday and weekend races the maximum time for the first yacht in each fleet to finish shall be 90 minutes. All other yachts in that fleet must finish within 30 minutes after the first yacht in that fleet to avoid being scored DNF. Should no boat reach the first mark within 30 minutes of the starting signal, the race will be abandoned. When a race or boat(s) exceeds the maximum time the committee boat will indicate by 2 LONG SIGNALS.

8.0 SCORING:

8.1 Shall be by the low point system as per appendix A of the RRS.

8.2 Races will be scored using PHRF Time on Distance

8.3 Rule A5.2 and A5.3 is amended as follows:

DNS (Did Not Start) Number yachts registered in that fleet for racing plus 0

DSQ (Disqualified) Number yachts started in that fleet plus 2

DNF (Did Not finish) Number yachts started in that fleet plus 0

NSC (Not Sailed Course) Same as DNS

8.4 Coached fleet and non coached fleet will be scored separately.

9.0 HANDICAPPING:

9.1 All boats without a valid BC Sailing PHRF certificate dated after April 2021 and dated within 5 years of registering to race will have a PHRF assigned by the race chair/results manager.

9.2 The race chair and/or results manager reserve the right to request yachts and sails be measured. Skippers may be required to pay extra funds in order to obtain a current PHRF certificate from BC Sailing.

9.3 Yachts sailing without a spinnaker will be assigned a handicap as if they were sailing with a spinnaker

10.0 PROTESTS:

10.1 Yachts protesting must immediately display a red flag and hail the yacht being protested. Protests must be written on a Sail Canada protest form (available from Committee Boat) and presented to the Race Committee (Committee boat crew on duty that evening) within 30 minutes of the completion of the last race of the day. Decisions of the Race Committee shall be final.

10.2 In lieu of a DNF score and in order to start another race or to get off the water due to weather or darkness the last place yacht still racing may accept a last place finish in their fleet and motor to the finish line provided the rest of their fleet have completed the race within the allotted time frame.

11.0 AWARDS

11.1 Awards will be presented at the wind-up party to be held after completion of the racing series. Date to be announced at a later date.

12.0 PENALTIES

12.1 Penalty for right of way infraction or causing a collision shall be 2 turns, each turn including one tack and one gybe in the same direction at the first safe opportunity.

13.0 ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

13.1 Penalty for hitting a rounding mark or a start mark shall be a turn including one tack and one gybe in the same direction at the first safe opportunity.

14.0 THROW – OUTS:

14.1 For the Series and the Mini Regatta there will be one throw out for every 4 races completed. At the end of the racing season the Series and the Mini Regatta finishes will be merged and rescored to calculate the overall finishes. This will require the throw outs to be restructured so that there are a total number of throw outs to equal one in every four races completed. In the event that weather does not permit 4 races to be completed in a series, no throw-outs will be allowed.

15.0 SAIL NUMBERS:

15.1 Yachts shall display their official sail number on both sides of their mainsail.

16.0 FINISHING CONSIDERATION:

Please stay well clear of the finish line while other fleets are finishing. You may be protested by another yacht if you do not comply.

17.0 COMMUNICATION

While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. It is advisable that boats have a VHF radio on board, but is not required.

18.0 RISK STATEMENT

18.1 RRS 3 states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.” By participating in this series, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough, seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in an increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

18.2 The organizing authority, management, Board of Directors, and volunteers will not accept any liability for material damage, or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with, or prior to, during or after this practice and race series.

SI Addendum 1

Date		Start	Event	Time Limit
April 8, 2024	Meet, greet and register	1900	At VYC Club House	
April 23, 2024 (Date to be confirmed)	Rules review	1900	At VYC Club house	
May 7, 2024		1830	Practice 1	2 hours
May 14 , 2024		1830	Practice 2 (man overboard & spinnaker)	2 hours
May 21, 2024		1830	Practice 3	2 hours

			(starts and Spinnaker))	
May 28, 2024	Series A	1830	A- 1	2 hours
June 4, 2024		1830	A - 2	2 hours
June 11, 2024		1830	A - 3	2 hours
June 18, 2024		1830	A - 4	2 hours
June 25, 2024		1830	A - 5	2 hours
Sat or Sun in July (6 or 7 th)	Series B	1000	B – 1, 2, 3,4	5-6 hours
TBD, possibly 6 or 7 th July	Wind up & Awards	TBD	At VYC	