



## Pettipaug Yacht Club

### 2026 Open Races (Commodore, Mid-Summer, Robin Starr)

#### NOTICE OF RACE

##### 1. Rules:

- 1.1. The series will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing: 2025-2028, and the individual class rules unless modified by this Notice or the Sailing Instructions.

##### 2. Eligibility and Registration:

- 2.1. The race is open to MC Scows and any class of boat with a Portsmouth Yardstick handicap rating, which is the number appearing in the D-PN column on page 23 at this link - <https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2017-North-American-Portsmouth-Yardstick-Handbook.pdf>
- 2.2. The race is open to all Senior and Junior Pettipaug Yacht Club members. Written parental permission is required for minors (under 16 years of age).
- 2.3. Participants are requested to E-mail Dick Hutchison at [hutchria@rcn.com](mailto:hutchria@rcn.com) at least three days beforehand – provide name and boat type, and if you are a minor.
- 2.4. Registration must be completed in person prior to the Skippers Meeting on race day.

##### 3. Fleets:

- 3.1. There will be two fleets – MC Scows, and the Essex Open fleet consisting of all other boats.

##### 4. Schedule:

- 4.1. Noon Skippers Meeting on clubhouse deck  
1pm Warning Signal for MC Scows  
1:15 Warning Signal for Essex Open fleet
- 4.2. The Warning Signal for the first race will normally be at 1pm. If the Warning Signal is scheduled for a time other than 1pm (usually due to low tide), the Skippers Meeting will be held one hour prior to the specified time.

##### 5. Course:

- 5.1. The course will be determined on the day of racing and announced at the Skippers Meeting. This is a long-distance race - the course length will be such that it should take one to two hours to complete. The course will be on the western side of the river, away from the river channel. Start/finish line will be in front of the clubhouse.

##### 6. Scoring:

- 6.1. MC Scows will be scored in order of finish. The Essex Open fleet will be scored based on their corrected times using the North American Portsmouth Yardstick Table.
- 6.2. The MC Scow finishing first will also have their elapsed time corrected in order to determine the overall race winner (ie- lowest corrected time Scow versus lowest corrected time Essex Open fleet).

## **7. Sailing Instructions:**

- 7.1. The Sailing Instructions are available on the PYC website Racing & Results page and will be available at the Skippers Meeting.
- 7.2. Any changes/amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the PYC website Racing & Results page and PYC bulletin board before the day of the race.

## **8. Awards:**

- 8.1. Awards will be presented to the top three finishers in each fleet. Results will be posted on the PYC website Racing & Results page

## **9. Safety Requirements:**

- 9.1. RRS 40.1 applies: a USCG approved PFD, must be worn by each competitor while on the water. Inflatable vests are prohibited.
- 9.2. All class-required safety equipment is mandatory.

## **10. Responsibility for Safety:**

- 10.1. As a condition of the participation of any boat in any race or related activity sponsored or undertaken by the Pettipaug Yacht Club or Pettipaug Junior Sailing Academy (PYC/PJSA): the owner, helmsman and each crew member agree that the safety of the boat and the crew and the decision whether or not to start or continue to race is solely their responsibility, and each of them waives all claims which he or she, or any heir, representative, successor or assignee, may have against the PYC/PJSA, and any of their officers, trustees, members, committees, employees or agents, arising out of or in any way connected with participation in such race or activity. Responsibility for evaluating wind, sea and weather conditions rests with each competitor as does the responsibility for the safe condition and operation of their boat including safety equipment and rigging and for wearing a life jacket. Assistance from the race committee, patrol boats, or other support boats and from personnel manning them is at the risk of the participant.

## **11. Content:**

By participating in this race, a competitor grants to the organizing authority and its sponsors the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any photographs, motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television or other productions of him or her during the period of the competition without compensation.