

Scotch Bonnet 2009

38th Scotch Bonnet Light Race – Genesee Yacht Club – Lake Ontario
June 19-21, 2009



Celebrating
GYC's 75th Year
1934-2009

NOTICE OF RACE

The officers and members of Genesee Yacht Club are pleased to invite your participation in the 38th annual Scotch Bonnet Light Race, scheduled to start on Friday evening, June 19, 2009, off Rochester, New York, on the south shore of Lake Ontario.

ELIGIBILITY

The race is open to all yachts with a current valid PHRF-LO certificate and the minimum required offshore equipment, listed below. If you do not have a certificate, contact Sam Weiner at SBLR@geneseeyc.org before the race.

DIVISIONS

Registered entrants will be divided into appropriate PHRF divisions of spinnaker, white sails (genoa-only), and multi-hull fleets. Separate fleets will be formed for any groups of identically-rated classes of boat, e.g., C&C 29 or Beneteau 40.7. We anticipate divisions of 5-8 boats. With sufficient applications, a single handed division will also be formed.

RULES AND SCORING

The race will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012 and the prescriptions of US Sailing, except as modified by the Sailing Instructions. Scoring for PHRF divisions will be based on the PHRF-LO handicap rating system with time-on-time correction. A Scotch Bonnet race committee boat will be stationed at Scotch Bonnet Island and will record times, and in addition we ask skippers to take their own island time. This intermediate time may be used in the event that the race must be shortened.

AWARDS

Participation flags will be awarded to all boats entering the race. Trophies and flags will be awarded to the top three finishers in each division. Five perpetual trophies and plaques will also be awarded: best corrected time for the white sails fleet, best corrected time for the spinnaker fleet, first GYC boat under 30 feet to finish, fastest RYC spinnaker boat on corrected time, and first monohull to finish.

COURSE

The starting line will be set approximately 1/2 nm north of the Rochester light, situated on the west pier off Rochester harbor. All spinnaker divisions will sail west to Wautoma Shoals Buoy, north to Scotch Bonnet Island, and back to Rochester, a total distance of approximately 82 nautical miles. Genoa-only and single-handed divisions will sail directly to Scotch Bonnet Island and back to Rochester for a total distance of approximately 74 nautical miles. The finish line will be between the end of the east pier and a race committee boat at anchor. The SBLR committee reserves the authority to alter the race course.

CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

U. S. Customs & Border Protection (C&BP) has notified Genesee Yacht Club that boats and crews will not be required to check in with C&BP when they return to the Rochester harbor after participation in the 2009 Scotch Bonnet Light Race provided that the boat and crew: 1) did not stop in Canada for any reason, or 2) did not have contact with a hovering vessel (19 USC 1401(k)).

During the Scotch Bonnet Light Race, a hovering vessel is any vessel that is encountered during the race outside of U.S. waters, including the mark boat at Scotch Bonnet Island. Other race boats are not considered to be hovering vessels. Contact with a hovering vessel includes visiting, delivering or receiving merchandise or passengers outside of U.S. waters. Boats and crews that stopped in Canada or that had contact with a hovering vessel may use the videophone to check in when they return to Rochester. For 2008, the acceptable types of identification are: 1) passport, 2) Nexus Card, 3) active I-68 registration, or 4) an enhanced driver's license.

All sailors should have acceptable identification, as noted above, in the event that the boat must stop in Canada for repairs or emergency medical service. Such identification may also be necessary in the event that a boat and crew are compelled to provide assistance to a distressed vessel outside of U.S. waters. In either case, acceptable identification may be required for check in with C&BP using the Rochester Harbor videophone.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available at Genesee Yacht Club after 2:00 PM on Friday, June 19, 2009. A preliminary version should be available on our web site by June 1, 2009.

CHECK-IN REQUIRED

All Skippers are required to check in at GYC Friday June 19, 2009, between 2 PM and 5:45 PM. You will be required to sign your entry form if you registered via the Internet. Bring your PHRF-LO certificate (we can make a copy if needed) and CREW LIST. For your safety, you will not be eligible to participate in the race until we receive the completed CREW LIST form.

SKIPPER'S MEETING

All Skippers are required to attend the Skippers meeting at 6 PM Friday June 19, 2009. Any last minute changes will be discussed as well as final instructions concerning Customs and Immigration. Fleet splits will be handed out at this time also.

SOCIAL EVENTS

A complimentary Commodore's Welcome Dinner will be offered Thursday evening, June 18 for out-of-town skippers and crews. Friday June 19 we have a complementary brunch. We also offer a free sailors' reception on Saturday afternoon, June 20 after the race. The gala Scotch Bonnet / Father's Day picnic with live music and awards ceremony will be held on Sunday afternoon, June 21. Come celebrate Fathers' Day at GYC with great food and good times!

ENTRY FEES

Entry fee \$65 USD if received before Wednesday June 17, 2009 at 8:00 PM

Entry fee \$75 USD if received before Friday June 19, 2009 at 2:00 PM

No registrations accepted after Friday June 19, 2009 at 2:00 PM.

Deduction for USSA member = \$5 USD

Except at the discretion of the SBLR committee, requests for refunds, less \$10 charge for expenses incurred, will not be honored after Thursday June 18, 2009 at 8:00 PM.

KEY DATES/TIMES

Wednesday, June 17....8:00 PM.....	Deadline for registration at regular rate.
Thursday, June 18.....6:00-9:00 PM.....	Commodore's Welcome Dinner for out-of-town crews.
Friday, June 19.....10:00 AM-2 PM.....	Brunch for Skippers and crews.
.....2:00 PM.....	Deadline for late registration.
.....2:00-5:45 PM.....	Skippers' check in at GYC.
.....	Bring PHRF-LO certificate and Crew List.
.....6:00 PM.....	Skippers' meeting.
.....7:30 PM.....	First warning signal.
Saturday, June 20.....10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Complimentary sailors' reception.
Sunday, June 21.....12:00-3:00 PM.....	Picnic with live music at GYC.
.....3:00 PM.....	Awards presentation.

OWNER'S AND SKIPPER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The safety of a sailing yacht and her crew is the sole responsibility of the owner and the skipper. The owner and the skipper must make certain that the yacht is fully found, seaworthy, and well crewed. They must satisfy themselves as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails, and equipment. They must see to it that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed, that the crew has been instructed in its use, and that the equipment is deployed when necessary. Neither the following list of equipment, nor the inspection of a yacht by the race committee for compliance, limits the responsibility of the owner and skipper for the safe operation of a sailing yacht in this race.

MINIMUM EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

The following list of equipment is required aboard all yachts entered in the Scotch Bonnet Light Race. All yachts are subject to an equipment inspection before and after the race. Any yacht found to be not in compliance will either not be started or will not be given a finish position. The items are in addition to any and all equipment aboard required by law.

1. Seacocks or gate valves on all through-hull openings below the waterline except for openings for integral deck scuppers, shaft logs, speed indicators, etc.
2. Soft, tapered wooden plugs sized to fit various through-hull openings in the boat.
3. Fixed stanchions and lifelines or pulpits completely enclosing the deck. (OEM)
4. Marine head that complies with Lake Ontario regulations.
5. Permanently-installed bunks for at least half the number of crew. (OEM)
6. Adequate supply of fresh water.
7. Sail numbers on the mainsail. Numbers on all others is highly recommended. Sail numbers must match on all sails.
8. Piloting equipment.
9. Manual bilge pump.
10. Self-bailing cockpit.
11. Rigid 2-gallon pail, with lanyard attached.
12. Anchor and rode, properly sized for the boat.
13. Water resistant flashlights (2) with spare batteries and bulbs.
14. First aid kit and manual.
15. Radar reflector, assembled, mounted and operational at night and during poor visibility.
16. Shutoff valves on all internal fuel tanks.
17. Personal Flotation Device (PFD) with whistle and waterproof light attached, for each crewmember.
18. Safety harness for each crewmember.
19. Properly installed and adjusted marine compass and an emergency spare.
20. Companionway blocking arrangement (to above deck level).
21. Depth finder or lead line.
22. Emergency steering equipment.
23. Suitable tools and spare parts for the boat and motor.
24. Rigging cutter or hacksaw, capable of cutting the largest diameter wire in the boat's standing rigging.
25. Operable VHF marine radio.
26. Bouyant heaving line at least 50 feet long, readily available to the helmsman and crew.
27. Man-overboard safety rig, mounted within reach of the helmsman, and a system for rapid deployment. The safety rig to consist of (a) a horseshoe-type or Life Sling type throwable PFD; (b) a self-igniting waterproof light, whistle, and drogue attached to PFD; (c) a man-overboard pole connected to the PFD and constructed to display a flag at least six feet above the water when deployed.
28. When on deck, single handed sailors will be required to use PFD's and a tether to jack lines or sound clipping points, for the duration of the race. A device must be rigged to allow re-boarding the boat in case of fall-over. Autohelms will be permitted only for single-handed sailors.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See the Genesee Yacht Club Scotch Bonnet Light Race website at <http://www.geneseeyc.org/SBLR>, or contact Sam Weiner at SBLR@geneseeyc.org