



**THOMAS S. WILLETS, JR. MEMORIAL RACE**  
**SATURDAY OCTOBER 4, 2025**  
**ESSEX YACHT CLUB, ESSEX, CT**  
**NOTICE OF RACE**

- 1. RULES:** The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current *Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 2. ELIGIBILITY:**
  - 2.1** The regatta is open to two classes. Class 1 shall be cruising sailboats over 23.5' with a current PHRF rating. Class 2 shall be Ideal 18 one-design class sailboats.
  - 2.2** Eligible skippers may enter by completing the entry form and sending it to the Essex Yacht Club, 13 Novelty Lane, Essex, CT 06426 or emailing to [bforbes@essexyc.com](mailto:bforbes@essexyc.com) by 1600 on Friday October 3, 2025.
- 3. FEES:** There is no entry fee for this regatta.
- 4. SCHEDULE:**
  - 4.1** The skippers' meeting will be held at 0930 on Saturday, October 4, 2025 at the Essex Yacht Club.
  - 4.2** The first warning signal will be at 1100.
- 5. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** The sailing instructions will be available at the skippers meeting.
- 6. VENUE:**
  - 6.1** The starting area will be located east of nun "R26" on the Connecticut River.
  - 6.2** The racing area will be on the Connecticut River between Brockway Bar and Calves Island.
- 7. COURSES:**
  - 7.1** The course will be set using either government buoys or inflatable marks as turning marks.
  - 7.2** The Race Committee will signal the course to be sailed as described in the Sailing Instructions at the start of the race.
- 8. PENALTY SYSTEM:** Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn penalty.
- 9. SCORING:**
  - 9.1** Class 1 boats shall be scored on Corrected Time using PHRF Time-on-Time handicaps.
  - 9.2** Class 2 boats shall be scored based on finishing order, Rule A4.
  - 9.3** The scores for Class 1 boats will be combined with their respective scores in the Thomas Clark Memorial Race and the Birch Memorial Race to determine the overall winner of the Tri-Club Trophy. Class 2 boats are not eligible for the Tri-Club Trophy.
- 10. PRIZES:**

Prizes for each class will be awarded at the Awards Party commencing at 1700 on Saturday, October 4, 2025 at the Essex Yacht Club.

**10.2** The winner of Class 1 shall be the 2025 winner of the Thomas S. Willets, Jr. Memorial Trophy.
- 11. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:**
  - 11.1** The Race Committee will monitor Channel 72 for safety and to communicate information to racers.
  - 11.2** Boats must not enter the Essex mooring field as defined by the yellow marker buoys.
  - 11.3** Boats must keep clear of all commercial river traffic. The Race Committee will disqualify any boat that requires a commercial vessel to change course or speed for safety.
  - 11.4** Each boat must check in with the Signal Boat before the warning signal of the first race.
- 12. RISK STATEMENT:**

'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers lone.'

RRS -- Rule 3. The Skipper/Owner of each boat shall accept sole responsibility for the safety of his/her crew and boat. Weather and sea conditions must be evaluated by each Skipper and his/her crew, and each participant is responsible for determining whether it is safe to participate. The Essex Yacht Club and their respective Race Committees, Officers, Employees, and event related Volunteers, are in no way held responsible for accidents, damage, or injury to property or to boats, crew, or guests arising from any cause during or related to any race or activities associated with the race, and the Skipper/Owner agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each of them from any liability, claim or expense including attorney's fees against any or all of them.