2026

Half-Pint-o-Rum Regatta

ancient mariners sailing society

Sailing Instructions

HALF PINT-O-RUM REGATTA

Saturday December 12th, 2026

Sailing Instructions

RACE COORDINATION

Race Chairs: Tim Fleming and / or additional team members
Race Committee: Start – TBD team member
Race Committee: Finish – Janet Callow or team member, Shelter Island Beach @ Boat Ramp

ELIGIBILITY

All vessels must be owned or operated by Ancient Mariner Sailing Society (AMSS) members or invited yachts that fully complete, and sign, the Entry Form and submit proper Entry Fee. All handicaps are arbitrary in keeping with Ancient Mariners Sailing Society (AMSS) tradition. Invited guests are urged to enter by Wednesday December 9th, 2026 to greatly assist the RC.

FORMAT & CLASSES

Format Class

Traditional Format (Beach Start) Racing Class - AMSS Flag & Flag Qualifying Vessels

Alternate Format (Non Beach Start) Sailing Class - AMSS Flag & Flag Qualifying Vessels

Modern Classic – AMSS Qualifying Classic Design Vessels

ENTRY FEE

The Entry Fee is a minimum of **one (1) fifth (NOT PINT)** of quality Rum. Entry Fee will be collected by RC boat prior to start.

SKIPPERS' MEETING

All Owners, or **Approved Designate**, racing under the Traditional Format are to be present on the beach. ***Yacht's entering the Racing Class may request to designate a crewmember other than the Owner to represent that yacht at the start if the Owner is physically unable to row or swim ashore. Proposed designee must be approved by the Race Committee.*** For yachts racing under the Alternate Format there is no Skippers Meeting.

START AREA

Start area will be within 200 yards of the Beach just Southeast of the Navy Housing and just North of Fiddler's Cove in South Bay abeam of the **Race Committee.** Yachts must be fully anchored, with sails down, no engine running by **12:00 noon. ALL DINGHIES MUST BE BEACHED NO MORE THAN 50 YARDS FROM THE RC.**

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RULES

Racing rules for this regatta will be governed by the 2025-2028 International Yacht Racing Rules (IYRR) and the prescriptions of US SAILING.

CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes in these instructions, if any, will be noted at the Skippers Meeting. **Any changes to the Sailing Instructions made on the beach, for the Racing Class, shall supersede these written instructions.**

STARTING LINE (Traditional Format)

The Staring Line for yachts racing under the Traditional Format is a line drawn on the beach. All Owners **or Approved Designate** must **start** by crossing line. Only when the Owner or designate has made contact with their yacht can the crew begin to hoist sail and sail off anchor (no motors)

STARTING LINE (Alternate Format)

The Starting Line for yachts racing under the Alternate Format will be considered to be their anchored position provided they are within the limits of the Staring Area with all sails down.

START TIME & SIGNALS

Every effort will be made to start the race on the below noted times. Please plan accordingly. RC will start race from Shore or designated vessel and will run the Starting Sequence for all starts per below.

All traditional start racing Class Yachts shall have their landing party (swimmer, dinghy, board, etc) representative on the beach before or by 12:00 pm, and they must bring their own cup.

Class Time Signal Sound ALL CLASSES

All beach landing parties for the Traditional Format shall be on the beach and ready to start by 12:00 noon.
First Warning: Attention – 5 short horn or whistle blasts at 12:00 pm.
Second Warning : 1 long horn or whistle blast at 12:05 pm.
START Signal: 1 long horn blast at 12:10 pm.
ALL CLASSES – Traditional Beach Start is at 12:10
OVER EARLY: Yacht's that start early will be penalized 10 minutes plus their time Over Early. There will be **no recalls.**

COURSE

The Course shall be:

Start Starting Line (see description)
Mark #1 Buoy 26 to Port
Finish Line near Shelter Island Boat Launching Ramp (see description)

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FINISH LINE (Traditional Format/ Racing Class)

The Finish Line for yachts racing under the Traditional Format is on the ***sandy beach adjacent to the South end of the Shelter Island launching ramp,*** across the street from Silvergate YC. To finish each yacht must have an adult member of the crew row or swim ashore, run up the beach, drink the tot of Rum. ***They must bring their own Cup.***

FINISH LINE (Alternate Format/ Sailing Class, Modern Class)

FINISH TIME

RC will submit all finish times to a designated member for entry into the website and scoring. A paper copy with yacht names and finish times noted may be provided.

COURSE HANDICAP DISTANCE

The course distance for scoring purposes is **7.8 nm**

ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

The 720 degree penalty specified in Rule 44.1 is replaced by a 360 degree turn.

PROTESTS

In keeping with the spirit of the AMSS, and in Corinthian Tradition, it is hoped that sportsmanship and seamanship prevail over the alternative of protesting. Yachts intending to protest shall immediately hail the protested yacht and raise a protest flag at the time. The RC must be verbally notified of protest (and a protest flag displayed) at the end of the race. Protests shall be submitted in accordance with Rule 68. All protests should be submitted to the RC before sunset or 1 hour after the last yacht finishes. Protests will be heard at a time convenient to the Race Chairmen, RC, and / or an approved Flag Officer.

COMMERCIAL SHIPPING

Tracing yachts encountering non-racing vessels shall conform to the inland rules of the road. No vessel shall have right-of-way over large ships in the Channel. All commercial, Navy, Coast Guard, or the Police **have right-of-way**. All contestants must give way. Any violation witnessed by the RC or reported by ship's master or U.S.C.G. will result in disqualification.

TIME LIMIT

The time limit for each yacht is **$4^{1/2}$ hrs** after her start time.

TRASH

Trash shall not be discharged into the bay. Violators will be flogged through the fleet and/or charged up to 30 minutes to their finish time. Each skipper is responsible for the proper disposing of any items, including rum bottles.

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SAFETY

Any yacht that retires from the race must notify the race committee. If retiring vessels cannot relay intentions to the Race Committee via visual or radio (VHF Channel 68), they are encouraged to text their intention to the Race Chairpersons; and upon reaching port, calling the respective parties. All vessels are to monitor VHF Channel 68. All vessels must comply with U.S.C.G. Marine Safety regulations, including carrying an in-board radio and air horn, and have signed a valid Entry-Release form.

POST RACE GATHERING

The location and details of the post-race gathering will be announced before December 1st.

RESULTS & AWARDS

Results will be posted as soon as possible after the race, and announced at the post-regatta gathering. Any Awards will be presented at the 2026 AGM dinner on December 17th at San Diego Yacht Club. This meeting will start at approximately 6 pm.