

## Holmes Hole Sailing Association

P.O. Box 2263  
Oak Bluff, Mass 02557  
508 878 9061

### 2020 Season Race Circular

**Entries:** All entries are made by returning \$100.00 dues for the season plus an entry form if you are a new member. You will not be scored unless dues are paid. Please remit by June 1st so the scratch sheet can be finalized for the first race. **Alternatively, You may pay your 2020 HHSA dues and enter the 2020 Moffett race with one payment of \$140 for a savings of \$10.**

Crew and friends are encouraged to join as Associate Members with a dues of \$15.00. (A guest need not pay dues and may race for one day). You can now pay your dues online and update your address, email and boat information by going to the link on the Holmeshole.org website or go directly to [http://www.regattanetwork.com/membermgmt/HHSA/membership\\_registration\\_start.php](http://www.regattanetwork.com/membermgmt/HHSA/membership_registration_start.php)

**Race Dates:** Please note race dates are not every weekend but are all on Sunday except for the Thursday evening races.

### 2020 RACE SCHEDULE (Times shown are for Division B Warning signal).

DATE	Tide at WChop	Warning Signal	Course
6-21 Sun	12:40 High Tide	1:00 PM	TUNE UP RACE A & B Division combined
6-25 Thu	15:38 High Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0
6-28 Sun	11:21 Low Tide	10:00 AM Pursuit Start	Robinson's Hole Rendezvous Race
7-02 Thu	15:05 Low Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0
7-05 Sun	12:25 High Tide	1:00 PM	Course #1-8 Depending on Conditions
7-09 Thu	15:37 High Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0
7-12 Sun	10:54 Low Tide	1:00 PM	Course #1-8 Depending on Conditions
7-16 Thu	14:12 Low Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0
7-19 Sun	11:28 High Tide	1:00 PM	Course #1-8 Depending on Conditions
7-23 Thu	19:53 Low Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0
7-26 Sun	10:04 Low Tide	10:00 AM Pursuit Start	Tarpaulin Cove Rendezvous Race
7-30 Thu	20:48 High Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0
8-02 Sun	11:20 High Tide	1:00 PM	Course #1-8 Depending on Conditions
8-06 Thu	19:39 Low Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0
8-09 Sun	09:30 Low Tide	1:00 PM	Course #1-8 Depending on Conditions
8-13 Thu	19:46 High Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0

8-16 Sun	15:21 Low Tide	10:00 AM Pursuit Start	Chappy Rendezvous Race
8-20 Thu	18:43 Low Tide	6:00 PM	Course #0
8-23 Su	15:36 High Tide	1:00 PM	Course #1-8 Depending on Conditions
8-27 Thu	19:32 High Tide	5:30 PM	Course #0
8-30 Sun	10:13 High Tide	1:00 PM	Course #1-8 Depending on Conditions
9-03 Thu	18:31 Low Tide	5:30 PM	Course #0
9-06 Sun	15:05 High Tide	1:00 PM	Course #1-8 Depending on Conditions
9-12 Sat	13:01 Low Tide		Moffett Race

## Sailing Instructions

**Starting line:** When the wind is southerly allowing a beat into the Harbor toward Nun 6, the starting area may be moved 0.5 nautical miles downwind from Nun 6. When the committee is so stationed, the starting line will be between a staff displaying a flag in the committee boat and a brightly colored drop buoy. Otherwise the starting line will be between a staff displaying a flag in the committee boat and NUN 6 (or other mark designated by the committee when code flag L is displayed). When the wind is southerly allow sufficient time to find the committee boat.

**Nun 6 as a windward mark:** When the starting line is approximately 0.5 nautical miles north of Nun 6 the committee will display the course number with either a "P" or an "S". When a "P" is displayed, racers shall proceed from the start to Nun 6 leaving it PORT before proceeding with the designated course. When an "S" is displayed, racers shall proceed from the start to Nun 6 leaving it to STARBOARD before sailing the designated course. Once a yacht has started and rounded Nun 6 in the designated direction the starting line may be ignored. However, the right of way rules always apply and all skippers are warned to act accordingly when encountering other boats that may or may not have started.

**Courses:** The committee boat will display which number course is selected. When the starting line is set to use Nun 6 as the first mark, the length of the course will be adjusted by the scorer to reflect the increase in distance sailed.

**Course 0:** The following triangular course goes around the harbor once. Start at Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave to Port or Starboard as indicated by the committee boat) and then sail, to Red Nun 4 off West Chop, to Can 23a off East chop, Back to Red Nun 6 to finish between Nun 6 and Committee Boat. Distance 3.2 miles. Leave all marks to starboard unless Reverse Flag is flying.

**Course 1:** The following triangular course goes around the harbor twice. Start at Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave to Port or Starboard as indicated by the committee boat) and then sail, to Red Nun 4 off West Chop, to Can 23a off East chop, Back to Red Nun 6 and then back to Red Nun 4 off West Chop, and Can 23a off East chop. Finish between Nun 6 and Committee Boat. Distance 6.4 miles. Leave all marks to starboard unless Reverse Flag is flying.

**Course 2:** Start at Red Nun 6 at Harbor entrance (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is shown with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course), and then sail to RG Nun at Hedge Fence (leave to port), to Red Nun 4 off West Chop (leave to port), to Can 23a off East Chop (leave to starboard), to finish between committee boat and Red Nun 6. Distance 6.5 miles. (Nun 4 is to be honored on its proper hand as a navigation mark unless designated as a course turning mark). Watch for Reverse Flag!

**Course 3:** Start at Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is shown with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course), and then sail to Red Nun 4 (Leave to port), to Red Bell 2 (Leave to Starboard), to RG Nun (Leave to Starboard), to Green Bell 23 (leave to starboard), to Green Can 23A (leave to port). Finish between Red Nun 6 and the committee boat. Distance 6.4 miles. Watch for Reverse Flag!

**Course 4:** Start between Committee Boat and Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is shown with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course) and then leave Red Nun 4 to port. Leave RG buoy west end of Hedge Fence to port. Leave Can 15 west of L'Homme Dieu to starboard. Round R2 bell off Waquoit Bay to port. Leave Can 15 west of L'Homme Dieu to port. Leave RG buoy west end of Hedge Fence to starboard. Regard Red Nun 4. Finish between Vineyard Haven Red Nun 6 and the committee boat. Distance 11.6 miles.

**Course 5:** Start between Committee Boat and Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is shown with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course). Leave Red Nun 4 to port. Round Red Nun "14" off Great Pond to port. Leave Falmouth R "16" Bell to port. Regard Red Nun 4. Finish between Vineyard Haven Red Nun 6 and the committee boat. Distance 10.1 miles. Watch for Reverse Flag!

**Course 6:** Start between Committee Boat and Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is shown with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course). Leave Red Nun 4 to Port. Leave G Bell "27" at the west end of middle ground to port. Regard Red Nun 4 and finish between Vineyard Haven Red Nun 6 and the Committee Boat. Distance 11.1 miles.

**Course 7:** Start at Red Nun 6 at Harbor entrance (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is shown with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course), and then sail to Red Nun 4 off West Chop (leave to starboard), then to Can 23a off East Chop (leave to port), to Bell R-2 off West Chop (leave to Starboard), then to Gong 23 off East Chop (leave to port), to RG Nun at Hedge Fence (leave to port), then to finish between committee boat and Red Nun 6. Distance 9.4 miles. (Nun 4 and 23a are to be honored on their proper hand as a navigation mark unless designated as a course turning mark). Watch for Reverse Flag!

**Course 8:** Start at Red Nun 6 at Harbor entrance (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is shown with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course), and then sail to Can 23a off East Chop (leave to starboard), proceed to HNSA private mark located .4 miles northeast of the Big Bridge over the channel into Sengekontacket Pond (Lat/Long location to be announced.) Leave to Port and return to finish line at Nun 6, leaving Can 23a to port. Skippers are advised to consult chart for location of shallow waters and rocks along the Oak Bluffs shoreline. Distance: 9.2 miles.

**Reverse:** Each of the preceding courses, except numbers 4,6 and 8, may be sailed in reverse. Watch for red flag with yellow cross (Code Flag R). When the starting line is set to use Nun 6 as the first mark the reversal of direction only applies to the order of marks after getting to Nun 6 the first time.

Rendezvous at **Robinson's Hole, West Beach:** Start between Committee Boat and Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is show with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course). Leave Red Nun 4 to port. Finish between Can 1 on the Sound side of Robinson's Hole and the committee boat in Robinson's Hole. Nominal distance 11.2 miles. Pass through the hole, anchor and raft off West Beach on Naushon Island for lunch.

Rendezvous at **Tarpaulin Cove:** Start between Committee Boat and Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is show with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course). Leave Red Nun 4 to port. Finish between the Coast Guard mooring or a nearby drop buoy and the committee boat. Distance 8.5 miles. Raft together in a circle for lunch.

Rendezvous at **Edgartown/Chappy Beach**: Start between Committee Boat and Red Nun 6 (or at a drop buoy and then sail to Nun 6 and leave it to port if a "P" is shown with the course and to starboard if a "S" is shown with the course). Leave Can 23A to starboard. Leave Edgartown Red Nun 4 to PORT. Leave Can 3 to Starboard. Finish at Edgartown Red Nun 8. Raft up for lunch in cove to the east. Distance 9 miles.

**Alternate Courses:** The Race Committee may signal Courses 1 - 8 as an alternate course for any Sunday race as weather conditions dictate.

**Finish Line:** The finish line will be between a staff displaying a flag in the committee boat and the finishing mark. If the committee boat is not on station, racers are asked to take their own time as they pass between the VHYC dock and Nun 6 within 100 feet of and to the west of the Nun.

**Starting Signals:** Watch the Flags - Do not depend on the sound signals. Start may be delayed to let ferries pass.

<u>Signal</u>	<u>Time to go</u>	<u>Visual signal</u>	<u>Sound</u>
Warning	5 Minutes to start	HSA flag Displayed	1 Sound
Preparatory	4 Minutes to start,	Preparatory flag (code flag P)	1 Sound
1 Minute	1 minute to start	Preparatory flag (P) lowered	1 Sound
Start	Start	HSA flag lowered	1 Sound

**Scheduled Warning Signal times**

	<u>B</u> division	<u>A</u> division
Thursday nights	6:00 PM	6:10 PM
Sunday Harbor or Sound Races	1:00 PM	1:10 PM
Rendezvous Races (Pursuit start: Slowest boat)	10:00 AM Your time will be available on the day preceding the race.	

If the start of the B division is delayed for any reason, the 10 minute separation between starting sequences will be maintained. With 10 minutes between starts, Division A boats should stay clear of the starting area during the Division B starting sequence and keep clear of Division B boats until their own warning signal.

**Pursuit Start:** Rendezvous races will use a pursuit start format. The boat with the largest handicap (and presumably the slowest) will start first - at the 10:00 AM start signal. Each boat will be notified by email no later than the previous evening of her start time and the actual order of finish will be the finishers' score. If poor weather requires a change to a harbor course, the warning signal for B division for that race will be 11:00 AM. The scorer/rating clerk will at his/her discretion adjust the nominal distance of the Rendezvous race to reflect the current conditions in the Sound at the time of the race when assigning start times for the race. As the races are scheduled for fair currents, the times will reflect a shorter distance than the nominal distance stated in the circular in the description of the course.

**Recall:** Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with Racing Rule 29 (Code Flag X, blue cross on white field). The race committee will also attempt to hail the boat's sail number or name. The Penalty for failing to start properly is 15 minutes. In addition, the Race Committee may hail the sail number(s) of recalled boat(s) on VHF channel 72 and/or by loudhailer.

**General recall:** When the committee is unable to identify the boats that are on the course side of the starting line, or there has been an error in the starting procedure, the committee may signal a general recall (display the First Substitute with two sounds. The warning signal for the new start shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed.

**Postponements:** Before the starting signal the committee may postpone by displaying the "AP" flag (red with two vertical, white stripes) with two sounds. The next warning signal may take place 1 minute after "AP" is removed.

**Shortened Course:** The race committee at its discretion, may shorten the course by finishing the race at any prescribed turning mark by anchoring, displaying code flag "S" and firing two guns. The turning mark will on same hand as in the course description, the committee boat on the other.

**Abandonment:** To abandon the race the committee will display code flag "N" ( blue and white check) with three sounds.

**Time Limit:** If no boat in a class has finished after three hours (Harbor Race, courses 1-3) or four hours (Sound or Rendezvous Race, courses 4-8) then the race in that class is canceled. In the event the committee boat has left station, boats are then to take their own finish time and report to the race committee as soon as possible.

**Rules:** Holmes Hole races are be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020* and these Sailing Instructions.

**Autopilot use:** Autopilots may be used by short-handed boats to facilitate sail handling, navigation and good seamanship. This changes rule 52. They may not be used when a crew member or skipper is otherwise available and capable of steering the boat.

**Powered sail trimming:** Battery or other power may be used for sail trim, rig adjustment and autopilot use. This changes rule 52.

**Penalties:** Rule 44 shall apply. A boat that has touched a mark shall take a one turn (one tack and one gybe) penalty or a two turn (two tacks and two gybes) penalty for other rule violations. Penalty turns must be completed out of the way of other boats as soon as possible after the infraction.

**Scoring and Awards:** First-place prizes will be awarded for each race, one for Division A, one for Division B. The High-Point Scoring System will apply for the season's awards. 22 races are scheduled; 60% of scored races will be counted. First, Second and Third place boats in each division for all races will be awarded a season's prize and the Jewett award will go to either the A or B division winner based on the time honored method used in past years.

**Divisions:** Each racer will be assigned to either division A or B based on their Holmes Hole rating or size of boat. Address the Race Committee Chair with any questions about division assignments. Depending on total number of boats registered, possibly all boats will race as one division.

**Restrictions:** No spinnakers or loose-luffed sails. No use of engines after the preparatory signal for propulsion. No interference with passenger ferries which have the right of way!

**Safety Requirements:** Life-Saving Equipment and Personal Buoyancy: Rule 1.2 shall apply. The HNSA Life Jacket Policy requires that life jackets be worn at all times. Please notify the Committee boat if leaving the race area with the intention of not completing the race. (Channel 73). Insofar as the Committee boat will not be patrolling the race course, all racers are encouraged to carry a VHF radio and to hail a fellow racer or the committee boat if a safety problem should arise.

**Race Committee:** The race committee boat will normally be Vineyard Haven Yacht Club's Vigilant, or Guardian. The committee normally monitors Channel 73 for emergency purposes. For rendezvous races we may use a member's boat. The committees are in complete command of the races at all times. Please do not disturb them by asking for information while they are anchored on the line! Theirs is a very demanding operation.

**Protests:** Protests are to be made in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing. If you believe your competitor has infringed any rule or instruction, a protest may be made by showing a protest signal (red flag or cloth) in the starboard rigging. This is to be done at the earliest possible moment after the event, and is to be carried until finished racing, advising the race committee of the protest at the finish. Note that the rules require you to hail "Protest" at the first reasonable opportunity, possibly allowing the Protestee to exonerate himself if he chooses. The protest shall be presented, preferably written, at the get-together after the race. You must try to inform the protested boat of your intent to protest at the time of the incident. Both protester and protestee must be represented at the hearing, with witnesses if possible. If this is not possible, then mail your protest to the race committee within 24 hours after the race. The protest will be heard and judged by the Protest Committee, consisting of officers of the association.

There is no stigma in protesting what you believe that a boat has made a real infringement and has not done its penalty turns in accordance with rule 44. This is the traditional way of keeping the sport clean and friendly.

**VIOLATION OF "FERRY" CHANNEL** A racing boat that causes any Steamship Authority vessel, or other large commercial vessel, south of a line at the mouth of the harbor drawn from Mark RN 4 to Mark 23A to alter course, slow down, back down, or that passes in front of such vessels and does not yield them right of way, or which in the judgment of the Race Committee passes too close shall be disqualified without protest hearing. This changes RRS 35 and A4.1.

## **DISCLAIMER**

Competitors participate in the Holmes Hole Races entirely at their own risk. See Racing Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority, its members, agents, employees or representatives nor the Race Committee will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the event, and will not provide emergency towing or rescue vessels or services in connection with the races.

Association Officers for 2020

Mo Flam	Commodore	687-9479	Cell: 551-358-1449
Roger Becker	Vice Commodore & Race Committee Chairman	627 8720	Cell: 774-310-0023
Steve Besse	Rear Commodore	693 0696	Cell: 203-215-6786
Laurie Welch	Fleet Captain	693-3488	
Lisa Stout	First Officer	693 3929	Cell: 860-930-5412
Jerry Goodale	Second Officer	693 2565	
Tom Wescott	Third Officer	Cell: 781-361-2707	
Wendell Colson	Secretary, Treasurer	Cell: 508 878 9061	

KEEP THIS CIRCULAR FOR THE SEASON

HHSA wishes to thank the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club for its generous cooperation and assistance.

The current Racing Rules of Sailing is available online at [www.USSailing.org](http://www.USSailing.org) or by contacting:  
United States Sailing Association (USSA)  
P.O. Box 1260, 15 Maritime Dr.  
Portsmouth, RI. 02871.  
1-800-877-2451