

Presqu'ile Yacht Club

2026 Scotch Bonnet Race – August 15, 2026

Sailing Instructions

Organizing Authority – Presqu'ile Yacht Club
Entry Deadline – Wednesday August 12, 2026, 24:00 hrs

1. **Rules** This race shall be governed by **The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)** and Sail Canada prescriptions except as may be changed by the Sailing Instructions.
2. **Changes to the Sailing Instructions:**
 - a. Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 09:00 August 15, 2026.
 - b. Changes to the Sailing Instructions may also be made on the water with details broadcast by the RC on VHF CH 72 (Hail "All Racers All Racers")
3. **Communications With Competitors:**
 - a. Notice of Race has been posted on the PYC website [Scotch Bonnet Notice of Race](#)
 - b. Prior to Race Day, Race Organizer Tom Willison can be reached at scotchbonnetinfo@presquileyc.com or twillison@xplornet.ca
 - c. On the water communications with competitors will be through VHF radio channel 72.
 - d. From the first warning signal until the end of the race, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice and data communications that are not available to all boat
4. **Schedule of Events**
 - a. There will be a welcome hamburger BBQ for all competitors on Friday August 14 at 18:00hrs. Please indicate number of attendees for this on your registration. There will be a nominal charge per burger.
 - b. There will be a skippers' meeting at 09:30 Saturday August 15 at the PYC clubhouse.
 - c. Scheduled time for the **6 minute pre-warning signal** will be at 11:00.
 - d. A BYO protein BBQ will commence at 18:00 hrs. Participants are also asked to prepare a side to share with all.
 - e. Awards presentation will follow dinner at approximately 19:30 hrs.
5. **Class Flags:** One class flag (Red ball on White background) will be flown by the race committee at the 5 minute warning signal.
6. **Course:**
 - a. The course will be finalized at the Skippers' Meeting.
 - b. The start line will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting.
 - c. Flying Sails division intended course will leave both Scotch Bonnet and Nicholson's Island to port. Non- Flying Sails and Cruising Classes intended course will leave only Scotch Bonnet to port.
 - d. The "Bell Buoy" mid-channel mark will be left to port on re-entering Presqu'ile Bay.
 - e. Green Channel Markers MP 25,23 and 21 will be left to starboard while re-entering the Bay.
 - f. The Finish Line will be in Presquile Bay with the details provided at the Skipper's Meeting.

- g. There will be no time limit on the race, however the Race Committee may consider shortening the course if conditions warrant it. Any changes will be communicated by VHF over channel 72.

7. Marks:

- a. An inflatable Orange tetrahedron club marker will be used as the pin end of the start line.
- b. Scotch Bonnet (All classes)
- c. Nicholson's Island (Flying Sails class only)
- d. "Bell Buoy" Mid Channel Mark 43 dg 59.954 min N, 77dg 39.789 min W
- e. Navigation Marker MP25 44 dg 0.7237 min N, 77 dg 40.599 min W
- f. Navigation Marker MP23 44 dg 0.374 min N, 77 dg 40.853 min W
- g. Navigation Marker MP21 44 dg 0.416 min N, 77 dg 41.177 min W.
- h. Inflatable Orange tetrahedron club marker Finish

8. Areas that are obstructions:

- a. Be aware of the navigation marks when sailing to the racing area
- b. Skippers are responsible for avoiding shoals when rounding Scotch Bonnet and Nicholson's Island. There are no navigational marks. Use good seamanship to leave enough room to navigate safely around these obstructions. Avoid forcing other competitors into shallow waters if passing occurs in these areas.

9. Prior to the Start:

- a. The RC flag will be flown when the RC is on station for the start
- b. Boats must check in with the race committee boat prior to the initiation of the starting sequence.

10. The Start:

- a. A pre-warning signal will sound at approximately 11:00 hrs, 6 minutes prior to the start. This signal consists of 5 blasts on the airhorn which the Race Committee will attempt to make over the VHF Channel 72.
- b. There will be one start for all classes.
- c. The Class flag (Red ball on white background) will be raised 5 minutes before the start. A warning signal will occur consisting of one blast of the airhorn.
- d. At 4 minutes the Preparatory signal is raised (P flag - White square on a blue background) A single blast of the airhorn will accompany this.
- e. At 1 minute prior to the start the preparatory signal comes down accompanied by one blast on the airhorn
- f. At the start the Class flag will come down accompanied by a blast of the airhorn.
- g. Rule 30.1 will govern the start with regard to OCS boats
- h. The RC will attempt to hail any OCS boats on VHF 72 after the start

11. The Finish: The finishing line will be communicated in the Skippers' meeting at 09:30 August 15, 2026.

12. Scoring: PHRF-LO Point-to-Point scoring system will be used. Boats with a current PHRF certificate will compete in either Flying Sails or Non-Flying Sails division as they declare on registration. Boats without a current PHRF certificate will have a handicap assigned by the PYC club handicapper and will compete in the Cruising Class.

13. **Prizes:** Flags will be presented at the post race dinner for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in Flying Sails, Non-Flying Sails and Cruising Class divisions.
14. **Disclaimer of liability:** Competitors participate in this race entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after this racing event
15. **Insurance:** Each competitor shall be insured with valid third-party insurance with a minimum of 2 million dollar coverage.