



**2026 Mustang Survival
Annapolis to Bermuda Ocean Race
Bermuda Ocean Race Association, Inc.
Assisted by
Eastport Yacht Club and Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club
June 5, 2026
Annapolis, MD, USA to Bermuda
Notice of Race - with Amendment Nos. 1, 2, & 3**

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. [DP] The 2026 Annapolis to Bermuda Safety Equipment Requirements (A2BSER), based on the Ocean Category of the US Sailing Safety Equipment Regulations and associated appendices, will apply. The Organizing Authority (OA) will post the 2026 A2BSER on the [Official Notice Board](#) on or before January 1, 2026.
- 1.3. [DP] The penalty for breaking a rule in the A2BSER or a rule not in Part 2 of the RRS may be less than disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee.
- 1.4. Under World Sailing Rule DR21-01-V3.0, the definition **Start** is changed as follows:
Start A boat *starts* when her hull having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side either:
 - (a) at or after her starting signal, or,
 - (b) at any time after the Preparatory Signal, but before her starting signal.When a boat starts in accordance with item (b) of the definition **Start**, and if she fails to return to the pre-start side of the starting line, one hundred twenty (120) minutes will be added to her elapsed time.
- 1.5. [DP] RRS 41(c) is replaced with: "Help in the form of information freely available to all boats even if that information is only accessible at a cost. However, such "at a cost" information shall not include private forecasts or advice or information customized for a particular boat or group of boats or their situation."
- 1.6. [DP] If any lifesaving equipment is lost overboard, it should be retrieved. If recovery is not possible, the loss of any equipment that floats shall be reported immediately to the US Coast Guard and to the Race Committee (RC) in Bermuda.

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- 1.7. Boats are strongly encouraged to review, understand, and abide by the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS).
- 2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**
- 2.1. The Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be available on or before May 1, 2026 on the [Official Notice Board](#).
- 3. COMMUNICATIONS**
- 3.1. The online Official Notice Board can be accessed via a link at the [Yacht Scoring](#) event page.
- 3.2. All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 9, 13, 16, and 73.
- 4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**
- 4.1. The event is open to any monohull sailing boat that meets the requirements of this Notice of Race (NoR).
- 4.2. Boats must have an overall length (LOA) of no less than thirty (30) feet. Boats less than thirty (30) feet LOA may apply to the OA for a waiver of this rule.
- 4.3. Boats may enter in the ORC Open, ORC Performance Cruiser, or Rally classes. A class must be comprised of a minimum of three (3) boats. A class may be divided into multiple classes or consolidated at the discretion of the OA. Such class divisions will be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 4.3.1. A boat competing in either the ORC Open or ORC Performance Cruiser class shall have a valid 2026 ORC rating certificate.
- 4.3.2. A boat participating in the Rally class does not need a valid 2026 ORC rating certificate. More information about the Rally class is provided in the “2026 Mustang Survival Annapolis to Bermuda Ocean Race Rally Class” flyer, available on the [Official Notice Board](#).
- 4.4. A one-design class may be added provided a minimum of three (3) paid entries in that class are received by April 1, 2026.
- 4.5. A boat with a navigator skilled and experienced in traditional pilotage and celestial navigation at sea may elect to compete using celestial navigation. This election must be made on or before May 1, 2026. Boats that elect to compete in the Celestial Navigation Sub-Class will be scored using the ORC handicap rating. Boats entered in the Rally class are not eligible to compete in the Celestial Navigation Sub-Class. Specific rules governing the Celestial Navigation Sub-Class will be made available by February 1, 2026, as an Addendum to the NoR.
- 4.6. A boat that is registered and fully-crewed by a military service or maritime academy may compete in the All Service Academies and Maritime Schools Sub-Class. Boats that elect to compete in the All Service Academies and Maritime Schools Sub-Class will be scored using the ORC handicap rating. Boats entered in the Patriot Sub-Class or the Rally class are not eligible to compete in the All Service Academies and Maritime Schools Sub-Class.
- 4.7. A boat sailing with Active Duty and/or Veteran crew may compete in the Patriot Sub-Class. Crew requirements are:
- One (1) Active Duty and/or Veteran crew for boats less than forty (40) feet in length; and,
 - Two (2) Active Duty and/or Veteran crew for boats equal to or greater than forty (40) feet in length.
- Boats that elect to compete in the Patriot Sub-Class will be scored using the ORC handicap rating. Boats entered in the All Service Academies and Maritime Schools Sub-Class or the Rally class are not eligible to compete in the Patriot Sub-Class.
- 4.8. A class not listed here may be included upon formal petition to the OA. Such petition must be received by the OA by April 1, 2026, and must be endorsed by at least one (1) member of the OA

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to be considered. Similarly, waivers to these eligibility rules may be granted by the OA on a case-by-case basis to accommodate special classes of boats (e.g., Mini 6.5).

5. FEES

- 5.1. The following entry fee schedule applies to all registered boats. A boat's rated LOA shall be used, rounded up to the next foot. For example, an LOA of 35.5 feet will carry an LOA of 36 feet.

Payment Received By	Rate \$/Foot
December 31, 2025	\$39
March 31, 2026	\$44
After March 31, 2026	\$49

- 5.2. The entry fee must be received by the date noted above for an entry to be paid in full.
- 5.3. Fees are not refundable after March 1, 2026, unless specifically specified by the OA. The OA reserves the right to make exceptions to the entry fee amounts at its sole discretion.
- 5.4. To be considered an entry in the race, a boat shall pay all fees and successfully complete all registration, documentation, and inspection requirements by May 30, 2026.

6. CAPTAIN AND CREW REQUIREMENTS

- 6.1. A boat shall submit by June 4, 2026, proof of attendance by the Captain and at least 30% of her crew, but not fewer than two (2) members of the crew, including the person in charge, a valid US Sailing International Offshore Safety at Sea Certificate, or the equivalent from another national authority. This international Offshore Safety at Sea Certificate requires one (1) day of online training and one (1) day of water training. The certificate must have been issued within the past five (5) years of the race start date.
- 6.2. A boat shall submit by June 4, 2026, proof that at least two (2) members of the crew hold current certification in First Aid and CPR from a course recognized by US Sailing.
- 6.3. The crew shall consist of a minimum of four (4) people unless otherwise modified by the SIs, class rules, or waiver. All race crew must be listed in Yacht Scoring.
- 6.4. A sailing resume for the Captain & Watch Captain(s) shall be submitted to the [A2B Entries Chair](#) which provides a summary of each person's racing and/or cruising experience, including overnight underway experience.
- Boats that register by March 31, 2026, shall submit the sailing resume by 2359 on April 30, 2026.
 - Boats that register between April 1, 2026, and May 30, 2026, shall submit the sailing resume within forty-eight (48) hours of registration.
The resume should show offshore sailing experience to safely navigate from Annapolis to Bermuda.
- 6.5. The term Captain, as used in this NoR, means the person, whether or not the owner of the boat, who is designated on the entry form as "Captain" and who is the "person in charge" of the boat during the race as described in RRS 46, Person in Charge. The Captain is responsible for the boat, its handling and safety, the conduct of the crew before, during, and after the race, and compliance with the NoR and SIs.

7. ADVERTISING

- 7.1. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

8. SCHEDULE

- 8.1. [DP] There is a mandatory check-in for the captain and one (1) crew member only at the Eastport Yacht Club, 317 First Street, Annapolis, MD 21403, between 1100 and 1500 on June 4, 2026.



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- 8.2. [DP] There will be a mandatory pre-race Skipper Briefing (weather briefing) on June 4, 2026, at 1700. Location and/or connection information will be posted on the Official Notice Board. If the Skippers' Briefing is conducted in person, the skipper and one (1) crew shall attend the Skippers' Briefing.
- 8.3. The warning signal for the first start is intended to be at 1330 on June 5, 2026, in the vicinity of Severn River buoy R "2" FI R 2.5s.

9. EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY INSPECTION

- 9.1. All boats competing in this race shall pass inspection by a person appointed by the OA for compliance with the A2BSER, prior to 1500 on June 4, 2026. Boats may be subject to inspection and re-inspection either before or after the race, including immediately after finishing. Inspection will be conducted according to procedures set forth by the OA Safety Committee. These procedures will be posted to the Official Notice Board by February 1, 2026.
- 9.2. Boats shall carry a GPS tracking device supplied by the OA. The unit shall be mounted according to instructions supplied with the device, and a good faith effort shall be made to maintain its operation throughout the race; refer to RRS 56.3. This unit will provide tracking data which will be posted on the event web site during the race. A \$500 deposit, fully refundable upon the unit's return, will be required.
- 9.3. Each boat shall continuously transmit its position using its Automatic Identification System (AIS) transceiver, required by US SER 3.9, beginning no later than her start until arriving in Bermuda or, if she retires, after returning to a harbor and contacting the RC.
- 9.4. RRS Appendix G, Identification on Sails, specifies the display of racing numbers on certain sails. In the event that none of these sails is set while starting or finishing, these numbers shall be displayed by alternate means.
- 9.5. Each boat shall carry a satellite telephone for safety and position reporting during the race.

10. COURSES

- 10.1. Competitors will sail a fixed mark course that will start off the mouth of the Severn River, near Annapolis, MD, and finish off St. David's Light, on the eastern shore of Bermuda. The course is approximately 753 nm.
- 10.2. Marks of the course will be detailed in the SIs.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1. RRS 44.3, Scoring Penalty, applies. The penalty will be defined in the SIs.

12. SCORING

- 12.1. ORC classes will be scored in accordance with ORC ToT ratings. The RC will determine the appropriate course type and wind range prior to scoring the race. The rating band selection is not subject to redress. This changes RRS 61.1.
- 12.2. The Rally class will be scored based on the order of finish; no elapsed time correction will be applied.

13. RISK STATEMENT

- 13.1. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The race organizers (including the OA, RC, Protest Committee, EYC, RHADC, sponsors, volunteers, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property, or injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law, and as a condition to participation

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in the event, specifically agrees with the Waiver and Release, available in the Yacht Scoring Additional Documents page.

- 13.2. It is the sole responsibility of the Captain of each boat to see that she is seaworthy in hull, rig, and gear and that she is properly equipped and competently manned and sailed.

14. MEDIA RIGHTS

- 14.1. By entering this race, the owner (or charterer) and crew members on competing yachts grant at no cost the absolute right and permission to use their names, voices, images, likenesses, and biographical material, as well as representations of their yacht in any media (including television, print, and internet), to the OA and event sponsors.

15. PRIZES

- 15.1. The following trophies will be presented across the ORC Open, ORC Performance Cruiser, and approved one-design classes:
- **First to Finish Overall** – The OA will present a prize to the first boat to finish, across all classes.
 - **First out of the Chesapeake Bay** – The OA will present a prize to the first boat to exit Chesapeake Bay. The definition of exiting the Chesapeake Bay will be provided in the SlIs.
 - **Storm Trysail Club Trophy** – The Trophy is awarded to a club and to individual boats. To qualify, it is necessary for at least two (2) boats skippered by members of the same club to race. The club whose top two (2) racers achieve the lowest combined score wins this beautiful trophy to display in its clubhouse until the next race. The entry form will be provided on the [Official Notice Board](#).
 - **Weems & Plath Navigator Trophy** – The Trophy is awarded to the navigator whose logs and plotting sheets are found to be complete, neat and readable. The judge(s) will look for that navigator who exhibits conservative, knowledgeable and conscientious navigation incorporating proper dead reckoning, charting some celestial and some electronic navigation. This includes keeping a proper dead reckoning tract, the plotting of lines of position and other phenomena in the proper and traditional manner and exhibiting navigational enthusiasm. An entry form, which will be available on the [Official Notice Board](#), must be completed at the time of Registration on June 6, 2026. Logs must be presented to the Officer of the Day at the Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club Duty Desk by 1200 (local) on June 13, 2026.
 - **Youth Recognition Trophy** – Awarded to the youth sailor, the age of 18 or under as of June 13, 2026, to complete the race, and demonstrate the tenets of good sportsmanship such as leadership, fellowship, maturity, and concern for others while at sea, as selected by the OA. An entry form, which will be available on the [Official Notice Board](#), must be submitted to the OA by June 6, 2026.
- 15.2. The following trophies will be presented across the ORC Open and ORC Performance Cruiser classes:
- **Fastest Corrected Time – Chesapeake Bay** - The OA will present a prize to the fastest corrected time in each handicap class.
 - **Fastest Corrected Time in Class** – The OA will present prizes up to the first three places on corrected time in each class, depending on the number of boats entered in the class.
 - **All Service Academies and Maritime Schools Cup** – Awarded to the boat with the fastest corrected time in the All Service Academies and Maritime Schools Sub-Class.

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- **Patriot Cup presented by Veterans Yacht Sales and the Ministry of Sailing –**
Awarded to the boat with the fastest corrected time in the Patriot Sub-Class.

15.3. Other trophies as may be specified by the OA.

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

16.1. For further information please contact:

Annapolis Bermuda Ocean Race Association, Inc.
317 First Street
Annapolis, MD 21403

entries@bermudaoceanrace.com

www.bermudaoceanrace.com