



September 6-13, 2025  
Newport, Rhode Island

## NOTICE OF RACE

The Organizing Authority (OA) is the New York Yacht Club Regatta Association, Inc. (NYYC RA). The regatta website can be found at: <https://nyyc.org/2025-rolex-nyyc-invitational-cup>.

### GENERAL FORMAT

The Rolex New York Yacht Club Invitational Cup is a fleet-racing regatta held in IC37 boats. The regatta is hosted by the New York Yacht Club (NYYC) in Newport, Rhode Island, in odd-numbered years and was first held in 2009. Specific eligibility requirements are described in NoR 4.

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) as changed by Appendix UF - Umpired Fleet Racing, New York Yacht Club Invitational Cup Edition, and posted on the NYYC Invitational Cup website.
- 1.2 The prescriptions of US Sailing to *The Racing Rules of Sailing* listed in Notice of Race Addendum A shall apply and will be posted on the regatta website.
- 1.3 The IC37 Class Rules will not apply.
- 1.4 **Minimum Equipment:** The minimum equipment required to be on board shall include:
  - Those items posted as Notice of Race Addendum C, Required Equipment and Modifications, on the NYYC Invitational Cup website;
  - Safety equipment as described in the US Nearshore section of the current US Safety Equipment Requirements (USSER) and posted on the regatta website as Notice of Race Addendum D;
  - Corrector weights (if any) as listed on the yacht's One Design Certificate;
  - Anchor, chain and rode, all ready for immediate use, with a combined minimum weight of 16 kg;
  - Other specific items that may be designated by the Organizing Authority.
- 1.5 **Permitted Equipment:** Sailing Instruction Addendum C, Handling of Boats, will include lists of permitted and prohibited equipment and actions. The use of competitor-provided electronic devices that provide tactical or strategic information, such as phone/tablet applications, Velocitek or other such devices, will be permitted, but may not be connected (wired or wirelessly) to any instrument on the boat while racing.
- 1.6 WS Sailor Categorization Code will apply. Information on how to apply can be found at [World Sailing - categorization](#). All crew members shall have a valid WS Sailor Categorization as a Group 1 competitor.
- 1.7 Participation in the regatta is by invitation of the OA. When the jury finds that a boat or team's competitor has broken one or more rules in an incident afloat or ashore where there was either: 1) serious damage caused by reckless sailing or poor seamanship; 2) poor sportsmanship; or 3) misconduct as described in RRS 69.1(b), it shall make a report to the OA, which may revoke that team's invitation and excuse the team from the remainder of the regatta. The OA may also decide to take such action for this kind of conduct to revoke a team's invitation without such a report after consultation with regatta management.

- 1.8** New York Yacht Club, NYYC, the New York Yacht Club Regatta Association, Inc., the Club Burgee and other logos and marks are trademarks and Registered Trademarks in the United States and other countries. All Rights Reserved. All trademarks of the New York Yacht Club including the Burgee, Name, the Rolex New York Yacht Club Invitational Cup logos and marks, and event images may not be used by any club or individual without the permission of the New York Yacht Club.
- 1.9** Banding of the spinnakers shall only be done using the bands that are part of the provided spinnaker. No other banding is permitted. See RRS 47. Competitors are also reminded that the dumping of trash is prohibited by law.
- 1.10** RRS 41 is changed by adding:  
(e) help from an official vessel to return a crewmember who was overboard to her boat. The boat shall then return to the location where the crewmember originally went overboard to resume racing.
- 1.11** RRS 62.1 is changed by adding new section (e) that applies to yachts and equipment assigned as well as all provided sails:  
(e) catastrophic physical damage not falling within RRS 62.1(b) that was due to defective supplied equipment and that a reasonably competent crew would not have been able to avoid or promptly repair.

## **2 INVITATIONS, YACHTS, SAILS AND WIND RESTRICTIONS**

- 2.1** Teams (Yacht Clubs or other Sailing Organizations) will be invited to sail an IC37 that is provided by NYYC. All boats shall be chartered from NYYC.
- 2.2** Sails for the Rolex New York Yacht Club Invitational Cup to be used during the charter period shall be included in the charter from NYYC. The sails will include a mainsail, jib and spinnaker. Other sails, including any sails provided by NYYC, shall not be used unless approved by the Organizing Authority.
- 2.3** Upper wind limits will apply due to the charter nature of the regatta. The Race Committee will not start a race in sustained wind velocity greater than 23 knots and may abandon a race in sustained wind velocity greater than 26 knots.
- 2.4** All yachts shall be kept in the dockage or on the mooring assigned by the Organizing Authority beginning no later than 1800 on Saturday, September 5, through Sunday, September 14, unless specific exemption has been granted by the OA.
- 2.5** All yachts shall be standardized by the Organizing Authority to ensure as level a playing field as possible. Specific permitted and restricted actions will be included in Sailing Instruction Addendum C, Handling of Boats. This includes, but is not limited to, the following provisions:  
a) Rigs will be tuned equally and preset by the OA before the regatta to match the provided sails. Standing rigging shall not be adjusted by the competitors.  
b) Forestay length shall be preset by the OA and shall not be adjusted by the competitors.  
c) The OA may adjust the rig tune, mast jack tension and/or forestay length of the entire fleet to match anticipated conditions.  
d) Competitors wishing to change any rig tuning adjustments shall submit a request to the OA in writing that the change be made by the OA. Requests on the water may be made by VHF, but a written report of the request shall be submitted immediately after coming ashore. The OA has final authority in deciding whether an adjustment will be made.  
e) The OA will provide bottom cleaning for all yachts. Competitors shall not clean, sand or fair the bottom or foils of their yacht, or so cause or arrange.  
f) Yachts shall not be hauled from September 3-14 without specific permission from the OA and/or the Jury.  
g) Minimum fuel tank levels will be promulgated by the OA. The OA will equalize the fuel tanks on all yachts prior to racing and may inspect the levels during the event.

## **3 ADVERTISING**

- 3.1** WS Advertising Code will apply. Advertising on the supplied equipment is available to the OA in accordance with WS Regulation 20.4.2.
- 3.2** Competitors are permitted to place advertising of their own choice on each side of the hull, so as not to interfere with any event advertising, from amidships (50% LOA) aft with the total area of the graphics on each side to be contained within a contiguous area no larger than one square metre. Competitors shall provide their own graphics and shall remove them at the completion of the event. Competitors are requested to respect the brand exclusivity of the Official Sponsors of this event. All graphics shall be approved by the OA.
- 3.3** While racing, yachts shall display flags as described in the Sailing Instructions for each day of racing as provided by the OA. Other flags may be provided by the OA and shall be displayed as described in the Sailing Instructions. The OA may display graphics on the hull, spars and sails at its discretion.

- 3.4 While on the moorings and transiting to and from the race course, competitors shall display the event “battle flags” provided at registration whenever a headsail is not set. Competitors may also display flags bearing private marks signifying their team or their Club by flying them below the event “battle flag”; however, except as permitted in NOR 3.2, competitors shall not display flags or other signage bearing commercial branding.

#### 4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Entry to the regatta is by invitation only. A team is not considered entered until all Entry Fees are paid in accordance with NOR 4.2 and 5.2 and a signed Charter Agreement is received.
- 4.2 **Acceptance and Entry Deposit:** Acceptance of the invitation and entry into the regatta shall be made by submitting the Acceptance and Entry Form found on the NYYC Invitational Cup website no later than May 15, 2024 or the date specified in your invitation, unless extended by the OA, together with the non-refundable deposit of US\$5,000.
- 4.3 **Resolute Cup Qualifiers:** A team that qualifies in September through the 2024 Resolute Cup shall submit the Acceptance and Entry Form no later than November 1, 2024 (unless extended by the OA), together with the non-refundable deposit of US\$5000.
- 4.4 **Helmsperson and Tactician:** A comprehensive sailing resume for the Helmsman and Tactician shall be submitted no later than May 1, 2025. The OA reserves the right to approve the Helmsman and Tactician or declare either ineligible. The OA will endeavor to give its approval/denial within two weeks of submission. Early submission is encouraged.
- 4.5 **Crew List:** Not later than the Crew Deadline of July 15, 2025, the Crew List shall be submitted to the OA and shall include information for each competitor regarding Club membership, nationality and sailor classification. Registration for the event will not be complete until all information has been received, checked and verified.
- Crew lists will be posted on the event website as soon as practicable after receipt as well on the official notice board during the event.
  - A Team may designate a co-helmsman. Only one helmsman may use the allocated weight described in NOR 4.10(a).
- 4.6 **Team Composition:** Teams shall consist of eligible crew members as follows:
- The total number of crew permitted shall comply with the following:
    - Eight (8) or more total crew; shall have a minimum of two (2) crew members of the opposite gender.
    - Seven (7) total crew; shall have a minimum of one (1) crew member of the opposite gender.
  - The crew sailing on the yacht shall comply with the requirements of NOR 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 at all times unless specifically waived by the Jury.
  - Each Team shall sail with the same number of crew members each day except with the permission of the Jury.
  - Crew may not be changed between races on a given day except with the permission of the Jury.
- 4.7 **Yacht Club Membership:** The Helmsperson and Tactician, and all but one member of the remaining crew, shall have been year-round full members of the Invited Yacht Club, Sailing Organization or Team as of June 1, 2024. Up to two spouses of members and/or member’s children under the age of 25 on the first day of racing are also eligible to count as members. Exceptions may be granted upon written application to the OA.
- 4.8 **Nationality:** All but two of the crew shall hold a passport for the country of the Invited Team’s primary location. In special circumstances, an exception may be granted upon application to the Organizing Authority. Passports (or photocopies of the data page) for all crew shall be available at registration.
- 4.9 **WS Categorization:** WS Sailor Categorization Code will apply. A World Sailing representative may be present during the event and may carry out spot checks regarding sailor categorization. Attention is drawn to WS Regulations 22.5.1 to 22.5.6.
- All crew members shall have a valid WS Sailor Categorization as a Group 1 competitor. No member of the crew may be categorized Group 3. All uncategorized sailors shall be deemed to be Group 3 and ineligible to sail.
  - The categorization Protest time limit is 1800 Sunday, September 7, 2025. At its discretion, this time limit may be extended by the Jury if the Crew List has been changed after the Crew Deadline on July 15, 2025.
- 4.10 **Weight limit:** Crew weigh-ins will be conducted at registration and calculated in kilograms. The total crew weight shall not exceed 686 kg. The helmsperson may elect to weigh-in or shall be allocated a weight of 89 kg for a male or 76 kg for a female. There will be no random weigh-ins during the regatta.
- 4.11 **Crew Substitution:** Prior to 1800 on September 6, 2025, a substitution to the submitted Crew List may only be made with the permission of the Organizing Authority. After that time, a substitution may only be made with permission of the Jury.

**4.12 Check-in:** All Teams shall register during the registration times on Saturday, September 6, 2025. Registration will take place in the NYYC Sailing Center at Harbour Court in Newport, RI. All teams shall be registered and have taken possession of their yacht no later than 1800 on Saturday, September 6, 2025, unless specifically excused by the OA.

**5 FEES**

**5.1 Entry Fee:** The Entry Fee to participate in the regatta is US\$28,500, of which US\$15,000 is the Charter Fee forwarded by the OA to NYYC. The entry fee includes the charter of an IC37 and sails from NYYC as described in NOR 2.1 and 2.2, and social tickets as described in NOR 5.4.

**5.2 Entry Fee Schedule:** Team must submit the US\$5,000 deposit to the OA in accordance with NOR 4.2 and 4.3. The entry fee balance of \$23,500 must be submitted to the OA no later than December 1, 2024.

**5.3 Charter Period:** The charter period is defined as Wednesday, September 3, through Saturday, September 13, inclusive.

**5.4 Social Tickets:** The entry fee includes eight tickets to the Opening Reception, NYYC Lobster Bake and the Final Awards Banquet. A team with more than eight crew members sailing at the same time will be allotted extra tickets. Additional tickets will be available for purchase.

**5.5 Damage Deposit:** All Teams shall provide a damage deposit of US\$10,000 no later than August 1, 2025, via a check payable to “New York Yacht Club Regatta Association, Inc.” or cash or a wire transfer. The OA shall be responsible for forwarding the deposit to the NYYC. The deposit is a per-incident maximum and will have to be replenished after each incident. Any portion of the damage deposit that is not used shall be returned via check or wire transfer when all damage claims are settled.

**5.6 Wiring Fees:** Any wiring costs are the responsibility of the Team. Wiring information will be provided upon request.

**5.7 Entry Fee Refund Policy:** Teams withdrawing prior to March 1, 2025 will be refunded 100% of the entry fee less the nonrefundable deposit. Teams withdrawing after March 1, 2025 and before May 1, 2025 will be refunded 50% of the entry fee less the nonrefundable deposit. Teams withdrawing after May 1, 2025 will not be refunded any of the entry fee.

**6 PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**6.1** IC37s will be available for optional practice to any interested teams on Wednesday-Friday, September 3-5 at no additional cost.

<b>6.2</b>	Saturday, September 6	0900-1100	Registration – Sailing Center
		0900-1200	IC37 check-out following registration
		1200-1600	IC37s available for practice following check out
		1600-1800	Late Registration – Sailing Center
Sunday, September 7	0900-1000		<b>IC37 Protocol, Safety &amp; Sail Briefing – Arcadia Room</b> (mandatory for Helmsmen, Tacticians and Mainsail Trimmers)
			<b>Mandatory Practice Starts and Racing</b>
			<b>Practice Day Video    Weather &amp; Local Knowledge – Arcadia Room</b> (mandatory for Helmsmen, Tacticians and Mainsail Trimmers)
			Categorization Protest Time Limit
Monday, September 8	0900		IC37s available for practice
			<b>Mandatory Practice Starts and Racing</b>
			Hospitality Center – Lower Lawn
			<b>Meeting with Umpires – Arcadia Room</b> (mandatory for Helmsmen and Tacticians)
	1800-1830		<b>Captains Meeting – Arcadia Room</b> (mandatory for Helmsmen, Tacticians, coaches and spectator boat captains)
			Opening Ceremony & Reception – Marquee ( <i>Jacket &amp; Tie</i> )
			Morning Competitor Meeting
			Race Day 1 – First Warning Signal
Tuesday, September 9	1600-1800		Hospitality Center – Lower Lawn
			Defender’s Night - Lower Lawn
		1800-2000	
		0830	
		1100	

Wednesday, September 10	0830	Morning Competitor Meeting
	1100	Race Day 2 – First Warning Signal
	1600-2000	Hospitality Center – Lower Lawn
	1800	Daily Awards at the Hospitality Center
Thursday, September 11	0830	Morning Competitor Meeting
	1100	Race Day 3 – First Warning Signal
	1600-1830	Hospitality Center – Lower Lawn
	1830-2130	NYYC Lobster Bake and Daily Awards - Marquee ( <i>Smart Casual</i> )
Friday, September 12	0830	Morning Competitor Meeting
	1100	Race Day 4 – First Warning Signal
	1600-2000	Hospitality Center – Lower Lawn
	1800	Daily Awards at the Hospitality Center
	1830-1930	Commodore’s Reception ( <i>Jacket &amp; Tie, by invitation only</i> )
Saturday, September 13	0800	Morning Competitor Meeting
	0900	Parade of Nations – Newport Harbor
	1100	Race Day 5 – First Warning Signal
	1800	Awards Banquet Cocktails – Hospitality Center ( <i>Jacket &amp; Tie</i> )
	1900-2300	Rolex Awards Banquet – Marquee ( <i>Jacket &amp; Tie</i> )

## 7 MEASUREMENT

Yachts may be inspected at random during the regatta beginning September 3, 2025.

## 8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions and Appendix UF will be available no later than August 25, 2025 on the Rolex NYYC Invitational Cup website.

## 9 VENUE

Races will be held off Newport, RI, on Rhode Island Sound or on Narragansett Bay.

## 10 COURSES

Drop mark courses will be used and defined in the Sailing Instructions.

## 11 PENALTY SYSTEM

In addition to the penalties described in SI Appendix UF, the International Jury may impose suitable penalties, other than disqualification, for violations of the USSER or other non-Part 2 rules. This changes RRS 64.2. Additional details will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

## 12 SCORING

**12.1** Twelve (12) races are scheduled. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

**12.2** A yacht’s series score shall be the total of all of her race scores. No score will be excluded. This changes rule A2.

## 13 SUPPORT PERSONS AND VESSELS

**13.1** The following limitations and restrictions apply to support persons and any coach/support vessels, including spectator vessels associated with a team:

- a) Except as directed by the OA, competitors shall have no communication with, be tied to or transfer provisions or equipment to and from any support person or vessel from the time the boat leaves the dock or mooring each day until racing has been concluded for the day for that team.
- b) Support and spectator vessels shall not approach closer than 100 meters to any vessel that is racing. In addition, a support vessel shall stay at least 100 meters outside any layline and shall not be located directly above any windward marks or the finishing line.
- c) If in the starting area, support vessels shall leave the racing and starting areas prior to the warning signal and may station themselves outside of the starboard end of the starting line, but no closer than 150 meters to the race committee signal vessel.

**13.2** All support persons and coach/support vessels must register with the OA prior to the first day of racing. Coach/support vessels shall display the burgee (a minimum of 12” on the hoist) that they have supplied of the Yacht Club or Sailing Organization with which they are associated, along with an identifying flag issued by the OA, at all times while they are on the water.

## 14 BERTHING

Moorings will be arranged for the IC37 fleet by the Organizing Authority.

## 15 PRIZES

- 15.1 Prizes will be awarded to the top five teams. The winning Yacht Club's or Sailing Organization's name will be engraved on the NYYC Invitational Cup, which shall remain in the custody of New York Yacht Club.
- 15.2 The Resolute Trophy will be awarded to the top non-North American team.
- 15.3 The Corinthian Spirit Award will be awarded to the Yacht Club or Sailing Organization that has been a gracious competitor and exhibits a spirit of camaraderie, is seen as helpful to both competitors and race officials, and generally contributes positively to the atmosphere of the event. Each team may cast one vote (and may not vote for itself). In addition, the OA may also cast a vote. Votes will be delivered to the OA Saturday morning before the winner of the Invitational Cup is officially determined.
- 15.4 Prizes will be awarded daily to the top three teams in each race.
- 15.5 Participation awards will be presented to each team.

## 16 CAMERAS ONBOARD

- 16.1 The Organizing Authority may place a videographer onboard one or more yachts during racing without limitation and may switch them between races or days. Teams may have a videographer onboard on multiple days and shall follow the direction of the OA with regard to the assignments of a videographer.
- a) It is the intention that the videographer remains in a neutral position and does not interfere with the activities of the crew.
- b) The videographer shall not count in any of the limitations or requirements described in NOR 4.
- 16.2 The Organizing Authority may place static cameras onboard one or more yachts during racing and may switch them between races or days.

## 17 MEDIA WAIVER AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 17.1 **Liability and Media Waivers:** All competitors shall sign the online Liability and Media Waiver available on the NYYC Invitational Cup website and submit it no later than registration.
- 17.2 Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority, Presenting Sponsor and affiliated companies, and other sponsors will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta. Attention is also drawn to USSER 1.02, Overall: Responsibility, as well as the "Waiver and Release of Liability" as stated on the entry form.

## 18 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please visit the regatta website or contact the Event Chairman or the New York Yacht Club Sailing Office.

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