



The 2012 Newport Bucket Announcement of Regatta

24 - 26 August, 2012

The Newport Bucket Regatta is a congenial, invitational regatta set in the Corinthian spirit. Yachts that participate will do so at their own risk. The regatta is open to yachts over 90' LOA, unless invited under the 'Grandfather Clause'. This is a fun regatta with safe sailing the highest priority of the Organizing Authority. Therefore, an invitation is extended to those yachts whose owners; captains, crews and guests will participate and endeavor to make this a fun and safe event. Part 1 of this Announcement of Regatta deals with general administrative information and Part 2 with the rules and conditions of the regatta.

The Newport Bucket Regatta will again be headquartered at the Newport Shipyard.

PART 1 GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

1 EVENT ORGANIZERS

The 2012 Newport Bucket Regatta is organized by The Bucket Regatta, LLC.

Address all correspondence pertaining to the regatta to:

67B Front Street, P.O. Box 1067, Marblehead, MA 01945

Tel: +1 (781) 639-0203

Fax: +1 (781) 639-9171

Email: info@bucketregattas.com

Event Director/Race Chairman:

Event Manager:

Site Coordinator:

Ratings:

Executive Director:

Peter Craig

Kelby McManus

Ann Souder

Jim Teeters

Tim Laughridge

peter@bucketregattas.com

kelby@bucketregattas.com

ann@bucketregattas.com

jim@tytech.org

tim@bucketregattas.com

2 RACE WEEK WEBSITE

Periodic updates and the very latest information on the regatta can be found on the event website:

www.bucketregattas.com

3 RACE OFFICE

The Bucket Race Office will be located under the Marquee at the Newport Shipyard in Newport, Rhode Island.

4 CAPTAIN'S BRIEFING

The Captain's Briefing will be held at 1700 on Friday, 24 August at the Newport Shipyard. Each yacht must be represented by her Captain, the designated Safety Officer and her Racing Tactician (if applicable). The Sailing Instructions, course diagrams and safety considerations will be distributed via email to all entrants prior to 1 August 2012. Boat Captains are encouraged to forward these documents to their Owners, Safety Officer and Racing Tactician.

5 DOCKAGE

Dockage in Newport will be at the Newport Shipyard, the official site for the event. Dockage will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Bucket entrants will receive a 10% discount for the regatta dates. For more information on dockage contact:

Dockmaster: Eli Dana

Tel: +1 (401) 846-6002

Fax: +1 (401) 846-6003

Email: dockoffice@newportshipyard.com

Website: www.newportshipyard.com

6 ACCOMMODATIONS

For information on hotels and inns in Newport visit: www.gonewport.com

7 MEDIA RIGHTS

Entrants and crewmembers give right and permission to use their name, voice, image, likeness, as well as representation of their yachts in any media (television, print, video footage, and internet media) for the purpose of press information, reporting, promoting and disseminating information. For all publications, the yacht owner's name shall not be published without obtaining permission from the Organizer or the owner directly. Otherwise, the owner shall be referred to as "the owner of *Yacht Name*".

8 INSURANCE

8.1 It is a condition precedent to entry to the regatta that each yacht shall be insured with reputable insurers for physical loss of or damage to the yacht (up to current market value of the yacht and all its equipment onboard) and also insured for Third Party Liability risks up to \$5,000,000 (or the equivalent in other currencies) for the period of the regatta set out in the schedule (see AOR Part 2, Section 7).

8.2 The Captain undertakes to ensure that Certificate(s) of Insurance (which must be in English) reflecting the above required insurance are carried on board the yacht at all times during the regatta. The yacht's insurer(s) must be notified of the yacht's participation in the regatta and a copy of the Rules (including the Bucket Disclaimer of Liability Form) should be shown to the yacht's insurer(s).

9 WIRING INSTRUCTIONS

Contact the Event Organizer for wiring instructions (Kelby McManus kelby@bucketregattas.com)

PART 2 RACING RULES & CONDITIONS

1 MANAGEMENT

The 2012 Newport Bucket Regatta is organized by The Bucket Regatta, LLC.

2 RULES

2.1 The Newport Bucket will be governed by the following:

- a) The *rules* as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)
- b) The Bucket Rating Rule
- c) The Sailing Instructions
- d) Any applicable local maritime authority rules and regulations

2.2 Due to the size, lack of maneuverability and other constraints with superyachts, ISAF has allowed changes to ***The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*** that will enhance safe racing at the Newport Bucket Regatta. They come in the form of changes to four definitions and one rule. One of the important safety initiatives presented is maintaining a minimum of 40 meters separation between yachts. This 40-meter separation includes all mark roundings as well as meeting, passing, and crossing situations. Due to the dynamics of yachts under sail, a precise measurement of 40 meters can be difficult. If questions arise, they should be resolved via VHF bridge-to-bridge communication. The event organizer expects best efforts with compliance and good sportsmanship in maintaining minimum separation. The changes to the four definitions and one rule can be found at the Superyacht Racing Association website: www.superyra.org/rules-committee.html.

3 SAFE RACING

3.1 A primary focus of Bucket racing is prudent seamanship and sailing in the safest possible manner in all situations. This regatta relies upon self-compliance and self-policing. Accordingly, participants are required to:

- a) Ensure that the safety of the yacht, crew and guests is their primary consideration during the Regatta
- b) Comply with the rules
- c) Comply with all rules and regulations (and have on board all valid and up-to-date certificates) that apply to the yacht by virtue of its Flag, its Classification Society and/or any local maritime authority's decree that may apply to the yacht at the time of the Regatta
- d) Have due regard to commercial shipping using Newport Harbor and its approaches
- e) Be courteous to all other participating yachts, the Organizer and its representatives, as well as all other users on the water
- f) Sign and lodge a Course and Declaration Log with the Organizer promptly after completion of each race specifying all safety related incidents and/or any breaches of the RRS and Sailing Instructions.

3.2 Each yacht shall designate a Safety Officer and submit a Safety Officer Information Form in advance (Exhibit 1), posted with the details of the requirement [on the event website](#) and distributed to all captains via email). Safety Officers who were approved at the 2012 St Barths Bucket do not need to resubmit the form. All names, local mobile telephone numbers and email addresses must be confirmed at registration. The Safety Officer shall be a member of the afterguard whose sole responsibility will be the safe maneuvering of the yacht, communicating on the dedicated VHF safety channel while racing, and collision avoidance. The Safety Officer shall have no other responsibility above and beyond these safety related matters.

3.3 If the Event Organizer receives corroborative or substantiated reports of a yacht being handled in an overaggressive, un-seamanlike or unsafe manner, they may excuse the yacht from the regatta and/or declare the yacht, Safety Officer or Racing Tactician ineligible for future Bucket regattas, with or without a hearing.

4 ADVERTISING

Advertising will be restricted to Category A unless the Event Organizer grants prior approval.

5 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

5.1 The Newport Bucket is an invitational event, open to sailing yachts over 90' LOA, unless invited under the 'Grandfather Clause'.

5.2 The entry deadline is 3 August 2012. A completed entry application and entry fee must be received by Bucket Regatta, LCC by 3 August. Entry acknowledgement will be sent to entrants shortly after entry receipt. The entry application can be found on the event website: www.bucketregattas.com

5.3 All yachts are required to have a current and valid Bucket Rating Certificate. The Bucket Rule Rating Authority must receive the required measurement information and handicapping fee no later than 1 July, 2012. For a Rating Application, application instructions, and a complete description of the Bucket Rule, visit www.BucketRule.com or the Bucket Website: www.bucketregattas.com. Any questions on Bucket Rule handicapping should be directed to Jim Teeters at jim@tytech.org / +1 (401) 862-3681.

5.4 Late Entries may be accepted at the sole discretion of the Event Organizer.

6 FEES

6.1 The entry application shall be accompanied by entry fee. The entry fee is \$3,500.

6.2 The Entry Fee includes twenty (20) wristbands for each yacht. The wristband grants access to the Yacht Hop and the Buffet Dinner on Saturday night. Additional wristbands may be purchased for \$75 each. This can be added to your entry fee on the Entry Application or additional wristbands may also be purchased at registration on site.

7 PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

7.1 Two races are scheduled, one on Saturday, 25 August and one on Sunday, 26 August 2012.

7.2 Preliminary Schedule:

FRIDAY, 24 August

1300-1700	Registration at the Newport Shipyard Marquee
1700	Captains Briefing (Newport Shipyard)
1730-1900	Crew Welcoming Happy Hour at the Marquee
1800-2000	Owner's Reception (Invitation Only / Location TBD)

SATURDAY, 25 August

0900	Daily pre-race briefing at the Marquee
1200	Race 1 scheduled start time for first yacht in fleet
1800-2000	Fleet Open House
1800-2200	Bucket Bash at the Marquee - Cocktails, Dinner & Entertainment

SUNDAY, 26 August

0900	Daily pre-race briefing at the Marquee
1200	Race 2 Scheduled start time for first yacht in fleet
1800-2030	Newport Bucket Awards Celebration

The Organizing Authority reserves the right to modify the above schedule depending on weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances.

8 RATING / PURSUIT RACING

Handicapping for Bucket Regattas is based on use of a 'pursuit start' system, wherein each yacht is assigned her own starting time for each race with slower rated yachts starting first. The start time is determined by factoring in the performance capability of the yacht, the racecourse composition and wind speed and direction each day. The order in which the yachts finish will determine the daily results. Refer to AOR 5.3 and www.bucketrule.com or www.bucketregattas.com to obtain more information on the Bucket Rating Rule and the handicapping process.

9 REGISTRATION

Registration for the Newport racing will begin at 1300 on Friday, 24 August. At registration the following documents will be required:

- a) Acceptance of the Announcement of Race and Sailing Instructions as set out in the Entry Form
- b) Signed Disclaimer of Liability Form
- c) Crew List
- d) Name, mobile telephone number and email address of the Boat Captain designated Safety Officer and Racing Tactician
- e) Valid Bucket Rating Certificate
- f) Confirmation on the number of extra crew / guest bracelets you will require

10 CLASSES

The Organizer may, at its sole discretion, divide the fleet into classes based on the size, composition and attributes of the fleet. A notice with the preliminary class breaks will be posted on the official website by 7 August 2012.

11 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

11.1 A preliminary version of the 2012 Sailing Instructions will be posted on the event website by 1 August and will be emailed to all entrants. The final Sailing Instructions will be posted on the event website on or before 15 August and will be available at the Race Office on site.

11.2 Safe racing is a top priority at any superyacht regatta. Comments and feedback from entrants on the draft Sailing Instructions and any matters pertaining to safe racing is strongly encouraged.

12 RACING AREA

The racing area for the Newport Bucket will be Rhode Island Sound and Narragansett Bay.

13 THE COURSES

The Newport courses will be coastal courses using inflatable and government buoys as marks of the course.

14 SCORING

The races will be conducted in a pursuit race format. The start times for each yacht will be broadcast to the fleet on VHF radio, emailed to the yachts and posted on the website prior to the start each day. Start time and order will change daily because the course configuration and wind conditions will vary. Yachts will be scored based on the order of finish. A yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores without exclusion. This modifies RRS A2.

15 PROTESTS

15.1 The Organizer takes a proactive stance on enforcing safety and sportsmanship. Safe racing is the responsibility of everyone involved in superyacht regattas. The level of sportsmanship at Bucket events has set a standard in sailboat racing and the Race Committee fully expects the same level of mutual respect between competitors.

15.2 The superyacht protocol within the Sailing Instructions sends the implicit message that the focus is on safety and prudent seamanship, not competitive advantage. It reinforces the fact that Bucket Regattas are congenial racing events.

15.3 The yacht's Safety Officers and Racing Tacticians are expected to meet immediately following the racing to discuss and resolve any safety issues, sportsmanship, and issues pertaining to competitive advantage. If unable to resolve the issues, competitors are encouraged to meet with the Race Chairman or file a protest. Protests shall be made in accordance with RRS 60 and 61.

16 COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONIC AIDS

16.1 A yacht shall not receive a radio transmission that is not available to all yachts. All types of electronic aids, including radar, VOR, satellite, are permitted. No external aids, outside assistance or information may be used during the races, except weather forecast information.

16.2 Yachts equipped with Automatic Identification System (AIS) are required to operate their AIS system from the time they approach the starting area until departing the finishing area following the race.

17 RESPONSIBILITY

17.1 The safety of a yacht and its crew is the sole responsibility of the Captain who must ensure that the yacht is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced and physically capable crew. Neither the establishment of regulations or inspection of a yacht in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the Captain.

17.2 It is the sole and inescapable responsibility of each yacht to decide whether or not to start or continue in any race. See rule 4, Decision to Race.

17.3 Bucket Regatta, LLC and participating Sponsors of the Newport Bucket 2012 regatta do not accept responsibility for loss of life or injury to participants or others, or for the loss or damage to any vessel in any way or from any cause during or related to this event.

18 TROPHIES AND PRIZES

18.1 Daily trophies for first place in class will be presented following the racing each day (at the Marquee).

18.2 Series trophies for first, second and third place in each class will be presented at the awards ceremony on Sunday, 26 August.

18.3 Overall trophies for first, second and third place in fleet will be awarded at the awards ceremony on Sunday, 26 August.

18.4 The Chippewa Bomb, an award of note, is a World War II bomb that has been earned by, and decorated by various fleet members over the years in recognition of those who perpetuate the non-adult behaviour that pervades all Bucket Fleets.

18.5 There will be other special trophies awarded for meritorious acts, boat handling and other notable behaviour.

19 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

19.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. The Newport Bucket, LLC., the Organizing Authority, sponsors, and all other affiliated organizations and individuals, will not accept liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta.

19.3 The Newport Bucket Disclaimer of Liability Form must be accurately completed and signed by the Owner, Captain, charterers, crewmembers and guests of the yacht and lodged with the Organizers prior to the first race of the Regatta. The Disclaimer form will be posted on the website by 15 August 2012.

19.2 In the event of any crewmember, guest or personnel change on board a yacht during the regatta, each new person shall sign the Disclaimer of Liability Form before participating in any race in the regatta. Please send them to the Race Office to sign the form.

20 AMENDMENTS TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT OF REGATTA

Bucket Regatta, LLC reserves the right to amend this Announcement of Regatta. Any amendments will be posted on the event website.