

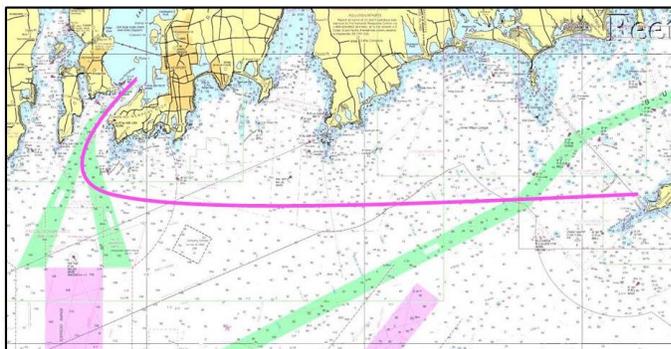


The Six Unique and Challenging Races of the Twenty Hundred Club

Over the years, the Twenty Hundred Club has run a series of thoroughly unique, inclusive and fun races in and around the Narragansett. This summary is provided to share with others the opportunities of these races, explain the fun events surrounding the actual racing and encourage participation to keep these distinctive regattas a part of the southern New England sailing scene as they have been for the last seven decades.

The races run under typical PHRF and RRS standards. The entry fee structure allows participation in all six races for the nominal cost of \$110. Complete entry details, simple registration and a significant history of racing and results may be found at www.twentyhundredclub.org. Four classes are usually run per race (a couple of spinnaker classes and a couple of cruising or non-spinnaker classes), and it is not uncommon for us to have a spread of boats rating from the 30s and 40s to the mid-200s. The races are completely accessible in that a broad range of skills and crewing are encouraged. Podium finishers receive a small rating handicap in subsequent years in an effort to provide all racers a chance at glory. Moreover, the races are scheduled in concert with other major race organizers to minimize the chance of potential conflicts with other significant area regattas, and several races serve as points providers to the prestigious NBYA/GMT Boat of the Year competition.

The first race of the year is the Around Aquidneck Race (AAR). Unique to the Narragansett, this race begins off of Hog Island, rounds Newport, heads up the Sakonnet and finishes at Tiverton. Racing is aligned with tides to make for a quicker passage. The race is truly three races in one – a traditional bay race down to Castle Hill, an interesting ocean transit to the mouth of the Sakonnet, and a beautiful fetch (usually!) up to Tiverton. TYC hosts a large reception with plenty of free dockage for competitors. A variety of opportunities are available to racers in terms of

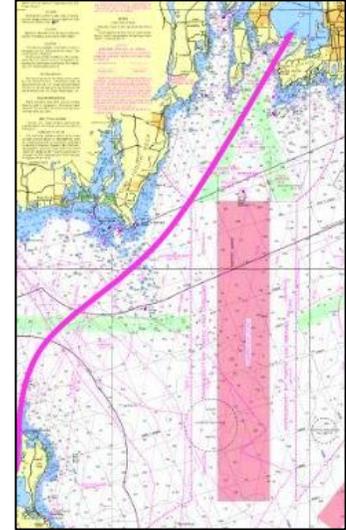


remaining in Tiverton for the night and enjoying a pleasant sail the next day or departing after the festivities with perhaps a complete circumnavigation of Aquidneck.

The race in 2017 will be held on Saturday, June 24th.

The second race is the first of two mini “destination” races. This race starts at Rose

Island and finishes off of the approach buoy for Cuttyhunk. There is only one race, in the outbound direction, and racers may return back to Newport as their schedule permits. After racing Saturday competitors gather on the commercial dock in Cuttyhunk harbor for an informal review of results. Mooring is first come, first served, but we will normally coordinate with a couple of non-racer “support” boats to sail a day or two early to Cuttyhunk and moor to a couple of balls. Cuttyhunk allows for up to three boats to a ball. This is a beautiful destination and a great place to explore after the racing events are over. Cuttyhunk is also an excellent intermediate point in travels to Martha’s Vineyard or Nantucket. **The race in 2017 will be held on Saturday July 8th.**



The third race is a mini “destination” event to Block Island. The regatta occurs each year on or near the three-day Rhode Island Victory Day weekend in August. The Saturday race out departs from Rose Island and finishes at the approach to New Harbor. As with the AAR, tactical challenges abound. A large post-race BBQ (with hosted refreshments) occurs next to The Oar once all competitors are in and settled. As with Cuttyhunk, the weekend is ideally suited to encouraging non-racing boats to serve as “support fleet”, turning the entire three days into an event. Sunday is a layday for rest and relaxation. Monday marks the return race, running back from New Harbor to a finish between Rose and Goat Islands. A majority of boats make both directions, but races are scored and awarded both individually and as a series to enable a range of participation options. **The race in 2017 will be held August 5th -7th.**



The fourth race of the season, the Prince Henry Navigator’s Race has been documented in Sailing World magazine as one of the five most unique sailboat races in the world. Essentially the entire bay and several marks in the sound are your race course. Competitors select from 20+ charted buoys as the race unfolds to piece together a unique course that is most advantageous for their maximum boat speed given the winds and tides. The race runs for six hours with all competitors finishing off of Allen’s Harbor at a set time. There are a variety of starting “sites” to enable easy participation by boats throughout the bay. Log sheets submitted by each competitor attest to tracks and times with the RC computing final handicap-adjusted distances. The racer in each class with the most miles sailed in the allotted

time is the winner. The lengthy duration of the day race means that navigators must both be bold in their course selections but conservative enough to make the finish on time (late finishes are penalized). Running continuously for 30 years, this race is hugely fun for the entire crew with both speed and navigation challenges. **The race in 2017 will be held on Saturday, August 26th.**



The final scheduled race of the year is the Fall Race. As the name implies, this is typically a September event. Running from the west side of Prudence, the course circumnavigates Prudence Island with a leg down to Gould Island if conditions look favorable. This is another event covering a course less frequently sailed.

Tide/current management and maximizing boat speed bring challenges to the racer while the picturesque venue brings enjoyment to those along for the ride. As one of the concluding events for the Boat of the Year challenge, this race is typically well attended by a wide variety of boats and racers. **The race for 2017 will be held on Saturday, September 23rd.**

The final event to mention is the Around Aquidneck Challenge.

Unique to the region, this is not a scheduled race but rather a self-timed circumnavigation of Aquidneck Island. The window to conduct the challenge opens April 15th and runs to December 31st.

Competitors select the start/finish location, day, time and direction (clock-wise or counter clock-wise) for their rounding, choosing times and days with the most advantageous winds and currents to maximize their VMG. The Tiverton Boat Basin is a no-race zone, where competitors must motor and transit times are excluded from final circumnavigation time calculations. The course includes numerous marks of which any may serve as the start/finish point. A detailed log sheet is maintained and submitted to the scorer after racing. The scorer applies the handicap and publishes the result on the Twenty Hundred Club website. The fastest corrected elapsed times in both spinnaker and non-spinnaker classes are recognized at the annual awards dinner.

With a legacy of racing that dates back to the mid-1940s these events represent a chance to compete in some of the most enduring regattas on the Narragansett. And yet the nature of the courses and scheduling afford opportunities for those simply looking to enjoy the sailing and camaraderie associated with navigating some of the most scenic waters in New England. Moreover, Twenty Hundred Club races remain some of the most unique on the bay, covering courses not generally sailed in most bay races. More details on all of the events and registration may be found at www.twentyhundredclub.org and specific questions and topics may be addressed to commodore@twentyhundredclub.org.