

Dana Dillon Memorial New Year's Madness Race

1 January 2026

Co-Sponsored by
Old Point Comfort Yacht Club & Hampton Yacht Club

Course: This is a Chase Start, with slower boats starting first, faster boats starting last, similar to the 'Round the Lights Race and the Gaboon Race. The course will be mercifully short, about 6 nautical miles. Generally, the course is *"Around the Hampton Bar and into the OPCYC Bar"*.

Mandatory Skippers Meeting: 1000 at HYC. Start times and course description, along with a great hot breakfast. Breakfast for skippers is included in the entry fee. Breakfast is also available for crew members at a nominal charge, beginning at 8 AM. Visiting boats may raft up at the end of the HYC piers during the skippers meeting.



Classes: PHRF A, B/C, PHRF Non-Spin (2HS), PHRF CCNS, PHRF CCS, Cruising Class, and ORC Performance Cruiser Spinnaker fleets will be hosted if there are more than three entries. Classes may be combined.

Special "Cruising Credits" will be added to the handicap ratings of boats in Cruising class that carry "Go-Slow" cruising gear such as extra ground tackle, dinghies, wind vanes, old sails, etc. Forms for applying for cruising credits will be available at opcyc.org, and should be emailed to jeff.halaha@gmail.com by the 29th of December, 2025. All boats must be able to meet the safety requirements of U.S. Sailing Nearshore.

Racing Rules: Current RRS as adopted by US Sailing except as modified by these instructions. Courtesy ratings will be assigned to Cruising Class entrants without a valid PHRF rating.

Start: Between an orange flag on the HYC dock and a blue rock on the other shore. The first Warning is at 1125 with the first Start at 1130. After the first start, no further sound signals will be made, except to indicate an "over early". Starting time assignments will be made based on PHRF handicap rating plus Spinnaker and Cruising adjustments as applicable. The list of early registrants and start times will be posted on the OPCYC website (www.opcyc.org) and will be updated as registrations are received. Start times will be available online at www.opcyc.org under the racing tab and also posted outside at the HYC clubhouse. We will attempt to start the race unless the actual or forecast wind is over 25 knots sustained.

Finish: Between the orange flag on the OPC Marina Pier and daymark G "3" Phoebus Channel.

Keep Clear of Starters: To keep clear of boats that are in the act of starting the race, all racers must stay at least 100 yards north of the start line until within 4 minutes of their start. Penalty for breaking this rule is being pelted with refuse from boats trying to start.

Protests: Due at OPCYC clubhouse within one hour of the last boat finishing, and heard ASAP the same day.

Post Race Party: All skippers and crew are invited to the post-race party and awards presentation at the OPCYC clubhouse starting at 1530. The party starts at 1530; no earlier, no later. It's New Year's Day, so every participating boat will receive at least a small bottle of champagne. Bigger bottles, including some magnums, are for trophy winners. We'll have OJ available so you can make your own mimosas. You must be present at the awards ceremony or someone else will drink your award. Great food and libations for both skipper and crew are included in the entry fee.

Entry Fee: Entry fee is \$35 if registered by 5 PM Fri, 26 Dec, otherwise \$50. Online registration is highly preferred at OPCYC.org under the racing tab. Registration must be executed by 5 PM on 26 Dec to avoid the \$15 "late fee." We need you to register early so we can calculate your start time and post the start times online. So register early! If you prefer to pay by check, register online, then send a check. Make checks out to **OPCYC** and mail to:

OPCYC, PO Box 3369, Hampton, VA 23663-0369

Questions? Jeff Rogers (757) 449-2931, jeff.halaha@gmail.com; Russ Harper, (804) 357-7300, russ.harper@lycos.com

Race with us on 1 January 2024, so you can say, at least for one day, as Dana did,

"I have raced every day of the year so far."

Come on out for a little **New Year's Madness!**