



**32nd Biennial
MARBLEHEAD-TO-HALIFAX
OCEAN RACE
Preliminary Notice of Race
8 JULY 2007**



The Boston Yacht Club and the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron are pleased to announce their plans for the 32nd Edition of the biennial Marblehead-to-Halifax Ocean Race. The 360 nautical mile course from Marblehead, Massachusetts, U.S.A., to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, will be sailed in five divisions, with classes in each determined by the Marblehead-to-Halifax Ocean Race Committee (MHORC) based upon individual ratings and the numbers of entries. This race is a qualifier for the Stamford Yacht Club's Northern Ocean Racing Trophy for IRC yachts and the New England Lighthouse Series for PHRF yachts.

The five divisions will be (1) IRC; (2) Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF) Racing; (3) PHRF Cruising Canvas; (4) Multihull, and (5) Classic Yachts. Yachts will be restricted to the use of sails permitted under the particular Measurement or Handicap rules. Safety requirements will be ORC Category 2 with defined exceptions. Eligibility is restricted to yachts with a minimum length overall (LOA) of 29.5 feet (8.99 meters), except as specifically permitted by the MHORC. We will also offer a division for the new Offshore Rating Rule (ORR) if sufficient boats indicate an interest in scoring under that rule.

As in the past, we are including a Classic Yachts Division and we are very excited about the prospects. For purposes of this race, a "classic yacht" is defined as one designed before 1970 and/or of plank-on-frame construction. Within the PHRF Racing Division, the competition for doublehanded entries will again be offered. Doublehanders are subject to supplementary requirements described in an addendum to the official Notice of Race. This will be the tenth race for our PHRF Cruising Canvas and Multihull Divisions. Both have continued to gain popularity and increasing interest throughout the sailing community.

Entrants included in the valid Nova Scotia Yachting Association (NSYA) List or holding valid PHRF rating certificates from regional authorities other than Performance Handicap Racing Fleet of New England (PHRF-NE) will complete the PHRF-NE rating form (included with the official Notice of Race) and submit it with their entry form to support certification and normalization to New England standards by the PHRF-NE Handicap Review Committee. Multihull rating certificates will similarly be subject to review by the New England Multihull Association (NEMA) for certification and normalization to their standards. IRC and ORR boats must hold rating certificates from the US Sailing Offshore office. Classic yachts will be rated in accordance with the Classic Rating Formula.

Further information, including registration materials, will follow in the near future.

Posted 7/17/06