



NEWPORT BERMUDA RACE 2026

INSPECTION PROCEDURES MONOHULLS

Inspection Procedures

1. Download and familiarize yourself with the Newport Bermuda Race Safety Requirements (NBRSR). This is found on the [Official Notice Board](#). Note that in 2024 there are different versions of the NBRSR applicable specifically to Monohulls and Multihulls.
2. Determine whether you are eligible to self-inspect: Per NOR §6.2(b), those boats entered in the 2026 Newport Bermuda Race **that completed the 2024 Newport Bermuda Race under the same ownership and command can elect to self-inspect.** However, a boat that self-inspected in 2024 is not eligible to self-inspect for the 2026 race.

An eligible boat that elects to self-inspect under this paragraph shall indicate so through the *Inspection Plan* checklist on the entry system by May 15, 2026, and shall complete the online Inspection Checklist and Deferred Inspection Checklist prior to appearing for On-Site Registration in Newport. Boats eligible to self-inspect may jump directly to Item 4 on this list.

3. Choose an inspector and arrange a date: A Newport Bermuda Race inspector can be a tremendous help to your race preparation. Not only is every inspector a veteran of past Newport Bermuda races, but every inspector is a volunteer who has offered their time to assist entrants in complying with the race requirements. A complete list of inspectors can be found on the [Official Notice Board](#). If you would like assistance in choosing an inspector or have a specialized boat requiring specific attention, please email Chief Inspector Jon Burt at inspections@bermudarace.com.

Inspector: _____ Tel. No./Email: _____

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All boats must be inspected by 1700, June 5, 2026 (Inspection Deadline). NOR 3.7 establishes that the penalty for failing to meet any race deadline will be voluntary withdrawal without refund, except that an entry may be restored upon payment of a late fee equal in dollars and cents equal to three times the boat's LOA for each calendar day.

Inspection Date: _____ Time: _____

4. Complete the online *Inspection Plan* checklist on the entry portal: This preliminary checklist should be completed as soon as you have chosen an inspector and arranged a date. The deadline to complete this checklist is May 15, 2026.
5. Prepare for inspection: As soon as practical after spring launch, the Person In Charge (PIC) should download a copy of the applicable Newport Bermuda Race Safety Requirements (NBRSR) from the [Official Notice Board](#) and make sure each item on the list is compliant. Any questions about the inspection process should be directed to your chosen inspector or inspections@bermudarace.com.
6. Complete the online *Inspection Checklist* and *Deferred Inspection Checklist*: Prior to your in-person inspection appointment, the PIC should conduct a pre-inspection on board with as many of the crew as possible and document the results by completing the *Inspection Checklist (Mono- or Multihull)* and *Deferred Inspection Checklist* on the entry portal. If possible, it is a good idea to have another member of the crew act as the inspector for this pre-inspection. This will be the final opportunity for the crew to ensure the vessel is in inspection condition, and this step must be completed prior to the in-person inspection. Both Checklists must be complete and submitted – with evidence where required – prior to the in-person inspection, although the *Deferred Inspection Checklist* may include specific items that are not compliant at the time of the in-person inspection. The fully compliant *Deferred Inspection Checklist* must be submitted in the entry portal before the PIC arrives for Newport Registration.

For vessels eligible to self-inspect, all members of the Afterguard must be present for the self-inspection, including the Person in Charge, Reserve Person In Charge and all watch captains.

7. Prepare your boat for in-person inspection: After completing the online *Inspection Checklist* and *Deferred Inspection Checklist*, you are now ready for the in-person inspection. Be sure to print the completed checklists to bring with you to the inspection. Prior to the inspection, lay out all gear subject to inspection and expose all areas of the boat to be inspected. More guidance on preparing your vessel for the inspection can be found on the Inspection Preparation Card. If all gear is

prepared as per the Inspection Preparation Card and the pre-inspection is completed satisfactorily, the inspection should proceed easily and fairly quickly.

8. Who should be aboard for the in-person inspection? The PIC, Reserve PIC or a watch captain must be aboard for the inspection to serve as the Vessel Representative. If the PIC, Reserve PIC or a watch captain absolutely cannot be available for the inspection, the PIC may designate an agent bearing their express authorization to represent the vessel at the inspection. The Vessel Representative must be a member of the racing crew who is familiar with the boat and the use and stowage of all gear subject to inspection.
9. What if all the required documentation and safety equipment is not available at the time of inspection? Boats are expected to be in racing condition when inspected, with all required safety gear aboard. If, however, certain specific pieces are not available at the time of the inspection (a rented life raft, for instance, or a crewmember's personal lifejacket and harness), such deficiencies will be noted on the online *Deferred Inspection Checklist*. The PIC will be expected to complete these requirements by uploading evidence of compliance with these Deferred Inspection items and submitting the completed *Deferred Inspection Checklist* as a condition of Newport Registration. All Boats may be subjected to re-inspection upon her arrival in Bermuda.
10. What to expect on inspection day: The inspector will come aboard prepared to review the completed *Inspection Checklist* and *Deferred Inspection Checklist* with you. He or she will walk through each item on the list and check it for compliance. If you have properly prepared the boat and laid out all gear beforehand, this should take no longer than 1-2 hours. Often, an inspection is a good time to discuss the use of safety gear and tactics for handling emergency situations. The inspector will want to understand what methods of emergency steering and man overboard recovery the crew has practiced. If the inspector is not satisfied with the methods discussed, he may require the crew to demonstrate them for him/her then or at a later date.
11. What to do if there are deficiencies after the in-person Inspection: Although the absence of specific documents and personal safety gear can be accounted for in the *Deferred Inspection Checklist*, failure to demonstrate conformity with all other aspects of the *Inspection Checklist* will require the inspector to return at a later date to verify compliance. In these cases, the Chief Inspector will be notified that the yacht is not eligible to participate in the race until he is satisfied that any deficiencies have been corrected. PICs wishing to address deficiencies may be re-inspected up until the Inspection Deadline, subject to the inspector's availability.

However, because this creates a hardship both on the part of the inspector and the PIC, it is strongly recommended that any questions or potential deficiencies be addressed with the inspector prior to the inspection.

NOTE: BOATS MAY BE SUBJECT TO POST RACE INSPECTION AND FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE GROUNDS FOR RACE COMMITTEE PROTEST. THE INTERNATIONAL JURY MAY IMPOSE PENALTIES FOR BREACHES OF NOR 6.2 INCLUDING TIME PENALTIES OR DISQUALIFICATION.

12. Note that because the *Inspection Checklist* and *Deferred Inspection Checklist* are completed and verified online, there is no need to carry inspection documentation aboard the vessel during the 2024 Newport Bermuda Race. However, per the NOR, boats shall retain a paper copy of proof of medical training until 48 hours after finishing. Boats may also be required to show paper copies of vessel registration to H.M. Customs Bermuda.



2026 NEWPORT BERMUDA RACE®

Kept aboard until
6/28/26

ON BOARD TRAINING CERTIFICATE

2026 Newport Bermuda Race Safety Requirements 5.3 prescribes that the Captain and not less than 2/3 of the crew of each yacht shall, prior to the start of the race, participate in on-board training, including man overboard practice, use of AIS and AIS personal crew overboard beacons, sailing with the storm trysail, use of the life raft, lifejackets, safety harnesses, main boom preventer, communications equipment, pyrotechnics, EPIRB(s), fire prevention, firefighting and the procedures for abandoning ship, dismasting and rudder/steering loss or failure. All participating crew shall sign and date the On Board Training Certificate.

Yacht Name: _____ Sail No: _____ Captain: _____

The following members of the yacht's Newport Bermuda Race® crew have completed onboard drills for the topics listed:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ☐ Man Overboard | ☐ Recovering MOB from the water | ☐ Abandoning Ship |
| ☐ Dismasting | ☐ Sailing with the Storm Trysail | ☐ EPIRB |
| ☐ Life Rafts | ☐ Lifejackets and Harnesses | ☐ Fire Prevention/Fighting |
| ☐ Pyrotechnics | ☐ Rudder/Steering Loss or Failure | ☐ Preventer Rigging |
| ☐ Communications Equipment | ☐ AIS / Personal Crew Overboard Beacons | ☐ Satellite Phone Use |

Crew Name

Signature

Date

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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