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STORM TRYSAIL CLUB UNVEILS APP FOR 50th ANNIVERSARY BLOCK ISLAND RACE WEEK

NEW SHOREHAM, R.I. (June 9, 2015) – The organizing committee for the Storm Trysail Club’s 50th anniversary Block Island Race Week, scheduled June 21-26, has set out an ambitious sustainability program and an important part of the plan is a new app for use with [iOS](#) and [Android](#) operating systems.

The app, launched today in Beta version, will be the primary vehicle for all communications to competitors about Block Island Race Week, including daily notices and results, and will eliminate many forms of paper communication, such as the daily newspaper.

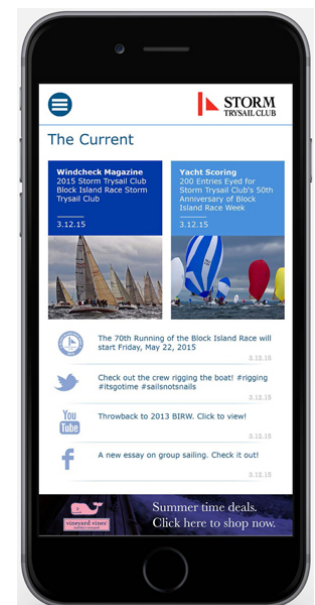
“Simply by eliminating the daily newspaper, which was printed in Massachusetts and then delivered to the island by truck and ferry, we significantly reduce the carbon footprint of Block Island Race Week,” said Chairman Peter Rugg. “Nearly every competitor has a Smartphone, so this is the most direct way to communicate with them.”

When launching the app the homepage has two primary portals. One takes users to the official regatta page on Yacht Scoring where users can access the entry list, scratch sheet, all regatta documents and weather data as provided by SailFlow. The second portal takes users to WindCheck magazine’s website, which will host the daily story in lieu of the newspaper.

Secondary links on the homepage take users to the official Block Island Race Week website, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube sites. Each will have the latest post on the app homepage.

“Conceptually, we wanted a centralized hub to host all content related to race week,” said Ed Cesare, the technical director for race week and a co-creator of the app. “The Yacht Scoring and WindCheck portals are most important because they link to all of the primary information. The social media links serve nicely to round out the app’s homepage with what competitors and their families and friends are doing.”

The app was created by JB Design of Norwalk, Conn., in conjunction with Storm Trysail Club members and WindCheck magazine. It has gone through 10 revisions leading to the Beta launch.





In its desire for a sustainable event, the Storm Trysail Club has adopted the protocol set forth by Sailors for the Sea for a clean regatta, primarily committing to paperless race documents, reusable water bottles, water stations on the docks, recycling and composting. The Storm Trysail Club also plans to host three beach clean-ups in conjunction with Clean Ocean Access on Wednesday, June 24.

“Bravo!” said Greg Cutter, skipper of the Andrews 28 *Diablo* and a Professor of Oceanography at Old Dominion University who studies chemical-biological processes in the ocean. “Things such as reusable water bottles and water filling stations are easy to do. They help the environment and there’s so much less trash on the boat at the end of the day that it’s a no brainer.”

The entry list for Block Island Race Week includes more than 170 boats ranging in size from 6.5 meters (21 feet) to 65 feet. Racing is planned on three circles for one-design and rated classes (IRC, HPR and PHRF). Additional classes for double-handed crews, and cruising spinnaker and non-spinnaker entries will sail one race a day around fixed marks.

A highlight of the week is the Around Block Island Race, a 20-nautical-mile sprint that challenges crews with swift tidal currents, rocky outcrops and windless holes while racing against the picture-perfect sand dunes and lush flora and fauna of the island.

Registration is still open for this classic regatta that mixes fun and competition. More details can be found at [Block Island Race Week](#) and registration at [Yacht Scoring](#).

About Block Island Race Week

Founded in 1965, the Storm Trysail Club’s Block Island Race Week is one of the oldest race weeks in the U.S. The regatta is held in odd-numbered years on idyllic Block Island, about 13 miles off the coast of Rhode Island. Measuring less than 10 square miles in area, Block Island has been named one of “The Last Great Places” by the Nature Conservancy. The Storm Trysail Club wishes to thank its many supporters and partners, including sponsors [Mount Gay Rum](#), [North Sails](#), [Block Island Wind Farm](#), [Caithness Energy](#), [Vineyard Vines](#), [New England Boatworks](#), [Bainbridge](#), [Gill](#), [Hall Spars](#), [Gowrie Group](#), [Sailing World](#), [WindCheck](#), [C&C Yachts](#), [McMichael Yacht Brokers](#), [New England Ropes](#), [Heineken](#) and [PhotoBoat](#).

About the Storm Trysail Club

The Storm Trysail Club is one of the world’s most respected sailing clubs. Established in 1938, its membership includes skilled blue water and ocean racing sailors, who have flown a storm trysail (a small triangular sail flown in very strong winds) or severely reduced canvas during an ocean voyage. The club is headquartered in Larchmont, N.Y., and has regional stations throughout the U.S. The club hosts Block Island Race Week in odd-numbered years, the annual Block Island Race and Fort Lauderdale to Key West Race, Quantum Key West Race Week, the biennial Miami to Montego Bay Race and many other events. The Club’s affiliated 501(c)(3) organization, The Storm Trysail Foundation, holds annual junior safety-at-



sea seminars and the Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta for college sailors using big boats. For more information, visit [Storm Trysail Club](#).