



## Inaugural Rhody Regatta Raises Funds for RI Community Food Bank

### ***Winners Named in Five Classes, Fundraising Extended!***

NEWPORT, R.I. (July 6, 2023) – All types of boats comprised the fleet of 37 entries sailing in the first-ever Rhody Regatta, which was combined with the [International Yacht and Athletic Club](#) (IYAC) Newport Cup on July 1. The event, an 18-mile race around Conanicut (Jamestown) Island, raised more than \$15,000 for the Rhode Island Community Food Bank through team donations and will keep its [fundraising link](#) live through the month of July, should anyone else wish to make a donation.

“Amazing event, amazing spirit,” said IYAC’s Pat Kennedy, who co-chaired the combined event, “and we couldn’t have had a better day of sea breeze coming in early for a prompt 11 a.m. start.”

For Class 1’s winner *Blackwing*, a Stuart Knockabout 28 owned by Eric Hall (Bristol, R.I.), it was a team effort for Newport sailors Steve Prime (substituting for Hall at the helm), Scott McLeod (calling tactics), and Peggy Hersam and Richard Rankin (handling the sails). “We benefited from a long run down the backside of Conanicut Island, which favored small boats like *Blackwing*,” said Prime. “I think IYAC ran a great race, serving up ideal sailing conditions. The local racing boats like to support fundraising races such as this and Sail Newport’s Sail for Hope (in September). Just a great day for sailing around Conanicut Island!”

Other winners were Ryan McKillen’s (Miami Beach, Fla.) M32 *Surge* in M32 One-Design class; Alex Wadson’s (Portsmouth, R.I.) Shaw 6.5 *Manic* in Class 2; NEKA Sailing’s Ker 11.5 *Peacemaker* in Class 3; and Jim Madden’s (Newport Beach, Calif.) Carkeek 47 *Stark Raving Mad IX* in Class 4. *Stark Raving Mad* also was declared Best Overall

Finisher and will have its name added to a long list of winners engraved on the IYAC Newport Cup.

Originally scheduled for the first weekend in June, the inaugural Rhody Regatta was rescheduled due to threatening storms. Next year, it will move back to its original June time slot on the Narragansett Bay racing schedule.

The RI Community Food Bank acquires and distributes food through its 140 member agencies, including food pantries, meal sites and shelters. It serves more than 63,000 Rhode Islanders each month, a number that reflects a 20% increase over pre-Covid years.



Clockwise from top left: Overall and Class 4 Winner *Stark Raving Mad IX*, winner Class 2 *Manic*, *Big Boy Pants*, *Spirit*, winner Class 1 *Blackwing*. Photos by Stephen Cloutier

Link for Fund Raising: <https://rifoodbank.org/rhody-regatta/>

Full results: <https://bit.ly/46BBY4O>

(end)  
(top-five results follow)

### **First Annual Rhody Regatta (July 1, 2023)**

#### **Place, Yacht Name, Type, Owner/Skipper, Hometown, Results, Total Points**

##### **One Design (One Design - 3 Boats)**

1. Surge, M32 32, Ryan McKillen , Miami Beach, FL, 1 ; 1
2. M32 World / Team MILFord, M32 32, Dave Doucett , North Kingston, RI, 2 ; 2
3. Midtown Racing, M32 32', Larry Phillips , Newport, RI, 3 ; 3

##### **Class 1 (PHRF - 7 Boats)**

1. Blackwing, Stuart Knockabout 28, Eric Hall , Bristol, RI, 1 ; 1
2. Relentless, Beneteau First 36.7 36, Robert Laska , Warwick, RI, 2 ; 2
3. Limeing, VX One 19 ft, Cece Schneider , Newport, RI, 3 ; 3
4. Vorpai, J80 26, Josh Parks, Portsmouth, RI, 8 ; 8
5. Mutinous Dogs, Tartan Ten 33, Marc Holdaway, 8 ; 8

##### **Class 2 (PHRF - 5 Boats)**

1. Manic, Shaw 6.5, Alex Wadson, Portsmouth, RI, 1 ; 1
2. GRIMACE, J 100 33, Dawson & Ben Hodgson, Slocum, RI, 2 ; 2
3. Spirit, J 92s 30, EC Helme, Newport, RI, 3 ; 3
4. Hawk, Evelyn 32-2 32, Richard & Katie Barker, Newport, RI, 4 ; 4
5. Brigadoon, J 105 Mod, Robert Morton, Newport, RI, 5 ; 5

##### **Class 3 (PHRF - 9 Boats)**

1. Peacemaker, Ker 11.5, NEKA Sailing, 1 ; 1
2. Bully Circus, Farr 30 Evo 30.9, Buster Pike, Newport, RI, 2 ; 2
3. Incognito, J 121 40, Joe Brito , Bristol, RI, 3 ; 3
4. Divided Sky, Summit 35 35, Vincent & Kristina McAteer, East Greenwich, RI, 4 ; 4
5. Leading Edge, J 122 40, Tom Sutton, Houston, TX, 5 ; 5

##### **Class 4 (PHRF - 8 Boats)**

1. Stark Raving Mad IX, Carkeek 47, Jim Madden, Newport Beach, CA, 1 ; 1
2. IRIE 2, Kerr 55 55, Brian Cunha, Newport, RI, 2 ; 2
3. Boudicca, R/P 66 66ft, Richard Moody, Jamestown, RI, 3 ; 3
4. PUGILIST, Marten 49 49, Dudley Johnson, Westerly, RI, 4 ; 4
5. Laura, Westerly Marine RP 60 60, Bill Titus, Newport, RI, 5 ; 5