

BALLENA BAY YACHT CLUB
1150 BALLENA BLVD. ALAMEDA, CA (510) 523-2292

**BBYC FRIDAY NIGHT SERIES STANDING RACE
INSTRUCTIONS
Revised March 2008**

1 RULE

1.1 Races will be governed by the following documents, given in their order of precedence: a) Individual Series or Race Instructions,

b) These Standing Race Instructions,

c) The Current US Sailing Association Rules.

1.2 Yachts shall not interfere with the navigation of:

a) large vessels with limited maneuverability,

b) tugs and their tows, vessels of the United States government.

1.3 Auto-helms are allowed.

2 YACHTS

2.1 All yachts shall: a) have a length on board of at least 19 feet, b) have at least 600 pounds of ballast in a keel, c) comply with US Coast Guard requirements.

2.2 All yachts should have a valid NCPHRF rating. There should be a valid NCPHRF certificate for the entered yacht or an identical sister-ship on file with the YRA of Northern California. BBYC Race Committee suggests that skippers ascertain their boat's ratings, but will if necessary ascertain same from PHRF files on YRA website. If no such ratings exist for a given vessel said vessel is welcome to race but will not be accorded a standing other than "Finish" which will apply to season participation awards.

2.3 In the event that the rating of a yacht is protested, the skipper of the yacht being protested shall provide to the Protest Committee evidence that the requirements of Section 2.2 are met.

3 STARTING LINE

3.1 The Starting Line shall be between an orange flag on the Race Committee boat or on shore near the Ballena Marina flagpole and the starting buoy, BBYC Mark "G".

3.2 The Finish Line shall be the same as the Starting Line.

3.3 A Preventer Buoy may be set near the Race Committee boat and, when set, shall limit the length of the line such that a starting yacht shall not pass between this buoy and the Race Committee boat. The buoy may or may not be on the line, is not a mark of the course and is to be considered an obstruction.

3.4 Yachts shall not cross the Starting Line except when: a) preparing to start, b) starting, c) finishing, d) starting the second lap of a twice-around course, or e) after finishing.

3.5 The Starting Area shall be an oval extending 100 yards in all directions from the Starting Line.

3.6 Yachts shall not Anchor in the Starting Area while the Race Committee boat or shore station is flying a preparatory signal.

3.7 The "I" flag will always be assumed to fly, US Sailing Association Rule 30.1 will be in play at all times.

3.8 The "Z" flag and the "Black" flag will not be used for BBYC races.

4 SIGNALS

4.1 Visual signals shall be made from the Race Committee boat or Land Based Starting Area by means of international code flags and colored flags or shapes. The Race Committee may, at its discretion, announce the hoisting of any visual signals on VHF Ch 71. In the event of catastrophic Race Committee situations races will be started by Radio / GPS time as described below in section 4.13

4.2 Sound signals will be made with a: a) gun, b) horn c)whistle, or d) siren.

4.3 Starting Signals shall be in accordance with US Sailing Association Rule 26.

4.4 The Course shall be signaled by the display of the corresponding International Code number pennants read top to bottom. As per US Sailing Association Rule 27.1, the course flag shall be raised no later than the warning signal. As an alternate a placard may be used to display the course for each Division. No course pennant or placard shall be displayed when the Default Course, described in 4.41, is used.

4.41 Courses

1. GP-36P-32P-GS 5.67 nm
2. GP-36P-32P-36S-GS 7.43 nm
3. GP-32S-36S-GS 5.67 nm
4. GP-32S-36S-32P-GS 7.26 nm
5. GP-36P-GS 4.08nm
6. GP-32P-GS 3.92 nm

4.5 A Twice-around Course shall be signaled by code flag “T” below the course number pennant(s). All boats shall cross the Starting line to start the second lap of the course.

4.6 Code flag “R” under the course number pennant(s) shall signal a Reverse Course. A Reverse Course is sailed in the opposite direction, leaving all marks to the opposite side indicated on the course sheet.

4.7 A Shortened Course will be signaled by the Race Committee announcing its intent to do so on VHF channel 71 and by code flag “S” flying from the RC boat which will be anchored opposite any mark of the course, or displayed from the RC shore station. The finish line shall be perpendicular to the last leg of the course. To finish, a yacht shall pass between the mark and the RC boat without rounding the mark, regardless of what side the RC boat is on or what side the course sheet says to leave the mark. If a twice around course is shortened to a once-around course, this rule applies and the “S” flag under the “T” flag will be flown from the RC boat.

4.8 Postponements are signaled by the hoisting of the answering pennant along with 2 sound signals. The postponement period will end with the lowering of the answering pennant accompanied by 1 sound signal. Approximately 1 minute after the ending of the postponement period, the warning sound and visual signals will be made, signifying the resumption of the regular starting sequence.

4.9 Individual Recalls are signaled by displaying code flag “X” accompanied by 1 sound signal, and/or hailing the yachts concerned on VHF channel 71. However, nothing relieves a yacht from making a proper start. The recalled yacht shall return around either end of the start line to the pre-start side of the line.

4.10 General Recalls are signaled by hoisting the first substitute code flag and making 2 sound signals. After

a general recall has been signaled, US Sailing Association Rule 29.2 will not apply and the recalled division will move to the end of the starting sequence so as not to put the other divisions off their intended starting time/position.

4.11 Other Signals may be used in accordance with US Sailing Association Race Signals except as modified by these instructions.

4.12 The Race Committee will monitor VHF channel 71 for check-in and retirement from the race. Communications on starting order and course information with the Race Committee on VHF Ch 71 is permitted in BBYC. However, the Race Committee will not respond to radio contact from the first warning signal until after the start signal.

4.13 Radio / GPS Time Start Instructions

In the event of Race Committee catastrophic event the race will start by Radio / GPS Time as follows and will be announced on VHF Channel 71.

Beginning at 6:10pm the RC will announce the GPS time every five minutes in order for racers to synchronize clocks

6:25pm The RC will announce "Five Minute Warning" on VHF Channel 71

6:26pm The RC will announce "Four Minute Preparatory" on VHF Channel 71

6:29pm The RC will announce "One Minute Warning" on VHF Channel 71

6:30pm The RC will count down the last 5 seconds and will announce "Start" precisely at 6:30pm GPS time

In the event of a Radio / GPS Time Start all racers will radio their finish times immediately upon crossing the finish line. If radio is unavailable finish times may be called to the RC at 415-531-8910 within 30 minutes of the last finisher crossing the finish line.

5 INFRACTIONS OF THE RULES

5.1 Penalties for right-of-way violations of the Racing Rules, hitting a mark while rounding, or starting early shall be a penalty turn consisting of a tack and a jibe, or a jibe and a tack, to equal 360 degrees. This turn shall be completed at the earliest opportunity after the violation that shall not impede the progress of other yachts.

5.2 Protests shall be: a) discouraged except in cases of dangerous boat handling and b) submitted in writing to the Race Chair no later than 1 hour after conclusion of the race. The BBYC Chairman or his designee will serve as chairman of the Protest Committee.

6 TIME LIMIT

6.1 The time limit is two hours and thirty minutes from its Starting Signal. If one boat finishes in time, then all boats shall have a time limit of three hours and no minutes. If a racer retires from a race he/she should notify the Race Committee via VHF channel 71 or verbally when sailing by the Race Committee boat or shore station.

7 SCORING FOR SERIES RACES

7.1 The Low Point Scoring System will be used. Each yacht finishing a race, and not thereafter retiring or being disqualified, shall score points as follows: First place - 1 point, Second place - 2 points, Third place - 3 points, etc.

7.2 Other yachts shall score points as follows: Did Not Finish - Number of finishers plus 1 point. Did Not Start - # of sign-ups plus 1 point. Disqualified - # of starters plus 2 points.

7.3 Tie Breaking shall be done by first including throw out races. If still tied, then the yacht with the most first place finishes wins. If still tied, then the yacht with the most second place finishes wins. If the tie is still not broken, dual prizes will be awarded.

7.4 A registered race entrant who serves as Race Committee will receive points equal to his series average after throw outs. However, if no boats in his division complete the race, he will receive 1 point.

race@bbyc.org

<http://www.bbyc.org>