



**Organizing Authority:**

**Yacht Racing Association of San Francisco Bay**  
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## **2026 YRA Introduction to Racing March 14, 2026**

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**303-717-0449**

### **Sailing Instructions (SI)**

The notation '[DP]' in a *rule* means that any penalty is at the discretion of the Protest Committee. The notation '[NP]' in a *rule* means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that *rule*. This changes *RRS Rule 60.1(a)*.

#### **1 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board at <https://yra.org/into-to-racing-series/> before 1700 hrs on Friday, March 13th.
- 1.2 In accordance with *RRS Rule 90.2 (c)*, changes to the SI may also be made orally on the water. The "L" flag will be displayed before the first warning and changes will be broadcast over VHF on the channel specified in 2.1. Racers may ask for a repeat of the change without breaking *RRS Rule 41*.

#### **2 COMMUNICATIONS**

- 2.1 On the water, the Race Committee will monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio on **channel 72**.

#### **3 CHECK-IN**

- 3.1 All boats should check in with the Race Committee.
- 3.2 The Race Committee intends to be on station to take check-ins starting approximately 30 minutes before the scheduled time of the first warning.
- 3.3 Boats shall check in via VHF on the channel specified in 2.1.
- 3.4 All boats must check in using the following procedure:
  - (a) Come within 0.75 nm of the start line with a good line of sight to the Race Committee signal boat.
  - (b) Wait for the check in channel to be clear for at least two seconds.
  - (c) Hail the Race Committee on the check in channel, and give the following information:
    - (i) sail number, and/or boat name, and division (fleet).
- 3.5 Check in is not complete until acknowledged by the Race Committee.
- 3.6 Each boat should complete the check in process no later than 1200 hrs.

**4 FLEET ASSIGNMENTS**

4.1 Fleet Assignments will be posted on the Official Notice Board no later than 1200 hrs on Friday, March 13th.

**5 START/FINISH**

5.1 The start and finish will be in the vicinity of XOC, between an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and an inflatable mark. This changes the definition of the orange flag in the *RRS Race Signals*. See *Chartlet 1*.

5.1.1 The Race Committee signal boat will be the Santana 35 "Ahi".

5.2 The scheduled time of the first warning signal for the practice start is 1200 hrs.

5.3 The scheduled time of the first warning signal for the actual race will be 10 minutes after the practice starts conclude. A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes *RRS Rules 61, A5.1 and A5.2*.

5.3 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal they will be assessed a 1 minute penalty, added to their elapsed time, which will be noted in the posted results. This changes *RRS Rule 61*.

5.4 The Race Committee will be conducting the start verbally on VHF radio and will use sound signals for warning, preparatory, and start. This modifies *RRS Rules 26, 27, and 29*.

**6 COURSE**

6.1 Round marks as indicated: (p) for Port or (s) for Starboard

Course	Start	Mark	Finish
1	Start	W (p)	Finish

**7 MARKS**

7.1

MARK	DESCRIPTION	Specification	Lat Deg	Lat Min	Lon Deg	Lon Min
Start	Temporary yellow inflatable in the vicinity of XOC	Olympic Circle buoy "X" (Bobbi Tossi)	37	52.4	122	21.5
W	temporary yellow inflatable located approximately 1 to 2 miles upwind of the start line.					

**8 OBSTRUCTIONS**

8.1 For safety, each of the lines bounded by the following two points is an *obstruction*:

- (a) Berkeley Pier Ruins: A line between the day mark at the end of the Berkeley Pier (FI R 4s 15ft 4M "2") and the closest point ashore
- (b) Southampton Shoal Platform: A 200' circle around Southampton shoal platform
- (c) Shoreline Rocks: Each visible rock in the course area, except Mile Rock and Red Rock, and the nearest point ashore

8.2 Boats are prohibited from sailing into any of these areas while racing. The penalty for a boat crossing a line listed in 8.1 is to retire.

**9 TIME LIMIT**

9.1 All boats not finishing within 2 hours 30 minutes of their start will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes *RRS Rules 61, A5.1 and A5.2*.

9.2 [DP] Boats that check in and subsequently withdraw from the race, retire, or will not finish by the finish time limit must contact the Race Committee via text message at 303-717-0449 as soon as

it is safe to do so. If there is no response after 30 minutes, continue attempting to contact the Race Committee every 30 minutes until confirmation is received.

- 9.2.1 The text message must contain the boat name, skipper name, and that that boat is withdrawing, retiring, or not finishing on time.

## **11 HEARING REQUESTS**

- 11.1 As this race is designed as a learning experience, no protests will be accepted and no hearings will be held unless there is a collision between participants.
- 11.1 If a collision occurs, protests must be sent via email to [info@yra.org](mailto:info@yra.org) no later than 1700 hrs the Monday after the race.
- 11.2 Protest forms are available from the US Sailing Website at [https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/US\\_Sailing\\_2025-Hearing\\_Request\\_Form\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/US_Sailing_2025-Hearing_Request_Form_FINAL.pdf).
- 11.3 Notices will be emailed no later than 1700 hrs the Wednesday after the race to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 11.4 Hearings will be held online via zoom.

## **12 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 12.1 Rule 9 of the Inland Rules of the Road applies. Boats shall not impede the passage of a vessel that can only safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway (see US Dept. of Commerce chart 18649 for designated shipping channels and fairways). A violation of Rule 9 is subject to protest by any competitor or the Race Committee, and is not exonerated by an alternate penalty. *RRS Rule 60.3* is changed to add: "(d) call a hearing for an alleged breach of Rule 9 if notified by government, commercial or individual vessel of possible infraction. The protest time limit is extended by two days for any protests filed by the Race Committee based on a report from the Coast Guard or the captain or pilot of such a vessel under this rule."

## **13.0 RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

- 13.1 Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Participants in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See *RRS Rule 4*, "Decision to Race." The race organisers (organising authority, Race Committee, Protest Committee, host clubs, sponsors, or any other organisation, volunteer, or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any participant, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. Each participant agrees to release the race organisers, volunteers and officials from any and all liability associated with such participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**Chartlet 1: (see next page)**

