



Santa Barbara Yacht Club Presents:

2025 CHAOS RALLY

NOTICE OF RACE & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organizing Authority for the 2025 Chaos Rally will be:
The Santa Barbara Yacht Club (SBYC), 130 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109

The Chaos Rally was originally created in the summer of 2020 as a preliminary way to get boats back on the water in a low-density, yet fun and engaging way. The event has multiple levels of creativity allowing competitors to choose when they will start over the course of two days and the order in which they will round each of the designated course marks. Every boat must start no earlier than 10:00am on Saturday, March 22 and finish no later than 4:00pm on Sunday, March 23. They can choose to start on either day as long as they are finished by 4:00pm on Sunday. The order in which competitors are permitted to choose their start time will be decided via a random drawing on the Thursday evening preceding the race.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), applicable rules for One Design and PHRF classes and the US Safety Equipment Requirements “Near Shore” for PHRF boats.
- 1.2 PHRF boats shall use regional random leg course (RLC) ratings and have current and valid PHRF rating certificates on the PHRF of Southern California website (www.phrfsocal.org), except as listed below.
- 1.3 The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.4 The notation [DP] in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of a rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 1.5 US Sailing prescriptions to rules 63.2 will not apply.
- 1.6 Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, Rule V1 – Penalties at the time of the incident and Rule V2 – Post-Race Penalties will apply.

2 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 Boats shall comply with orders from the United States Coast Guard and adhere to US Coast Guard Regulations. Failure to comply with orders from the United States Coast Guard, Santa Barbara Harbor Patrol or any other recognized authority is grounds for penalty, up to disqualification, without a hearing at the discretion of the Race Committee. This Changes Rule 63.1. [DP]
- 2.2 Boats shall conform at all times to regulations regarding commercial traffic. Any boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible. [DP]
- 2.3 Boats shall comply with the US Safety Equipment Requirements (USSER) except as modified by the notice of race and these sailing instructions. The course is classified as a Near Shore Race. The equipment requirements are available at:

<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations/>. [DP]

The US Safety Equipment Requirements (USSER) are changed for the following sections:

- 2.3.1 For USSER 3.19.1, the words ‘permanently mounted’ are deleted. A permanently mounted magnetic compass is a recommendation for the race.
- 2.3.2 Boats using a ‘One Design’ PHRF configuration may use that One Design classes’ published safety standards instead of the US Sailing Near Shore Safety Equipment Requirements. [DP]
- 2.4 Rules Part 2, “When Boats Meet” is replaced between the hours of local sunset and local sunrise by Part B—Steering and Sailing Rules, of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS). Competitors are also reminded that under the preamble of Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing, boats racing must comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) when they meet other marine traffic.
- 2.5 A boat shall not exercise right of way, cross in proximity to, or interfere with reasonable transit of commercial ships, tugs, or barges in the race area. Boats must take evasive action well in advance of a potentially dangerous situation. A boat without way may use any means of propulsion to avoid commercial traffic that is under way provided: (a) The boat does not gain an advantage, and (b) Use of the propulsion is the boat’s only means of avoiding the commercial traffic, and (c) The boat submits a report to the race committee by the protest-filing deadline describing the incident and the boat’s actions. [DP]

3 ENTRY, ELIGIBILITY, & FEES

- 3.1 This event is open to members of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. Members of other clubs belonging to US Sailing may race as guests of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. Eligible competitors may enter the series by submitting a completed race entry form to the Santa Barbara Yacht Club no later than 1800 on the day preceding the race. Race Entry Forms are available at the front desk of SBYC or online at https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=29391. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 3.2 Classes invited include:
- PHRF RLC Rating (class breaks, if any, will be posted on Friday, March 21)
 - Harbor 20 one design
 - CHRF
- 3.3 Eligible boats shall have valid PHRF Certificates or use SBYC recognized one design class ratings as listed in these Sailing Instructions.
- 3.4 Valid PHRF rating certificates for PHRF boats must be on file with the Race Committee no later than 0900 on the day of the race.
- 3.5 One Design boats in SBYC recognized classes may enter this regatta without a PHRF certificate using the class ratings listed below, and at the discretion of the race committee.

Standard Ratings:

Harbor 20 = 216; J/70 = 102; J/105 = 84; Melges 24 = 72

Non-Spinnaker Ratings:

Harbor 20 = 239; J/70 = 146; J/105 = 104; Melges 24 = 92

3.6 Entries must be received by 8:00pm on Thursday, March 20 to be included in the start time selection draft. Entries received after this time may be accepted but not entered into the start time selection draft.

3.7 There is no entry fee for this event.

4 **FORMAT**

The race will be run with no two boats starting at the same time. Boats will be allowed to start at their chosen start times ranging anywhere between 10:00am on Saturday, March 22 (first available start time) to 5:00pm on Sunday, March 23 (last available start time). Start times will be available in increments of 10 minutes. Each boat shall start on or after their selected start time but no later than 5 minutes after their selected start time.

A. START TIME SELECTION

Each competing boat will be allowed to select a start time in the following order:

- a. Early Entrants: Boats that have entered online by 8:00pm on Thursday, March 20 will be given preference for start times draft selection that will take place at 8:15pm on Thursday, March 20. Once the draft order for start time selection is set, each boat shall submit their top three preferred start times to racing@sbyc.org / (310) 850-5213 by 2:00pm on Friday, March 21. Any boat that does not meet the 2:00pm deadline to submit their preferred start times will be added to the late entrants list. Boats will be given their top preferred start time that is still available in order of the draft selection. Once a boat's start time is selected, it may not be changed without written permission from the SBYC race committee.
- b. Late Entrants: Boats that registered after 8:00pm on Thursday, March 20 will be given their preferred start time from what is still available on a first come-first serve basis.
- c. The final official start times will be posted online in '[Attachment A – Chaos Rally Start Times](#)'.

B. RACE COMMITTEE

- a. There will be no race committee during the race. Each boat shall report the following items via email to racing@sbyc.org or text to (310) 850-5213. [DP]
 - i. Start Time (hours: minutes: seconds)
 - ii. Order in which they rounded the marks
 - iii. Finish Time (hours: minutes: seconds)

5 **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors and amendments to these Sailing Instructions will be posted online at <https://sbyc.org/racing> under the Chaos Rally.

6 **CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted by 0900 hours on the day it will take effect.

7 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

There will be no signals made ashore.

8 SCHEDULE

- 8.1 Thursday, March 20 at 8:00pm: Entry deadline to be included in start time selection draft.
- 8.2 Thursday, March 20 at 8:15pm: Draft for Start Time Selection Order will be done and emailed out to competitors. [Attachment A – Chaos Rally Start Times](#) will be updated live as boats respond with their preferred start times.
- 8.3 Friday, March 21 at 2:00pm: Start time selections should be emailed to racing@sbyc.org prior to this time. Any start times not submitted by this time will be given on a first come, first serve basis.
- 8.4 Friday, March 21 at 6:00pm: Entries accepted after this time are at the discretion of the SBYC race committee.
- 8.5 Saturday, March 22 at 10:00am: First available start time. No boat shall start prior to this time.
- 8.6 Sunday, March 23 at 5:00pm: Last available start time.
- 8.7 Sunday, March 23 at 7:00pm: Any boat not finished by this time will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF).
- 8.7 Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00pm: Awards ceremony will take place at SBYC following Wet Wednesday races.

9 CLASS FLAGS, POSTPONEMENT, & SHORTENING OF COURSE

There will be no race committee and as such, there will be no class flags, no postponements, and no shortening of courses.

10 CLASS DESIGNATIONS

- 10.1 Classes include:
 - PHRF (RLC Ratings): Class breaks will be announced following the close of registration.
 - Harbor 20 One Design
 - Club Handicap Racing Fleet (CHRF) using the most recent CHRF ratings
- 10.2 A boat is permitted to sail non-spinnaker in PHRF classes. The RLC rating will reflect this choice.

11 RACING AREA

The racing area will be as designated on the current SBYC course chart.

12. OBSTRUCTIONS

- 12.1 The areas defined by lines commencing at the nearest shores and connecting each contiguous City of Santa Barbara swim buoy are designated as obstructions. Boats crossing these lines shall exit the area immediately and retire from the race. [DP]
- 12.2 Visiting Cruise Ships including a 100-yard perimeter around the vessel are designated as obstructions. [DP]

13 THE COURSE

- 13.1 For all courses, marks may be passed / rounded in any direction and in any order, except that:
- a.) 'X' followed by a number in SI 13.3 indicates the number of times you must round 'X' mark.
 - (i) 'X' Mark shall not be rounded as the first mark after starting or the last mark prior to finishing the course. Additionally, 'X' mark shall not be rounded again immediately following a rounding of 'X' mark (there must be at least one different mark between roundings of 'X').
 - b.) 'K' Mark shall not be rounded immediately prior to or following rounding 'A' Mark.
 - c.) 'E' Mark shall not be rounded immediately prior to or following rounding 'M' or 'C' Marks.
- 13.2 All marks shall be rounded. A boat shall round to the outside of a mark as pertains to the next mark they will be sailing to. The outside of a mark is defined by the angle of the turn from the rum line of the previous leg sailed to the rum line of the next leg to be sailed. For all marks except platforms, a boat shall enter the mark zone (three boat lengths). It is recommended but not required that each boat takes a picture of each mark they round and record the time they rounded the mark and report it to racings@sbyc.org.
- 13.3 **The courses are:**
- Course 1:** Start – (In any order: A – E – H – K – M – X(3)) - Finish
Rated Distance is 9.92 nautical miles.
- Course 2:** Start – (In any order: A – H – K – M – X(2)) – Finish
Rated Distance is 8.3 nautical miles.
- Course 3:** Start – (In any order: A – C – E – H – X(2)) – Finish
Rated Distance is 7.55 nautical miles.
- 13.4 Courses to be sailed will be announced on Friday, March 21 at 6:00pm and posted on the notice board.

14 MARKS

- 14.1 Marks will be as designated on the current SBYC course chart and 'Attachment B - Platforms'. All marks are situated near the GPS coordinates shown on the current SBYC course chart but are subject to natural influence.
- 14.2 Marks may be oil platforms, or yellow, white or blue cylinders except that: 'BB' is the red/white navigational bell buoy; and Mark C and Mark M are white and yellow city anchorage boundary buoy with a light on top. Mark E is an outfall buoy that is a white cylinder with an orange diamond on it and says 'no mooring' and 'outfall'. Any permanent mark may be substituted with a temporary or inflatable mark without prior notice.
- 14.3 In the event of a missing mark, boats shall round the waypoint. [DP]
- 14.4 Marks may be rounded in any direction and in any order within the guidelines detailed in SI 13.

15. THE START

- 15.1 The start line will be between mark 'G' and mark 'F' as described on the current SBYC course chart. A boat may start by passing between these marks in either direction.
- 15.2 Boats shall record their official GPS start time and email it to the SBYC Race Committee.
- 15.3 A boat's starting time for the race will be listed on [Attachment A – Chaos Rally Start Times](#). This attachment will be made available online at <https://sbyc.org/racing>.
- 15.4 A boat starting earlier than their start time as listed in [Attachment A – Chaos Rally Start Times](#) shall be recorded as On Course Side (OCS).
- 15.5 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after their start time as listed in 'Attachment A - Summer Rally Start Times' shall be given a discretionary penalty without a hearing of 20 minutes added to their total elapsed time. This changes RRS 63. [DP]

16 THE FINISH

- 16.1 The finishing line will be between mark 'F' and mark 'G' as shown on the current SBYC course chart.
- 16.2 Each boat shall report their finishing GPS time to racing@sbyc.org.

17 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 17.1 Appendix V, Rule V1 will apply: The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: 'A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.'
- 17.2 Appendix V, Rule V2 – Post Race Penalties will apply: (a) Provided that rule 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident. (b) A Post-Race Penalty is a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rule 44.1(a) applies. (c) A boat take a Post-Race Penalty by delivering to the arbitrator or a member of the protest committee a written statement that she accepts the penalty and that identifies the race number and where and when the incident occurred.

18 HEARING REQUESTS

- 18.1 Protests and Requests for Redress shall be filled out online at <https://forms.gle/2L7z19gjs2ixLaTH6>. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the SBYC Race Committee via email within the appropriate time limit.
- 18.2 The protest time limit is 2000 on Sunday, March 23.
- 18.3 Protest times and locations will be posted on the official notice board no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 18.4 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day; (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rule 66.

18.5 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.

19 SCORING

19.1 The low point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.

19.2 PHRF time on distance will be used to calculate the lowest total corrected time.

20 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the top finisher(s) for each class.

21 HOSPITALITY

Appetizer gift certificates will be available for each registered boat at the SBYC front desk following completion of sailing the course.

22 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform, and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**