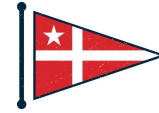




SANTA BARBARA YACHT CLUB
Club Handicap Racing Fleet
Spring Series



Jan 18, Feb 1, March 1, & March 15
NOR / SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organizing Authority for the 2026 Club Handicap Racing Fleet (CHRF) Spring Series will be:
The Santa Barbara Yacht Club (SBYC), 130 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109

1 RULES

- 1.1 This event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and the Club Handicap Racing Fleet (CHRF) rules and by-laws.
- 1.2 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).
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 US Sailing prescriptions to rules 63.2 will not apply.
- 1.5 Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, Rule V1 – Penalties at the time of the incident and Rule V2 – Post-Race Penalties will apply.
- 1.6 Failure to comply with orders from the United States Coast Guard, Santa Barbara Harbor Patrol or any other recognized authority is grounds for disqualification without hearing at the discretion of the Race Committee. This Changes Rule 63.1. [DP]
- 1.7 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: '(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or'.

2 ENTRY AND ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 This series is open to members of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. The 'member' may enter any boat regardless of ownership and must assume financial responsibility by certifying that the vessel is, and will remain, adequately insured when racing. 'Member' is defined as a member in good standing, or the spouse of a member in good standing.
- 2.2 Eligible boats will be considered 'registered to race' and 'entered in a race' by completing either a) and b) for a "qualified" boat or c) for a new boat.

a.) FLEET REGISTRATION: Register online via the FLEET REGISTRATION entry form at (https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=30511). Fleet registration need only be done one time per calendar year and must be completed at least three days prior to the start of the first race they wish to compete in. It is the sole responsibility of the member to verify that the boat is listed as entered in the CHRF series on the Santa Barbara Yacht Club website, at least three days prior to the first race, of the calendar year, they wish to compete in. Exceptions are at the discretion of the Race Committee (RC).

b.) RACE DAY ENTRY: Eligible boats shall be entered in a race when the Skipper or crew member of the boat signs the boat in with the Race Committee (RC) via [the online form](#) on the day of the race and lists the name of the Skipper and the name of the SBYC member onboard for the race, if the skipper is not a member of SBYC.

c.) FIRST QUALIFIER: A member may register and enter for the first qualifying race on the day of the race. The registration must be complete, including insurance information, prior to signing up

for the race. If the member is requalifying a previously qualified boat, the last handicap shall be used, if available. If the boat has not been previously qualified or if the last handicap is not available, the Race Committee or the Fleet Representative shall assign the initial start time for the first qualifying race.

- 2.3 To become eligible for race trophies, a boat must first have completed three CHRF races to establish a handicap rating.
- 2.4 Participating boats must have a SBYC member on board at all times in order to be scored. CHRF Committee may decide to not score boats violating this rule without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1. [DP]

3 FEES

There are no entry fees.

4 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 4.1 Notices to competitors and amendments to these Sailing Instructions will be posted in Fleet e-mail, on the SBYC website, or on the official notice board located on the SBYC lower deck.
- 4.2 The race office is located at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club - 130 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109, on the southwest corner of the building.
Telephone – (805) 965-8112, ext 114. Email – racing@sbyc.org.
- 4.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 71.
- 4.4 The following communications may be made by the race committee on VHF radio channel 71:
- Course number
 - Count downs to warning, preparatory, and start signals
 - Shortened course for one or more fleets
 - Abandonment of one or more fleets
 - On course side boats

5 MANDATORY SIGN-IN

Boats must sign in with via an online form available at <https://sbyc.org/racing> or [via the online form](#). Boats failing to do so may not be scored. Note that it is not acceptable to sign in by radio. [DP]

6 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to these sailing instructions will be posted at least one hour prior to the start of the race on the official notice board.

7 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SBYC yardarm.

8 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 8.1 One race each will be held on each of the following dates:

Race	Date	Type of Start / Start Time
# 1	January 18	Staggered Start @ 13:00 Hrs.
# 2	February 1	Staggered Start @ 13:00 Hrs.
# 3	March 1	Staggered Start @ 13:00 Hrs.
# 4	March 15 (Platform C Option)	Mass Start @ 14:00 Hrs.

8.2 Individual boat starting times will be available for participants from the Race Committee on the day of the race. Starting times are recalculated after each event. First time competitors will be assigned a start time by the CHRF handicap committee.

9 CLASS FLAG

The Class Flag shall be numeral pennant '1'.

10 RACING AREA

The racing area will be as designated on the current SBYC course chart, which is available on the SBYC website or at the front desk of SBYC.

11 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1 The following areas defined by lines commencing at the nearest shores and connecting each contiguous City of Santa Barbara (SB) swim buoy are designated as obstructions:
- City of SB swim buoys located in the vicinity to the south and within an estimated distance of 300 yards of Ledbetter Beach and Ledbetter Point.
 - City of SB swim buoys immediately adjacent to Point Castillo at the SB harbor entrance.

Boats crossing these lines shall exit the area immediately and retire from the race. [DP]

Competitors are reminded that crossing any other government designated swim area lines not listed in these Sailing Instructions may result in citations from the coast guard, SB Harbor Patrol, or other government authority.

- 11.2 Visiting Cruise Ships including a 100-yard perimeter around the vessel are designated as obstructions. [DP]

12 THE COURSE

- 12.1 Courses to be sailed will be taken from the current [SBYC Course Chart](#) which is available online and at the SBYC front desk.
- 12.2 The course for each race will be posted on placards from the SBYC deck prior to the warning signal. Additionally, courses will be hailed over VHF radio channel 71. Failure for a radio to transmit or a competitor to hear the course hail shall not be grounds for redress.
- 12.3 When a letter 'R' placard follows the course number, the course shall be sailed in the reverse direction. Marks shall be passed in reverse order and on the opposite side listed on the course chart. At the discretion of the Race Committee, any available CHRF course may be reversed should the predominant wind direction be between 0 and 180 degrees within and up to 30 minutes prior to race time.
- 12.4 When a letter 'T' placard follows the course number, the course shall be sailed two times around. The start/finish line will be required at the beginning of the second lap.

13 MARKS

- 13.1 Marks will be as shown on the current version of the [SBYC course chart](#). All marks are situated near the GPS coordinates shown on the course chart but are subject to natural influence.
- 13.2 Description of marks:
- A, D, K, H, G, F, X, E – White cylinders with a yellow band around the middle.
 - C, M – White city anchorage boundary buoys with lights on top.
 - E – Outfall buoy. White cylinder with orange stripes and orange diamond on it with the words 'No Mooring' and 'Outfall'.
 - The gate designated as 'Gt' on the current SBYC course chart shall be between mark 'F' and mark 'X'.

- 13.3 Any permanent mark may be substituted with a temporary or inflatable mark without prior notice. When Mark 'C' is not present, the white, cylindrical outfall buoy that is situated the closest to the GPS coordinates of Mark 'C' shall be rounded instead.
- 13.4 In the event of a missing mark with no temporary mark replacement, boats shall round the corresponding GPS waypoint shown on the SBYC course chart.

14 THE START

- 14.1 For staggered starts, all boats will start in one reverse handicap staggered start in accordance with the individual boat starting times. For mass starts, all boats shall start together at the same time. In both cases, the start signals shall be in accordance with RRS 26 with the warning given 5 minutes before the start:

January 10, February 1, and March 1 signals:

Time	Sequence	Visual	Audible Signal
1255	Warning Signal	Class Flag – Up	Horn
1256	Preparatory Signal	"P" Flag – Up	Horn
1259	One-Minute	"P" Flag - Down	Long Horn
1300	Start	Class Flag - Down	Horn

March 15 signals:

Time	Sequence	Visual	Audible Signal
1355	Warning Signal	Class Flag – Up	Horn
1356	Preparatory Signal	"P" Flag – Up	Horn
1359	One-Minute	"P" Flag - Down	Long Horn
1400	Start	Class Flag - Down	Horn

- 14.2 The starting line will be between marks 'G' and 'F' on the current SBYC Course Chart.
- 14.3 The official race clock to be used will be taken from atomic time for the Pacific Time (PT) zone.
- 14.4 Individual start times alluded to in 8.2 above that occur after the start signal will not be occasioned by either audible or visual signal from the RC.
- 14.5 A boat is considered racing from that point four minutes before her individual start time and when she finishes. Yachts not yet racing shall stay clear of the starting area. [DP]

15 ON COURSE SIDE (OCS) NOTIFICATION

- 15.1 The race committee will signal boats On Course Side (OCS) by displaying code flag 'X' and may hail the yacht on VHF channel 71. The flag will be displayed for four minutes or until the OCS start is corrected (whichever comes first).
- 15.2 OCS boats that do not return within four minutes must start correctly even if the X flag is lowered. It is the responsibility of each boat to start correctly.

16 SHORTENED COURSE AFTER THE START

Courses will not be shortened. This changes rule 32.

17 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between mark 'G' and mark 'F' as shown on the SBYC course chart.

18 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 18.1 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.'

18.2 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 takes 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.

19 TIME LIMIT

The first qualified boat in the race must finish by sunset or the race will be abandoned. If a qualified boat finishes by sunset, all other boats may continue to race until they finish. For staggered start races, the final finishing place will be based on order of finish. For mass start races, finish place will be determined by corrected time based on when the boat actually finishes. For all boats finishing under sail after sunset, handicaps calculations for the next race will be based on the time of sunset. This modifies rules 35 and A4.1.

20 HEARING REQUESTS

- 20.1 Hearing request forms for protests, requests for redress, and reopening of a hearing are available at the SBYC Front desk or through the US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing App. Hearing request forms may be emailed to racing@sbyc.org or delivered to the SBYC Race Office and shall be submitted within the appropriate time limit.
- 20.2 The filing time limit for protests or requests for redress about an incident observed in the racing area is 60 minutes after the protesting boat's finish time or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The filing time limit for other hearing requests is 60 minutes after the relevant information is available to the filing party.
- 20.3 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.

21 SCORING

- 21.1 With a staggered start sequence, the order of finish will determine finish places. With a mass start sequence, corrected times will be used to determine finish places.
- 21.2 The Series will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the RRS using the Low Point System except that a boat providing RC duty will be awarded 1½ points.
- 21.3 A boat receiving credit for providing RC duty for a race, but which nevertheless sails the course, shall not have her finish scored or her time recorded.

22 PRIZES

- 22.1 Race day trophies will be awarded at SBYC after racing.
- 22.2 The overall Series Trophy will be awarded at the annual trophy dinner. Each race in the Series also qualifies toward the Annual High Point Trophy.

23 SAFETY

Boat Owners participating in SBYC racing events must accept responsibility for the suitability of their vessel for each event entered; taking into consideration the distance, worse case sea conditions, the design and sea worthiness of the vessel for those conditions. Boat owners are expected to maintain their vessels in a commensurate manner.

Boat owners accept the responsibility to provide all safety equipment required by the Coast Guard, and such additional safety equipment it deems advisable for the conditions reasonably expected to occur during the race.

Boat owners are encouraged to become knowledgeable with safety equipment and rescue procedures by familiarizing themselves with the recommendations of national (US Sailing) and / or international racing authorities (ISAF) including the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements as stated in <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations/>. When local educational safety seminars are held, all boat owners are expected to attend to insure the highest level of safe racing knowledge.

Immediately prior to any race, the decision to race or not race is the sole responsibility of the boat owner or the owner's designee. At all times during a race, it is the boat owner's responsibility to continue or to retire based on unexpected conditions or equipment failure. Boat owners must advise crew members of their responsibility to decide for themselves whether to race or not based on their own competence level.

24 CREW / REPLACEMENT OF CREW

Crew taking the place of the boat owner at the helm of a boat for longer than a brief period of time, shall be listed on the FLEET REGISTRATION entry form, by the boat owner (either online or paper entry form) as an Authorized Skipper. There must still be a SBYC member on board at all times as stated in rule 2.4. The CHRF committee may choose to not score or disqualify boats that are found to have broken this rule without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1. [DP]

25 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.**

25 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance. [DP]