



# 2026 SBYC Challenge Cup Series

## *Spring, Summer, Fall, and Holiday Regattas*

### Notice of Race

The Organizing Authority for the 2026 Challenge Cup Series will be:  
The Santa Barbara Yacht Club (SBYC), 130 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109

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).

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. 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 classes.
- 1.2 Membership with a valid rating certificate is required for the appropriate class association. For Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF) classes, valid and current Southern Californian PHRF certificate in the online PHRF database ([www.phrfsocal.org](http://www.phrfsocal.org)) shall constitute proof of membership for each entrant. PHRF of Southern California (PHRF) is the Rating Authority (RA) for this event.
- 1.3 PHRF boats shall use Area I windward-leeward ratings and have current and valid PHRF rating certificates on the PHRF of Southern California website ([www.phrfsocal.org](http://www.phrfsocal.org)). Competitors from outside Area I shall use their PHRF regional windward-leeward rating.
- 1.4 US Sailing prescriptions to rule 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 unless the sailing instructions state otherwise.
- 1.6 When there is a discrepancy between this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions will take precedence.

#### 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 disqualification without hearing at the discretion of the Race Committee. This Changes Rule 63.1. [DP]
- 2.2 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]
  - 2.2.1 The US Safety Equipment Requirements (USSER) are changed for the following sections:
    - 2.2.1.1 For USSER 3.19.1, the words ‘permanently mounted’ are deleted. A permanently mounted magnetic compass is a recommendation for the race.

#### 3. ENTRY AND ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Members of SBYC are eligible to enter the Challenge Cup Series and any of the regattas that comprise it (Spring, Summer, Fall, & Holiday). Members of other clubs belonging to the US Sailing Association may enter and race in each regatta but are not eligible for the Challenge Cup Series or any perpetual trophies.

3.2 Eligible boats may enter by submitting a completed race entry form to the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. Race entry forms are available at <https://sbyc.org/racing>. Entries will be accepted until 1000 the morning of each regatta unless otherwise stated in the Sailing Instructions. Exceptions are at the discretion of the Race Committee.

3.3 A boat will be considered 'entered' in the Challenge Cup Series upon submitting a completed entry form for any of the regattas that comprise the series, competing in at least one of the scheduled regattas, and meeting the eligibility requirements of rule 3.1.

3.4 **ONE DESIGN ELIGIBILITY:**

a.) Each One-Design regatta in the Challenge Cup Series is open to the following One-Design Classes: Harbor 20, J/105, J/70, and Melges 24. Additional One-Design classes will be accepted at the discretion of the Regatta Chair based on the number of entries for that class. Submit requests to [racing@sbyc.org](mailto:racing@sbyc.org).

3.5 **PHRF ELIGIBILITY:**

a.) Each PHRF regatta in the Challenge Cup Series is open to Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF) boats. PHRF boats will be separated into classes based on entries received and performance characteristics of the boats. PHRF class breaks will be defined in the Sailing Instructions. Valid and current PHRF rating certificates for PHRF boats must be on file with the Race Committee no later than 1000 on the day of the race.

4. **FEES**

Any entry fees will be posted in each event's Sailing Instructions.

5. **SCHEDULE**

5.1 **One Design**

April 11 – Spring One Design

June 7 – Summer One Design

October 3 – Fall One Design

December 5-6 Holiday Regatta

**PHRF**

April 12 – Spring PHRF

June 6 – Summer PHRF

October 4 – Fall PHRF

December 5-6 Holiday Regatta

\*The schedule may be changed well in advance of any given regatta.

See <https://sbyc.org/racing> for current schedule of races.

5.2 The number of races scheduled for each race day will be stated in the regatta Sailing Instructions.

5.3 The first and last warning signal for each race day will be stated in the regatta Sailing Instructions.

6. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Sailing Instructions including course descriptions will be available at registration and on the racing page of the SBYC website (<https://sbyc.org/racing>) approximately two weeks prior to the event.

7. **VENUE**

The course will be located within two miles of the Santa Barbara Harbor entrance. All post-sailing activities will take place at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.

8. **COURSES**

8.1 A course chart will be included with the regatta Sailing Instructions.

8.2 Courses will be a windward-leeward buoy configuration.

## **9. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 9.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, applies. The penalty shall be a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c).
- 9.2 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.'
- 9.3 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.

## **10. SCORING**

### **10.1 CHALLENGE CUP SERIES SCORING:**

- (a) The low-point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply, except that:
  - (i.) When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the sum of her race scores.
  - (ii.) When 5-9 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the sum of her races scores excluding her worst score.
  - (iii.) When 10-14 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the sum of her races scores excluding her worst two (2) scores.
  - (iv.) When 15 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the sum of her races scores excluding her worst three (3) scores.
- (b) Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- (c) For the purpose of Challenge Cup Series scoring, a boat's place in each race shall be defined as the order of finish relative to her own class not including boats ineligible for the series (see Notice of Race Instruction 3.1).
- (d) Only eligible boats as pertaining to instruction 3.1 will be included in final Challenge Cup Series scoring.
- (e) Rule A5.3 will apply.

### **10.2 REGATTA SCORING FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (Spring, Summer, Fall, Holiday):**

- (a) The low-point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply, except that a boat's score shall be the sum of all her finishes.
  - (b) One race must be completed to constitute a series.
- 10.3 Rule 90.3(e) will apply except that '24 hours' is changes to '72 hours'.

## **11. BERTHING**

Berthing may be offered to out of town boats free of charge on a first come-first serve basis, and pending availability, by contacting the front desk of SBYC ([frontdesk@sbyc.org](mailto:frontdesk@sbyc.org)). Rafting may be necessary and reservations with the front desk of SBYC are mandatory.

**12. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

The Race Committee will make use of VHF radios to keep sailors informed of Start Times, On Course Side (OCS), Postponements, and other information regarding the racing. The channel to be used will be given in the Sailing Instructions for each event.

**13. PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers for each regatta. Series winners will be engraved on the SBYC Challenge Cup.

**14. CREW LIMITATIONS**

Any crew limitations will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions for each event.

**15. REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT**

Request for replacement of equipment may be submitted via written request and may be allowed with approval from the SBYC Sail Policy Committee.

**16. 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.**

**17. INSURANCE**

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

**18. AMENDMENTS TO THIS NOTICE OF RACE**

The Organizing Authority reserves the right to amend this notice. Any amendments will be posted on each event website, all of which can be found at <https://sbyc.org/racing>.

**19. FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information please visit <https://sbyc.org/racing> or contact the SBYC Race Office at (805) 965-8112 or [racing@sbyc.org](mailto:racing@sbyc.org).