



Santa Barbara Yacht Club

Channel Race

June 13, 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event will be 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 US Sailing prescriptions to rules 63.2 will not apply.
- 1.3 A yacht’s Area I Random Leg Course (RLC) rating shall be used for the race.
- 1.4 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).
- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, Rule V1 – Penalties at the time of the incident and Rule V2 – Post-Race Penalties will apply.
- 1.7 Waivers: Individual boats, or boats interested in forming a class whose class rules or configuration prevents her from complying with some of the requirements of this NOR may petition for a waiver from the OA.
 - 1.7.1 Justification of any deviation and alternative means of compliance should accompany petitions to participate or establish a class.
 - 1.7.2 The OA will respond in accordance with RRS 76.1.
 - 1.7.3 Receipt of petitions and the subsequent decisions to grant or deny a waiver are at the sole discretion of the OA.
- 1.8 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. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS [DP]

- 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 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 Any boat that retires from the race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible by calling on VHF channel 71 or calling or texting the SBYC Race Director at (310) 850-5213. [DP]
- 2.4 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:



- 2.4.1 For USSER 3.19.1, the words ‘permanently mounted’ are deleted. A permanently mounted magnetic compass is a recommendation for the race. [DP]
- 2.4.2 In addition to the Near Shore requirements, all boats must comply with the with USSER 2.4.1 through 2.4.7 regarding lifelines (available in the [Coastal SER requirements](#)). [DP]
- 2.4.3 Add to USSER 2.4.1: Boats not designed for persons on the foredeck (example: Melges 24, J/80, J/70) shall be exempted from bow pulpit requirement. [DP]
- 2.4.4 All boats shall also comply with [USSER 3.7.2](#) regarding man overboard equipment. [DP]
- 2.5 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. [DP]
- 2.6 All boats must monitor VHF Channel 16 after their start for the duration of the race. Competitors must obey directions given to them by any naval vessels on VHF Channel 16. [NP][DP]

3. ENTRY & ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 This regatta is open to all members of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club (SBYC). Members of other clubs belonging to the US Sailing Association may race as guests of Santa Barbara Yacht Club.
- 3.2 Classes invited include: PHRF.
- 3.3 At least three boats must enter the race prior to the entry deadline to establish a class.
- 3.4 Eligible competitors shall have valid PHRF Certificates. Valid PHRF rating certificates for PHRF boats must be on file with the PHRF office of Southern California no later than 0900 hours on the day of the race.
- 3.5 Participants may enter by submitting a completed race entry form to the Santa Barbara Yacht Club no later than 0900 hours on the day of the race. Race entry forms are available online at <https://sbyc.org/racing> or https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=29396 . Exceptions are at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 3.6 There is no entry fee for this event for SBYC Members. Guests of SBYC may enter with an entry fee of \$30.

4. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 4.1 Notices to competitors and amendments to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board located on the lower deck of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.
- 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 71:

- Course number
- Count downs to warning, preparatory, and start signals
- Abandonment of one or more fleets
- On course side boats or general recalls

5. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted before 0945 on the day it will take effect.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

6.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SBYC yardarm.

6.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in race signal AP.

7. SCHEDULE

7.1 *Saturday, June 13*

0930 Registration closes
0945 Classes and rating breaks posted
1055 Warning signal
1100 Start signal
After Racing Awards (location to be announced)

7.2 Number of Races: One (1) race is scheduled.

8. CLASS FLAGS & CLASS DESIGNATIONS

The class flag will be numeral pennant '1'. Classes and rating breaks (if any) will be posted on the notice board at 0945.

9. RACING AREA

The racing area will be the Santa Barbara Channel.

10. OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1 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:

- a. 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.
- b. 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.

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



11. THE COURSES

11.1 **Course '1':** Start – A to port – MCB to port – Pltf Habitat Waypoint to port – Pltf Hogan Waypoint to port – E to port – Finish.

The rated course distance is: 37.15 nautical miles.

Leg 1 to A = 232° mag / 1.63 nm

Leg 2 to MCB = 203° mag / 10.17 nm

Leg 3 to Pltf Habitat Virtual = 69° mag / 12.57 nm

Leg 4 to Pltf Hogan Virtual = 25° mag / 4.02 nm

Leg 5 to E = 289° mag / 7.99 nm

Leg 6 to Finish = 231° mag / 0.77 nm

11.2 **Course '2':** Start – A to port – MCB to port – Pltf C Waypoint to port – E to port – Finish.

The rated course distance is: 29.11 nautical miles.

Leg 1 to A = 232° mag / 1.63 nm

Leg 2 to MCB = 203° mag / 10.17 nm

Leg 3 to Pltf C Virtual = 53° mag / 11.454 nm

Leg 4 to E = 320° mag / 5.08 nm

Leg 5 to Finish = 231° mag / 0.77 nm

11.3 The course posted on red placards from the SBYC deck prior to the warning signal.

12. MARKS

Mark	Mark Description
Start/Finish	Marks 'G' and 'F' are white cylinders with yellow reflective markings. Mark 'G' approximate location = N34 24.023 / W119 41.442 Mark 'F' approximate location = N34 23.876 / W119 41.344 Mid-line Start/Finish (*for distance calcs) = N34 23.950 / W119 41.393
A	White cylinder with yellow reflective marking. Mark 'A' approximate location = N34 23.229 / W119 43.167
K	White cylinder with yellow reflective marking Mark 'K' approximate location = N34 23.543 / W119 42.150
MCB	Yellow NOAA Weather Buoy - ODAS 46053 'MCB' approximate location = N34 14.850 / W119 50.150 (https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=46053)
Pltf C	Waypoint @ N34 19.818 / W119 37.668 = Platform C in vicinity
Pltf Habitat	Waypoint = N34 16.956 / W119 35.149 = Platform Habitat in vicinity
Pltf Hogan	Waypoint = N34 20.191 / W119 32.270 = Platform Hogan in vicinity
E	White cylinder with yellow reflective marking Mark 'E' approximate location = N34 24.307 / W119 40.562



- 12.2 When a physical mark is missing, a boat shall round the waypoint listed in SI 12.2. [DP]
12.3 For reference purposes only, 'Attachment A – Platforms' shows the platforms and the GPS location of each platform's approximate center. These GPS points should not be used as navigational waypoints. Waypoints to be rounded are listed in SI 12.1.

13. START

- 13.1 The start shall be in accordance with RRS 26. The warning signal for each class shall be made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
13.2 The starting line shall be between marks 'F' and 'G', as shown on the [SBYC course chart](#).

14. SHORTENED COURSE AFTER THE START

The course will not be shortened.

15. FINISH

- 15.1 The finish shall be between mark 'F' to port and mark 'G' to starboard.
15.2 Boats shall attempt to contact the race committee on VHF Channel 71 to notify them that they have rounded the mark preceding the finish line. [NP][DP]
15.3 Boats shall record their own GPS finish time on the finish sheet of 'Attachment B' and shall email their finish sheet to the Race Committee (racing@sbyc.org) at their earliest opportunity once on shore. ADDITIONALLY, UPON CROSSING THE FINISH LINE, BOATS SHALL RECORD THEIR LOCATION AND FINISH TIME ELECTRONICALLY, AS BY SETTING A WAYPOINT ON A GPS NAVIGATIONAL DEVICE. THE RACE COMMITTEE MAY ASK TO SEE THIS INFORMATION TO VERIFY THE REPORTED FINISH TIME, AND IF THIS INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE, THE RACE COMMITTEE MAY PROTEST A BOAT'S FINISH TIME. US Sailing prescribes that, "If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should at the first reasonable opportunity report to the race committee her finishing time and her position in relation to nearby boats." [NP][DP]

16. TIME LIMIT [NP][DP]

There is no time limit. Boats finishing after 1800 shall take their own finish time.

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 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.

18. HEARING REQUESTS

- 18.1 Hearing request forms for protests, requests for redress, and reopening of a hearing are available at the front desk of SBYC 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.
- 18.2 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.
- 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 At the discretion of the Race Committee, protests may be heard on a later date.

19. SCORING

The low-point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply. Scores will be calculated using time on distance corrected times.

20. PRIZES

- 20.1 Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in each class. The number of prizes awarded will be dependent on the number of competitors in each class.
- 20.2 In addition to being part of the Wilson Series, this regatta is part of the annual fleet championships for the following fleets: PHRF A & PHRF B.

21. 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.**

22. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact:

Regatta Chair: Larry Leveille – larry.levaille@pacinfotech.com

SBYC Race Director: Brad Schaupter – racing@sbyc.org / (805) 965-8112