



2026 Random Leg Regatta

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

March 21, 2026

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

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 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 US Sailing prescriptions to rules 63.2 will not apply.
- 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 Membership for the appropriate class association is required. For Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF) classes, valid and current Southern Californian PHRF certificate in the online PHRF database (www.phrfsocal.org) shall constitute proof of membership for each entrant. PHRF of Southern California (PHRF) is the Rating Authority (RA) for this event.
- 1.6 PHRF boats shall use Area I random leg course (RLC) ratings and have current and valid PHRF rating certificates on the PHRF of Southern California website (www.phrfsocal.org). Competitors from outside Area I shall use their PHRF regional windward-leeward rating. Boats shall be configured as represented on their rating certificate. Competitors, the OA, or the Race Committee may call for an inspection of a boat.
- 1.7 Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, Rule V1 – Penalties at the time of the incident and Rule V2 – Post-Race Penalties will apply.
- 1.8 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/SI may petition for a waiver from the OA.
 - 1.8.1 Justification of any deviation and alternative means of compliance should accompany petitions to participate or establish a class.
 - 1.8.2 The OA will respond in accordance with RRS 76.1.
 - 1.8.3 Receipt of petitions and the subsequent decisions to grant or deny a waiver are at the sole discretion of the OA.
- 1.9 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 [DP] 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.
- 2.2 [DP] Boats shall conform at all times to regulations regarding commercial traffic.
- 2.3 [DP] 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.
- 2.4 [DP] 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:

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

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

- 2.4.1 [DP] For USSER 3.19.1, the words 'permanently mounted' are deleted. A permanently mounted magnetic compass is a recommendation for the race.

3. ENTRY, ELIGIBILITY, & FEES

- 3.1 This regatta is open to all members of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. 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 (class breaks will be made based on participation).
- 3.3 At least two 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>. Exceptions are at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 3.6 There is no entry fee for this event.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1100 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors and amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board located at <https://sbyc.org/racing> under the event heading.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 71.
- 3.4 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 or general recalls

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SBYC flagpole.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in race signal AP.

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5 SCHEDULE

5.1	Time	Event	Location
Saturday, March 21			
	1100	Competitor Briefing	SBYC Lower Deck
	1230	First Warning signal	
	Post racing	Hors d'oeuvres and awards	SBYC

*A total of up to two random leg course (RLC) races using RLC ratings.

6 CLASS DESIGNATIONS, FLAGS, AND ORDER OF STARTS

6.1 Class designations and class flags will be as shown in 'Attachment C – Class Designations'.

6.2 Class flags shall be:

PHRF A – Numeral Pennant '1'

PHRF B – Numeral Pennant '2'

6.3 The order of starts for the first race of each day is anticipated to be PHRF A followed by PHRF B. The race committee will start fleets in subsequent races based on which fleet is ready to race at the starting area. The race committee may change the order of starts and will announce their intent to do so on VHF channel 71. The race committee will notify competitors if they are rolling into the next fleet's warning signal on VHF channel 71.

7 RACING AREA

The racing area for all races will be the Santa Barbara Channel, within 7 miles of SBYC.

8 THE COURSES

8.1 The diagrams in 'Attachment A – RLC Course Chart' show the random leg courses (RLC), including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

8.2 Course numbers will be displayed from the SBYC deck prior to the preparatory signal on red and white placards.

9 MARKS

Turning marks will be shapes, colors, and descriptions consistent with those as shown in 'Attachment A – RLC Course Chart'.

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]

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11 THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal made five (5) minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between marks 'G' and 'F' as shown on 'Attachment A – RLC Courses'.
- 11.3 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes rule A4.

12. SHORTENED COURSE AFTER THE START

- 12.1 The race committee may shorten a course. A shortened course will be signaled from the Santa Barbara Yacht Club deck before the leading boat has finished the leg.
- 12.2 The shortened course shall be signaled by displaying code flag 'S' with two sound signals and displaying the class placard(s) for the class or classes to be shortened.
- 12.3 The finishing line for the shortened course shall be at the next required mark or gate.
 - i.) For legs to mark 'X', the shortened course will be finished between mark 'X' and the flagpole on the SBYC deck.
 - ii.) For legs to the start/finish line at the beginning of a second lap, the finish shall be between mark 'F' and mark 'G'.
 - iii.) For legs to the gate, boats will be finished between mark 'X' and mark 'F'.
 - iv.) For legs to mark 'F', the shortened course will be finished between mark 'F' and the flagpole on the SBYC deck.

13 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between marks 'G' and 'F' as shown on 'Attachment A – RLC Courses'.

14 TARGET TIMES

The target time for RLC races will be 60-100 minutes.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

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.'

16 HEARING REQUESTS

- 16.1 Hearing request forms for protests, requests for redress, and reopening of a hearing are available at the front desk of SBYC. 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.
- 16.2 For each class, the filing time limit for protests or requests for redress about an incident observed in the racing area is 60 minutes after the last boat in that class finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The filing deadline for other hearing requests is 60 minutes after the relevant information is available to the filing party.
- 16.3 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.

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17 SCORING

- 17.1 The low-point scoring system of Appendix A will apply except that a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 17.2 One race must be completed to constitute a series.

18 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS [DP]

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and these sailing instructions.

19 PRIZES

Take home trophies will be awarded to the top finisher(s) in each class, based on participation.

20 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.**