

*Santa Barbara Yacht Club*  
**Staff Commodore's Regatta**  
June 12, 2026

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

The Organizing Authority for the 2026 Staff Commodore's 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)* and applicable rules for One Design and Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF) classes.
- 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.
- 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 will apply.
- 1.6 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'.
- 1.7 The red flag requirement is waived for protests.

### **2. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

All 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 up to disqualification without hearing at the discretion of the Race Committee. This Changes Rule 63.1. [DP]

### **3. FORMAT**

Commodores will sail borrowed Harbor 20's (main and jib only) from the SBYC fleet. A commodore will be paired with other commodores as a scored team of boats. Teams will be made by the regatta chair as equitably as possible and announced at the competitor briefing based on sign-ups. If there are an odd number of commodores, then the current commodore shall sail a boat to make teams even. If the current commodore is unavailable, the berth shall be allocated to the vice commodore. If the current vice commodore is unavailable, the berth shall be allocated to the rear commodore. Team placement is not grounds for redress.

### **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 next to the race office and online at <https://sbyc.org/racing>.
- 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](mailto: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 or general recalls

## 5. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted at least one hour prior to the warning signal for the first class to start on the day of the race.

## 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 forty (40) minutes' in race signal AP.

## 7. SCHEDULE

### 7.1 *Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Competitors must enter by midnight on Wednesday, June 10 to assure they have a Harbor 20 for the event. Competitors entering after this time will be given a Harbor 20 on a first come-first serve basis.

### *Friday, June 12, 2026*

1500	Registration closes
1500	Mandatory Competitor meeting on the lower deck of SBYC
1645	First warning
1820	No Warning Signal after this time
After Racing	Awards and hors d'oeuvres

- 7.2 No more than four races will be attempted.

## 8. RACING AREA

The racing area will be the Santa Barbara channel within one mile of SBYC and will be defined more clearly at the competitor meeting.

## 9. BOATS PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

- 9.1 Harbor 20 boats will be provided for competing teams. Harbor 20 boat owners or owners' representative will give an orientation of their boat to competitors on the day of the race. Standing rigging including battens shall not be adjusted, unless directed by the RC. Only telltales may be added to boats. Running rigging and fittings shall be used for their intended purposes only. All supplied equipment shall be carried aboard while racing. [DP]

- 9.2 While reasonable steps are taken to equalize the boats, variations, including deviations from class rules, will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.
- 9.3 Boats & sails will be assigned and done by random drawing via the Race Committee. Teams will be assigned a boat & sails that they will sail with for the duration of the event. [DP]
- 9.4 No skipper shall sail his or her own yacht unless the race committee elects to sail the event as a round robin. [DP]
- 9.5 Hiking is not permitted. All crew shall keep their torsos within the confines of the cockpit at all times while racing, except in the need of immediate repair or for safety reasons. [DP]
- 9.6 Spinnakers will not be used for the regatta.
- 9.7 Timers, digital compasses, and VHF radios are the only electronics permitted to be used from 30 minutes prior to the first scheduled warning signal until the end of the last race of each day. [DP]
- 9.8 Other items that competitors are permitted to bring:
- Kelp Stick (each boat will have one with it, but each competitor is permitted to bring their own).
  - Tell tales
  - Non-electronic wind indicator
  - Non-electronic compass
  - Other items may be approved by the Race Committee
- 9.9 Items competitors are required to bring [NP][DP]:
- VHF radio
  - Personal Flotation Devices for skipper and crew

## **10. BREAKDOWNS / DAMAGE [DP]**

- 10.1 A damage deposit of \$500 per incident may be collected upon damage done to a boat after said incident. This deposit is the maximum payable by the team as a result of any one incident.
- 10.2 In an incident that caused damage, the damage deposit will be collected from the boat found to be in the wrong in that incident. If no protest is filed and no boat/competitor admits fault, the damage deposit will be equally charged to all boats involved in the incident. Damage deposits will be charged to the corresponding Staff Commodore(s) SBYC account.
- 10.3 Competitors are responsible for inspecting their assigned boats before each race for possible breakdowns and missing equipment. Discrepancies must be reported to the RC immediately.
- 10.4 Competitors shall report any damage, breakdown, or loss of equipment, however slight, to the RC at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 10.5 If there is an equipment breakdown that was unforeseeable by the crew and prevents a boat from completing a race, the Race Committee may decide to re-sail the race or award redress.

## **11. CREW [DP]**

11.1 Each qualified skipper is responsible for providing one crewmember. Children under the age of 13 that are racing with their parent staff commodore shall not count towards the crew limit.

11.2 A Harbor 20 boat owner or owner's representative may accompany each boat.

## 12. COURSES

12.1 Courses will be as shown in 'Attachment A – Course Chart'.

12.2 The course number will be displayed on the race committee signal boat and may be announced on VHF channel 71.

## 13. MARKS

Turning marks will be yellow inflatable tetrahedrons as shown in 'Attachment A – Course Chart'.

## 14. START

14.1 Races will be started by using Appendix U – Audible-Signal Racing System with the warning signal given 3 minutes before the starting signal as detailed below

<i>Signal</i>	<i>Sound</i>	<i>Time before start</i>
Attention	Series of short sounds	Before the warning
Warning	3 long	3 minutes
Preparatory	2 long	2 minutes
	1 long, 3 short	1 minute, 30 seconds
	1 long	1 minute
	3 short	30 seconds
	2 short	20 seconds
	1 short	10 second
	5 short, 1 second apart	5 – 4 – 3 – 2 – 1 seconds
Start	1 long	0

14.2 The Start line will be between an orange tetrahedron at the pin end and an orange flag flown from the Race Committee Signal Boat.

14.3 If when rule 30.1 or 30.2 is in effect, any part of a boat's hull, crew, or equipment is on the course side of the starting line during the one minute before her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to broadcast her sail number on the designated VHF channel. Failure to make a broadcast or of a boat to see or hear her recall notification shall not relieve her of her obligation to start correctly and shall not be grounds for redress. A boat's position in the sequence of hailed numbers or broadcast numbers shall not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

14.4 As a courtesy, the race committee may attempt to hail on course side boats on the designated VHF channel. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification shall not be grounds for redress. A boat's position in the sequence of hailed numbers or broadcast numbers shall not be grounds for redress.

## 15. CHANGE OF COURSE

Marks may be moved without signal to maintain course configuration provided that no boat has begun the preceding leg.

## **16. THE FINISH**

The finish line will be between an orange tetrahedron at the pin end and an orange flag flown from the committee boat.

## **17. 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.'

## **18. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 18.1 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](mailto: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.

## **19. SCORING**

- 19.1 The low-point scoring system of Appendix A will apply except that a team's series score will be the total of all their race scores. One race must be completed to constitute a series.
- 19.2 Each commodore will sail their own boat but will be teamed up with at least one other commodore's boat for a combined team score for each race. (Example: Team A finishes 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the race = 5 points and team B finishes 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the race = 5 points).
- 19.3 In the event of a tie between two or more teams, series ties will be broken using the following method (changes A8): Individual race scores for every boat on the a team shall be listed in order from best to worst with the same being done for the other tied team(s). These individual boat scores for each team shall then be compared and at the first point where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favor of the team with the best score. If a tie still remains, the team with the boat that finished first in the last race of the regatta shall be declared the winner.

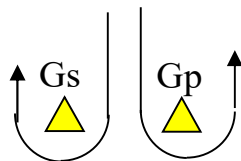
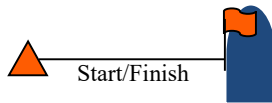
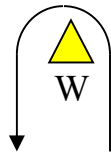
## **20. PRIZES**

Trophies will be awarded to the top finishers in the regatta. The top finisher will win the William W. Deardorff Memorial Perpetual Trophy.

**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.**

### Attachment A – Course Chart



Course 1: Start – W – finish

Course 2: Start – W – Gt – Finish

Course 3: Start – W – Gt – W – Finish

Course 4: Start – W – Gt – W – Gt – Finish

\*Turning marks will be yellow

\*\* The Pin end of the starting / finishing line will be orange