



Santa Barbara Yacht Club



Fiesta Cup & Harbor 20 East-West Challenge

July 18-19, 2026



NOTICE OF RACE

The Organizing Authority for the 2026 Fiesta Cup Regatta and Harbor 20 East-West Challenge 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).
- 1.2 Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, Rule V1 – Penalties at the time of the incident will apply.
- 1.3 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).
- 1.4 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 The notation **[SP]** in a rule means that a penalty may be applied by the Race Committee (RC) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4, and A5.
- 1.6 RRS 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. ADVERTISING

[DP] Advertising is limited as defined in the class rules of each fleet.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 The regatta is open to members in good standing of an approved one-design class and of a US Sailing member club or equivalently recognized sailing organization. Approved one-design classes include: Melges 24, and members of the Santa Barbara Harbor 20 Fleet 4 and their invited challengers. Additional classes may request inclusion in the event with at least three entries by contacting the regatta chair.
- 3.2 Eight Harbor 20 teams from the West and eight Harbor 20 teams from the east (16 boats total) will be entered as arranged by the two fleets. Team members are considered co-skippers who may trade off steering.
- 3.3 Eligible boats may enter by completing the online entry form available at <https://sbyc.org/fiesta-cup> and submitting the required entry fee to the Santa Barbara Yacht Club by the entry deadline of July 17 at 1000.

4. CREW

[DP] Crew members shall meet class requirements regarding ISAF competitor classification.

5. FEES

- 5.1 Entry Fees are as follows:
 - Harbor 20: \$400 (included Harbor 20 Friday evening party and boat charter)
 - Melges 24: \$170



20th Annual Fiesta Cup - 2026

- 5.2 Entries submitted prior to end of day on July 13, 2026 will receive a \$20 early entry discount. Entry fee includes Saturday Beach Party with live music and hosted dinner, awards, and post-race appetizers following racing on Sunday.
- 5.3 Additional tickets for the Saturday Beach Party are \$28 per person. Additional tickets to the Friday Harbor 20 East-West party are \$50 (must be a guest of a Harbor 20 competitor).

6. **FORMAT & BOATS FOR THE HARBOR 20 EAST-WEST CHALLENGE**

- 6.1 The Harbor 20 East-West Challenge will be sailed in provided Harbor 20's with spinnakers in a fleet race style format. Scores will be tallied for individual competitors. Additionally, 'East' competitors' individual race scores will be combined as a 'team' and West competitors' race scores will be combined as a 'team' to determine an East versus West winner.
- 6.2 [DP] Harbor 20 boats will be provided. 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.
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 Boats will be assigned at the Friday night Harbor 20 East-West party. Teams will be assigned a boat for Saturday and a boat for Sunday at each day's boat drawing. A team shall not sail the same boat on both Saturday and Sunday and they shall not sail their skipper's own boat.
- 6.5 [DP] Hiking is not permitted. All crew shall keep their torsos within the confines of the cockpit at all times while racing, excepting in the need of immediate repair or for safety reasons.
- 6.6 [DP] Timers, digital compasses, VHF radios, and engines (within the confines of rule 42) 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.
- 6.7 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.
- 6.8 [DP] Competitors are responsible for inspecting their assigned boats before each race for possible breakdowns and missing equipment. Competitors should also inspect their boats at the end of each race day. Discrepancies must be reported to the RC immediately.
- 6.9 [DP] Competitors shall report any damage, breakdown, or loss of equipment, however slight, to the RC at the first reasonable opportunity.

7. **SCHEDULE**

7.1 Time	Event	Location
Thursday, July 16		
0900	Trailers allowed in the SBYC lot after this time	
Friday, July 17		
Practice Day (Melges 24, Harbor 20)		
1200	Harbor 20 Spinnaker Clinic & Practice Sail	To Be Determined
1400	Practice Starts & Races for Harbor 20's	SB Channel
1730-2200	Party for H20 Fleet 4, East-West competitors, and their guests	
Saturday, July 18		
Racing Day One (Melges 24, Harbor 20)		
1000-1100	Check-In / Packet Pick Up & Regatta Merchandise Sales	SBYC Lower Deck
1100	Competitor briefing	SBYC Lower Deck



20th Annual Fiesta Cup - 2026

1300 First Warning Signal
Post racing Fiesta Cup Beach Party – food & live music SBYC Beach

Sunday, July 19 Racing Day Two (Melges 24, Harbor 20)

1230 First Warning signal
1600 No warning signal after this time
Post racing Hors d'oeuvres and awards SBYC

7.2 A total of eight races are scheduled with no more than four to be sailed on any one day.

8. MEASUREMENT

[DP] A valid measurement certificate shall be presented upon request by any regatta or fleet representative. Additional measurement checks may be conducted during the regatta at the discretion of the Organizing Authorities.

9. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available online at <https://sbyc.org/fiesta-cup> approximately two weeks prior to the event and at registration.

10. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 10.1 Notices to competitors and amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board located on the event website – <https://sbyc.org/fiesta-cup>.
- 10.2 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.
- 10.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 71.
- 10.4 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

11. VENUE

- 11.1 The Santa Barbara Harbor, the Santa Barbara Yacht Club, and its end tie dock are as shown in 'Attachment B – Harbor Map'.
- 11.2 The racing venue shall be the Santa Barbara Channel within 2 miles of SBYC.

12. COURSES

A course chart will be attached to the Sailing Instructions. Courses will be a windward-leeward buoy configuration as described therein.

13. 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



20th Annual Fiesta Cup - 2026

2 while in the *zone* around a *mark* other than a starting *mark*, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.'

14. SCORING

- 14.1 For the Melges 24 class, the low-point scoring system of Appendix A will apply except that when fewer than six races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 14.2 For the Harbor 20 class, the low-point scoring system of Appendix A will apply except that a competitor's series score shall be the total of their race scores.
- 14.3 (a) The East-West team winner will be decided by totaling all scores for each team (East and West). The team with the lower total score is the winner.
(b) In the event of an East-West Challenge team tie, series ties will be broken using the following method (changes A8): Individual race scores for each boat on the East Team shall be listed in order from best to worst with the same being done for the West Team. 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.
- 14.4 Two races must be completed to constitute a series.

15. BERTHING

- 15.1 [NP][DP] Dry Storage - Out of town boats and trailers may be stored at the west end of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club parking lot starting at 9:00 am on Thursday, July 17 through Tuesday, July 21.

Guest vehicles will be allowed in the SBYC parking lot for brief duration while loading and unloading trailers and equipment. Upon arrival to SBYC, call the front desk at (805) 965-8112 or use the telecom for entrance into the lot. Park trailers in designated areas. When boats are ready to be launched, a hoist key is available at the front desk of SBYC. ****Information on available hoists is described in detail under 'logistics' on the event page***
<https://sbyc.org/fiesta-cup>. Trailers may need to be dense packed once boats are launched.

Once equipment is unloaded, guests are asked to park in the Santa Barbara Public Parking Lot (fees may apply). Locations of both lots and additional parking options are shown in 'Attachment B – SB Harbor Map'.

- 15.2 [NP][DP] Wet Storage - Once dry-sailed boats have been launched, they may be rafted off of end tie D as shown on 'Attachment B – Harbor Map'. Boats may be rafted four deep and three long. Additional rafting storage may be available off of the Youth Foundation dock or at other locations and assigned at check in.

16. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

[NP][DP] Boats shall remain in the water for the duration of the regatta except with prior written consent from the race committee for repairs.

17. PRIZES



20th Annual Fiesta Cup - 2026

Take home trophies will be awarded to the top finisher(s) in each class, based on participation. The Fiesta Cup Perpetual Trophy will be engraved with the winner from each class. The Harbor 20 East-West Challenge Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the winning team.

18. 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.**

19. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with adequate limits for this event, or the equivalent. Harbor 20's will be covered by SBYC's insurance. Please see SI 6.7.

20. FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information please contact the following:

- Fiesta Cup Chair, Jane Watkins: (805) 886-9212 / janewatkinssb@gmail.com
- H20 East-West Challenge Chair, Kevin Dumain: (805) 570-8409 / kevin@kevindumain.com
- SBYC Race Office, Brad Schaupeter: (805) 965-8112 / racing@sbyc.org
- Event Website: <https://sbyc.org/fiesta-cup>
- Santa Barbara Yacht Club: 130 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109.

Other Events

SBYC invites Fiesta Cup competitors to participate in SBYC's famous 'Wet Wednesday' races the Wednesdays preceding and following the Fiesta Cup (information available online at <https://www.sbyc.org/wet-wednesday> – there is no entry fee for guest boats).