

# SOUTHERN YACHT CLUB GENERAL NOTICE AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

*These rules apply to all regattas organized by Southern Yacht Club (SYC) and/or conducted by the SYC Race Committee (RC), unless special rules are provided. Online registration is hosted by US Sailing [Regatta Network](#) (RN) for one-design classes and [Regatta Management Solutions](#) (RMS) for handicap classes.*

## 1 RULES

**1.1** All regattas are governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS); US Sailing Prescriptions (USP); applicable class and rating rules; and this document (SI). A supplemental Notice of Race (NOR) for a specific regatta or series may modify this document.

**1.2** The following rules are changed herein:

RRS	Changed by	RRS	Changed by
27.1	9.412.3	A5.1	11,12.5,16.2
33	14.2	A5.2	16.2
35	16.2	A5.3	18.2
44.1	17.1	A7	18.3
60.1	17.2	A10	16.2
		Signals	5.2, 15.1

**1.3** Except while changing sails, a yacht shall set only one headsail at a time and only one staysail per mast, which shall not extend beyond the rated LP distance.

**1.4** NON-SPINNAKER classes shall set only headsails and staysails ahead of each mast and only in their rated configurations. Whisker poles are permitted.

**1.5** As provided by RRS 47, there is no penalty for discarding biodegradable, environment-friendly bands when setting a sail.

## 2 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

**2.1** Club regattas are open to the applicable classes offered for each race date and which may be enumerated in the SYC Sailing Schedule. Competitors should contact their respective class captains about eligibility.

**2.2** Handicap classes will be scored using ORR-Ez Time-on-Time ratings. One Design and Dinghy classes shall conform to their respective class rules.

**2.3** Separate entry shall be made for each individual regatta, club series or club race day, typically online via RN or RMS.

**2.4** Each entrant shall provide all required information and pay all fees, as applicable, before becoming a competitor.

**2.5** Class captains may submit a list of entrants directly to the race committee.

**2.6** A minimum of three (3) entries constitute a class.

## 3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices will be posted via one or more of the following: online, email, text, official notice board.

## 4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**4.1** Changes in the sailing instructions will be posted no later than one (1) hour before the scheduled start of the first affected class on the day they take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it takes effect.

**4.2** ON THE WATER HAILING – Oral instructions may be given on the water at the discretion of the RC. Handicap classes will be hailed on VHF Radio. One-Design and Dinghies will be hailed by voice, loud-speaker, or VHF Radio. The Race Committee will attempt to operate on VHF Channel 72, 68, 69, or 71.

## 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

**5.1** Signals made ashore will be displayed on the A-frame halyard on the SYC west waterfront and may also be communicated electronically. See SI 3.

**5.2** When flag AP is displayed ashore, races not started are postponed. The time of the next warning signal will be posted in accordance with SI 3. Warning signals will be made not less than 30 minutes after AP is lowered. This changes Race Signal “AP”.

## 6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

**6.1** Racing will be in accordance with the SYC Sailing Schedule or a specific NOR.

**6.2** The RC will attempt to operate on local GPS time.

## 7 CLASS FLAGS

The class flags are as listed in the table on Page 4.

## 8 RACING AREA


SI Appendix A – SYC RACING MARKS shows the location of the racing area.

## 9 THE COURSES

*Options include Standard Courses, Steeplechase Courses, the use of Drop and/or Fixed Marks, and various start and finish line configurations.*

**9.1** The diagrams in Appendix B STANDARD COURSES show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks shall be passed, and the side on which each mark shall be left. The relative angles of the legs may vary to accommodate fixed marks.

**9.2** STEEPLECHASE COURSES will be designated by a list of the marks of the course, in the order to be rounded, beginning with the first mark after the start and ending with the finish mark. Multiple rounds will be indicated by the addition of a whole number. Except as required by SI 14.3, boats shall round each mark on the side such that the course to the next mark does not cross the course from the preceding mark. If a rounding mark begins a leg which returns to the preceding mark, it shall be left to port.

**9.3** Drop Marks, Fixed Marks or a combination may be used. When a drop mark is used among fixed marks in a course designation, it will be indicated with a diamond .

**9.4** In addition to the course designation, the RC boat may also display the approximate bearing (degrees) and distance (tenths of nm) to the first mark after the start.

Different courses may be designated for different classes.


**9.5** The RC may hail course information to competitors as provided in SI 4.2.

**9.6** For handicap scoring purposes, the course length will be rounded to the nearest tenth (0.1) of a nautical mile and times will be recorded and calculated to the nearest whole second. See also SI 18.3.

## 10 MARKS

**10.1** FIXED MARKS are located and identified as shown in Appendix A SYC RACING MARKS. A missing fixed mark may be replaced with a drop mark, but its original fixed mark designation will remain.

**10.2** DROP MARKS used for one or all marks of a course will be as follows:

- (a) Marks will be orange tetrahedrons or spheres.
- (b) New marks, used in accordance with SI 14.1, will be yellow tetrahedrons or white spheres.
- (c) The start-only mark, used in accordance with Appendix B4 (suffix ) will be a green or white sphere.

## 11 CHECK-IN BEFORE THE START

[NP] Before the first warning signal of the first race on each race day, each boat shall sail near the RC signal boat and hail her sail number and be acknowledged by the RC. A boat that came to the starting area but failed to properly check-in, including any safety requirements, may be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1.

## 12 THE START

**12.1** The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.

**12.2** With prior notice, the RC may use:

- (a) RRS Appendix U – Audible-Signal Racing System.
- (b) SYC Appendix P – Pursuit Starting System.

**12.3** ROLLING STARTS – When the warning signal for a class is made with the starting signal of the preceding class, the course designation will be made no later than the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 27.1.

**12.4** [NP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.

**12.5** A boat that has not started within five (5) minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1.

## 13 INDIVIDUAL RECALLS

The RC will attempt to hail OCS yachts. The order, timing and success of these hails shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1(a).

## 14 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

**14.1** When using drop marks, the race committee will lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. The change will be signaled before the leading boat in each class being changed has begun the leg, although the new mark may not yet be in position. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced with an original mark.

**14.2** When using fixed marks, the change signal will be the display of flag C with repetitive sounds and the display or hail of the designation of the new fixed mark. This alters RRS 33.

**14.3** Boats shall round the mark beginning a changed leg in the same direction as it was to be rounded before the change. This may alter SI 9.2.

## 15 THE FINISH

**15.1** The finish line will be between a staff displaying either a blue or orange flag on the RC boat and the course side of the nearby finishing mark. This changes Race Signals.

**15.2** With prior notice, the RC may specify a HARBOR FINISH in which case the finish line will be in the MYH channel between a staff displaying a flag to the south (port) and the red-emblazoned rip-rap to the north (starboard). The line flag may be set on an RC boat or on the clubhouse or grounds.

## 16 TIME LIMIT

**16.1** The time limit (per RRS 35) for each class will be 4 hours for a single race and 2.5 hours if two or more races are scheduled on a day.

**16.2** Within each class, a boat that is still racing at a prescribed time period after the first boat finishes, as enumerated below, will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) without a hearing and receive points equal to two (2) places behind the last boat to finish, but not worse than last place among the boats that came to the starting area. All other scoring codes take precedence over TLE. This alters RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 & A10.

Short courses	30 minutes
Steeplechase courses	60 minutes

## 17 PENALTIES AND PROTESTS

**17.1** USP ALT. PENALTIES V1 and V2 apply.

**17.2** Breaches of rules denoted by [NP] shall not be grounds for protest by a boat; [NP] or [DP] indicates that penalties may be less than DSQ at the discretion of the Protest Committee. This alters RRS 60.1(a).

**17.3** As applicable for handicap scoring, the course and wind parameters determined by the RC shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1(a).

**17.4** Protest forms shall be delivered to the SYC Front Desk or the PRO within one (1) hour after the docking time of the RC boat. Hearings will be held as soon as possible subject to the availability of the parties involved and the protest committee.

## 18 SCORING

**18.1** No scores will be excluded. One completed race constitutes a series.

**18.2** RRS A5.3 will apply, amended as follows:

(a) A boat that came to the starting area for at least one race on a subject race day will be counted and scored as having come to the starting area for all races scored on that day.

(b) A boat that did not come the starting area (DNC) on a subject race day will be scored points for the finishing place one more than the score for DNS for all races scored on that day.

**18.3** For handicap scoring, corrected time ties between boats with identical ratings may be broken by the RC's observation of the finish order. This alters RRS A7.

## 19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

**19.1** All single-handed and trapeze-boat competitors shall wear Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) at all times in accordance with RRS 40.1.

**19.2** On all other boats and when not required by rule, it shall be the sole responsibility of the competitors to determine when PFDs shall be worn. See RRS 1.2.

**19.3** The absence of Race Signal Flag Y is not an indication that PFDs should not be worn.

**19.4** [NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC before leaving the racing area or, if unable to do so, shall contact the RC or the SYC office (504-288-4200) as soon as possible, but no later than directly upon arriving ashore. Failure to promptly report a retirement will be grounds for a fine and/or other penalties.

## 20 PRIZES

Trophies will be awarded as determined by each class and in accordance with applicable perpetual deeds of gift.

## 21 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal exposure, illness, injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

**TABLE OF CLASS FLAGS**

Class	Flag
<b>HANDICAP</b>	
All Open Classes	Flag T
Open A	White
Open B	Blue
Open C	Grey
Classic	Red
Non-Spinnaker	Green
<b>ONE-DESIGN</b>	
J/27	Pink
J/22	Purple
Rhodes 19	Yellow
Flying Scot	Light Green
Melges 24	Light Blue
Viper 640	Red
J/80	White
<b>DINGHY</b>	
MC Scow	Pink
Vanguard 15	Teal
Club 420	Purple
Laser / Radial	Light Green
Sunfish	Yellow
Optimist	Pink

## SYC APPENDIX B – STANDARD COURSES

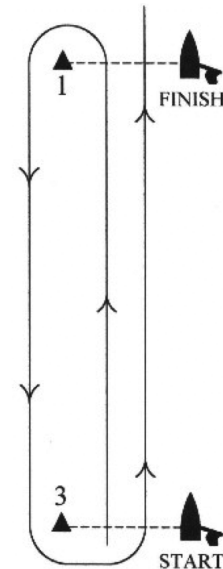
### B1 WINDWARD-LEEWARD

**B1.1** Options for this course may include:

- (a) increasing or decreasing the number of legs;
- (b) sailing multiple rounds of the course;
- (c) finishing at Mark 1 or 3 or a Harbor Finish;
- (d) when present, the use of a separate Mark 3 set to windward of the start/finish line;
- (e) finishing to port or starboard of the finishing mark depending on the location of the RC boat;
- (f) the use of concurrent start & finish lines per SYC Appendix B4 and as indicated by the course designation suffix **[N]**.

**B1.2** The courses shall be designated as follows:

Drop	Fixed	Description
W [1]	$m_1 m_3 [1]$	1 round, 2 legs, start-1-finish
W 1.5	$m_1 m_3 1.5$	1.5 rounds, 3 legs, start-1-3-finish
W 2	$m_1 m_3 2$	2 rounds, 4 legs, start-1-3-1-finish
W 2.5	$m_1 m_3 2.5$	2.5 rounds, 5 legs, start-1-3-1-3-finish
W 3	$m_1 m_3 3$	3 rounds, 6 legs, start-1-3-1-3-1-finish



**B1.3** For drop mark courses only, two (2) weather marks (Mark 1) may be used to allow different classes to simultaneously sail different length courses. The RC will indicate the presence of two weather marks by displaying numeral pennant 2 during the starting sequences for all classes and may also hail to competitors as provided in SI 4.2. The distance to the appropriate Mark 1 will be signaled to each respective class in accordance with SI 9.4.

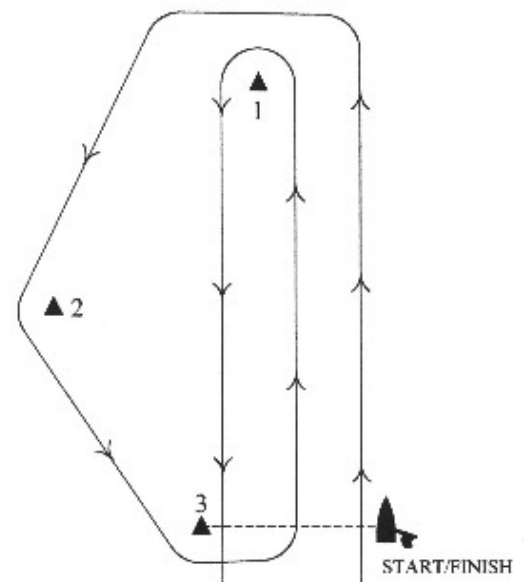
### B2 TRIANGLE

**B2.1** Options for this course may include:

- (a) increasing or decreasing the number of legs;
- (b) sailing multiple rounds of the course;
- (c) finishing at Mark 1 or 3 or a Harbor Finish;
- (d) finishing to port or starboard of the finishing mark depending on the location of the RC boat.

**B2.2** The courses will be designated as follows:

Drop	Fixed	Description
T [1]	$m_1 m_2 m_3 [1]$	1 round, 3 legs, start-1-2-finish
T 2	$m_1 m_2 m_3 2$	2 rounds, 6 legs, start-1-2-3-1-2-finish
T W	$m_1 m_2 m_3 TW$	triangle-windward, 4 legs, start-1-2-3-finish
G or GC	$m_1 m_2 m_3 GC$	Gold Cup, 5 legs, start-1-2-3-1-finish
O	$m_1 m_2 m_3 O$	Olympic, 6 legs, start-1-2-3-1-3-finish



**B3 MID-COURSE START/FINISH**

**B3.1** Options for this course may include:

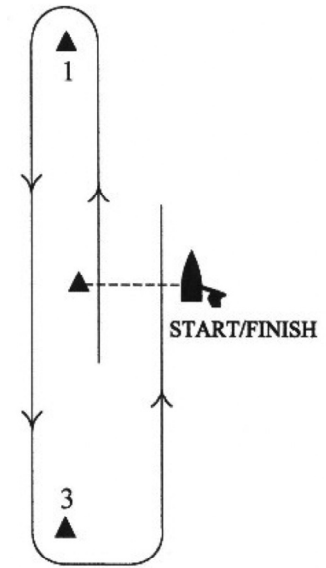
- (a) increasing the number of legs,
- (b) sailing multiple rounds of the course,

**B3.2** The course will be designated as follows:

Drop	Fixed	Description
<b>M [1]</b>	<b><i>m<sub>1</sub> m<sub>3</sub> m<sub>SF</sub> [1]</i></b>	1 round, 3 legs, start-1-3-finish
<b>M 2</b>	<b><i>m<sub>1</sub> m<sub>3</sub> m<sub>SF</sub> 2</i></b>	2 rounds, 5 legs, start-1-3-1-3-finish
<b>M 3</b>	<b><i>m<sub>1</sub> m<sub>3</sub> m<sub>SF</sub> 3</i></b>	3 rounds, 7 legs, start-1-3-1-3-1-3-finish

**B3.3** On a leg bounded by Marks 1 and 3, the start/finish mark and the RC boat do not have a required side and passing between them is neither required nor prohibited.

**B3.4** On a drop mark course where Mark 1 or 3 is changed in accordance with SI 10.2(b) and 14, the start/finish mark may also be moved to maintain the course configuration shown above. In such case, the original start/finish mark will be moved, but not replaced.



**B4 CONCURRENT START & FINISH LINES – Suffix **N****

*This allows multiple classes to start and finish concurrently.*

**B4.1** Use of this configuration will be indicated in the course designation by the addition of suffix **N**. Only Windward-Leeward courses may use this configuration. (I.e., **W2N**)

**B4.2** The start-only mark will always be a drop mark (green or white sphere). The rounding/finish mark may be a fixed or drop mark in accordance with the mark description and course type.

**B4.3** The rounding/finish mark may be listed in the course designation (for example, as Mark 3). The start-only mark bounds only the first leg of the race and is not part of the course designation.

**B4.4** The start and finish lines may not be parallel and the relative lengths may vary.

