

Big Dinghy Regatta

April 13-14, 2024
Sailing Instructions



1 RULES

1.1 Appendix V1 shall apply. This changes the first two sentences of RRS 44.1. Appendix V2 shall apply. This changes RRS 44.3.

1.2 Changes to the rules may be noted elsewhere in the Sailing Instructions. If the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions are in conflict, the Sailing Instructions have precedence.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Prior to the publication of the Sailing Instructions, changes to the Notice of Race will be available on the RYC website at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/27715>. After the publication of the Sailing Instructions, changes to the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions will be available on the official notice board located outside the race room at Richmond Yacht Club.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it 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.

3.2 Changes to the sailing instructions may also be made on the water. If a change is made, the race committee will display the L flag. Additionally, the Outside course will be communicating on VHF 71.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole on the upper deck.

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

5 SCHEDULE

5.1 Competitor's Briefing will be held Saturday at 1000 (Potrero Reach - downstairs. Outside course - upstairs). Competitors must also check-in onshore between 0900-1000 on Saturday. [NP] Competitor's will receive one drink ticket at check-in that will be valid only during the weekend of the event.

5.2 Competitors are responsible for verifying sail number at check-in for each race day. Sail Numbers not in the registration database will not be scored.

5.3 The race committee intends three races per day. One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that no class becomes more than one race ahead of schedule.

5.4 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 1100 for Potrero Reach and 1125 for the Outside Course.

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5.5 Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means "No more racing today." On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1530.

5.6 [NP] Boats are requested to check in with the Race Committee by sailing by the committee boat, on starboard tack, prior to the first warning signal. Do not attempt to check in by VHF radio.

6 CLASS FLAGS

Class flags and initial starting order are listed on Attachment A

7 COURSES

7.1 The Potrero Reach course is located approximately 0.25nm east outside of the marina entrance, The Outside Course will approximately 0.6nm southeast, outside the Potrero Reach breakwater, in the vicinity of Brooks Island or Southampton Shoal depending on weather.

7.2 The diagrams in Attachment B (Potrero Reach) and C (Outside Course) show the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

7.3 There may be an Offset Mark "O" set 5-8 boat-lengths from the weather mark. If present, the offset mark is to be passed in sequence as designated in the course descriptions.

7.4 For any course diagram that includes a gate: in the absence of a second mark, the leeward mark is to be rounded to port.

8 MARKS

The marks are described in Attachment C (Potrero Reach) and D (Outside Course).

9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

9.1 Outside Course: A 200' circle around Southampton shoal platform.

9.2 Potrero Reach: After completing the first leg of the course and while racing, a boat shall not cross the starting line; or, unless she is finishing, the finish line. This changes RRS 28.2. A boat that fails to observe this restriction may exonerate herself by taking a Two-Turns Penalty as described in RRS 44.2. This changes RRS 44.1 but does not change RRS 44.1(b). A boat that fails to exonerate herself will be scored Did Not Sail the course (NSC) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5. The starting and finishing lines, including their marks, is an obstruction for a boat required not to cross them.

10 THE START

10.1 RRS 26 start sequence is changed as follows:

Signal	Flags	Sound	Time
Warning	Fleet Flag /Course Flag	Horn	3
Preparatory	P, I or U	Horn	2

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Drop Prep	P, I or U	Horn	1
Start	Fleet flag	Horn	0

10.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and the course side of the starting mark.

10.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races. [DP]

10.4 General Recall: If there is a second general recall, that group will start after the last scheduled group of starters. This changes RRS 29.2

10.5 A boat that does not start within 3 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

11.2 The race committee may, without signal, move a mark to change the direction up to 10 degrees or the length up to 10% of the previous length, provided that no boat is sailing to the mark. This changes RRS 33.

11.3 The race committee may, without signal, adjust a finish line mark while boats are on the first half of the leg. This changes RRS 33.

12 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a signal boat and the course side of the finishing mark.

13 TIME LIMITS

13.1 Time limit is 90 minutes. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 20 minutes, the race will be abandoned. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

13.2 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

14 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

14.1 Boats intending to file a protest must inform the Signal Boat, including protestee sail number, promptly upon finishing the race.

14.2 Protest forms are available at the race office located at downstairs outside the race office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit. Protest committee requests that you write legibly and include your cell phone number and email address.

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14.3 The protest time limit and time limit to accept a post-race scoring penalty according is 60 minutes after the signal boat has docked. The time limit will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

14.4 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

14.5 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

15 SAFETY REGULATIONS

15.1 A boat which retires from a race is asked to notify the race committee either before leaving the course area, or if that is not possible, notify the RYC Harbormaster immediately after arriving ashore.

15.2 All boats must carry an accessible tow line, minimum of 20 ft in length. attached to the bow of the boat at all times available for towing.

15.3 Boats shall not impede the passage of ship traffic. Rule 9 of the inland rules of the road applies to all shipping traffic on San Francisco Bay and its tributaries. A vessel of less than 20 meters in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel that can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. Violations are subject to protest by the race committee as well as potential civil penalties. *When in doubt or if you hear warning signals, sail away from the vessel immediately.*

PENALTIES FOR NEGLIGENT OPERATIONS AND INTERFERING WITH SAFE OPERATION (33 U.S.C. 2302)

(a) A person operating a vessel in a negligent manner or interfering with the safe operation of a vessel, so as to endanger the life, limb, or property of a person is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 in the case of a recreational vessel, or \$25,000 in the case of any other vessel.

(b) A person operating a vessel in a grossly negligent manner that endangers the life, limb, or property of a person commits a class A misdemeanor.

16 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Robin Van Vliet, vanvlietrobin@gmail.com