



Sailing Instructions

Buzzards Yacht Club PHRF Race (August 16, 2025)

1. RULES

All races will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS), the prescriptions of the US Sailing Association, these sailing instructions, and the PHRF-NE class rules. For the purposes of this series, the zone for mark room is defined as three boat lengths.

1. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Prior to 12:50, each yacht that intends to participate in the racing must check in with the RC either by hail or VHF 78.

The warning signal for the first Class will be at 12:55 pm. No race will be started after 3 pm.

2. COURSES

Courses are intended to be tactical windward/leeward type courses that are 12-24 miles in length depending on wind and seas.

Courses will be posted on a course board on the Committee Boat that will include the marks from the Buzzards PHRF Course Chart and whether they should be left to port or starboard. A mark will be designated by the appropriate letter on the course board. A green colored letter will mean that mark is to be left to Starboard and a red letter will mean it should be left to Port.

Racers will be required to mind Old Sigh Rock (SW Ledge) Red Nun #2 at all times.

3. MARKS

The starting line will be between the Buzzards pin buoy or government mark and an orange flag on the committee boat. All other marks will be government buoys as described in the Buzzards PHRF Course Chart **except for Mark "B" (orange inflatable), Mark "IM" (movable yellow tetrahedron) and Mark "I" (Beverly YC yellow cylindrical mark).**

4. ORAL INSTRUCTION

Hails to the Race Committee should be limited. The Race Committee may not be able to respond to requests for information unless code flag "L" (black and yellow large check) is displayed.

5. THE START

Racing will be started under RRS 26 (5-4-1-0 minute sound and flag signals) as modified below.

Multiple sounds/radio call may be made as a courtesy in advance of the first sound signal to advise that the start sequence is imminent.

The Cruising Class will start first followed by a separate starting sequence for the Racing Class (no rolling start). The Race Committee reserves the right to combine the two starts into one if necessary and that will be communicated to the racers prior to the 5 minute warning. Sound and visual signals will be as follows:

Time to Start	Visual Signal	Sound
5 Min	Hoist Class Flag	1 long
4 min	Hoist "P"	1 long
1 min	Drop "P"	1 long
START	Drop Class Flag	1 long

A yacht whose warning signal (class flag hoist and 1 long sound) has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and clear of all yachts whose warning signal has been made.

6. OFFICIAL TIME

The Race Committee will use GPS Time. There will be two time checks at 12:30 and 12:45.

7. POSTPONMENTS RRS governs, AP flag flown with sound signal

8. RECALLS

The Race Committee will attempt to call the sail number(s) of the yacht(s) over early by broadcast on VHF CH 78 as soon as practical.

9. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

The race course may be shortened after the start of the race. The finish of a shortened course will be between one of the marks of the course and an orange flag on the committee boat. The committee boat will fly code flag "S" (white field with centered blue square). The Committee Boat will sound a double horn as the lead boat approaches the new finish line or if there is a wide separation as the next lead boat of a new group of finishers approaches the line.

10. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between the starting mark and the flagstaff with an orange flag on the Committee Boat. In situations where the Committee Boat is no longer on station then yachts shall record their own finish time by noting the GPS time at which their bow passes an imaginary line at right angles to the direct course from the last mark. The mark, in this situation may be passed on either side.

11. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the first boat to finish will be 5 hours for all races. Yachts finishing more than 60 minutes after the first yacht finishes should record their finish time and report that time to the Race Committee if the Race Committee is no longer on station.

12. RETIRING

A yacht that starts a race and retires from the race before finishing must make every effort to notify the Race Committee on VHF Ch 78.

13. PROTESTS

Protests are discouraged. Race participants are encouraged to rectify rule infractions by executing a 360 or 720 degree turn on the race course as soon as practical avoiding other boats.

All Protests must be files in accordance with RRS 61.

If you intend to protest, you must notify the Race Committee on the Committee Boat immediately after you finish, and clear the finish line, by hail or VHF 78. Protest forms should be sent to info@buzzardsyc.org within 24 hours of finish. Protests will be heard by the Buzzards Protest Committee as soon as reasonably practicable.

14. SCORING

Race results will be based on time on distance allowances and PHRF ratings. A low point scoring system will be used in scoring all monthly series. DNS, OCS, DNF and DSQ will be scored one more point than the number of boats starting that race.

Appendix A of the RRS will be used to score each race.

There will be two divisions, RACE/SPINNAKER and CRUISING/NON-SPINNAKER. Yachts carrying spinnakers will use their racing ratings.

15. RESAILS

If the racing is cancelled for any day, the cancelled race will not be re-sailed.

16. NUMBERS/MARKINGS

Yachts should attempt to have a unique number or marking on their mail sail.

17. LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT

All competitors are encouraged to wear an approved PFD throughout the race.

18. OTHER VISUAL SIGNALS (Code Flags)

N over A (small blue and white check over red and white vertical stripes) - All races are abandoned for the day.

AP (red and white vertical stripes) - All races not started are postponed.

P (blue field with centered white square) – preparatory signal.

19. RACE CANCELLATIONS

Races will be cancelled if the sustained winds are over 25kts 2 hours before the start of the race. Notice of cancellation will be posted on the Buzzards website www.buzzardsyc.org and a text/email will be sent to the race participants by 11AM.