

Great Pumpkin – Sunday Pursuit Racing

OA: Richmond Yacht Club

Dates: October 26, 2025

Sailing Instructions



The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

'[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.

2. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0930 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.2. Changes to the sailing instructions may be made on the water. If a change is made, the race committee will display the L flag.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on RegattaNetwork and posted on the bulletin board outside the Race Office. The link to the RegattaNetwork website can be located on the event's information page on the RYC club calendar.
- 3.2. On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel.
VHF CHANNEL: 71

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole on the upstairs deck.
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. Starting Times will be posted on the RYC website by 1700 on the Saturday prior to racing in Attachment A to the Sailing Instructions.
- 5.2. The scheduled time of the first warning signal is 11:25.

6. RACING AREA

- 6.1. The race start will be near the Southampton platform.

7. THE COURSES

- 7.1. The race course is as follows: Start near Southampton platform, around Angel and Alcatraz Islands in either direction, leave both islands either to port or both to starboard, and back to the finish line near Red#6 channel mark in the Richmond Channel.
- 7.2. Course length will be approximately 10.7 miles.

8. OBSTRUCTIONS

- 8.1. All local marine hazards, in addition to the following restricted areas, are Obstructions. See the current listing on the Racing page on the Richmond Yacht Club website for current local marine hazards.
- 8.2. A 200' circle around Southampton shoal platform.
- 8.3. The buoy (G3) South of Point Blunt on Angel Island and the closest point ashore.
- 8.4. The Bell Buoy (GR Bell) off the West end of Alcatraz Island and the closest point ashore.

9. THE START

- 9.1. The race will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made five minutes before the first starting signal. The Warning flag will be a blue flag. After the initial start, the blue flag will be re-hoisted and will remain flying until the last start. All starts subsequent to the first start may be called to attention by horn only. Hour and minute may be announced on VHF Channel 71.
- 9.2. The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of an orange mark on the pin end of the line.

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- 9.3. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 9.4. If there is a postponement in the initial start, the signal boat will announce the number of minutes of postponement over VHF Channel 71. Competitors shall adjust their start times accordingly.
- 9.5. If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at the starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to broadcast her sail number on the designated VHF channel. A boat may not request redress based on the race committee's failure to make a broadcast or to time it accurately. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

10. THE FINISH

- 10.1. The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Pelican and a blue flag on a RC whaler. Competitors should ensure that their sail numbers are visible (and of a contrasting color from their sail color) to the finish line crew while finishing. Competitors are encouraged to note the boats finishing before and after them to help resolve any discrepancies from crowded finishes. Scoring inquiries must be filed by 1200 Monday.

11. TIME LIMITS

- 11.1. The time limit shall be 1700 Sunday. If conditions require a postponement of the start, the race committee may announce an extended finish time. This changes RRS 35.

12. HEARING REQUESTS

- 12.1. The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the signal boat has docked. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 12.2. Hearing request forms are available from the race office.
- 12.3. 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. Hearings will be held in the RYC Library.

13. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 13.1. [DP] A boat that retires from a race before the time limit shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity. If unable to hail the Race Committee on VHF, please send a text message: (510) 612-2426.

14. RISK STATEMENT

- 14.1. 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.**

15. CONTACT INFO

- 15.1. For further information please contact the Regatta Chair for the event. Their contact information is listed on the event's information page on the Club Calendar.