

2026 SCYA 96th Midwinter Regatta

Saturday, February 21 & 22, 2026

Marina del Rey host:

Santa Monica Windjammers
Yacht Club



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. This regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2. RRS 63.7 will be modified to include: "If there is a conflict between a rule in the Notice of Race and one in the Sailing instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall apply".
- 1.3. Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply
- 1.4. Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, will apply.
- 1.5. The PHRF of Southern California "Marine Industry Racer Rule" will not apply.
- 1.6. US Sailing Prescriptions to rules 63.1 and 63.2 will not apply.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted at SMWYC.org and on the event website: <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30753> no later than 0900 of the day on which they take effect.

3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the sailing instructions or other race documents will be posted to the event website at: <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30753> and on SWMYC.org **if feasible, no later than** 0900 the day they take effect.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1. February 21, 2026: PHRF classes: 3 buoy races will be attempted
and Cruising Classes: 2 random leg course (RLC)
- 4.2. February 22, 2026: PHRF classes: 2 buoy races will be attempted
and Cruising Classes: 1 random leg course (RLC)
- 4.3. 1st Warning Signal: 1225von February 21, 2026 and February 22, 2026

5. CLASS FLAGS, ORDER OF STARTS, CLASS SPLITS

The order of starts, class flags and class splits will be posted before 0900 on race day on <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30753>. This changes the Notice of Race

6. RACING AREAS and CHECK IN

6.1. The racing area will be on Santa Monica Bay outside Marina del Rey detached breakwater in the vicinity of “H” Mark. This changes the NOR.

6.2. After the Signal boat has anchored and hoisted the “L” (“Come within hail”) flag, competitors shall cross the stern of the Signal boat, preferably while on starboard tack, and call out their sail number to be recognized by the RC. Failure to check in may result in disqualification [DP].

6.3. Competitors who must sail to Marina del Rey from another harbor may check in by radio, VHF Channel 71.

7. THE COURSES

7.1. PHRF fleets will have windward/leeward courses taken from Windward/Leeward Course Chart. See Attachment B

7.2. Cruising Class will have random leg courses chosen from courses prepared by the Race Committee OR courses chosen from Windward/Leeward Course Chart. See Attachment C – Random Leg Courses and Attachment B – Windward/Leeward Course Chart. Note: due to many permanent marks being off station Random Leg Courses may include tetrahedron marks set by Race Committee or GPS coordinates.

8. MARKS

8.1. Windward marks will be orange tetrahedrons. RC will attempt to set Leeward gates with yellow tetrahedrons. If not, orange tetrahedrons will be used.

9. THE START

9.1. The Signal boat will be anchored in the vicinity of “H” Mark. Start will be between an orange flag on the Signal boat and an orange inflatable shape.

9.2. An orange or yellow inflatable shape may be set off the back of the Signal boat during starting sequences and at the start. This shape, and the line connecting it to the Signal boat, shall be considered part of the Signal boat and thus part of the starting mark.

9.3. For the first race of the day, performance boats will start, followed by Cruising class in rolling 5-minute sequences unless otherwise instructed by PRO. Race(s) thereafter will start as soon as practicable for each class. The Starting Signal for each class will be the Warning Signal for the next class.

9.4. After the first race, the RC will attempt to start class races as soon as practicable after the last boat in a class has finished the prior race. The RC will sound multiple horns approximately one minute before the Warning Signal.

9.5. Boats in classes for which the Warning Signal has not been made shall stay clear of the starting area. Boats not starting shall stay clear of the Start Line by a minimum of four (4) boat lengths. Only Race Committee may protest boats impinging on the start line. Penalty for impinging on the start line may include disqualification or other penalty as determined by the Protest Committee [DP].

9.6. In the event a boat is OCS at the start: The RC may attempt to notify that boat by hailing its sail number over the designated VHF Channel (See SI 19). No part of this hail, or lack thereof, shall be grounds for redress.

9.7. A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal may be scored DNS without a hearing [DP].

10. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between a flag on Signal boat and a flag or inflatable shape on the *side of the Signal boat opposite* the starting line.

11. TIME LIMITS

11.1. Finishing Window: Performance and Cruising boats failing to finish within 25 minutes of the first boat in their class shall be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35.

11.2. Retirement: Any boat retiring shall notify the RC as soon as possible.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, shall apply.

13. PROTESTS & REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

13.1 Any boat intending to file a protest should notify the Race Committee after finishing that race. This is in addition to the requirements of RRS 61.1.

13.2. Hearing request forms are available from US Sailing: https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/US_Sailing_Hearing_Request_Form_20210301_Fillable.pdf

13.3. Protest filing time limit is 60 minutes after the Signal Boat docks. This changes RRS 61.3.

13.4. Notices to inform competitors of an arbitration hearing (per Appendix T) will be posted within 30 minutes after the protest time limit on the official notice board.

14. SCORING

14.1. PHRF Classes:

14.1.1 Two races are required to constitute a series.

14.1.2 Low-Point scoring will be used, with PHRF SoCal Area B handicaps applied.

14.1.3. No race score will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.

14.2. Cruising Class:

14.2.1 One race is required to constitute a series.

14.2.2 Low-Point scoring will be used with PHRF SoCal Area B handicap plus-non-spinnaker-offset if available.

14.2.3 No race score will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.

15. PRIZES

Trophies will be awarded after racing on Sunday.

16. SAFETY REGULATIONS

Boats shall carry equipment required by law and obey maritime regulations.

17. COMMUNICATION

17.1. The RC will use **Channel 71** for fleet communications.

17.2. The RC may use the radio to make competitors aware of its intentions, the course to be sailed, starting times, courses changes, On Course Side (OCS), postponements, and other information regarding the racing. RC failure to announce any of the above shall not be grounds for protest or redress.

18. HOSPITALITY

After-race hospitality and trophy presentation will be held at Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club, 13589 Mindanao Way following racing

19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See **RRS 4, Decision to race**. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

Race Officials

Event Chair:

Stephen McDonough

race@smwyc.org

Principal Race Officers:

Stephen McDonough

race@smwyc.org

John Schallert

race@smwyc.org

Race information available at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30753>