

Buzzards Yacht Club 2014 PHRF Race Series

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

All races will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016 (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 1250, 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 PHRF race will be at about 1255 pm. No race will be started after 3 pm.

2. COURSES

Courses will be posted on a course board on the Committee Boat that will include the marks from the Buzzards PHRF Course Sheet and whether they should 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.

3. SCRATCH SHEETS

Scratch Sheets will be emailed to registered participants and will be posted on the Buzzards YC website (www.buzzardsyc.org) by 930 AM on the day of the race

4. MARKS

The starting line will be between the BYC 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 Sheet.

5. ORAL INSTRUCTIONS

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

6. THE START

Racing will be started under a Pursuit Start format. The starting sequence for the first boat will be under RRS 26 (5-4-1-0 minute flags and horn sounds) as modified below.

A courtesy sound / radio call may be made in advance of the first gun to advise that the start sequence is imminent.

There will be only one class flag sound and visual signals will be as follows:

<u>Time to start</u>	<u>Visual Signal</u>	<u>Sound Signal</u>
~6 min		Multiple
5 min	Hoist Class Flag	1 long
4 min	Hoist "P"	1 long
1 min	Drop "P"	1 long
1 st BOAT START	Drop Red Class Flag	1 long

A yacht shall keep clear of the starting area until 5 minutes before their start.

7. OFFICIAL TIME

The Race Committee will use GPS Time. There will be two time checks at 1230 and 1245.

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

9. 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.

10. 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.

9. 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.

10. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the first boat to finish will be 3 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.

11. 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.

12. PROTESTS

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

A protesting yacht should attempt to notify the protested yacht on the race course and the Race Committee upon finishing. All protests will be filed in person before attending race participants at the rafting party approximately 1 hour after the finish of the last yacht. Each interested party in the protest will be given 2 minutes to present their case before the race participants. Protest will be decided by a show of hands of attending race participants.

13. SCORING

With the pursuit start format, races results will be based on order of finish. There will be two divisions, RACE/SPINNAKER and CRUISING/NON-SPINNAKER. Yachts carrying spinnakers will use their racing ratings.

14. RESAILS

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

15. NUMBERS/MARKINGS

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

16. LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT

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

17. 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.

18. 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.