2025 Opening Day Race

Organizing Authority

Newport Harbor Yacht Club

Saturday, May 3, 2025

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing.
1.2. RRS 41.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one gybe, are required.
1.3. RRS 55.2 Spinnaker Poles; Whisker Poles and RRS 55.3 Sheeting Sails are changed to allow the use of fixed and retractable spinnaker poles and bowsprits for the purpose of setting asymmetrical spinnakers.
1.4. RRS 51, Movable Ballast is changed to allow the movement of sails that are not set.
1.5. RRS 51, Movable Ballast, and RRS 52 Manual Power are changed to allow the positioning of movable ballast by power on boats as designed and as rated by the rating authority. All movable ballast systems shall be capable of manual operation if powered systems are inoperable.
1.6. RRS 52 is modified to allow power and stored energy for sail hoisting, trimming, and adjustment of running rigging for boats rated with those systems by RA.
1.7. For the purposes of RRS 47, Trash Disposal, there will be no penalty for discarding biodegradable table scraps overboard, or losing biodegradable sail stops overboard used for reasons of safety or proper seamanship.
1.8. US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.2 are deleted.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official online notice board located at www.nhyc.org.
2.2. No competitors' meeting is scheduled. Any questions should be submitted in writing to jess.gerry@nhycstaff.org before 0800 on Saturday, May 3.

3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board no later than 1000 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted before 2000 on the day before it will take effect. At the same time, Flag L, accompanied by a sound signal, will be displayed until the RC boat departs for the course.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from a flag pole located at the top of the NHYC launch ramp.

5. RACE SCHEDULE

The scheduled time of the first warning signal is 1155.

6. RACE VENUE & COURSE

Addendum A shows the approximate location of the race venue and the course.

7. MARKS

	DESCRIPTION	APPROXIMATE LOCATION	Direction
Start Mark	Red Inflatable Cone	33 43.950 N 118 08.040 W	
FL R 2.5s 41' 5m2	LB breakwater west end light	33 43.395 N 118 10.850 W	Leave to port
Finish Mark	Red Inflatable Cone	33 36.35 N 117 56.48 W	

8. CHECK-IN

8.1. Boats will be required to radio check in no later than fifteen (15) minutes before their scheduled starting time. Boats must check in via VHF Channel 72. A boat must announce her name, sail number and number of crew on board and be acknowledged by the RC.

8.2. Boats who fail to check in will be scored DNS without a hearing.

9. THE START

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

9.2. A boat's starting time will be staggered according to her PHRF RLC handicap. Addendum B shows the assigned starting times for all boats.

9.3. A warning signal will be made at 1155 by displaying a pink flag with one sound. Additionally, Flag I will be displayed with the warning signal to indicate RRS 30.1 is in effect for all starts. This changes RRS 26.

9.4. Beginning at 1200, a horn will sound at ten (10) minute intervals, accompanied by a numeral pennant as follows: "0" at 1200, "1" at 1210, "2" at 1220 etc. These flags will be lowered with no sound one (1) minute prior to the next flag.

9.5. For the purpose of determining a boat's Preparatory Signal, it shall be four (4) minutes prior to her starting time. There will be no visual or audio signal; this changes RRS 26.

9.6. A whistle will be sounded at each boat's starting time. There will be no visual signal, this changes RRS 26.

9.7. Boats not racing shall keep well clear of the starting area, which includes to weather of the start line.

10. RECALLS

10.1. Individual recalls shall be signaled by displaying Flag X. There will be no sound signal, this changes RRS 29.1.

10.2. As a courtesy, the RC will attempt to hail OCS boats on VHF Channel 63. Failure to execute this hail or failure to receive it shall not relieve a boat of her sole obligation to start properly, nor shall it constitute an improper action or omission of RC under RRS 62.1(a).

11. THE FINISH

The finish line will be located approximately one-half nautical mile west of the end of the Newport Beach Pier between a staff displaying an Orange flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of a nearby finishing mark.

12. TIME LIMIT

12.1. The time limit for the race is 1700.

12.2. Boats failing to finish within sixty (60) minutes after the first boat to sail the course and finish will be scored points equal to the number of finishers in the race plus two (2). The scoring abbreviation TLE (Time Limit Expired) shall be used for recording this circumstance. This changes RRS 35, A4.1 and A11.

13. PROTESTS

13.1. All protests must be submitted in writing to the protest desk located in the race office at NHYC or by email to jess.gerry@nhycstaff.org. Protest forms must be submitted no later than thirty (30) minutes after the RC signal boat returns to dock. That time will be posted on the Official Notice Board located on the Sailing Patio at NHYC.

13.2. Protests will be heard as soon as possible, in the order determined by the protest committee.

13.3. It is the sole responsibility of each boat involved to be prepared and present with witnesses available when her hearing is called.

14. SCORING

A boat's PHRF base RLC rating will be used to calculate a boat's starting time. The race will be scored using the Low Point Scoring System, described in Appendix A.

15. PRIZES & SOCIAL

15.1. Post race refreshments and awards will be held at Newport Harbor Yacht Club. Awards will be approximately 60 minutes after the Finish Boat returns to the dock.

15.2. Take home trophies will be awarded to the first boats to finish in Division 1, Division 2, Division 3, and if registered to compete for the following specialty awards: Most Juniors as Crew (Under 18), Most Women as Crew, Most NHYC Skipper Members as Crew, and Most NHYC Staff Commodores as Crew.

15.3. The Opening Day Race Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the first boat to finish the Opening Day Race on Sunday during the Opening Day Ceremony, May 4th at NHYC.

16. BERTHING

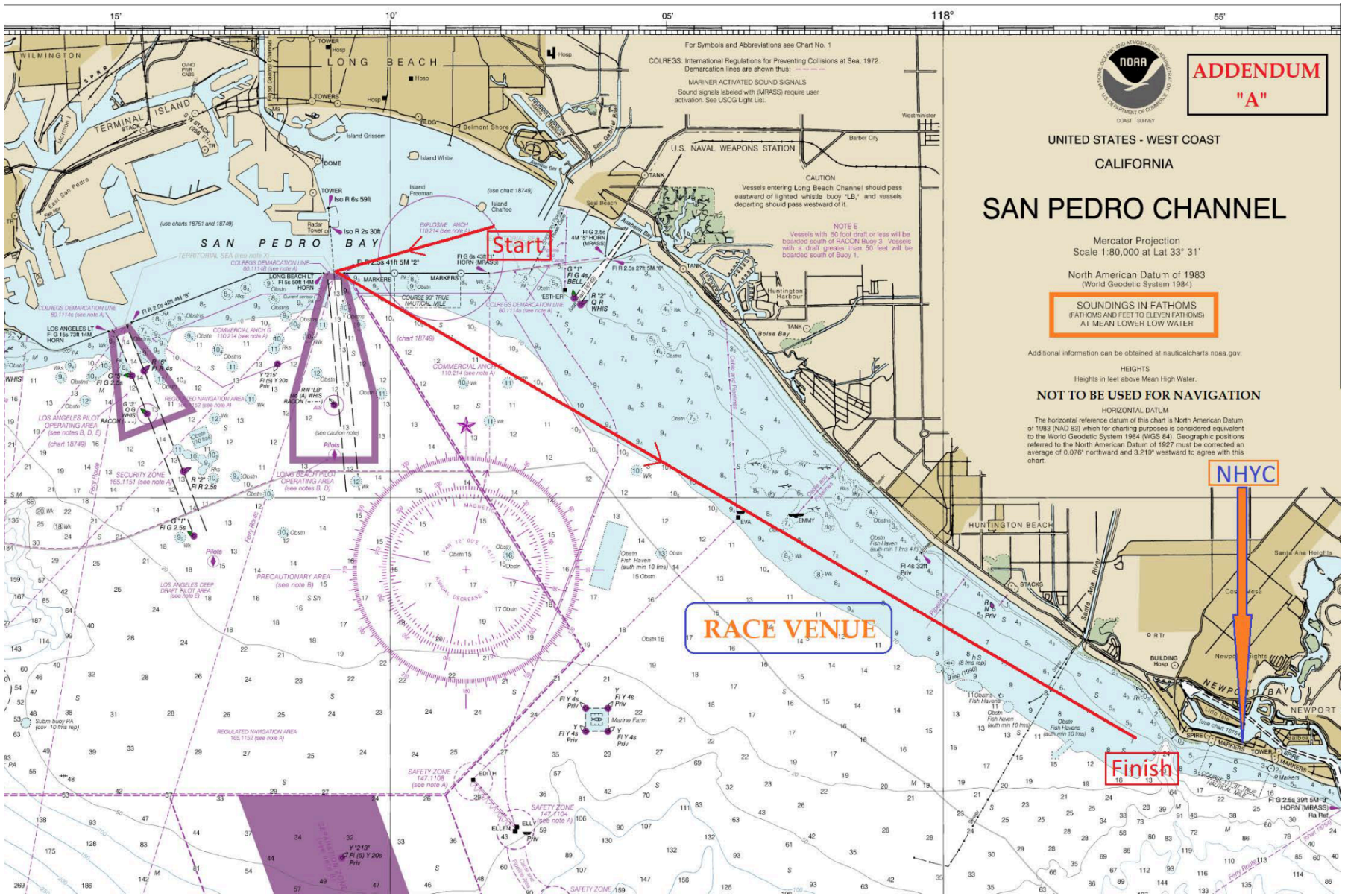
Any participating yacht may request a mooring ball at Newport Harbor Yacht Club. Please contact Yacht Racing Director Jess Gerry at jess.gerry@nhycstaff.org or NHYC Dockmaster Anthony Palacios at anthony.palacios@nhycstaff.org or on VHF 71 for assistance.

17. RADIO COMMUNICATION

For the purposes of communication with competitors, the RC will use VHF 63.

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this race participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The race organizers (OA, Ratings Authority, Race Committee, Protest Committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this race. By participating in this race, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

END #

Addendum A: Race Venue