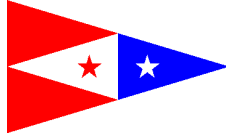


# THE SAN FRANCISCO YACHT CLUB



98 BEACH ROAD, PO BOX 379, BELVEDERE, CALIFORNIA 94920 RACE OFFICE 415-789-5647

## 2023 MERCURY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

October 20-21



### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

(NOR attached at end of SIs)

#### 1 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

#### 2 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors, other than those related to hearing, will be posted on the official notice board located outside on the west wall of the SFYC Clubhouse.
- 2.2 Notices related to hearings will be posted at:  
[https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/event\\_menus/7362/event\\_menu](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/event_menus/7362/event_menu)
- 2.3 The NOR, SIs, and amendments thereto will also be posted online at [www.sfyc.org](http://www.sfyc.org).
- 2.4 The race committee will attempt to hail boats observed OCS at the start via VHF radio. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, the hail of some but not all OCS boats, the untimely hail of some or all OCS boats, or failure to hail any or all boats shall not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.

#### 3 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flagpole located adjacent to the clubhouse.
- 3.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in race signal AP.

#### 4 CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be numeral pennant one.

#### 5 COURSES

All courses are described in **Attachment A**. The course to be sailed will be designated by numeral placards displayed on the race committee signal vessel.

#### 6 MARKS

- 6.1 All rounding marks and gates will be red inflatable conical buoys.
- 6.2 'New marks' will be yellow inflatable conical buoys.

- 6.3 If the offset mark (Mark O) is missing it shall be disregarded. If one of the gate marks is missing boats shall leave the remaining mark to port.

## **7 THE START**

- 7.1 The starting line will be between a staff or halyard displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal vessel and staff displaying an orange flag on a pin end line vessel or a yellow inflatable buoy.
- 7.2 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

## **8 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

## **9 THE FINISH**

- 9.1 The DOWNWIND finishing line will be between a staff or halyard displaying a blue flag on the race committee signal vessel and a yellow inflatable buoy.
- 9.2 The UPWIND finishing line will be between a staff or halyard displaying a blue flag on a race committee vessel and a yellow mark set to windward of Mark W as shown on Attachment A.

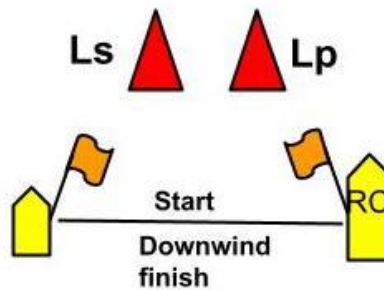
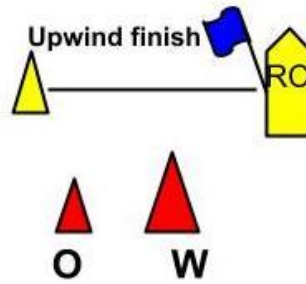
## **10 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

- 10.1 The target time for each buoy race is 45-60 minutes.. Failure to meet this target time will not be grounds for redress.
- 10.2 The time limit for the first boat to sail the buoy courses and finish is 90 minutes.
- 10.3 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

## **11 HEARING REQUESTS**

- 11.1 The hearing request time limit is one hour after the signal vessel docks, as determined by the PRO. This time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 11.2 Hearing requests may be submitted to the SFYC Race Office, or may be created and submitted online at [https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/protests/new?event\\_id=7362](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/protests/new?event_id=7362). This changes rule 61.3.
- 11.3 Notices will be posted on [https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/event\\_menus/7362/event\\_menu](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/event_menus/7362/event_menu) as soon as possible to inform competitors of a hearing in which they are parties.
- 11.4 Hearings will be scheduled as soon as possible following the time limit at the direction of the Chief Judge, and will be held in person or on Zoom, or a hybrid of both.
- 11.5 RRS 62.2(a), 66.2(a), and the US prescription to RRS 63.2 do not apply.

## ATTACHMENT A - Courses



### Marks

Marks W and O are rounding marks.

Marks Ls and Lp are collectively a gate.

### Courses: (W and O shall be left to port)

- 4) Start – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Finish Downwind (2 laps)
- 5) Start – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Ls/Lp – Finish Upwind (2.5 laps)
- 6) Start – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Finish Downwind (3 laps)
- 7) Start – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Ls/Lp – Finish Upwind (3.5 laps)
- 8) Start – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Ls/Lp – W – O – Finish Downwind (4 laps)

# **NOTICE OF RACE**

Organizing Authority: The San Francisco Yacht Club, Belvedere, California

## **1 RULES**

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 Rule 40.1 will apply at all times when boats are in the racing area.
- 1.3 The sailing instructions may change additional racing rules.

## **2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

The sailing instructions will be available online at [www.sfyc.org](http://www.sfyc.org), and at the SFYC bar area after 1600 hours on October 18.

## **3 COMMUNICATION**

- 3.1 Competitors should monitor VHF USA channel 65A for on the water communication by the race committee.
- 3.2 While racing, except in an emergency, or when retiring from a race, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

## **4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

- 4.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the Mercury Class with skippers who are current members in good standing of the MCYRA.
- 4.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing the online registration, together with the required fee, found at [www.sfyc.org](http://www.sfyc.org) under On the Water > Regattas.
- 4.3 Skippers who are eligible for the Silver Fleet (see MCYRA Bylaws Article VIII) must so indicate at the time of registration.
- 4.4 No entries will be accepted after 1400 hours on October 19.

## **5 FEES**

- 5.1 The entry fee is \$200 if received on or before October 4.
- 5.2 The entry fee is \$250 if received after October 4.

## **6 SCHEDULE**

### Thursday

- 1100-1700 hours: Check-In, Measurement, and Inspection

### Friday

- 1000 hours: Competitors' Meeting on the Cove House deck
- 1130 hours: First warning signal - 3 races scheduled
- After racing beer, wine, and snacks at the Cove House

### Saturday

- 1130 hours: First warning signal; 2 races scheduled
- After racing beer, followed by Regatta Dinner and Awards in the Cove House

## **7 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION**

- 7.1 Any boat which has not been weighed and its weight recorded on the class website since January 1, 2023 must be weighed on Thursday, October 19, 2023 at the regatta. Safety equipment, as outlined in Article VIII of MCYRA's Measurement prescriptions, will be checked and must be in compliance before the start of the first race and carried aboard thereafter. Mast step location may be checked as part of the Equipment Inspection.
- 7.2 New sails that need measuring must be done on Wednesday or Thursday. Please advise David West if

you will need to have sails measured.

**8 VENUE AND COURSES**

Windward/leeward style races will take place at the following intended race venues. The race venue will be determined by the PRO based on conditions, and the venue chosen shall not be grounds for redress. Intended race venues are Knox (west of Angel Island) and Richardson Bay.

**9 PENALTY SYSTEM**

RRS Appendix V1 (Penalty at the Time of an Incident) shall apply.

**10 SCORING**

10.1 3 races must be completed to constitute a series.

10.2 5 races are scheduled, and a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

**11 BERTHING**

[DP] Berthing will be available at The San Francisco Yacht Club guest docks from Wednesday, October 18 through Monday, October 23. Boats may use the SFYC hoists to launch and retrieve boats, and trailers may be stored in the SFYC parking lot at the direction of the Harbormaster or Director of Sailing.

**12 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

[DP] All boats shall return to The San Francisco Yacht Club after Friday's races and are required to remain in the water from the beginning of racing on Friday through the last race on Saturday, unless the PRO has approved a written request for haul out, or in the case of an emergency where further damage may occur if the boat is not hauled immediately.

**13 RISK STATEMENT**

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk and subject to the terms and conditions of the SFYC liability waiver.

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.

**14 INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$100,000 per incident or the equivalent.

**15 PRIZES**

15.1 Gold Fleet awards will be presented to the skipper and crew of the top 5 boats.

15.2 Silver Fleet awards will be presented to the skipper and crew of the top 3 boats.

**16 FURTHER INFORMATION**

PRO - Forrest Gay: forrest@sfyc.org

SFYC Race Office: race@sfyc.org - 415-789-5647

----- End of NOR -----

---

**PARKING**

- Parking in the SFYC lot will be restricted during the regatta. One parking pass will be issued per boat. Passes may be picked up at the Race Office on Thursday, or at the parking lot entrance on Friday morning.
- Trailers must be parked in the designated area at the south end of the SFYC lot.

**SOCIAL**

- Additional Regatta Dinner tickets may be purchased online at the time of registration.