

Running Race Committee

Racing Rules of Sailing

Part 3 and Flags of the RRS tells you how to run the races.

If you follow the rules, the racers will know what is happening. If you don't they will be confused.

Having one common set of racing rules with the minimum of local modifications means:

- Visiting sailors and new members will know what is happening
- When our members travel, they will know what is happening

Don't forget to follow the sailing instructions and NOR.

Priorities

1. Safety
2. Racing
3. Capsized & Broken Boats

Team Responsibilities

PRO -- monitor wind, set course, who is over early, who finished in what position, decide when to go home, communicate with mark boat, coordinate team, make decisions

Flag Person -- flags up and down

Ollie -- time & sound signals

Recorder -- finish position, over early, retired, etc.

Team Responsibilities

Mark Setter -- track the wind and keep PRO informed, set/move marks, monitor/help sailors in trouble, communicate with PRO

Drivers -- launch, fuel, operate, and put away the power boats

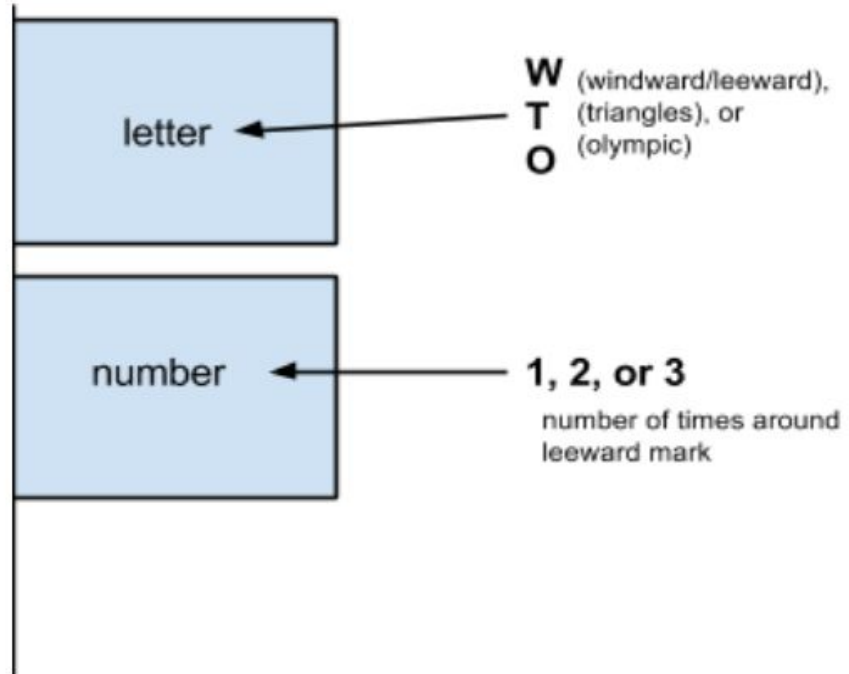
Everyone - launch and put away the power boats, organize and stow gear

Tasks

- Decide the course
- Run the starts
- Record the finishes

Course

- W, T, or O
- Number of laps
- Length of windward leg
- Length of start line
- Length of finish line



Start

- Rule 26 (flags) or Appendix S (sounds)
- Warning at 5, Prep at 4, Prep down at 1, Start at 0
- Flags should snap up and down smartly so timing is not ambiguous
- Postponement flag is your friend
 - Mistake
 - Wind dies
 - Wind shifts completely will not shift back
 - Everybody is over the line well before the start

Over early & general recall

- Recorder & PRO & flag person work together
 - PRO calls numbers (last 3 is enough) and the number with clear, e.g. 533, 142, 142-clear, 533-clear.
 - Some anticipation is OK but track boats that may dip back down below the line
 - Calling numbers is optional -- the flag & horn is not
 - The fair procedure may be to collect all the numbers and then hail them
- After the start, the flag person needs to be ready to put up the X-ray flag with a sound

Record Finishes

- Recorder has to be focused on task. Mistakes are unfair.
 - Record sail number & class of all boats on the water. This is your check that you've accounted for everyone on the finish sheet
 - Record skipper name when possible. Some skippers make life hard for the scorer by changing sail numbers
 - Try to keep track of people who go home early, capsize and don't finish, etc. Goal is to account for everyone in every race
- One sheet per race
 - Don't try to separate fleets
 - Always write down sail numbers (14566, 15142, ..) top to bottom
 - Never try to write down finish positions (1, 2, 3) next to a list of boat numbers
 - Write down everyone who crosses the line and every time they cross the line
 - Write down infraction like OCS next to their number

Start Another Race

- Start another race for a class when all the boats in that class have finished
 - This requires the recorder to focus on recording finishes while the PRO & flag person focus on the next race
 - Pay some attention to the possibility of major interference between finishers and starters
 - Finish stragglers “in place” and have the mark boat tell them to head for the starting area

Wrap Up

- Leave boats and gear organized and ready to go for next week's committee
- Find scorer and give him/her the finish sheets