

RICHMOND COUNTY YACHT CLUB

40°32'.36" N | 74°08'.47" W

RACEBOOK 2026

NOS/R and Sailing Instructions

Regatta Committee Chair: Chris Governo

Telephone: 917-531-7087

Email: regatta@rcyachtclub.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
Marshall Series	1
O'Connell Series	8
Past Commodore Cup	14
Other RCYC Events	18
2026 Racing Schedules	19
Race Committee Procedures	22
Courses: Marshall, O'Connell, & Single/Double	27
Protest Form and Race Committee Worksheet	29

Revisions and Corrections

Rev No.	Date	Page	Correction
1	5/9/26	9&19	O'Connell schedule

2026 RCYC SKIPPERS' MEETING: WEDNESDAY MAY 6

2026 Race Committee – Chris Governo, Chair

Brian DeVito, PC Keith London, Andy Martin, PC Doug Olsen, PC Carl Peters, Frank Seaborg

THE MARSHALL SERIES - NOTICE OF SERIES AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

May 20 – September 23, 2026

Richmond County Yacht Club

Great Kills Harbor, Staten Island, New York, USA

Wednesday night racing is a time-honored tradition at Richmond County Yacht Club. In 1996, Wednesday night regattas were renamed the “The Marshall Series” in honor of Benjamin “Bud” Marshall for his years of service to racing and sailing at Richmond County Yacht Club. The races will be held under the authority of Richmond County Yacht Club on Wednesday evenings in the vicinity of the Great Kills Light, Old Orchard Lighthouse, and the Raritan Reach.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028 (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association, the rules of the individual classes when racing under one-design rules, PHRF-MA bylaws, and these sailing instructions will govern these races and regattas.
- 1.2. The racing rules will be changed as follows:
For all divisions RRS Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1. Eligibility

Each competing boat must have a valid 2026 PHRF-MA Rating Certificate. The Regatta Committee may consider allowing a boat to compete with a provisional rating assigned by the Regatta Committee.

2.2. Entry

- 2.2.1. Non-RCYC member boat owners must register a credit card with the club office prior to their first race. A club member may volunteer to be a sponsor of a non-member's boat for the purpose of paying race fees but registration of a credit card by the boat owner will still be required.
- 2.2.2. For each race, all boats must register with the Race Committee before the warning signal (see RRS Rule 26) for the first division start. Boats register either by passing close and hailing the Committee Boat or by communicating with the Committee Boat on VHF channel 72.
- 2.2.3. When registering, every boat must declare the division (A - spinnaker, B - non-spinnaker) in which she will sail. If a boat fails to declare a division before a race, she will be scored in the division in which she first sailed in the regatta or, if it is her first race, a division will be assigned by the Race Committee.
- 2.2.4. When performing committee, a boat is not eligible to race.

- 2.3. Protest Committee Requirements – Each boat's Skipper will be designated by default or must designate one crewmember for the season to be eligible to sit on a protest committee.

The Marshall Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Updates, amendments, or changes to this document will be posted on the RCYC Website.
- 3.2. Notices will be distributed via the club email list. Competitors are encouraged to supply their email address to the Regatta Committee chairperson for inclusion on the club email list.

4. FEES

- 4.1. There will be a \$25.00 per boat charge for each race. This will be charged to the member owner's account, non-member owner's credit card, or sponsoring member's account.
- 4.2. When registering, a boat may request food for all or some of the crew at the post-race gathering at Richmond County Yacht Club. There will be a \$10.00 per head charge for food.

5. SCHEDULE

Races start at 1845 (6:45 pm) before September

In September races start at 1830 (6:30pm)

Spring Series Dates	Summer Series Dates	Fall Series Dates
1) May 20	1) July 1	1) August 12
2) May 27	2) July 8	2) August 19
3) June 3	3) July 15	3) August 26
4) June 10	4) July 22	4) September 2 (6:30 start)
5) June 17	5) July 29	5) September 9 (6:30 start)
6) June 24	6) August 5	6) September 16 (6:30 start)

Make-up September 23
(6:30 start)

The Marshall Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

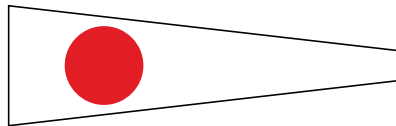
6. RATINGS

All entries will have a rating assigned by PHRF-MA for 2026 or have a provisional rating assigned (see 2.1).

7. DIVISIONS AND CLASS FLAGS

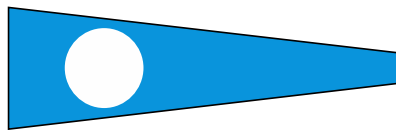
A Division – Spinnaker Class

Number 1 Flag

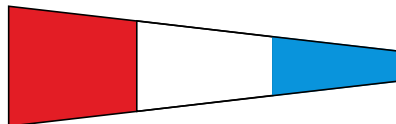


B Division – Non-Spinnaker Class

B1 or Single B Division Start – Number 2 Flag



B2 Division – Number 3 Flag



Preparatory - Letter "P" Flag



8. COURSES AND MARKS

- 8.1. The Club Starting Area will be approximately 0.5 nm on a bearing of 236°M from the Great Kills Bug Light. The GPS coordinates for the position are N40°30.935' W74°08.356'. *This lies along a range defined by the Bug Light and the Brooklyn VA hospital.*
- 8.2. The race committee shall use the permanent Club Pin, if available, to anchor the end of the start/finish line. Otherwise, the pin shall be set as near as possible to the above position (N40°30.935' W74°08.356').
- 8.3. The course shall be windward-leeward with the mark being left to port.
- 8.4. Courses will be set by the Race Committee using the guidelines in the *Courses* section of this book. The race committee shall notify racers by radio of the chosen course prior to the warning signal.

[Go to courses](#) (page 27)

[Back to Contents](#)

The Marshall Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

9. THE START

- 9.1. The start order for the PHRF/Handicap fleet shall be division A first, then B.

The race committee may combine consecutive starts into a single start but may not change the overall start order.

- 9.2. Races will be started by using RRS Rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
6	No Flag	Four Short (optional)	ProStart Initiation (if used, initial start only)
5	Class flag	One	Warning Signal
4	Preparatory "P" flag	One	Preparatory Signal
1	Preparatory "P" flag removed	One Long	One minute
0	Class flag removed	One	Starting signal

The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made either simultaneously with, or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

- 9.3. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the starting pin.
- 9.4. Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made **MUST**, when reasonably possible, keep clear of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made (see RRS Rule 23 and definition of *racing*).

10. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 10.1. Races may be shortened, abandoned, or changed in accordance with RRS Rules 32 and 33. It is the racers' responsibility to notice the visual signals, flags or shapes displayed, as well as to monitor the transmissions from the Race Committee on VHF Ch. 72.

- 10.2. RRS Rules 32.2 and 33 will be changed as follows:

When shortening, abandoning, or changing a leg after the start in accordance with RRS Rules 32 and 33, the committee will notify racers on VHF channel 72.

11. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between the starting pin and a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat.

12. TIME LIMITS

Boats failing to finish within 3 hours after the start will be scored Did Not Finish. This modifies RRS Rule 35.

The Marshall Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

13. SCORING

13.1. The regatta shall consist of three separate series: Spring, Summer, and Fall.

The Marshall Trophy Series will consist of all races completed in the Spring, Summer, and Fall series.

13.2. DIVISIONS

A Division – spinnakers allowed

B Division – non-spinnaker only

13.3. INDIVIDUAL RACE SCORING

Time on Distance (TOD) scoring will govern all finishes.

13.3.1. The Spring, Summer, Fall, and Marshall Trophy series shall be scored using a High Point Percentage Scoring System.

(See the document at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/rules-officiating/racing-rules/scoring-a-long-series/> for a complete discussion of scoring systems used for a long series.)

13.3.2. High Point Percentage Scoring

Define 'N' to be the number of boats that compete in a particular race. The first-place boat receives N points, the second-place boat N-1 points, the third-place boat N-2 points, and so on.

13.3.3. All other boats that compete in that race, including any that don't finish (DNF), retire (RET), do not sail the course (NSC), or are disqualified (DSQ) will score 0 (zero) points.

13.3.4. A boat's score in the Make-up Race will be used as her score for a completed race (i.e., not abandoned or cancelled) in which she performed Race Committee duty. When a boat does more than one Race Committee, the owner shall pick the race that the Make-Up Race score is applied to. Scores in the Make-up race for boats that did no committee duty will not be applied elsewhere.

13.3.5. A minimum of one boat must compete in a division for a race to be scored.

The Marshall Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

13.4. SERIES SCORES

- 13.4.1. To be eligible for a series score a boat must have raced in at least 50% of the races run, and not cancelled or abandoned, in that series.
- 13.4.2. The series score for each boat will be a percentage calculated as follows: Divide the sum of her race scores by the sum of the points she would have scored had she placed first in every race not dropped in which she competed. Then multiply the result by 100.
- 13.4.3. The qualified boat with the highest series score is the winner, and others are ranked accordingly.
- 13.4.4. For any series, if a boat completes 6 races, that boat's 2 worst scores will be dropped. If 5 are completed, a competing boat's single worst score will be dropped. If 4 or fewer are completed, no scores will be dropped.

13.5. ADJUSTMENTS

Race and series scores may be adjusted to account for differences between provisional and official PHRF-MA ratings (see 2.1).

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

For all classes RRS Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

15. PROTESTS

- 15.1. Protests shall be delivered to the Race Committee within 1 hour after the Race Committee arrives at the club. Hearings will be held as soon as possible after racing. In accordance with RRS Rule 61.3, the protest committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so.
- 15.2. Protests will be forwarded as soon as possible to the Regatta Committee so a hearing can be scheduled.

16. SAFETY REGULATIONS

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible either by VHF channel 72 or by coming within hail of the committee boat.

17. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. The Race Committee will communicate and shall announce courses and course changes on Channel 72. Boats must advise the Race Committee on channel 72 if they retire.

18. PRIZES

The Regatta Committee will recognize boats for performance as well as sportsmanship. The prizes will be awarded in a suitable manner at the Regatta Committee's discretion. The decisions and determinations of the Regatta Committee are final.

The Marshall Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 3, Decision to Race. Richmond County Yacht Club 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.

20. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance.

21. **FURTHER INFORMATION** will be disseminated as necessary via e-mail and on the club bulletin board.

The O'Connell Series - Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

June 7 – September 13, 2026

Richmond County Yacht Club

Great Kills Harbor, Staten Island, New York, USA

The O'Connell Series is named after the late William O'Connell, who for years was an avid and competitive racing sailor.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028 (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association, the rules of the individual classes when racing under one-design rules, and these sailing instructions will govern these races and regattas.
- 1.2. The racing rules will be changed as follows:
For all divisions RRS Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1. Eligibility

- 2.1.1. The regatta is open to all sailing vessels.
- 2.1.2. Each competing boat must have a valid 2026 PHRF-MA Rating Certificate. The Regatta Committee may consider allowing a boat to compete with a provisional rating assigned by the Regatta Committee.

2.2. Entry

- 2.2.1. Non-RCYC member boat owners must register a credit card with the club office prior to their first race. A club member may volunteer to be a sponsor of a non-member's boat for the purpose of paying race fees but registration of a credit card by the boat owner will still be required.
- 2.2.2. For each race, all boats must register with the Race Committee before the warning signal (see RRS Rule 26). Boats register either by passing close and hailing the Committee Boat or by communicating with the Committee Boat on VHF channel 72.
- 2.2.3. When performing committee, a boat is not eligible to race.

2.3. Race Committee Requirements

- 2.3.1. Boats that race in the O'Connell Series must sign up for a Race Committee for an O'Connell Series race.
- 2.3.2. If you or, by your arrangement, an alternate crew do not show up for your race committee commitment, you will be scored DSQ for that race. This modifies RRS Rule A5.

- 2.4. Protest Committee Requirements – Each boat's Skipper will be designated by default or must designate one crewmember for the season to be eligible to sit on a protest committee.

The O'Connell Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Updates, amendments, or changes to this document will be posted on the RCYC Website.
- 3.2. Notices will be distributed via the club email list. Competitors are encouraged to supply their email address to the Regatta Committee chairperson for inclusion on the club email list.

4. FEES

There will be a \$25.00 per boat charge for each race. This will be charged to the member owner's account, non-member owner's credit card, or sponsoring member's account. Each boat is expected to supply at least one race committee for the O'Connell series during the regatta.

5. SCHEDULE

All races start at 1400 (2:00 pm)

- 1) Sunday, ~~June 7~~ June 14
- 2) Sunday, June 21
- 3) Sunday, July 12
- 4) Sunday, July 26
- 5) Sunday, August 9
- 6) Sunday, August 23

Make-up Sunday, September 13

6. RATINGS

All entries will have a rating assigned by PHRF-MA for 2026 or have a provisional rating assigned (see 2.1).

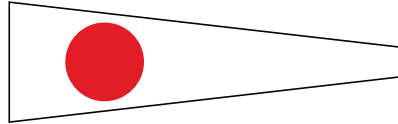
[Back to Contents](#)

The O'Connell Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

7. DIVISIONS AND CLASS FLAGS

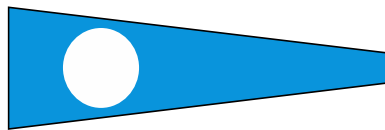
Single division – non-spinnaker only

Number 1 Flag



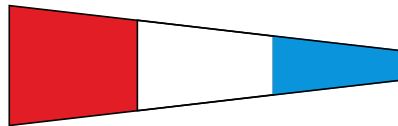
OR

Number 2 Flag



OR

Number 3 Flag



Preparatory- Letter "P"
Flag



8. COURSES AND MARKS

- 8.1. The Club Starting Area will be approximately 0.5 nm on a bearing of 236°M from the Great Kills Bug Light. The GPS coordinates for the position are N40°30.935' W74°08.356'. *This lies along a range defined by the Bug Light and the Brooklyn VA hospital.*
- 8.2. The race committee shall use the permanent Club Pin, if available, to anchor the end of the start/finish line. Otherwise, the pin shall be set as near as possible to the above position (N40°30.935' W74°08.356').
- 8.3. Weather conditions permitting, the course shall be a triangle. For counterclockwise courses marks shall be left to port. For clockwise courses marks shall be left to starboard.
- 8.4. Courses will be set by the Race Committee using the guidelines in the *Courses* section of this book. The race committee shall notify racers by radio of the chosen course prior to the warning signal.

[Go to courses](#) (page 27)

[Back to Contents](#)

The O’Connell Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

9. THE START

9.1. Races will be started by using RRS Rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
6	No Flag	Four Short (optional)	ProStart Initiation (if used)
5	Class flag	One	Warning Signal
4	Preparatory “P” flag	One	Preparatory Signal
1	Preparatory “P” flag removed	One Long	One minute
0	Class flag removed	One	Starting signal

9.2. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the starting pin

10. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

10.1. Races may be shortened, abandoned or changed in accordance with RRS Rules 32 and 33. It is the racers’ responsibility to notice the visual signals, flags or shapes displayed, as well as to monitor the transmissions from the Race Committee on VHF Ch. 72.

10.2. RRS Rules 32 and 33 will be changed as follows:

When shortening, abandoning, or changing a leg after the start in accordance with RRS Rules 32 and 33, the committee will notify racers on VHF channel 72.

11. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between the starting pin and a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat

12. TIME LIMITS

Boats failing to finish within 3 hours after the start will be scored Did Not Finish. This modifies RRS Rule 35.

The O'Connell Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

13. SCORING

13.1. The series will be scored as a single division, non-spinnaker only.

13.2. INDIVIDUAL RACE SCORING

Time on Distance (TOD) scoring will govern all finishes.

13.2.1. High Point Percentage Scoring

Define 'N' to be the number of boats that compete in a particular race. The first-place boat receives N points, the second-place boat N-1 points, the third-place boat N-2 points, and so on.

13.2.2. All other boats that compete in that race, including any that don't finish (DNF), retire (RET), do not sail the course (NSC), or are disqualified (DSQ) will score 0 (zero) points.

13.2.3. A boat's score in the Make-up Race will be used as her score for a completed race (i.e., not abandoned or cancelled) in which she performed Race Committee duty. When a boat does more than one Race Committee, the owner shall pick the race that the Make-Up Race score is applied to. Scores in the Make-up race for boats that did no committee duty will not be applied elsewhere.

13.2.4. A minimum of one boat must compete for a race to be scored.

13.3. SERIES SCORES

13.3.1. To be eligible for a series score a boat must have raced in at least 50% of the races run and not cancelled or abandoned.

13.3.2. The series score for each boat will be a percentage calculated as follows: Divide the sum of her race scores not dropped by the sum of the points she would have had she placed first in every race not dropped in which she competed. Then multiply the result by 100.

13.3.3. The qualified boat with the highest series score is the winner, and others are ranked accordingly.

13.3.4. If a boat completes 6 races, that boat's 2 worst scores will be dropped. If 5 are completed, a competing boat's single worst score will be dropped. If 4 or fewer are completed, no scores will be dropped.

13.4. ADJUSTMENTS

Race and series scores may be adjusted to account for differences between provisional and official PHRF-MA ratings (see 2.1).

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

For all classes RRS Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

A scoring penalty will apply for failing to fulfill a committee commitment (see 2.3.3).

15. PROTESTS

15.1. Protests shall be delivered to the Race Committee within 1 hour after the race committee arrives at the club. Hearings will be held as soon as possible after racing. In accordance with RRS Rule 61.3, the protest committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so.

15.2. Protests will be forwarded as soon as possible to the Regatta Committee so a hearing can be scheduled.

[Back to Contents](#)

The O'Connell Series – Notice of Series and Sailing Instructions

16. SAFETY REGULATIONS

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible either by VHF channel 72 or by coming within hail of the committee boat.

17. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. The Race Committee will communicate and shall announce courses and course changes on Channel 72. Boats must advise the Race Committee on channel 72 if they retire.

18. PRIZES

The Regatta Committee will recognize boats for performance as well as sportsmanship. The prizes will be awarded in a suitable manner at the Regatta Committee's discretion. The decisions and determinations of the Regatta Committee are final.

19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 3, Decision to Race. Richmond County Yacht Club 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.

20. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance.

21. **FURTHER INFORMATION** will be disseminated as necessary via e-mail and on the club bulletin board.

PAST COMMODORE CUP RACE - NOTICE OF RACE AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Saturday September 12, 2026

Richmond County Yacht Club

Great Kills Harbor, Staten Island, New York, USA

Added to the RCYC racing schedule in 1996, the Past Commodores' Cup Race has become a favorite. The purpose of this race is to get the "old salt" PCs out on the racecourse again. Boats skippered by a PC are eligible for awards, but any and all boats are encouraged to compete for "The Kathleen Cup" as "Mere Mortals." Best of all, we'll see who wins this year's Fugawi Award! (The Fugawi is awarded to the last place boat in the Past Commodores' Division.)

1. RULES

1.1. The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028 (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association, the rules of the individual classes when racing under one-design rules, and these sailing instructions will govern these races and regattas.

1.2. The racing rules will be changed as follows:

For all divisions RRS Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1. The regatta is open to all sailing vessels in the Richmond County Yacht Club fleet.

2.2. Entry

2.2.1. All boats must provide the regatta committee with a valid PHRF certificate or have a rating assigned by the regatta committee prior to the race.

2.2.2. All boats must register with the Race Committee before the warning signal (see RRS Rule 26). Boats register either by passing close and hailing the Committee Boat or by communicating with the Committee Boat on VHF channel 72.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. Updates, amendments, or changes to this document will be posted on the RCYC Website.

3.2. Notices will be distributed via the club email list. Competitors are encouraged to supply their email address to the Regatta Committee chairperson for inclusion on the club email list.

4. FEES

Each entry will be charged \$20. The Regatta Committee will post information about the post-race awards ceremony before the race.

5. SCHEDULE

Saturday September 12, 2026 - Rain or Shine

Boat Check-In and Skipper's Meeting: 1100 • Harbor Start: 1200

First Gun: 1300 • Post Race Awards Ceremony: To be announced.

Past Commodore Cup Race – Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions

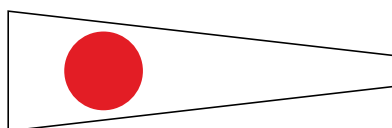
6. RATINGS

- 6.1. All entries will have an Assigned Rating determined by the regatta committee.
- 6.2. The Assigned Rating will be determined as follows:
 - 6.2.1. For boats with a 2026 PHRF-MA certificate the Assigned Rating will be the certified rating.
 - 6.2.2. For boats without a 2026 PHRF-MA certificate, the Assigned Rating will be determined by the Regatta Committee.
 - 6.2.2.1. The committee will assign a Base Rating by reviewing certificates received previously by the boat from PHRF-MA or from other rating organizations, as well as published standard ratings.

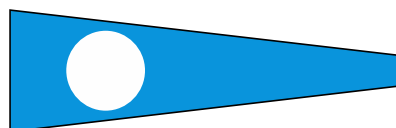
7. DIVISIONS AND CLASS FLAGS

Non-spinnaker only

Past Commodores' Division - Number 1 Flag
(Red circle on a white background)



Mere Mortals Division - Number 2 Flag (White circle on a blue background)



Preparatory- Letter "P" Flag (White rectangle on a blue background)



8. COURSES AND MARKS

The course will start from the Club Starting Area (approximately 0.5 nm on a bearing of 236°M from the Great Kills Bug Light, N40°30.935' W74°08.356'). Marks shall be RC (committee boat), OO (Old Orchard Rockpile), WB (West Bank Light), and RS (Romer Shoal Light). The course from the list below will be determined by the race committee depending on conditions.

Course	Length (nm)
#1 RC - OO (to port) – WB (to starboard) – RS (to starboard) – OO (to starboard) – RC	12.6
#2 RC - OO (to port) – RS (to port) – WB (to port) – OO (to starboard) – RC	12.6
#3 RC - OO (to port) – RS (to port) – OO (to starboard) – RC	11.5
#4 RC - OO (to port) – WB (to port) - OO (to starboard) – RC	9.7
# 5 RC – OO (to port) - RC	3.7

The race committee shall notify racers by radio on channel 72 of the chosen course prior to the warning signal.

[Back to Contents](#)

Past Commodore Cup Race – Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions

9. THE START

- 9.1. The start order shall be Past Commodores first, then Mere Mortals
- 9.2. Races will be started by using RRS Rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
6	No Flag	Four Short (optional)	ProStart Initiation (if used initial start only)
5	Class flag	One	Warning Signal
4	Preparatory "P" flag	One	Preparatory Signal
1	Preparatory "P" flag removed	One Long	One minute
0	Class flag removed	One	Starting signal

The Warning Signal for each succeeding start shall be made either simultaneously with, or after the Starting Signal of the preceding start.

- 9.3. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the starting pin.
- 9.4. Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made **MUST**, when reasonably possible, keep clear of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made (see RRS Rule 23 and definition of *racing*).

10. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

10.1. Races may be shortened, abandoned or changed in accordance with RRS Rules 32 and 33. It is the racers' responsibility to notice the visual signals, flags or shapes displayed, as well as to monitor the transmissions from the Race Committee on VHF Ch. 72.

10.2. RRS Rules 32 and 33 will be changed as follows:

When shortening, abandoning, or changing a leg after the start in accordance with RRS Rules 32 and 33, the committee will notify racers on VHF channel 72.

11. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between the starting pin and a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

For all classes RRS Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

13. TIME LIMITS

Boats failing to finish within 5 hours after the start will be scored Did Not Finish. This modifies RRS Rule 35.

[Back to Contents](#)

Past Commodore Cup Race – Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions

14. SCORING

14.1. The Past Commodore's Cup race shall be scored in accordance with RRS Appendix A.

14.2. Time on Distance (TOD) scoring will govern all finishes.

14.3. There will be two divisions, non-spinnaker only:

PAST COMMODORE'S DIVISION – All boats skippered by a Past Commodore of the Richmond County Yacht Club.

MERE MORTALS DIVISION – All other boats.

14.4. A minimum of one boat must compete in a division for a race to be scored.

15. PROTESTS

15.1. Protests shall be delivered to the Race Committee within 1 hour after the Race Committee arrives at the club. Hearings will be held as soon as possible after racing. In accordance with RRS Rule 61.3, the protest committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so.

15.2. Protests will be forwarded as soon as possible to the Regatta Committee so a hearing can be scheduled.

16. SAFETY REGULATIONS

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible either by VHF channel 72 or by coming within hail of the committee boat.

17. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. The Race Committee will communicate and shall announce courses and course changes on Channel 72. Boats must advise the Race Committee on that channel if they retire.

18. PRIZES

The Regatta Committee will recognize boats for performance as well as sportsmanship. The prizes will be awarded in a suitable manner at the Regatta Committee's discretion. The decisions and determinations of the Regatta Committee are final.

19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 3, Decision to Race. Richmond County Yacht Club 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.

20. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance.

21. **FURTHER INFORMATION** will be disseminated as necessary via e-mail and on the club bulletin board.

[Back to Contents](#)

OTHER RCYC EVENTS

Poco Loco Bay Race

Benefitting Tunnel to Towers Foundation

DATE & SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 26, 2026

FIRST START: 1200 (Noon)

Named in memory of past member Richie O'Connell. The race proceeds benefit the Tunnel to Towers Foundation.

A separate, formal Notice of Race and fees will be announced and posted separately.

2026 SCHEDULES

The RCYC Skippers Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 6.

The Marshall Series

Races start at 1845 (6:45 pm) before September

In September races start at 1830 (6:30pm)

Spring Series Dates	Summer Series Dates	Fall Series Dates
1) May 20	1) July 1	1) August 12
2) May 27	2) July 8	2) August 19
3) June 3	3) July 15	3) August 26
4) June 10	4) July 22	4) September 2 (6:30 start)
5) June 17	5) July 29	5) September 9 (6:30 start)
6) June 24	6) August 5	6) September 16 (6:30 start)

Make-up September 23
(6:30 start)

[Go to Marshal NOS](#) (page 1)

The O'Connell Series

All races start at 1400 (2:00 pm)

- 1) Sunday, ~~June 7~~ June 14
- 2) Sunday, June 21
- 3) Sunday, July 12
- 4) Sunday, July 26
- 5) Sunday, August 9
- 6) Sunday, August 23

Make-up Sunday, September 13

[Go to O'Connell NOS](#) (page 8)

[Back to Contents](#)

2026 SCHEDULES

OTHER RCYC HOSTED EVENTS

Past Commodore Cup Race

Saturday September 12 - Rain or Shine

[Go to Past Commodores Race](#) (page 14)

Poco Loco Bay Race

Benefitting Tunnel to Towers Foundation

Saturday, September 26

[Back to Contents](#)

2026 SCHEDULES

2026 PHRF-MA Other Regattas and Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Host Club / Organizing Authority</i>
June 13-14	KYC Bill Volk Memorial Regatta	Keyport YC
July 11-12	RYC Red Grant Regatta	Raritan YC
August 1-2	AHYC Blue Water Regatta	Atlantic Highlands YC
September 19	Liberty Cup Regatta	Liberty Yacht Club
September 26	Poco Loco Bay Race	Richmond County YC

All dates should be confirmed with the host club/OA

[Back to Contents](#)

RACE COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

FOR MARSHALL, O'CONNELL and SINGLE/DOUBLE SERIES, AND PAST COMMODORE CUP

1. STARTING AREA

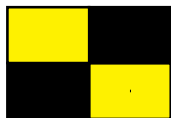
- 1.1. The Club Starting Area is approximately 0.5 nm on a bearing of 236°M from the Great Kills Bug Light (on a range between the Great Kills Bug Light and the Brooklyn VA Hospital). In other words, go to the Bug Light, turn to 236°M and proceed ½ nm. The GPS coordinates for the position are N40°30.935' W74°08.356'.
- 1.2. The race committee shall use the permanent Club Pin, if available, to anchor the end of the start/finish line. Otherwise, the pin shall be set as near as possible to the above position (N40°30.935' W74°08.356').

2. SELECTING A COURSE AND SETTING THE START/FINISH LINE

- 2.1. When on or near N40°30.935' W74°08.356', determine wind direction with a compass. Pick a course using the guidelines in this book.
- 2.2. Use the permanent Club Pin if available. Otherwise, pick a spot as near as possible to the above position and set the pin.
- 2.3. Anchor the Race Committee boat so the course starting line is **square to the average wind direction**. Make sure the starting line is long enough. Short lines are hazardous to competing boats!
- 2.4. Inform the competitors of the course chosen and order of start via radio, by direct hail, or on a white board aboard the RC Boat.

2.5. CHECK IN

2.5.1. THE "L" FLAG



When the Race Committee is prepared to accept check-ins, raise the "L" flag. Officially, the meaning of the "L" flag is "follow me" or "come within hail". The spirit we will use the "L" flag is "come within hail".

- 2.5.2. **Record** the list of competing boats and their respective classes. Record each boat's food order (# of persons) if appropriate.
- 2.5.3. Recording each boat's sail number will aid in identifying finishing boats.

Important Changes to The Definitions **Start** and **Finish** in RRS 2021-2024

The **current** language states that a boat **Starts** or **Finishes** when "**any part of her hull**" crosses the line.

The **previous** language referenced "any part of her hull, or crew or equipment in normal position".

So, no more worrying about spotting people, spinnakers, pulpits, or bowsprits on the start or finish lines.

Note: **Rule 31 Touching A Mark** still references "boat" which does include sails, lines, and crew regardless of whether they are in normal position or not. (See Case 77)

Committee Procedures

3. **STARTING THE RACE** – Race Committees (RCs) shall consult the Sailing Instructions for the start order and signal flags.

3.1. Races will be started by using RRS Rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal. RRS Rules 30.1, 30.2, and 30.3 generally do not apply.

Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
6	No Flag	Four Short (optional)	ProStart Initiation (if used initial start only)
5	Class flag	One	Warning Signal
4	Preparatory "P" flag	One	Preparatory Signal
1	Preparatory "P" flag removed	One Long	One minute
0	Class flag removed	One	Starting signal

The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made either simultaneously with, or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

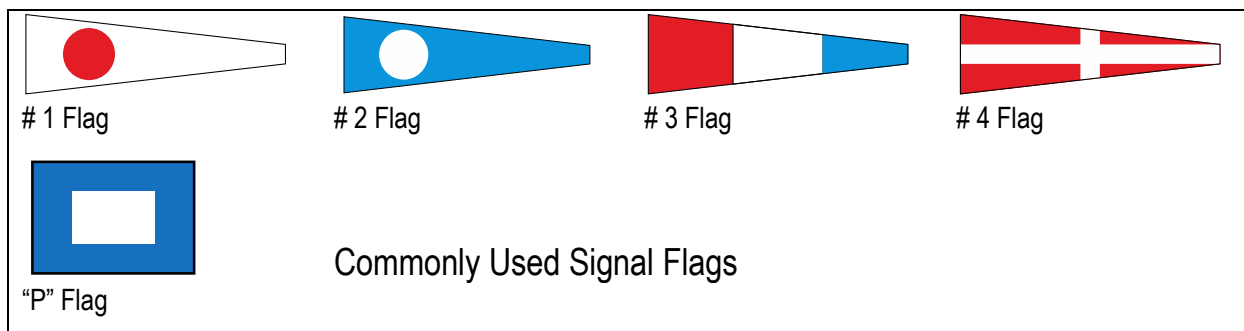
3.2. When using the Pro-Start system, as you press the "Start Sequence" button the Pro-Start will sound 4 warning horns. **Raise no flag here**; you are now 1 minute to the Warning Signal for the first sequence. The Pro Start sounds 5-4-3-2-1 beeps before each signal. No other key presses are needed until all boats are away. The Pro-Start will cycle through 5-minute rolling sequences as long as there is power in the battery. **Remember: The first start is six (6) minutes from when you press the "Start Sequence" button.**

The figure on the following page illustrates a 4-start rolling sequence using the Pro-Start.

Complete instructions and information about the Pro-Start can be found on the instruction cards in the Pro-Start bag. Additional information is available at <http://www.phcsystems.com/index.shtml>





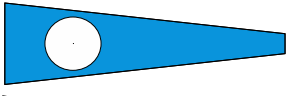
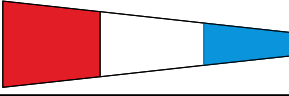

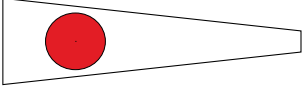

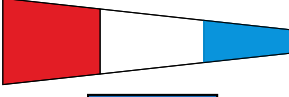


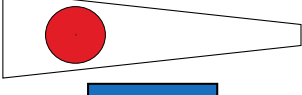
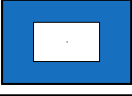

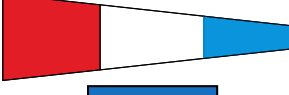
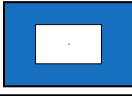

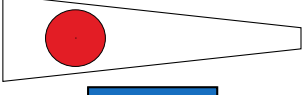
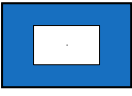


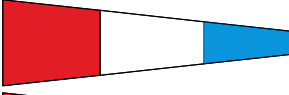
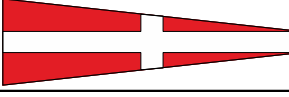


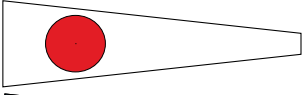
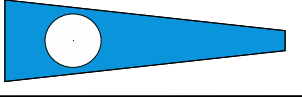

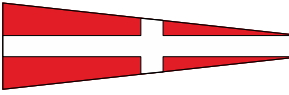











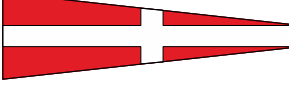
3.3. The Regatta Committee encourages RCs to transmit, via VHF channel 72, brief pre-signal countdowns for competitors.

3.4. Record the start times for each class (or the first start time and starting sequence for successful rolling starts).



Committee Procedures

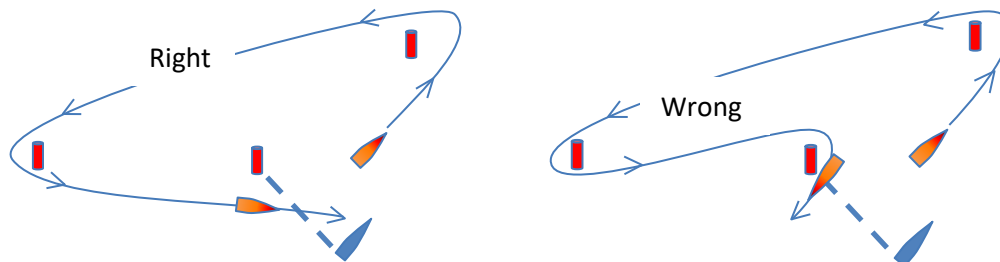
Example: 4 Start Sequence Using the Pro-Start Horn System

<p>Approximately 1 minute before the sequence begins, drop the "L" flag and push the "Start Sequence" button on the Pro-Start system.</p> <p>The system will sound 4 warning horns.</p>			<p>Sequence timing is critical. We strongly encourage every RC to use the Pro-Start system. It completely automates the sequence and eliminates timing errors.</p>		
					
<p>The system warns the RC of each flag move with 5-4-3-2-1 beeps.</p>	<p>Flag move UP or DOWN</p>	<p>The system sounds 1 long horn each time a flag move is required. Flag(s) changed with each horn.</p>	<p>10 mins.</p> <p>B1 Division Start B2 Seq. Begins</p>	 	 
<p>20 mins.</p> <p>A Seq. Begins</p>			<p>9 mins.</p> <p>Prep Up</p>		 
<p>19 mins.</p> <p>Prep Up</p>		 	<p>6 mins.</p> <p>Prep Down</p>		 
<p>16 mins.</p> <p>Prep Down</p>		 	<p>5 mins.</p> <p>B2 Division Start J24 Seq. Begins</p>	 	 
<p>15 mins.</p> <p>A Division Start B1 Seq. Begins</p>	 	 	<p>4 mins.</p> <p>Prep Up</p>		 
<p>14 mins.</p> <p>Prep Up</p>		 	<p>1 mins.</p> <p>Prep Down</p>		 
<p>11 mins.</p> <p>Prep Down</p>		 	<p>0 mins.</p> <p>J24 Division Start</p>		

Committee Procedures

4. THE FINISH LINE

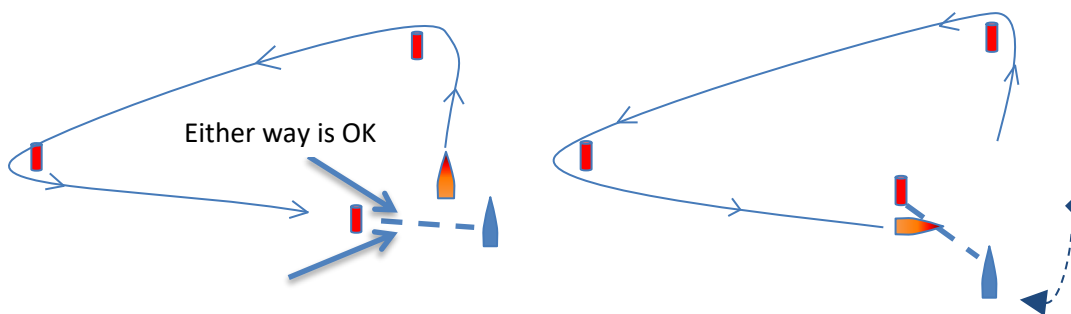
- 4.1. Rule change for 2025-2028: *Unless specifically stated differently in the sailing instructions, a boat finishes when she crosses the finish line “from the course side”*. In other words, there is no “unwinding” at the finish line unless it is specified in the sailing instructions.



- 4.2. ISAF Case 82 states: “When a finishing line is laid so nearly in line with the last leg that it cannot be determined which is the correct way to cross it in order to finish according to the definition, a boat may cross the line in either direction and her finish is to be recorded accordingly”.

The Race Committee Boat may be moved after the start to square more nearly the finish line to the last mark if at the start the Pin, the Race Committee Boat, and the last mark all lie nearly in a line.

If the Pin or Race Committee Boat is to be moved, the RC should notify the racers of its intention to do so before the start.



Committee Procedures

5. RECORDING DATA

5.1. The Race Committee must record:

- ✓ All entered boats and each boat's class (and food order if appropriate).
- ✓ The start time for each class.
- ✓ Each boat's finishing time.

5.2. Record all times as clock times to the second using the same timepiece for the entire race.

5.3. Start Times

For successful rolling starts, you may record the initial start time and the starting sequence. Remember to record each actual start time if re-starts or other changes occur during the start sequence.

5.4. Finish times

Write down, on a list separate from the check-in list, each boat and its finishing time as it crosses the line. *Attempting to write finish times on the check-in list is more complicated and does not preserve the actual order of finish if there is an error.*

Important Change to RRS Rule A5

New Rule A5.1 now requires race committees to basically disqualify boats **without a hearing** that do not sail the course correctly (score them NSC).

5.5. The Regatta Committee strongly encourages RCs to generate separate starting and finishing lists as both easier and less prone to error.

6. INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPETITORS

- 6.1. *PLEASE DO NOT COMMUNICATE WITH THE RACE COMMITTEE UNTIL THEY HAVE RAISED THE "L" FLAG.*
- 6.2. Before keying your microphone, LISTEN! The Race Committee will repeat crucial information multiple times. Excess and unnecessary chatter on the radio is confusing.
- 6.3. Every boat must register with the Race Committee prior to racing.

Courses For Marshall, O'Connell, and Single/Double Series

All numbered marks are red buoys on the Raritan Reach except Rockpile "20" which is a daymark on the reach, and R "20A" which is north of the reach.

Course lengths are approximate for 1 lap.

Wind headings and compass bearings are in degrees magnetic.

Note: "00" is Old Orchard Light. "RC" is Race Committee Boat.

WINDWARD/LEEWARD COURSES

All marks shall be left to port.

COURSE NUMBER	WIND RANGE (M°)	COURSE	BEARING (M°)	LENGTH (nm)
<i>Upwind Starts</i>				
1.	095-125	RC - 00 - RC	110	3.70
2.	125-150	RC - R "8" - RC	141	5.54
3.	135-155	RC - R "10" - RC	147	4.34
4.	150-170	RC - R "12" - RC	159	3.20
5.	170-195	RC - R "14" - RC	179	2.34
6.	195-215	RC - R "16" - RC	207	2.04
7.	225-245	RC - R "18" - RC	237	2.30
8.	235-265	RC - Rockpile "20" - RC	247	2.40
9.	255-275	RC - R "26" - RC	266	3.66
10.	260-280	RC - R "28" - RC	272	4.38
11.	265-285	RC - R "30" - RC	275	4.88
<i>Downwind Starts</i>				
13.	275-305	RC - OO - RC	110	3.70
14.	305-330	RC - R "8" - RC	141	5.54
15.	315-335	RC - R "10" - RC	147	4.34
16.	330-350	RC - R "12" - RC	159	3.20
17.	350-015	RC - R "14" - RC	179	2.34
18.	015-035	RC - R "16" - RC	207	2.04
19.	045-065	RC - R "18" - RC	237	2.30
20.	055-085	RC - Rockpile "20" - RC	247	2.40
21.	075-095	RC - R "26" - RC	266	3.66
22.	080-100	RC - R "28" - RC	272	4.38
23.	085-105	RC - R "30" - RC	275	4.88

Courses for Marshall, O’Connell, and Single/Double Series

TRIANGLE COURSES

COURSE NUMBER	WIND RANGE (M°)	COURSE	BEARING 1 st Mark (M°)	LENGTH (nm)
<i>Clockwise: All marks shall be left to starboard</i>				
25.	095-125	RC - 00 - R “16” - RC	110	6.94
26.	095-125	RC - 00 – R “14” – RC	110	6.67
27.	135-155	RC - R “10” - R “16” - RC	147	5.06
28.	150-170	RC - R “12” - R “18” - RC	159	4.52
29.	170-195	RC - R “14” - R “20” - RC	179	3.8
30.	195-215	RC - R “16” - R “20” - RC	207	3.1
<i>Counterclockwise: All marks shall be left to port</i>				
31.	225-245	RC - R “18” - R “14” - RC	237	3.45
32.	195-215	RC - R “16” - 00 - RC	207	6.94
33.	170-195	RC - R “14” - 00 - RC	179	6.67
34.	150-170	RC - R “12” - 00 - RC	159	6.74
35.	135-155	RC - R “10” - 00 - RC	147	7.18

Go back to *Courses* section for: [Marshall Series](#) (page 3)

[O’Connell Series](#) (page 10)

[Back to Contents](#)

THIS SIDE FOR PROTEST COMMITTEE USE

Fill in and check as appropriate

Class _____ Race# _____ Filing# _____

Heard together with numbers _____

Withdrawal requested; signature _____ Withdrawal permitted

Protest, or request for redress or reopening, received within time limit Time limit extended

Protestor, or party requesting redress or reopening, represented by _____

Other party, or boat being considered for redress, represented by _____

Names of witnesses _____

Interpreters _____

Remarks

No objection about interested party..... _____

Written protest or request identifies incident..... _____

'Protest' hailed at first reasonable opportunity..... _____

No hail needed; protestee informed at first reasonable opportunity..... _____

Red flag conspicuously displayed at first reasonable opportunity..... _____

Protest or request valid; hearing will continue

Protest or request invalid; hearing is closed

FACTS FOUND

Diagram of boat _____ is endorsed by committee

Committee's diagram is attached

CONCLUSIONS AND RULES THAT APPLY

DECISION

Protest: dismissed Boat(s) _____ is (are) disqualified from race(s) _____

penalized as follows _____

Redress: not given given as follows _____

Request to reopen a hearing: denied granted

PROTEST COMMITTEE

Members _____

Chairman's signature _____ Date & time _____

Written decision requested

When _____

By whom _____

Date provided _____

DATE:

RACE:

RACE COMMITTEE:

COURSE:

CHECK IN

BOAT NAME	SAIL NUMBER	CLASS	# EATING
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

NOTES:

THE START – RECORD ACTUAL TIMES

CLASS	SEQUENCE START/WARNING SIGNAL TIME	RACE START TIME

THE FINISH – RECORD ACTUAL TIMES

BOAT NAME OR SAIL NUMBER AS THEY CROSS FINISH LINE	FINISH TIME
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	