



Yacht Racing Association of San Francisco Bay

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Guidelines for Organized Regattas during COVID-19

In the interest of the health and safety of race organizers, race committees and regatta participants, the following guidelines are recommended for running races during the COVID-19 pandemic under the County Health Orders currently in effect.

Race Committees/Race Management

1. Race Organizers must ensure their regattas follow the current health orders and social distancing requirements for their county.
2. Race Committees must be comprised of the least number of people needed to safely start and finish a race.
3. When more than 1 person is on the race deck social distancing measures must be adhered to, including remaining at least 6' apart, wearing face coverings as appropriate and not shaking hands or engaging in any unnecessary physical contact.
4. Race Committees must maintain a Contact Logbook tracking which volunteers are on the race committee, including their county of residence.
5. Race entrants must be limited to single-handed divisions or crewed divisions where all persons on board have been sheltered in home at the same residence, unless the current county orders permit mixed household outdoor activities.

Race Committees may want to consider:

- Having All RC personnel take their temperature the morning of a race. Anyone with an elevated temperature or anyone exhibiting other symptoms should stay home.
- Wiping down common surfaces used by the race committee with disinfectant wipes. These include items such as radios, rails, pens/pencils, clipboards, etc
- Using only sound signals and omitting flags to minimize the number of people needed to start a race. Use of VHF Radio to announce courses and starting sequences is highly recommended.
- Using alternative starts, such as rabbit starts.
- Using programs such as RaceQS to track finishes, or asking participants to text finish times to the race committee.
- Using a scoring program or other system that allows racers to maintain a crew manifest for contact tracing purposes.
- Asking race committee members to provide their own food and water
- When possible, using fixed marks for race courses to avoid the need for more than one committee boat.
- Offering Non-Spinnaker divisions for family crews.
- Modifying sailing instructions to allow the use of hand signals for important hails as facemasks may impair the ability to hail.

- Race Organizers should consider designating a flag to indicate “Penalty Accepted” or some other method of accepting penalties to avoid a protest hearing.

Regatta Participants

1. Participants in a regatta must ensure they are following the current county health orders and social distancing requirements in effect.
2. When at their marina, launching their boat and putting their boat away, racers must comply with social distancing and health/safety protocols posted at the site and any other restrictions, including prohibitions, on access and use established by the Health Officer, government, or other entity that manages such area to reduce crowding and risk of transmission of COVID-19.
3. If not racing singlehanded, crews must be limited to only those who have been sheltered in home in the same residence, unless the current county orders permit mixed household outdoor activities.
4. If mixed household crews are permissible for that regatta, the same crew should be maintained for a minimum of 3 weeks.

Racers may want to consider:

- Taking their temperature the morning of a race. Anyone with an elevated temperature or anyone exhibiting other symptoms should stay home.
- Wiping down common surfaces with disinfectant wipes.
- Maintaining a Contact Logbook tracking who is on the boat for each race including their county of residence.

Protest Hearings

1. Protest hearings should be handled via Zoom or some other remote platform when possible
2. Protest Hearing procedures should be added to sailing instructions.

Skippers Meeting/Post Event Parties

1. Skippers Meeting should be held via Zoom or some other remote platform
2. No post-race gatherings or activities may be planned.