

2026 SEA OTTER REGATTA

October 3 – 4, 2026
Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of US Sailing, and the ISSA Procedural Rules as modified by the PCISA, the rules of the CFJ Class (except as altered by the Sailing Instructions, or the ISSA Procedural Rules), the Notice of Race, and by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 US Sailing Prescriptions to rules 63.2 shall not apply.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices will be posted on the official regatta notice board located online at Techscore.

3. CHANGES IN THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole mast at the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club.

5. ROTATION and FLEET ASSIGNMENT

- 5.1 Boats will be rotated between sets of races. A rotation schedule will be provided via Techscore.
- 5.2 Teams will be assigned to Gold and Silver Fleets by PCISA.
- 5.3 Both Gold and Silver fleets will rotate boats on Del Monte Beach just north of the Yacht Club.
- 5.4 Both Gold and Silver Fleets will have separate rotations.

6. BOATS & SAILS

- 6.1 Each team is responsible for supplying one class legal CFJ. Boats will be inspected by a designated regatta representative before launching or racing. Teams supplying boats that do not pass inspection will be responsible for supplying a replacement boat or make repairs as needed until the boat passes inspection.
- 6.2 Each team is responsible for rigging and unrigging the boat they sail in the first rotation of the regatta each morning and evening. Failure to properly care for boats and/or sails may subject a team to protest under this SI.

- 6.3 Each high school team will be issued a set of PCISA sails. Teams will be responsible for their original issued set of sails and for returning those sails at the end of racing on Sunday. Final race results will not be posted until all sets of sails have been returned.

7. COMPETITOR'S MEETING

- 7.1 A Mandatory Competitor's meeting will be held on Saturday, October 3rd at 1000 and Sunday, October 4th at 1000 outside of the MPYC clubhouse.

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1 The racing area will be approximately 500 yards north of Monterey Commercial Wharf #2.

9. MARKS

- 9.1 Marks W, O, Gs and Gp will be yellow or orange tetrahedron inflatable marks. The offset mark will be a small round buoy.

10. START/FINISH

- 10.1 The starting sequence will be a standard 3-minute starting sequence as described in the RRS Appendix U (Three-Minute Rule).
- 10.2 The start line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee boat and the pin end of the start line will be an inflatable mark. An inflatable RIB may be attached to the Pin and become part of the mark when so attached.
- 10.3 The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee finish boat and an inflatable or ball mark.
- 10.4 An inflatable mark may be attached to the stern of the RC boat. This mark is considered part of the boat and rule 31 applies.
- 10.5 No race will be started after 1530. on Sunday, October 4th. There is no time limit on Saturday, October 3rd.

11. THE COURSE

- 11.1 Courses will be as described in Addendum A. The Race Committee will hail or display the course number before the warning signal.

12. INDIVIDUAL RECALL

- 12.1 Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with ISSA Procedural Rules. The Race Committee will attempt to hail a boat's number; however, it is the responsibility of each boat to start properly. Failure to be hailed or hear a hail is insufficient cause for granting redress. Code Flag "X" shall be used to signal any premature starters.

13. GENERAL RECALLS

- 13.1 General recalls will be signaled and executed in accordance with ISSA Procedural Rules (multiple whistles and no visual signal). The one-minute rule shall apply after any general recall.

14. SAFETY & RETIREMENT

- 14.1 A yacht that retires from a race shall notify a Race Committee boat before leaving the race area. If that is impossible, notify a regatta representative immediately after arriving ashore.
- 14.2 The Monterey Bay is an open-ocean venue. Sailors must wear PFDs at all times and be prepared with appropriate cold-water gear. The Race Committee may send unprepared or struggling teams ashore; no redress will be granted. This changes RRS 61.

15. PROTESTS

- 15.1 Protests must be filed in writing within 30 minutes after the last boat reaches the beach for each rotation. All boats must notify the Race Committee on the water of their intent to protest immediately following the finish of the race in which the incident occurred. Protest forms will be available with the regatta beach monitor.

16. SCORING

- 16.1 Scoring will be in accordance with ISSA Procedural Rules. Scores will be online at <https://scores.hssailing.org>
- 16.2 Any yacht failing to sail the correct course shall be scored NSC without a hearing.

17. RECORD OF PARTICIPATION

- 17.1 Record of Participation must be completed online at ts.hssailing.org by 2000 on the last day of the regatta.

18. BREAKDOWNS

- 18.1 Breakdowns will be handled in accordance with ISSA Procedural Rule 9 and Appendix 3. Requests for breakdown redress must be filed within 30 minutes of returning ashore after the affected race.

19. COACHING

- 19.1 Coaching is not permitted on the water. All coaching shall take place from shore.
- 19.2 Spectators and support persons shall remain at least 100 yards from the racing area and shall have no contact or communication with any competitor except when rendering assistance under RRS Rule 1 or as directed by the race committee.

20. PARTICIPATION

- 20.1 With the exception of RRS Rule 4, each school shall compete in all scheduled races. Any school breaking this rule, without permission of the Race Committee, is subject to severe disciplinary actions by the PCISA.
- 20.2 Unless competing, no competitor shall be on the water.

21. TROPHIES

- 21.1 Trophies will be awarded to teams placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in both Gold and Silver fleets.

22. ADULT IN CHARGE

- 22.1 Each sailor must be chaperoned at all times during this event by a designated Adult in Charge. That adult shall be responsible for the conduct of their sailors and for safety decisions. This Adult in Charge must also comply with ISSA Procedural Rule 1.3 (<https://hssailing.org/documents/2025-2028-ISSA-ProcedureRules.pdf>).

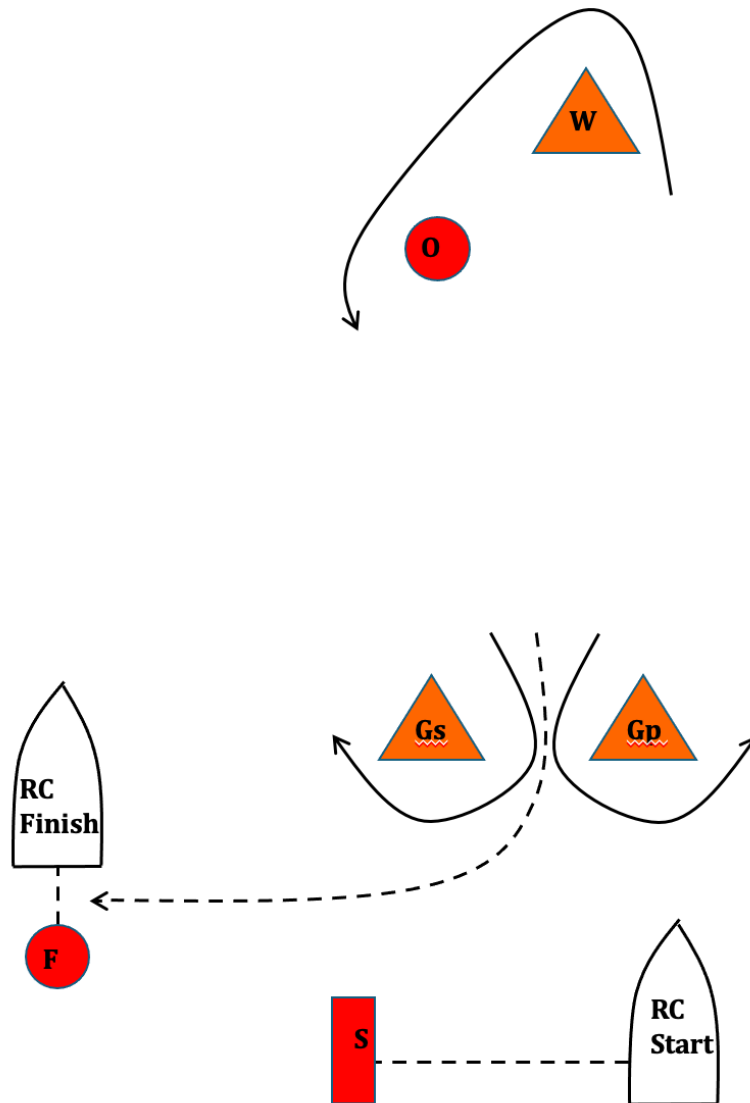
23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY & RISK STATEMENT

- 23.1 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. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

Addendum A

Course #	Course
1	Start – Wp – Op – Gs – Finish
2	Start – Wp – Op – Gate – Wp – Op – Gs – Finish

At the leeward gate, boats may round either Gate Port (GP) or Gate Starboard (GS) and proceed upwind. On the final lap, all boats finish by rounding Gate Starboard (GS) to starboard and sailing to the finish line between the RC Finish boat and mark F.



Course #	Upwind Finish Courses
3	Start – Wp – Op – Gate – Finish
4	Start – Wp – Op – Gate – Wp – Op – Gate – Finish

