

Race Committee Race Day Guide

Before the skippers meeting

- Get the race committee boat ready.
 - Inflate the marks.
 - Take the signal flags from the clubhouse to the boat.
 - Take the signal horn from the clubhouse to the boat.
 - Verify there is enough gas for the day.
 - Start the motor. Get help if it won't start.
- At the clubhouse, get the signup sheet ready and put it on the table on the deck or inside.

Skippers meeting

- Announce the event. For example, "Welcome to Pursuit 1."
- Introduce yourself and the rest of the race committee.
- Ask if everyone has signed up and paid. There will usually be a club officer there to take the money. There is no entry fee for first-time racers.
- Welcome newcomers and visitors.
- Describe the course you plan to set.
- Give the local weather forecast if you know it.
- Ask if the starting sequence needs to be reviewed.
- Ask if there are any questions or announcements.
- If the wind is light, ask the skippers of boats without motors if they need a tow.

Before leaving the marina on the race committee boat

- Take the signup sheet to the RC boat.
- Be sure you have a watch. No handicap racing can be done without one.

At the racing area before the race

- Set the course marks and both ends of the starting line.
- Display the orange flag to designate the boat end of the starting line.
- Display the course and the mark rounding direction. Be sure this reads correctly from the competitors' standpoint.
- Display the answering pennant and make two sounds.

Begin the starting sequence

- At six minutes before the start, no flag and five horn sounds.
- At five minutes before the start, display the white flag with one horn sound. This is the warning signal, also known as the class flag.
- At four minutes before the start, display the blue with white square flag with one horn sound. This is the preparatory signal.
- At one minute before the start, lower the preparatory signal with one horn sound.
- At the start, lower the warning signal with one horn sound. If anyone was over the line before the starting signal, display the X flag (white with blue cross.) If many boats are over

early, display the general recall flag (blue and yellow triangular pennant) and do another starting sequence.

- After most or all the boats have started, take a wind reading and write it on the score sheet.

During the race

- SAFETY is most important. Watch for collisions, capsizes, sailor overboard. Assist when you think it's needed. You don't have to weigh anchor; tie something that floats to the anchor line and leave it where it is. Then go help.
- Watch for approaching bad weather. If bad weather threatens, abandon the race. Display the N flag- blue and white checkerboard with three sounds.
- Watch for anyone who has decided not to continue racing. Competitors will usually notify the race committee, but they are not required to do so.
- As each boat finishes, record its finishing time.

Shortening the course

- Display the S flag- white with blue square with two sounds. Try to do this before the first boat has reached what will be the final leg of the course. See RRS Rule 32 for more info.

When racing is finished for the day

- Retrieve the pin and the marks.
- If you come upon motorless boats on the way back to the marina, ask if they need a tow.
- Immediately after the RC boat docks, make one sound. This starts the 1hour period when protests can be lodged.
- After the motor has stopped, raise the foot out of the water. Stow the equipment that was used.
- Take the flags to the clubhouse and return the key to the desk drawer in the computer room.
- Post the score sheet on a billboard in the clubhouse. Also, take a picture of the results and email them to race@brownscreeksailingassociation.org .
- Report any equipment or other issues to the race committee chairperson.