



SOCAL 300 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Santa Barbara Yacht Club & San Diego Yacht Club
May 28 - 30, 2026

1. RULES

- 1.1. All boats will be governed by the *rules* as described in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2. All boats shall monitor VHF Ch. 16 and satellite communications for the duration of the race.
- 1.3. **All boats are encouraged to reference the Notice of Race section 1 – RULES, section 6 – SAFETY, and section 7 – POSITION TRANSPONDER for *rules* changes in effect while racing.**
- 1.4. RRS 55.3 Sheeting Sails is modified to allow the use of declared whisker poles or outriggers attached to the hull for the purpose of setting headsails. This does NOT permit using such poles/outriggers on Large Roach Headsails.
- 1.5. RRS 62 Redress: RRS 62.1 is modified by adding the following: “(e) being directed by a government authority to deviate from her proper course.”
- 1.6. US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.1 and 63.2 do not apply.
- 1.7. RRS 64.2, Penalties, is modified by adding: (c) “it may assign a time penalty to be added to the boat’s corrected time as indicated by ‘SCP’.”
- 1.8. **Per NOR 1.19 [NP] [DP]** AIS (SER 3.9) will be required equipment and operational per RRS 56.3 for Coastal Cup and SoCal 300.
- 1.9. **[DP]** Boats are required to activate their AIS units no later 1200 PST on Thursday May 28, and transmit in compliance with SER 3.9 and RRS 56.3 while underway until after crossing the finishing line.
- 1.10. **[DP]** Race Committee will confirm each boat’s AIS operability before their start. Boats whose signals are not identified will be contacted as soon as possible prior the start, via VHF 69 or registered contact phone number.
- 1.11. **[DP]** Any boat retiring from the race or requesting outside assistance shall continue to operate their AIS as required until such time as they have reached safe harbor.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board online (www.offshoraceweek.com).
- 2.2. Changes to the SIs:
Any change to the SIs made prior to 1800, Wednesday May 27, 2026 will be posted to the official notice board online. Any change to the SIs made after 1800, Wednesday May 27, 2026 will be announced at the skippers’ meeting and then posted to the official notice board online.

3. POSITION TRANSPONDER

- 3.1. Per NOR 7.1, required position transponders will be available Thursday, May 28, at the conclusion of the 0900 skippers’ meeting at Santa Barbara Yacht Club. Boats competing in previous events of the 2026 California Offshore Race Week will reuse their assigned trackers from the previous races.



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- 3.2. After the race, transponders should be dropped off at the SDYC Sailing Office or Front Desk between 0900 and 1700, or SDYC Security Gate prior to Sunday, May 31, 2026. If for any reason you are unable to complete the race and return to a port other than San Diego, please return the tracker by mail no later than Monday June 8, 2026 to *San Diego Yacht Club, 1011 Anchorage Lane, San Diego, CA 92106, Attn: Sailing Office.*

4. SCHEDULE

Divisions, Flags, and Scheduled warning times are as follows:

Division(s)	Division Signal	Warning Time
E & Ez	Numeral Pennant '1'	1255
D	Numeral Pennant '2'	1305
C	Numeral Pennant '3'	1315
B	Numeral Pennant '4'	1325
A	Numeral Pennant '5'	1335

5. CHECK-IN

- 5.1. Check in will be via roll call at the skippers' meeting at SBYC at 0900 on Thursday, May 28, 2026.

6. MARKS

Mark	Mark Description
Start	Marks "G" and "X" are white cylinders w/ yellow reflective markings
A	White cylinder buoy w/ yellow tetrahedron attached
Islands	Santa Rosa Island to starboard, Santa Cruz Island to port
ODAS	Waypoint @ 32 23.30n / 119 31.50w = ODAS 46047 buoy in vicinity
Virtual Finish	Waypoint @ 32 36.760n / 117 26.0w = Finish Mark North Waypoint @ 32 35.780n / 117 26.0w = Finish Mark South
	▪ <u>NOTE: ODAS Weather Buoy 46047 swings on a radius approx. 0.7 nm around listed waypoint. The buoy is listed for visual reference only and is NOT a mark of the course.</u>

7. THE COURSE – SEE ATTACHMENT A AND B –

- 7.1. SoCal 300 start will be in the vicinity of Point Castillo and Santa Barbara Yacht Club.
7.2. Start per SI 9
7.3. Leave "Mark A" to port (for reference only: approx. 34 23.229n / 119 43.167w)
7.4. Pass between Santa Rosa Island and Santa Cruz Island



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- 7.5. Leave waypoint for ODAS Buoy to port
- 7.6. Finish between virtual waypoints in SI 6.

8. AREAS OF POTENTIAL CONCERN

- 8.1. The RC strongly urges boats to consult the preamble to RRS Part 2 and all current applicable navigation charts, Local Notices to Mariners, and Light Lists for Aids to Navigation to prudently navigate around and past the features of this course.
- 8.2. It is reported that the starting area Mark G is in 37' of water, and Mark X is in 52' of water. Please consult relevant navigational charts and boat instrumentation when navigating in the vicinity of the start area.
- 8.3. Approximately 13 miles offshore after the start, all vessels will be crossing the Traffic Separation Scheme which controls inbound/outbound deep draft commercial vessel traffic for LA Harbor. It is critical not to interfere with their course or interrupt their operation. See NOR 1.13.
- 8.4. San Nicholas Island is a designated US Naval weapons testing range. There may be military exercises planned for this area, and if so, an alternate course would be announced as soon as it is determined. Vessels transiting this area should maintain watch on VHF 16 for concerned traffic. Additionally, sea state, coastal features, and underwater obstructions should be taken into consideration for prudent navigation and safety of vessels in this area.
- 8.5. Begg Rock is a small visible rock pile that rises only 10-15' above the surface. The rock pile is generally referenced at 33 21.72N / 119 41.7W and lies close to the rhumb line between the passage through the Santa Cruz Islands and the turning mark at ODAS 46047. Begg Rock is located 8.8 nm northwest of San Nicholas Island. Sea state, swell patterns, vessel dimensions, and additional underwater obstructions should be taken into consideration for prudent navigation and safety of vessels passing this area. Please transit this area with caution.
- 8.6. San Clemente Island is a designated US Naval weapons testing range. There may be military exercises planned for this area, and if so, an alternate course would be announced as soon as it is determined. Vessels transiting this area should maintain watch on VHF 16 for concerned traffic. In addition, sea state, coastal features, and underwater obstructions should be taken into consideration for prudent navigation and safety of vessels in this area.
- 8.7. Cortez Bank/Bishop Rock (CB 1) is a submerged pinnacle surrounded by open ocean. Shoal water may exist. Sea state, swell patterns, vessel dimensions, and underwater obstructions should be taken into consideration for prudent navigation and safety of vessels passing this area. Please transit this area with caution.
- 8.8. From ODAS 46047 to the finish, contact with the US Navy is possible. They may be conducting operations to the north or to the south of the rhumb line to the finish. Emphasis is directed to maintain radio watch on VHF 16 and race channel VHF 69 at these times.
- 8.9. When approaching San Diego Channel markers "SD" and "SD3", note there is significant kelp growth approximately 1 – 1.5nm to the north of rhumbline btw ODAS lat/lon and Channel marker SD. Please navigate responsibly when approaching this area.



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9. THE START

- 9.1. The starting line will be between physical Mark G and Mark X, located outside the Santa Barbara Harbor breakwater. See Attachment A for approximate reference coordinates and positioning. The RC will be sighting the line from the clubhouse on shore.
- 9.2. The warning signal for each class shall be her class designator pennant as described in SI section 4, displayed from the yardarm on the upper deck of Santa Barbara YC.
- 9.3. As a courtesy, the RC will attempt to hail any boat it identifies as OCS via VHF 69. Failure to make a hail or failure of communications equipment will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

10. THE FINISH

- 10.1. The finishing line will be a virtual line approximately 1 nm long and extending between lat/lon identified in SI 6 above.
- 10.2. A boat's YB Tracker will automatically transmit a lat/lon and PST time when it crosses the finish line. This data will be used to determine a boat's finish time. [NP/DP]
- 10.3. Boats are required to document the time they pass through the finish per SI 14.1.

11. WITHDRAWAL

- 11.1. A boat retiring from the race or experiencing any type of critical mechanical or medical emergency that could affect their anticipated time on the course or requiring assistance after finishing shall notify the RC via email (email sailing@sdyc.org AND sdycsailing@gmail.com) of their situation as soon as practical. Please include nature of withdraw, status of crew, destination, and eta. [NP/DP]
- 11.2. If an email is not possible, please notify the SDYC Sailing Office (619-758-6310) or the Security Gate (619-758-6322) at the earliest opportunity. Also please reference SI 3.2 for returning race tracker.

12. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 12.1. Appendix T – ARBITRATION is in effect.
- 12.2. Hearing Request forms will be available on the notice board at SDYC located on the east side (facing the water) of the Sailing Center and the online notice board at www.offshoreraceweek.com. Score inquires, protests, and requests for redress shall be delivered in writing or by email (via txt/photo of same) to protests@sdyc.org AND sdycsailing@gmail.com within the appropriate time limit.
- 12.3. Scoring Inquiries, notices of protests, and requests for redress filed will be posted and updated as quickly as possible to inform boats of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Dockside room located on the first floor of the Sailing Center at SDYC and may be heard as soon as the parties are available.
- 12.4. Notices of protest by the RC or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2(b)(4).
- 12.5. The protest time limit for each boat is 4 hours after they finish. This changes RRS 60.3(b).



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- 12.6. Hearings will be heard by an Arbitrator, and if necessary, a protest committee. The approximate order and time of hearings will be posted on the event website and sent to individual emails provided on the Protest form and/or on regatta registration form. It is the responsibility of each boat to check the schedule and attend the hearing in a timely manner with all parties and witnesses in order. The Arbitrator or Protest Committee is not responsible for searching for parties or their witnesses.
- 12.7. Hearings not settled by Arbitration will be heard by a protest committee and will be scheduled in agreement with parties to the hearing.
- 12.8. Hearings will be held either in person or by ZOOM web conference and may be heard as soon as the parties are available.
- 12.9. A request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the party was informed of the decision. This changes RRS 63.7(b).

13. SCORING

- 13.1. All boats will be scored using the TCF numbers derived from the California Offshore Wind Matrix, using the boats' valid 2026 ORR certificates.
- 13.2. ORR-EZ boats will be scored in class only and are not eligible for Overall honors. All other boats' overall scores will be their positions, based on corrected time figured using the time-on-time method, utilizing the TCF number for the boat.

14. DOCUMENTATION

- 14.1. Boats are required to legibly document their finish time/position with a photo or screen shot of their navigation equipment showing Pacific Daylight Time (from GPS), and simultaneously the lat/lon of their boat at that point.
This image shall be emailed to sailing@sdyc.org and sdycsailing@gmail.com as soon as possible, but no later than two (2) hours after finishing. Please be sure to include the Boat Name in the subject line of your email. ***Send your reported finish time in the body of the email. Please turn flash off, and review your pictures to ensure the data is legible.***
- 14.2. If 2 hours after finishing, email or text is still unavailable, please either stop by the SDYC Sailing Office in person or call the SDYC Sailing Office at 619-758-6310 and leave a voicemail with the following information: **caller name and phone number, boat name, sail number, finish time.** Remember to speak slowly and clearly and repeat your contact number. Boats failing to supply finishing times will be given interpolated times from the tracker or may not be scored. Dropped calls, poor connections, or wrong numbers may affect your finish time.
- 14.3. In the event of a significant discrepancy between a boat's reported finish time compared with that reported by the YB Tracker, a competitor may file a scoring inquiry. It will be up to the discretion of the RC in conjunction with the Protest Committee (PC) to determine the finish time to be used. Evidence may be requested, which may include but is not limited to: A boat's navigation software log file, testimony or evidence from other boats, race tracker, AIS logs, etc.



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15. PRIZES

- 15.1. The Offshore Race Week & SoCal 300 Awards ceremony day/time will be announced at the skippers' meeting for the SoCal300 race and will be based on the weather forecast and anticipated finish times.
- 15.2. Take home trophies will be awarded as described in NOR 16.

16. DISCLAIMER

- 16.1. No claim is made or implied that observance of these safety requirements will prevent injury, death, or loss of property. Neither the establishment of these safety regulations, their use by race organizers, nor the inspection or absence of inspection of a boat for compliance with these safety regulations in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the person in charge, as per RRS 46, who shall ensure that the boat is seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew with sufficient ability and experience to face bad weather. S/he shall be satisfied as to the soundness of hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. S/he shall ensure that all safety equipment is at all times properly maintained and safely stowed and that the crew knows where it is kept and how it is to be used.”
See USSER 1.2.

CONTACTS

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Principal Race Officer
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U.S Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center
VHF 16
24-hour Emergency Contact: 510-437-3700

Vessel Assist Catalina Island/ Boat US
Avalon, CA
24-hour Contact: 3 10-510-1675



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Attachment A - Start Area Detail



Approximate location for
Start Area Marks
For reference only

G: N34 24.023 W119 41.442
X: N34 23.765 W119 41.270
A: N34 23.229 W119 43.167



Attachment B – Finish Detail

Approximate location for
Virtual Finish Waypoints
For reference only

