

California Offshore Race Week
2026 SPINNAKER CUP
San Francisco to Monterey,
California

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 This event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 The COLREGS Navigation Rules will apply including Inland Navigation Rule 9 - A sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. If a vessel or the Coast Guard reports a violation of these Navigation Rules, the race committee may protest the boat. Evidence by report need not be provided in person to be considered by the protest committee. The Encinal Yacht Club (EYC), Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club (MPYC), and St. Francis Yacht Club (StFYC) will cooperate with and provide information relevant to any investigations of a violation of the Navigation Rules to the US Coast Guard, or other government authority.
- 1.3 Sailing Instructions may be changed on the water by displaying an L flag and communicating the change over VHF channel 69 before the first warning.
- 1.4 If there is any disagreement between the NOR and the sailing instructions, the sailing instructions shall take precedence. This changes RRS 63.5(c).
- 1.5 Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or" This also changes NoR 1 - Rules.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors prior to the start will be posted on the CORW Series website (official notice board) no later than 12 hours before they are to take effect. The NOR, SIs, and amendments thereto will be posted online at www.offshoreraceweek.com.
- 2.2 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located at the StFYC Race Deck.

3 RACE SCHEDULE AND CLASS FLAGS

- 3.1 The first warning signal is scheduled for 10:40 on Saturday, May 23, 2026.
- 3.2 The expected starting order and class flags are as follows. Class flags will be international code flags.

Class	Class Flag
PHRF-1	Code Flag 1
PHRF-2	Code Flag 2
Multihull	Code Flag 0
PHRF-3	Code Flag 3
Express 37	Class Flag
PHRF-4	Code Flag 4
PHRF-5	Code Flag 5
PHRF-6	Code Flag 6
PHRF-7	Code Flag 7
DoubleHanded	Code Flag 8

- 3.3 Class assignments can be found on the California Offshore Race Week website by 20:00 Thursday May 21, 2026 <https://offshoreraceweek.com/>.

4 RACING AREA AND COURSE

- 4.1 The start will be located in the San Francisco Bay in the area adjacent to the StFYC located near Marina Green, west of Ft. Mason on the San Francisco City Front.
- 4.2 The course to be sailed will be displayed as a yellow number on a black field at the bottom of the yellow start-line placard on the St Francis Race Deck. The course may also be announced over radio.
- 4.3 **Course 1** will be from the starting line to the finish line off Monterey Harbor Light #6 in Monterey, approximately 84 nautical miles.
- 4.4 **Course 2** will be from the starting line to the Golden Gate Main Ship Channel Buoy R8, Fl R2.5s whistle (approx. 6 NM at 242 degrees from the Golden Gate Bridge), leaving the buoy to port, then to the finish line off Monterey Harbor Light #6 in Monterey, approximately 87 nautical miles.
- 4.5 On both courses, each line bound by the following two points is designated an *obstruction*. The penalty for crossing any of these obstructions is to retire. Addendum 'Areas that are obstructions', below, will visualize the obstructions.
 - 4.5.1 Anita Rock Light located approximately 0.30nm west of StFYC ("Anita Rock" Q 20ft 5M) and the closest point ashore.
 - 4.5.2 Anita Rock Light and "ARo" (located approximately 45 yards at 350 degrees from Anita Rock Light).
 - 4.5.3 Yellow buoy "ARo" as defined above and the closest point ashore.
 - 4.5.4 The "H" Beam piling and the closest point ashore (located approximately 200 yards west of StFYC)
 - 4.5.5 StFYC inner mark "B" and the closest point ashore.
 - 4.5.6 Any rock visible at mean lower low water adjacent to the Marin County or San Francisco shorelines, and the closest point ashore.
 - 4.5.7 The South Tower of the Golden Gate Bridge and the closest point ashore.
 - 4.5.8 Mile Rock, and the closest point ashore.

5 PRE-START CHECK-IN

- 5.1 All boats shall check in with the race committee on **VHF 69** between the hours of 0940 and 1030 using the boat's primary fixed radio with masthead antenna. This communication is required to verify proper radio functionality and will include questions to confirm the "Crew Corner" list of persons on board is correct. Check-in is not complete until a boat receives confirmation from the race committee. **Failure to complete this communication successfully shall result in a score of DNC.** This changes RRS 61.1 and A5.
- 5.2 [DP] Inspections may be made before the start for compliance with the Safety Equipment Requirements. If selected, the RC will come alongside the boat and request items to be shown for inspection. Boats that do not pass the inspection will be protested by the Race Committee.

6 THE START

- 6.1 NOR 1.14 is changed to read: The definition of Start is changed under World Sailing Test Rule DR21-01 as follows: i) Start: A boat starts when her hull having been entirely on the prestart side of the starting line, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side either (a) at or after her starting signal, or (b) during the last 15 minutes before her starting signal. ii) When a boat starts in accordance with item (b) of the definition Start, she may return to the pre-start side of the line to comply with item (a) of the definition of Start, but, if she does not, the starting penalty shall be to add one hour to her elapsed time.
- 6.2 The starting line will be between buoy "A" off of StFYC, or a yellow temporary buoy set in its place, and the yellow placard on the StFYC race deck.
- 6.3 If flag "R" is displayed from the StFYC flagpole before the first warning, races will be started over the radio, without any other visual or sound signals, by announcing the warning, preparatory, 1-minute and start for each class on VHF channel 69. This changes RRS 26, 27, 29 and 30.

6.4 [DP] After crossing under the Golden Gate Bridge, all boats are requested to change to VHF 16.

7 PRE-FINISH CHECK-IN

[DP] Approximately 2 nm prior to their finish, all boats shall check in with the race committee using VHF 69 or (if VHF unsuccessful) phone number 831-277-7056 (call or text).

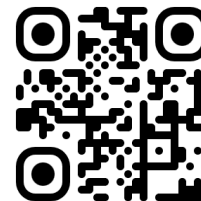
8 THE FINISH

8.1 The finish line is a line between 36° 36.51'N by 121° 53.38'W and 36° 36.51'N by 121° 53.18'W. For visual reference, the north end corresponds approximately to Monterey Harbor Light #6 at the end of the jetty. Skippers are advised to check their charts and on-board navigation instruments to verify the exact location of the finish line. The stated lat/lons define the line.

8.2 Skippers are advised that the Monterey Harbor Light #6 is not at the extreme east end of the jetty, and is surrounded by rocks. Skippers should also be on the lookout for fishing vessels anchored in the mooring field adjacent to Municipal Wharf 2. Addendum 'The Finish Line' is provided for reference, not for navigation.

8.3 A boat's YB tracker will transmit a lat/lon and time when it crosses the finish line. This data will be used to report a boat's finish time. There will be no committee boat on station.

8.4 At her finish, each boat shall record her finish time and position electronically (for example by setting a waypoint or photographing a GPS display) and shall log the time. After her finish, each boat shall transmit her boat name, sail number, and observed finish time to the messaging system at 415-BE-SALTY (415-237-2589, see QR code) or corw@sdyc.org. The electronically-recorded data shall be made available to the RC on request for up to one week after finishing.



8.5 All boats shall contact the race committee using VHF 69 immediately after finishing.

8.6 After crossing the finishing line, all boats that have reserved a berth in Monterey Marina shall switch to VHF 1005 (Old 5A) for pilot guidance to their slip.

8.7 [DP] Boats may be selected for inspection after the finish for compliance with the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements. If selected, the RC will contact the boat at the finishing line on VHF 1005 (Old 5A) and arrangements will be made for the inspection. Boats that do not pass the inspection may be protested by the race committee. A boat may be selected at both the start and the finish.

9 PENALTY SYSTEM

The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, will apply. The penalty will be 10 minutes added to the boat's finish time. A yellow flag is not required, but a boat taking a penalty shall notify the race committee at the finish line. This changes RRS 44.3.

10 TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the race will be 1600 on Sunday, May 24, 2026.

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 require assistance after finishing, shall (in addition to USCG if required) notify the RC via cell phone call or text on 831-277-7056, VHF 69, or email vicecommadore@mpyc.org of their situation as soon as practical. Please include the nature of withdrawal, status of crew, destinations and ETA.

11.2 If immediate contact with the RC is not possible by the above means, please notify the RC at the earliest opportunity.

12 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 12.1 The protest time limit is 2 hours after the protesting boat finishes. If the protesting boat does not finish, her protest time limit is two hours after the last boat in her class finishes. This constitutes the time limit mentioned in the first sentence of RRS 60.3(b) and RRS 61.2(b).
- 12.2 A boat intending to protest or request for redress is requested to notify the committee of her intent at 415-BE-SALTY (415-237-2589) or corw@sdyc.org. This does not constitute a filing of protest. Protests or requests for redress may be dropped off at the concierge desk inside MPYC or emailed to both vicecommandore@mpyc.org and gwmeagher@gmail.com.
- 12.3 Notices will be posted within one hour after the receipt of a protest or request for redress on the Notice Board at the MPYC. The time and place of the hearing will be noted there.
- 12.4 The protest committee will schedule hearings in the order it determines. The hearing schedule will be transmitted via email and or text message directly to the parties. This shall constitute the notification required by RRS 63.1(a).
- 12.5 The protest committee will hold hearings via Zoom video conference. Parties and witnesses are expected to join the meeting when it commences. Witnesses will be placed in the (virtual) Waiting Room on Zoom until called upon for testimony. The use of headsets is recommended, particularly if joining a hearing from a location where background noise cannot be controlled.
- 12.6 Notices of any other protests by a committee will also be posted. This constitutes the notification required by RRS 63.1(a).
- 12.7 It is the sole responsibility of each boat involved to be ready and have witnesses available when the hearing is called.

13 SCORING

After the last sentence of RRS Appendix A3 add: Unless the rules of the handicap system make a different arrangement, the corrected time for a boat will be rounded to the nearest second, .5 seconds rounding up to the next higher integer.

14 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

The race committee may broadcast information about the day's racing, and OCS boats, on VHF 69. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, the hail of some but not all OCS boats, the untimely hail of some or all OCS boats or failure to hail any or all boats shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 61.1.

15 PRIZES

- 15.1 Trophies will be awarded to the top finishers in each class, with the number of trophies depending on the number of entries per class. The trophy presentation will be held at MPYC at 1200 hours, or as soon as practicable on Sunday, May 24, 2026. The time will be posted on the Spinnaker Cup Bulletin Board at MPYC.
- 15.2 Prizes not claimed at the prize giving ceremony will remain with the organizing authority.

16 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authorities and their volunteers 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.

17 RIGHTS TO USE NAME, LIKENESS, AND PERSONAL DATA

- 17.1 By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without

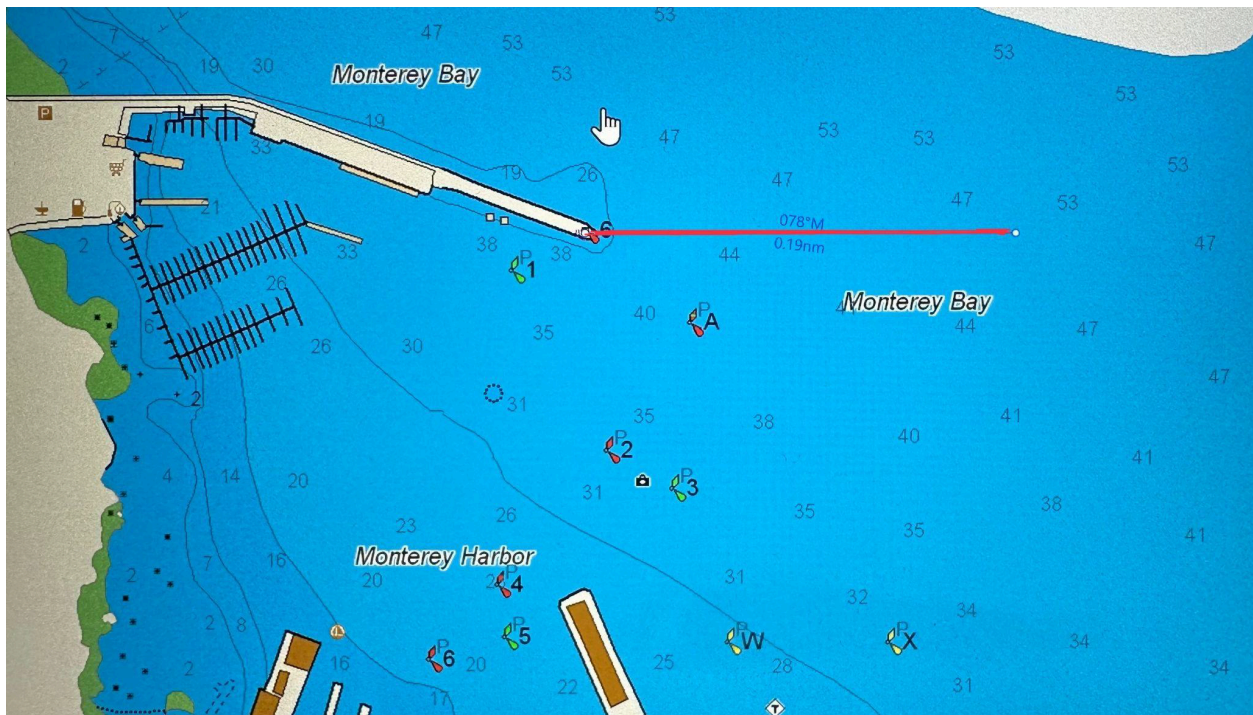
compensation.

- 17.2 Additionally, competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority and race officials the right to use their personal contact information, including but not limited to a current email address and cell phone number, for the purpose of race administration and race communications.

Regatta Co-Chairs and Principal Race Officer (PRO) and Jury Chair:

Heidi Hall (MPYC)	831-320-2481	vicecommodore@mpyc.org
Brendan McNally (EYC)	510-289-1193	vicecommodore@encinal.org
Michael Moradzadeh (StFYC)	415-378-3947	offshore@yachtpc.com
Richard Reitmeyer (PRO)	650-380-0449	rareitmeyer@gmail.com
Greg Meagher (Jury Chair)	510-541-2543	gwmeagher@gmail.com

Addendum 'The Finish Line'



Addendum 'Areas that are obstructions'

