

Optimist Harken Challenge Series, Regatta #2

April 11-12, 2026
The San Francisco Yacht Club
Belvedere, California



HARKEN[®]
INNOVATIVE SAILING SOLUTIONS

Sailing Instructions

(Notice of Race attached at end of SIs)

1 Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board. Changes may be announced and posted immediately after the competitors' meeting. On Sunday, any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 hours. Any changes in schedule will be posted by 1800 hours on the day before they are to take effect.

2 Communications with Competitors

Notices will be posted on the official notice board located on the outside wall next to the SFYC youth classroom.

3 Signals Made Ashore

3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole near the youth dock.

3.2 Flag AP with two sound signals means "The racing is postponed. Do not leave the harbor." When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signal 'AP'.

4 Class Flag

4.1 The class flag for the Championship Fleet will be a white flag with a blue Optimist insignia.

4.2 The Green Fleet will not have a class flag, they will use RRS Appendix U (Audible-Signal Racing System).

5 Course

5.1 The Green Fleet courses will be described at the Green Fleet meeting.

5.2 The diagram attached (Addendum 1) displays the Championship Fleet course: Start-1-2-3s/3p-Finish. All marks shall be left to port, except the starboard gate (3s).

5.3 [DP] Boats that have finished shall stay well clear of all boats racing.

6 Marks

6.1 Rounding marks 1, 2, and 3s/3p (gate) will be red inflatable cones.

6.2 If one of the gate marks is missing boats shall leave the remaining mark to port.

6.3 The marks for the Green Fleet will be orange balls.

7 The Start

7.1 For the Championship Fleet all color divisions will start and be scored together.

7.2 The starting line will be between a staff or halyard displaying an orange flag on the RC Signal Boat, at the starboard end, and a yellow inflatable conical buoy at the port end.

7.3 In the Championship Fleet boats observed OCS at the start will NOT be announced verbally by the race committee.

- 7.4 The Green Fleet will start using RRS Appendix U (Audible-Signal Racing System).
- 7.5 A boat shall not start later than 4 minutes after her starting signal.

8 Change of the Next Leg of the Course

To change the position of the next mark, the race committee may move the next mark (or move the finishing line) and signal in accordance with rule 33. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain the course configuration.

9 The Finish

The finishing line will be between Mark 2 and a staff or halyard displaying a blue flag on the finishing boat.

10 Time Limit

- 10.1 The time limit will be 75 minutes for the first boat to sail the course and finish.
- 10.2 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored DNF. This changes rule 35.

11 Hearing Requests

- 11.1 All hearing requests shall be filed at the SFYC Race Office no later than 45 minutes after the Race Committee boat docking time. The docking time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 11.2 Hearings will be heard in the approximate order of receipt. The time and place of hearings will be posted within thirty minutes after the end of protest time. This is the notice required by RRS 63.1.

12 Safety Regulations

- 12.1 **Each competitor shall wear USCG approved lifejackets, properly secured at all times.** A whistle shall be attached to the life jacket. A loop shall also be tied at the end of the painter/tow line.
- 12.2 [DP] If a competitor leaves the racing area before the end of racing each day, he/she shall notify the race committee or a support boat before retiring. If someone is unable to notify the race committee afloat, they shall notify the Race Office ashore before leaving the harbor area. Failure to comply with this sailing instruction may make the sailor ineligible to sail at this regatta again.
- 12.3 All boats must comply with USODA measurement rules and are subject to inspection at any time during the regatta by the jury. This includes (but is not limited to) all boats must have a proper bow line and bailer.
- 12.4 Competitors shall use one sail, one set of spars, one rudder, one daggerboard and one hull for the duration of the regatta. The PRO may permit substitution of equipment with written approval.

13 [DP] Support Teams

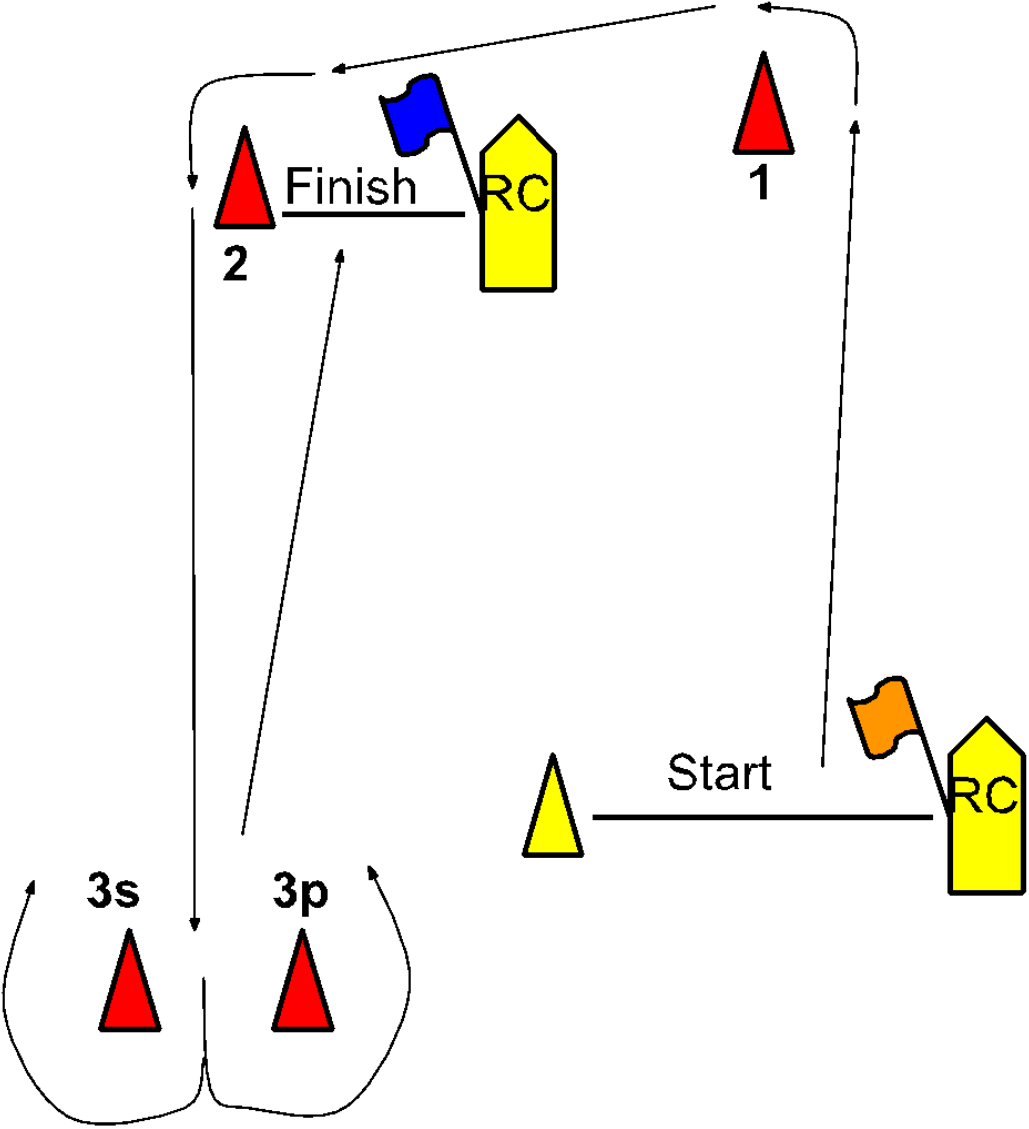
- 13.1 All support boats must also act as safety boats. All support boats must have adequate first aid and safety gear aboard, as well as a marine VHF radio monitoring channel USA 65A (1065).
- 13.2 Coaches, spectators, and other support personnel shall not enter the championship racing area while boats are racing. Green Fleet coaching guidelines apply (coaching the trailing half of the fleet is allowed during the race). The penalty for failing to comply with any requirement of this

section may be any penalty prescribed by the jury, up to disqualification from the regatta, for the sailor(s) associated with the infringing parties.

14 Prizes

- 14.1 Prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers overall, as well as the top three finishers in each fleet: Red, White, Blue.
- 14.2 All Green Fleet sailors will receive a participation award.

Addendum 1
Course Diagram



Notice of Race

The regatta will be organized and hosted by The San Francisco Yacht Club: 98 Beach Rd, Belvedere, CA.

1 Rules

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 [DP] All participants in this regatta shall wear a US Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing other clothing.
Violation of this rule will result in a protest by the race committee, resulting in a protest committee decision up to disqualification from the entire regatta.

2 Sailing Instructions

Sailing instructions will be available online after 1800 hours on Wednesday, April 8. There will be no printed version available.

3 Eligibility and Entry

- 3.1 This regatta is open to all boats that meet the International Optimist Class Rules.
- 3.2 **Eligible boats may enter by completing the online entry found at www.sfyc.org under On the Water > Regattas. A late fee of \$25 will apply after April 8. No entries will be accepted after 1700 on April 10. There will be NO ON-SITE registration.**
- 3.3 There will be a Green fleet.
- 3.4 Red, White and Blue fleets will be determined by the USODA rules.

4 Fees

- 4.1 The entry fee is \$80 and includes trophies for winners, and a BBQ after racing on Saturday and snacks on Sunday.
- 4.2 Payment shall be made by credit card online at the time of registration.

5 Schedule

Friday	All Day	Early arrival (Docks and venue open for practice all day)
Saturday	1000	Competitors' meeting (Green fleet meeting to follow)
	1200	First warning (3 races scheduled for Champs)
		Snacks dockside after racing
Sunday	1000	Green fleet meeting
	1200	First warning (3 races scheduled for Champs)
	1600	No initial warning for a race after this time
		Trophies and snacks after racing

6 Venue

- 6.1 The primary race area for the Championship Fleet will be Southampton/Berkeley Circle. In the event of extreme conditions Richardson Bay or Belvedere Cove may be used as alternate race areas.
- 6.2 The Green Fleet will race in Belvedere Cove, or Richardson Bay if there is not wind in the Cove.

7 Courses

- 7.1 The courses will be described in the sailing instructions, and will be the "Optimist Trapezoid"

with an upwind finish for the Championship Fleet.

- 7.2 The green fleet will race windward/leeward and triangle courses, as announced at the green fleet meeting and on the water.

8 Scoring

- 8.1 When fewer than 5 races are completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 5 or more races are completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 8.2 6 races are scheduled. 1 completed race will constitute a regatta.

9 Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk and subject to the terms and conditions of the SFYC liability waiver.

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.

10 Parking

Parking at The San Francisco Yacht Club will be limited to SFYC Members and visiting trailers. Trailers will need to be parked in the south end of the lot as tightly together as possible. Non-Member vehicles may enter the parking lot for drop off only, but must park at a nearby lot or on the street. Coachboats may be launched at SFYC. Coachboats must be docked on the west side of the white dock across from the north hoist.

11 Additional Information

SFYC Contact: Abby Featherstone, youth@sfyc.org, or 415-435-9525

PRO: Forrest Gay, forrest@sfyc.org

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SOCIAL EVENTS AND SPECIAL CLUB RULES

- There will be a BBQ on Saturday after racing at the Cove House. Competitors', siblings, and coaches meals are included.
- All competitors and guests must abide by all of the special Club rules that may be in effect, while on Club property (ie: docks, parking lot, clubhouse/deck, etc).