

2012 Optimist Harken Challenge Series, Regatta #2 Northern California Opti Winter Series #5

April 14-15
The San Francisco Yacht Club
Belvedere, California



Sailing Instructions



1 Rules

- 1.1 The regatta shall be governed by the current *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS 2009-2012), the Notice of Race (except as changed by these Sailing Instructions), the rules of USODA, and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 RRS 40.1 is changed as follows: All competitors are required to wear USCG approved lifejackets while on the water, the “Y” flag will not be displayed.

2 Entries

Complete registration with The San Francisco Yacht Club to enter eligible boats. The entry fee is \$40 per sailor for entries received by 1700 on April 13. A \$20 late fee will be charged for registrations received after 1700 on April 13. Competitors must not be older than 15 years of age by the end of 2012 and all competitors in the Championship Fleets must be members of USODA or their national Optimist class organization.

3 Notices to Competitors, Changes to the Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Notices will be posted on the official notice board at the picnic table area.
- 3.2 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 at 1000 hrs. April 14. On April 15, any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 1000 hrs.

4 Schedule

Friday, April 13	1700	Early registration deadline
	All day	Docks and venue open for practice
Saturday, April 14	0830	Check-in/Registration opens
	0945	Registration closes
	1000	Competitors’ meeting (Green fleet meeting to follow)
	1200	First warning. (4 races scheduled)
	After racing	Hot snacks dockside
Sunday, April 15	1000	Competitors’ briefing (Green fleet meeting to follow)
	1200	First warning. (4 races scheduled)
	1600	No races to start after.
	After racing	Hot snacks dockside followed by awards.

5 Signals Made Ashore

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from a flagstaff near the Youth Dock.
- 5.2 Flag AP with two sound signals means “The race 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’.

6 Racing Area

For the Championship Fleet the primary racing area will be at Southampton Shoal/Berkeley Circle. All competitors must tow to the racecourse in the morning and tow back in the afternoon. Make sure to pick up a tow in the Cove and after racing near the Race Area. SFYC will provide 4 towboats to the Race Area, all other coaches/supporters are welcome to tow as well. Alternate race venues include Richardson Bay and Belvedere Cove. The Green Fleet will race in Belvedere Cove.

7 Courses

- 7.1 The diagram attached (Addendum 1) displays the course.
- 7.2 Boats that have finished shall stay well clear of all boats racing.

8 Marks

- 8.1 Rounding Marks 1, 2, and Gate 3S/P will be red inflatable cones and rounding mark 4 will be a yellow inflatable cone.
- 8.2 The marks for the Green Fleet will be orange balls.

9 The Start

- 9.1 Championship Fleet races will be started using RRS 26. For the Championship Fleet all color divisions will start and be scored together.
- 9.2 The starting line will be between a staff from which an orange flag is displayed on the Start Boat, at the starboard end, and an orange mark at the port end.
- 9.3 A boat shall not start later than 5 minutes after her starting signal.

10 Communications

The Race Committee may use loudhailers to communicate information about the course, time to start, the competitors’ positions relative to the starting time and the sail numbers of boats that are OCS or have violated RRS 30. Neither failure of the Race Committee to communicate the sail numbers of recalled boats in a timely manner, nor failure of a recalled boat to hear transmitted information, will be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

11 Change of Position of the Next Mark

To change the position of the next mark, the race committee may lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain the course configuration.

12 The Finish

- 12.1 The finishing line will be between an orange mark and a staff displaying an orange flag on the finishing boat.
- 12.2 When the course is shortened at a gate, one of the gate marks will be removed. The finish line will be between the other gate mark and the staff displaying an orange flag on the finishing boat.

13 Time Limit

The time limit will be 60 minutes for the first boat to sail the course and finish. Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored DNF. This changes rule RRS 35.

13 Support/Coach Boats

- 13.1 All support boats must also act as safety boats. All support boats will have adequate first aid and safety gear aboard, as well as a marine VHF radio.
- 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). There will be safety boats on the water to offer assistance to vessels in need. 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 Protests

- 14.1 Boats are required to display a red flag according to the USODA rules. A boat required to display a flag shall do so until she is no longer racing.
- 14.2 Upon finishing each race, protesting boats shall immediately, without consultation with coaches, spectators, or any others, notify the race committee boat at the starboard end of the finishing line of their intention to protest and the sail number of the protested boat. This adds to RRS 61.1(a).
- 14.3 All protests shall be filed at the protest room no later than thirty minutes after the finish boat docking time. The docking time (beginning of protest time) will be posted on the official notice board.
- 14.4 Protests will be heard in the approximate order of receipt. The time and place of protest hearings will be posted within thirty minutes after the end of protest time. This is the notice required by RRS 63.2.

15 Scoring

- 15.1 The Low Point Scoring System, Appendix A2, will be used.
- 15.2 If five or more races are completed, one throw-out race will be allowed.
- 15.3 For the Championship Fleet all color divisions will be scored together.

16 Safety-Equipment

- 16.1 Each competitor shall wear USCG approved lifejackets, properly secured at all times. Wet suits, dry suits and inflatable PFD's do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. A whistle shall be attached to the life jacket. A loop shall also

- be tied at the end of the painter.
- 16.2 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 safety person ashore before leaving the harbor area. Failure to comply with this sailing instruction may make the sailor ineligible to sail at this regatta again.
 - 16.3 Equipment and boat safety checks may be made ashore.
 - 16.4 Competitors must accept assistance from an official safety boat. Any sailor not accepting assistance when safety is an issue will be excused from the remainder of the regatta.
 - 16.5 Competitors must use one sail, one set of spars, one rudder, one daggerboard and one hull for the duration of the regatta. The Jury may permit substitution of equipment after approval.
 - 16.6 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.

17 **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the event.

Addendum 1 Course Diagram

