

2024 Bay Shore Invitational Races

Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions

The Bay Shore Invitational Races (BSIR) is part of the South Bay Cruising Club (SBCC) racing program. These races are held on Tuesday evenings. The intent of this program is to encourage sailors of all skill levels to do some stress-free, casual racing while developing your sailing/racing skills, meeting new friends and having fun. These races have a pursuit-style start where the higher handicap rated boats start before the lower handicap rated boats thereby eliminating the anxiety of starting at the same time with all of the other boats in the fleet.

1. RULES:

1.1 The races will be governed by the most recent “Racing Rules of Sailing” except where specifically changed in these sailing instructions.

2. ELIGIBILITY:

2.1 Participants do not have to be members of the SBCC in order to race in this venue, however, all the by-laws and rules of the SBCC regarding eligibility to race must be followed except where amended in this 2024 BSIR Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.

2.2 Boats that have raced in the BSIR in the past or are currently racing, and, have an up-to-date SBCC/BSIR Handicap Rating Form on file with the Handicap & Measurement Committee are considered to be registered subject to section 2.4.

2.3 New competitors must register with the BSIR Regatta Committee at least one week prior to racing in order to receive the BSIR racing information package. The package will include a SBCC/BSIR Handicap Form that must be completed and returned to the Handicap & Measurement Committee in order to obtain a handicap. Register by contacting Ted Drossos or Gary Sebouhian. See contact information in “Section 23.”

2.4 The BSIR Regatta Committee reserves the right to determine the eligibility of a participant to race. See “Section 21.3.”

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS: Notices to competitors will be broadcast on VHF Channel #72 and (when time allows) will be posted on the South Bay Cruising Club racing website at www.sbccracing.org. Racers shall monitor VHF channel #72 at all times.

4. RACE COMMITTEE:

4.1 There will be a race committee boat. Their responsibilities are outlined in the “Race Committee Boat Responsibilities” document that is posted on the sbccracing.org website.

4.2 All skipper’s that race in the BSIR are expected to serve as committee boat.

5. SCHEDULE: Race dates and “Base Starting Times” will be posted on the SBCC racing website at www.sbccracing.org. The “Base Starting Time” will be synchronized to GPS time. The races are held every Tuesday evening between May 28 and October 8. The race dates and “Base Starting Times” are as follows:

May 28 – August 13	19:00 (7:00 pm)
August 20 – September 10	18:30 (6:30 pm)
September 17 – October 8	18:00 (6:00 pm)

6. CLASS:

6.1 This will be a “No Spinnaker” venue.

6.2 The following classes of boats will be allowed:
PHRF class

6.3 In order for a boat to qualify to participate it must meet the following requirements:

- A minimum of 22 feet long
- Have the manufacturer's standard equipment (exceptions will be considered by the BSIR committee on a case by case basis)
- A displacement hull
- A sail area to displacement ratio less than 24 (based on a headsail with a 100% luff perpendicular)
- No sport boats
- Non-foiling
- Non-planning
- Self-righting

7. COURSES: Detailed 2024 course descriptions will be posted on the SBCC racing web site at www.sbccracing.org. They will also be e-mailed to you before the beginning of the season.

8. WHAT TO EXPECT:

8.1 You will be e-mailed a spreadsheet before the beginning of each series and whenever there are changes. The spreadsheet will include all the possible course numbers, the names of the skippers, their boat names and sail numbers, their current handicap and their "Starting Time Offset." The actual course descriptions will not be included on the spreadsheet, only the course number. The most current "Starting Time Offset" spreadsheet is available at www.sbccracing.org.

8.2 The new spreadsheet you receive prior to each new series may have revisions such as adjusted handicaps and changes to "Starting Time Offsets." Make sure you are using the most recent copy of the spreadsheet. A Title/Date will be prominently displayed on each new spreadsheet that will include any updated information for the specific race series.

9. WHAT TO DO:

9.1 When you receive your new "Starting Time Offset" spreadsheet, print a copy of it and keep it on your boat on Tuesday night.

9.2 When you arrive at the starting area, hail the committee boat on VHF channel 72 to check in and broadcast your boat name and sail number. Expect your hail to be acknowledged.

9.3 While you are in the starting area, listen to VHF channel #72 for the course number that will be run that night. Continue to listen to your radio for additional information from the committee boat.

9.4 After you know what course number is being run, look at your spreadsheet and follow the selected course number column down until it intersects the row with your specific boat information. There are many courses so it is important that you select the course column that corresponds to the course that will be announced on VHF Channel #72 about 15 minutes before the start of the race. The information in the box where the row and column meet is your "Starting Time Offset." The "Starting Time Offset" is the number of minutes and seconds that you should start racing after the "Base Starting Time" horn has sounded.

10. EXAMPLE: Let's suppose that the "Base Starting Time" is 7:00 pm. If your "Starting Time Offset" is +01:32 (1 minute and 32 seconds) you should add this to the "Base Starting Time" and that will be your "Actual Starting Time."

Example:	"Base Starting Time"	7:00.00 pm
	"Starting Time Offset"	+01:32
	"Actual Starting Time"	7:01:32 pm

If your boat has a “Starting Time Offset” that is negative (-), you should subtract the “Starting Time Offset” from the “Base Starting Time” to calculate your “Actual Starting Time.”

11. START LINE:

11.1 Boats will start in the vicinity of the flashing green government buoy “1” in Great Cove. Buoy “1” is located .8nm south of the Bay Shore Town Marina. The starting line is between buoy “1” and a temporary mark set out by the race committee. The start line is perpendicular to the first leg of the course. Racers should leave buoy “1” on a specific side of their boat as indicated in the Course Description based on the course that is being raced.

11.2: Once the warning horn has sounded, one minute before the base starting time, all boats at that time must follow the Racing Rules of Sailing.

11.3: Please keep the starting area clear for those boats that are about to start in order for them to have a clear path to the starting line. In addition, no boats should be on the course side of the starting line once the warning horn has sounded unless they have started racing.

11.4: The engine on your boat should be turned off five minutes prior to your actual starting time.

12. STARTING SEQUENCE:

12.1 The warning horn will be (4-5) rapid horn blasts one minute prior to the “Base Starting Time” horn. One minute after the multiple rapid horns, a single long horn will be sounded precisely at the published start time as indicated in the SBCC yearbook and web site. This long single horn marks the “Base Starting Time.” At the “Base Starting Time” horn, boats with a handicap of 250 may start. Any boat with a lower handicap will start after a specific amount of time has elapsed after the “Base Starting Time” horn. Every boat will be assigned a separate “Starting Time Offset” based on your boat’s handicap rating and the course chosen to be sailed that night.

12.2 This is a pursuit race, and each boat will have her own “Actual Starting Time” based on her handicap.

13. FINISH LINE:

13.1 There will be a specific Finish Line that boats must pass through and this line will be described in the Course Description. Boats must finish by passing between buoy “1” and a mark set out by the race committee. When crossing the Finish Line, buoy “1” must be left on the same side of your boat as the previous mark of the course.

13.2 Boats that finish the race should call the committee boat on VHF channel “72” indicating their boat name and sail number. Boats that finish the race should also note their GPS finish time and the boat that finished immediately ahead and behind them. This information will be used should there be a discrepancy with the order of finish as recorded by the committee boat or in the event the committee boat had to leave station.

13.3 The time limit for any race is 2 hours and 30 minutes after the base starting time.

14. PROTESTS AND PENALTIES:

14.1 These Pursuit races are intended to be casual, fun races, and therefore we request that in the spirit of this venue, please try to avoid protesting your competition. Sometimes simple, polite, verbal communications between skippers can avoid a conflict that would have otherwise escalated to a protest. If that doesn’t work, you always have the option of filing a formal protest. To protest another boat you must follow the RRS rule 61.

14.2 A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2, or rule 31 or 42, in an incident while racing. (This amends RRS rule 44.1)

14.3 A protest hearing must be completed by midnight on the Thursday following the race in question, sooner if possible. Should the protest meeting not occur within this time limit, the protest is disallowed and the results of the race stand as reported by the Committee Boat. (This amends RRS rule 61.3)

15. SERIES SCORING:

15.1 Scoring will be done by the pursuit method based on Time-on-Distance. A boat's time allowance is taken at her start so that the boats' finishing positions will be their actual finish place.

15.2 There will be five series for the season and each series will consist of four races. Should a race be cancelled, the series will consist of one less race for each race that was cancelled.

15.3 Each individual race will be scored as follows:

The boat finishing first will be the first place boat in that race. The boat finishing second will be the second place boat in that race, and so on. Boats that were at the starting area but did not start will receive a "DNS" for that race. Boats that started a race but did not finish will receive a "DNF" for that race. Boats that did not show up for the race will not be listed in the race results for that race.

15.4 Each boat will have one throw out race for each series as follows:

If the series consisted of 4 races there will be one throw out race for each boat.

If the series consisted of 3 races there will be one throw out race for each boat.

If the series consisted of 2 races or 1 race, there will not be a throw out race for each boat.

If the series consisted of no races, that series will be dropped.

15.5 Series scoring will be as follows:

For each individual race in a four race series, the first place boat will receive a score of "1," the second place boat a score of "2" and so on. Boats that were at the starting line but did not start "DNS" and boats that started but did not finish "DNF" will receive a score equal to the number of boats that started that race plus "1." Boats that did not appear at the start line will receive a score equal to the number of total boats that participated in that series plus "1."

The points earned by each boat in each race in the series, less the throw out race, if a throw out race was allowed (see 14.4), will be accumulated. The boat with the lowest accumulated score in each series will be considered the first place boat in that series and so on. In order for a boat to be scored in a series, a boat must have finished at least one race in the series.

15.6 Series Ties:

If there is a series score tie between two or more boats, each boat's race scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point(s) where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favor of the boat(s) with the best score(s). If a tie still remains between two or more boats, they shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last race. Any remaining ties shall be broken by using the tied boats' scores in the next-to-last race and so on until all ties are broken. These scores shall be used even if some of them are excluded scores.

15.7 When scoring a series where a boat was the designated Race Committee, the Race Committee will receive a score for that race equal to the average number of points that they earned for that series. Their throw out race will not be included in calculating their average. Only one race is needed to compute the average score for Race Committee.

16. SERIES HANDICAP ADJUSTMENT: There must be a minimum of 15 boats in a series that completed at least one race in order for handicap adjustments to be made. In order for an individual boat to qualify for a series scoring adjustment, it must have completed at least 2 races in a series. A boat that has started is considered having completed a race if it crossed the finish line within the allotted time limit. The time limit for a race is 2½ hours after the base starting time. Serving as Race Committee is also considered completing a race.

Series handicap adjustments follow different rules than the series scoring rules. For each individual race in a four race series, the first place boat will receive a score of "1," the second place boat a score of "2" and so on. Boats that were at the starting line but did not start "DNS" or boats that started but did not finish "DNF" or boats that did not appear at the start line will receive a score equal to their average number of points earned in the races they completed in that series. Their total number of points for the series, less a throw out, will be divided by the number of races completed to determine an average finishing position for each boat.

After each series, boats that qualify for series scoring will have their PHRF rating adjusted for the subsequent series as follows:

Top 4 Boats

- First place boat will lose 16 seconds
- Second place boat will lose 12 seconds
- Third place boat will lose 8 seconds
- Fourth place boat will lose 4 seconds

Middle Boats

These boats will be equally divided into 3 sections as follows:

- Top/Middle boats will all gain 2 seconds
 - Middle/Middle boats will all gain 4 seconds
 - Bottom/Middle boats will all gain 6 seconds
- Note: Should the Middle Boats not be able to be divided into three equal sections, the Middle/Middle section will have a larger number of boats.

Example:

	9 Middle Boats	10 Middle Boats	14 Middle Boats
Top/Middle	3	3	4
Middle/Middle	3	4	6
Bottom/Middle	3	3	4

Bottom 4 Boats

- 4th boat from bottom will gain 8 seconds
- 3rd boat from bottom will gain 12 seconds
- 2nd boat from bottom will gain 16 seconds
- Bottom boat will gain 20 seconds

All boats that qualify will be adjusted after each series; however, a boat can never accumulate a gain or loss of more than 40 seconds in a season.

The BSIR Regatta Committee reserves the right to make adjustments to any boats whether participating or not participating in a series in order to maintain a competitive balance.

17. SEASON CHAMPION SCORING:

17.1 To qualify for inclusion in the season champion results, a boat shall compete in 75 percent of the actual number of races that were run during the season. If no races are canceled, there are 20 races scheduled for the 2024 BSIR season. See paragraph 5 for the schedule.

17.2 Each boat finishing a race and not thereafter retiring, being penalized or given redress will be scored according to their finishing place as follows:

First place	1 point
Second place	2 points
Third place	3 points
Each place thereafter	Add 1 point

All other boats that compete in that race, including any that finish and thereafter retire or are disqualified, will receive the score for the finishing place one more than the number of boats competing in that race. Boats that do not compete in that race (DNC) will not be scored.

17.3 The Season Champion score for each boat will be the sum of her race scores, excluding her worst score, divided by the number of races for which she is scored to determine her average finishing position. The qualified boat with the lowest average finishing position is the winner, and others are ranked accordingly. An excluded race counts as a race to qualify a boat for the Season Champion series score but not as one of her scored races. A boat that serves as race committee will receive her average score for the entire season.

18. SAFETY REGULATIONS:

18.1 If you race solo, you must wear a coast guard approved personal flotation device at all times.

18.2 All equipment required for the participating vessel is to comply with federal, state and local requirements. It is strongly recommended that all sailboats participating comply with US Sailing ISAF Category 4 & 5 equipment requirements.

18.3 A vessel that races must have a working auxiliary engine capable of propelling her at hull speed upwind and carry sufficient fuel to return to home port.

18.4 A vessel is permitted to be equipped with electric and or hydraulic controls for use to adjust its running rigging. (This amends RRS rule 52)

19. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS:

19.1 All boats participating must monitor VHF channel #72 at all times before and during the race.

19.2 A boat electing to withdraw from the race must contact the committee boat on VHF channel #72 and should expect an acknowledgement from the committee boat.

20. RESULTS: The race results will be e-mailed to the skippers. They will also be published on the SBCC racing website at www.sbccracing.org

21. RACE MANAGEMENT:

21.1 All participants must install and use a smartphone app called RaceQs to track your boat and record its finish time. It will also be used for safety reasons to keep track of the fleet in the event there are unexpected dangerous weather conditions during a race. It will be used if there is a discrepancy in the recorded order of finish, to help settle protests, and to help you analyze your race. Details explaining how to set up the app on your smartphone are covered under a separate publication that can be e-mailed to you before the beginning of the season if requested.

21.2 Failure to run the RaceQs app will result in the racer not being scored unless there are unforeseen technical problems beyond the control of the racer.

21.3 The BSIR Regatta Committee may reject, cancel, or exclude the entry of any boat, competitor or crew member prior to the start of the first race of any series. (This amends RRS rule 76)

21.4 In the event of a possible race cancellation, skippers and/or crew should check the "Regatta Messages & Notification" section on the sbccracing.org website to determine the status of the race in question.

22. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:

22.1 Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See the Racing Rules of Sailing, Decision to Race.

22.2 The SBCC, their respective officers, employees, agents, Committees, members of the Board of Governors, committee chairpersons, and members will not accept any liability for material damages or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with, or prior to, or during or after the Race.

23. BSIR REGATTA COMMITTEE: For further information or to register, please contact:

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