



# Sunset Series Cruising Championship

Wednesday, September 9, 2026  
Marina del Rey, California USA

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Organizing Authority is California Yacht Club (CYC), located at 4469 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Phone: 310.823.4567 | Web: [www.calyachtclub.com](http://www.calyachtclub.com)

Event Chairs: Debbie Feinerman [dsfeinerman@gmail.com](mailto:dsfeinerman@gmail.com) & Lisa Bronitt [lisa@lisabronitt.com](mailto:lisa@lisabronitt.com)

### 1. RULES

- 1.1 A boat is inside Marina del Rey harbor when she crosses a line from the southeast end of the detached breakwater to the south side of Ballona Creek.
- 1.2 While racing, all boats shall:
  - (a) drop spinnakers so the head is below the lowest spreader before she is inside Marina del Rey harbor; and
  - (b) fly no more than one headsail at any time inside Marina del Rey harbor, except when actively changing headsails. Spinnakers may not be used inside the harbor. The Equipment Rules of Sailing defines "Spinnaker" as "A sail set forward of the mast spar or of the foremost mast spar if more than one mast, where the measurement between the half luff point and the half leech point is equal or greater than 75% of the foot length."

### 2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be posted by 1500 on Wednesday, September 9.

### 3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board which is the [King of the Hill and Sunset Series Cruising Championship](#) webpage on the CYC website.
- 3.2 On the water, the RC intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 68. Failure of the RC to broadcast, mistaken broadcasts, or failure of a competitor to receive this information will not be grounds for a request for redress. This change is added to the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 61.4(b)(1) (Redress Decisions).
- 3.3 Boats shall use VHF radio channel 68 to report retirement from racing and may use VHF radio channel 68 to request or provide assistance in an emergency.

### 4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1 One (1) race is scheduled.
- 4.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal is 1720.

### 5. CLASS FLAG / ORDER OF STARTS

- 5.1 The class flag is code flag G.
- 5.2 Each entered boat has an individual starting time which will be posted on the [Official Notice Board](#) by 1200 on Wednesday, September 9.

### 6. RACING AREA

The racing area is on Santa Monica Bay and inside Marina del Rey harbor. The starting area is located at MdR Mark "SS" (approximately 33° 57.547' N / 118° 28.093' W; see [Marina del Rey Course Chart 18](#)).

### 7. MARKS

Marks are described in SI Addendum A.

### 8. COURSES

Courses are described in SI Addendum A.

### 9. THE START

- 9.1 The starting line is between the course side of MdR Mark "SS" and the staff of an orange and white checkered flag on the RC signal boat.
- 9.2 RRS 26, STARTING RACES, is replaced with:

| <i>Time</i> | <i>Visual signal</i> | <i>Sound signal</i> | <i>Means</i>                               |
|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1720        | Flag G               | One                 | Warning signal                             |
| 1721        | Flag P               | One                 | Preparatory signal                         |
| 1724        | Flag P removed       | One long            | One minute to starting signal for 1st boat |
| 1725        | Flag G removed       | One                 | Starting signal for 1st boat               |
| Per SI 5.2  | None                 | One                 | Starting signal for 2nd boat               |
| Per SI 5.2  | None                 | One                 | Starting signal for 3rd boat ... etc.      |

9.3 [DP] For purposes of the definition of “racing,” (except for boats in the first start), a boat’s preparatory signal will be considered to be two (2) minutes before her scheduled starting time. A boat not racing shall not sail within three (3) of her hull lengths of the starting line. This rule shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This change is added to RRS 60.1 (Right to Protest).

9.4 The RC may count down the last five (5) seconds before the starting signal for each boat as provided in SI 3.2.

9.5 RRS 29.1, Individual Recall, is replaced with:

“When at a boat’s starting signal any part of her hull is on the course side of the starting line, the RC shall promptly display flag X without a sound. The flag shall be displayed until the hull of each such boat has been completely on the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions, but no later than twenty (20) seconds after that starting signal or until the next scheduled starting signal, whichever is earlier.”

9.6 The RC may hail boats, as provided in SI 3.2, that are subject to RRS 29.1 (Individual Recall) at their starting signal and also after they have sailed completely to the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions.

9.7 A boat that starts more than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This change is added to RRS A5.1 (Scores Determined by the Race Committee).

## **10. THE FINISH**

The finishing line is between a small tetrahedron anchored toward mid-channel and the staff displaying a blue flag on the southwest corner of the CYC Guest Dock.

## **11. PENALTY SYSTEM**

11.1 US Sailing Prescription Appendix V, Section V1, Penalty at the Time of an Incident, applies except when racing inside the harbor. When racing inside the harbor, RRS 44.1 (Taking a Penalty) is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

11.2 The penalty for breaking SI 1.2(a) shall be a One-Turn Penalty.

## **12. TIME LIMIT**

Boats not finishing by 2000 will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS 35 (Race Time Limit and Scores) and is added to RRS A5.1 (Scores Determined by the Race Committee).

### **13. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 13.1 The protest time limit is thirty (30) minutes after the RC signal boat docks, which time will be posted at the Protest Time Limit and Hearing Schedule link located on the [Official Notice Board](#).
- 13.2 Protests and requests for redress shall be filed electronically using the hearing request forms available at the File a Protest link located on the [Official Notice Board](#).
- 13.3 RRS 61, Redress is modified as follows:
- (a) RRS 61.2 (b)(1) is replaced with: "If the request is based on an incident in the racing area, it shall be filed within the protest time limit."
  - (b) A notice of boats scored per RRS A5.1 (Scores Determined by the Race Committee) will be posted at the View Starting Penalties link located on the [Official Notice Board](#) no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the RC signal boat docks. The deadline for a request for redress based on these scores is the protest time limit.
  - (c) The time limit for a request for redress based on the outcome of a scoring inquiry (see SI 14.2) is 30 minutes after that outcome has been posted.
- 13.4 Within fifteen (15) minutes after the protest time limit, a notice of filed protests and requests for redress will be posted at the Protest Time Limit and Hearing Schedule link located on the [Official Notice Board](#). This constitutes notice to all parties to a hearing under RRS 63 (Rights of Parties).
- 13.5 Protests and requests for redress will be heard as soon as possible.
- 13.6 US Sailing Prescriptions to the Preamble to Part 5, Section B (Hearings and Making Decisions) and RRS 63.1 (Conduct of Hearings, Rights of Parties) do not apply.

### **14. SCORING**

- 14.1 This race is scored as a pursuit race, with individual starting times based on the rating used for each boat's last Sunset Series race and the selected course handicap distance, except that the rating for all "non-spinnaker boats" from Sunset Series Cruising B will be adjusted by +2 sec/mi. All Sunset Series non-spinnaker boats competing in this event must race without a spinnaker. Boats are scored according to their order of finish.
- 14.2 Competitors shall notify the RC of any scoring errors using the Submit Scoring Inquiry link on the [Official Notice Board](#). The deadline to file a scoring inquiry is the protest time limit or thirty (30) minutes after the preliminary results have been posted, whichever is later.

### **15. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

[DP] A boat that retires from a race prior to finishing shall notify the RC either before leaving the racing area or as soon as possible after arriving ashore.

### **16. RISK STATEMENT**

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. By participating in the event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers (organizing authority, host yacht club, race committee, protest committee, sponsors, and any others acting in an official capacity for the event) from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in the event to the fullest extent permitted by law.



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## SI ADDENDUM A

### 7. MARKS (continued)

- 7.1 Mark S is a yellow spar buoy located at approximately 33°57.187'N / 118°29.216' W. If Mark S is missing or off position, a yellow inflatable tetrahedron may be used as a replacement.
- 7.2 Mark R is an orange inflatable tetrahedron located approximately 0.5 nm at a direction of 145° magnetic from Mark S, at approximately 33°56.724'N / 118° 28.986' W.
- 7.3 The detached breakwater is not considered a "continuing obstruction" when boats are rounding the end of it to enter the harbor. This means that RRS 18 (Mark-Room) applies.

### 8. COURSES (continued)

- 8.1 All boats shall sail the same course.
- 8.2 No later than the warning signal, the RC signal boat will use letter code flag(s) to signal one of the courses shown below. The course flag(s) will be removed two (2) minutes after the starting signal for the last boat(s)
- 8.3 After starting:
  - (a) (1) For Course S, round Mark S to port.
  - (2) For Course SR, round Mark S to port and leave Mark R to port.
  - (b) Enter the Marina del Rey harbor south entrance, leaving the end of the detached breakwater to port.
  - (c) Leave to starboard the end of the south jetty, including any red or "shoal" buoys near the end of the jetty. Center-channel markers between the detached breakwater and the south jetty or buoys adjacent to the detached breakwater near the flagpole are not marks of the course.
  - (d) Leave to port any "No Sail" buoys designating the lane for leaving the harbor located along the northwest side of the entrance channel. The line between any two adjacent "No Sail" buoys is a continuing obstruction, and a boat shall not sail with any part of her hull across this line. After the last of these buoys, there is no continuing obstruction between the remaining marks of the course.
  - (e) In the main channel, leave to port (1) all center-channel speed markers (starting with the one that is closest to being in line with the US Coast Guard station pier) and (2) the yellow center-channel mooring cans, "B" and "A".
  - (f) Proceed to the finish line off the CYC Guest Dock.

| Course | Handicap Distance<br>(in NM) |
|--------|------------------------------|
| S      | 4.1                          |
| SR     | 4.6                          |

