



# **SANDY HOOK BAY CATAMARAN CLUB**

## **FLEET RACE SERIES SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

The overall SHBCC Skipper /Crew of the Year Championship will be determined through these rules.

### **1. RULES**

1.1 Races will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and all boats will be subject to the rules of the SCHRS rating system.

1.2 There are three types of “day of races”: A closed course (cc) buoys race, an extended (et) buoys race, and a distance race. All types of races will count toward the overall skipper/crew of the year. Only distance races will count toward the distance series. The purpose of the extended buoys race is for those days when a buoys race is scheduled, but no RC boat is available. Only one race that day will be held for a distance or et buoys race.

1.3 The penalty for hitting a mark or fouling a boat is a penalty turn which consists of one tack and one jibe. This modifies RRS 44.1.

## **2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board which is the bulletin board at the end of the deck.

2.2 Supplementary sailing instructions (called 'the supplement' below) will be posted prior to the skippers' meeting on the day it will take effect. This only applies to day of event supplements.

2.3 Supplementary sailing instructions that affect the entire series will be posted on the club website 6 days prior to the day it will take effect.

## **3. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

3.1 When flag AP is displayed ashore prior to a cc race, the removal of flag AP shall mean that the RC is leaving the beach.

3.2 The meaning of the removal of flag AP ashore prior to a distance or et race may be defined verbally at the skippers' meeting.

## **4. SCHEDULE**

4.1 See the club web site ([fleet250.org](http://fleet250.org)) for Schedule.

4.2 The first race of the day will start no earlier than 1:00 PM.

4.3 The skippers' meeting shall start no earlier than 11:30 AM.

4.4 With 6 days notice via the club web site ([fleet250.org](http://fleet250.org)), a race may be added to the schedule.

4.5 In the case of inclement weather, a race may be cancelled via posting to the club website and/or e-blast prior to 8:00PM on the day prior to the race.

## **5. REGISTRATION & FEES**

5.1 There is no fee to race except the Statue of Liberty race and Blue Water.

5.2 Registration in writing should be completed before the start of the first race each race day. The Registration Committee may choose to accept registration until 30 minutes after the last race of the day, but is not required to. Racers who fail to register with the required information will not be scored unless they submit a written request. It is the sailor's responsibility to notify the scorer of any scoring deficiencies in writing, on a timely basis. This may also be done via email.

## **6. CLASS FLAGS**

6.1 Class Flags shall be announced at the skippers' meeting.

## 7. GOVERNMENT SECURITY ZONE

7.1 Per USCG instructions, you must stay outside the security zone around the Navy pier. The security zone is marked by white buoys that are approximately 450 yards off the pier. The zone should be treated as an obstruction as it applies under normal racing rules of sailing. Should a competitor sail into the zone they shall be disqualified without a hearing.

## 8. COURSE

8.1 All buoy races will be sailed in the waters off the club beach.

8.2 All race starting areas shall be in deep water.

8.3 The RC may start non-buoys races sighting from land

8.4. There shall be no redress hearings for shallow areas or typical hazards to marine navigation such as shallow areas, pilings, flotsam, etc. Standard obstructions may be grounds for protest against a boat which does not give room, but not redress.

8.5 Cc buoy course numbers will be posted on the Race Committee station and are as follows:

Course #	Course	Option
1	S A C A F	Gate
2	S A C A C A F	Gate
3	S A C A B C F	
4	S A C A B C A F	
5	S A C F	Gate
6	S A C A C F	Gate
7	S A C A B C A C F	

8.6 When a course #6 is posted, all Waves and other boats that are near or behind the first Wave to round "C" mark, will sail a course #5 in lieu of a course #6 and their elapsed time will be doubled for scoring purposes.

## 9. MARKS

Marks must be left to port. A is the windward mark, B is the gybe mark and C is the leeward mark and must be left to port, except gate courses. The "G" does not need to be displayed for the gate to be used. When the gate is set, boats shall sail through the gate from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark.

## 10. THE START

10.1 All cc buoy races are intended to be sailed on the courses listed in 8.5 with the weather mark being to windward of the start/finish line. Depending on the course selection, C mark may be a gate. The gate may be set above or below the starting line. Extended buoy and distance courses will be defined at the skippers meeting. Both extended and distance courses shall have the mark rounding requirements stated at the skippers meeting.

9.2. For a cc buoys race, a minimum of two races must be completed with at least two boats finishing each race to qualify to receive Skipper of the Year points greater than 1. For an et buoys race or a distance race, only one race will be sailed with at least 2 boats finishing to receive Skipper of the Year points greater than 1.

9.3. Starts will be a 5 minute sequence in accordance with RRS 26. Additional sound signals may be used at the discretion of the race committee and may be announced at the skippers' meeting. Any misfires shall not be grounds for protest.

9.4 If the RC is on land, a boat which is OCS and doesn't restart properly will be penalized 2 times their OCS time plus 5 minutes. This amount of time will be added to their finish time and included in their time correction

## 10. STARTS/COURSE

No race sequence will begin unless the wind is blowing greater than 5 knots at the starting line and less than 25 knots (29 mph) with the exception of any races held in April or October which will have a 20 knot maximum , wave height above 2 feet , and water temperature below 60 degrees. Additionally , races in April or October will require an on the water chase boat.

## 11. TIME LIMIT

11.1 The following time limits shall apply to cc buoys race. This is the time allowed from start of race until first boat has finished (the time limit is for the first boat finishing the full course, not a Wave sailing the shortened course):

One Lap Race	.75 hours
Two Lap Race	1 hour
Three Lap Race	1 hour

11.2 For extended buoys and distance races the time limit to the first mark will be 1 -1/2 hours. This is the default time and can be modified by the RC at the skippers meeting.

## 12. PROTESTS

9.1 For the purpose of protesting all boats will be considered to be under 20 feet.

9.2 There will be a 30 minute time limit after RC returns to the beach in which to file a protest in the case of a cc buoy race, for et and distance races, the time limit shall be 30 minutes after the last boat returns to the beach. Time and location of the hearing will be announced promptly after the protest is filed.

9.3 Breaches of the US sailing prescription to RRS 40 (PFD) shall not be grounds for protest.

## 13. AIDING BOATS IN PERIL

13.1 A racing boat must aid a boat in peril if so requested or in your opinion they need assistance. A boat which aids a boat in peril, may petition for redress and may be awarded an adjusted finishing position. Don't assume that just because there is a chase boat, they'll render assistance. Safety is everybody's responsibility.

## 14. SAFETY

14.1 A personal flotation device shall be worn and properly fastened from beach to beach by competitors while launching and when sailing except briefly while adjusting equipment or clothing. The penalty for failure to comply with this rule shall be at the discretion of the protest committee. Flag Y will not be displayed.

## 15. RESPONSIBILITY

15.1 The member or non-member and their crew or guests, shall hold Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club a.k.a. Sandy Hook Hobie Fleet 250 Inc. (SHBCC/SHHF) harmless from any bodily injury and all claims, actions, damages or liabilities arising out of, while practicing for or participating in, any contest or exhibition of an athletic or sports nature sponsored by SHBCC/SHHF including sailboat racing.

## 16. ELECTRONICS

16.1 Carrying VHF radios and cell phones for safety purposes is strongly encouraged and VHF radios can be monitored during racing. GPS units or GPS enabled cell phones may also be used. GPS tracking units may be used and monitored by race committee. A VHF radio is required for distance races.

## 17. RACE COMMITTEE

17.1. To be eligible for the Skipper/Crew of the Year series all participants must RC one race. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Staff Commodore.

## 18. SCORING

18.1 There will be separate scoring for both skipper and crew for the overall Fleet Championship and the Distance Series championship.

18.2 All races will be scored using the International Small Catamaran Handicap Rating System (SCHRS). The latest available ratings will be used at the time of the race. Boats must have a SCHRS number to race. Boats with modifications not adhering to class rules will have their SCHRS number adjusted by a measurer. Boats racing with non-standard crew numbers or weight will have their ratings adjusted by the measurer (This means that boats which are normally doublehanded maybe be sailed singlehanded and vice versa with ratings adjustments). Boats that do not have a published SCHRS rating may be required to provide a measurement certificate.

18.3 In order to be eligible for the Fleet Championship Series, you must participate in at least half of the races held (rounded up) plus one. To be eligible for series giveaways, you must participate in at least half of the races scheduled (rounded up) plus one.

Races Sailed	Divide by 2	Rounded	Number to Qualify
6	3	3	4
7	3.5	4	5
8	4	4	5
9	4.5	5	6

10	5	5	6
11	5.5	6	7
12	6	6	7
13	6.5	7	8
14	7	7	8

18.4 Skippers and crews who work as RC will receive race credit equal to their best point score of the series. The RC will receive credit for RC if the racing does not occur and shall receive 1 point. They may RC one other race in order to obtain credit equal to their best point score of the Championship series. Only one RC credit per season will be applied.

18.5 The skipper and crew as defined on the registration sheet and both must sail on the registered boat. To be eligible to earn points for the Fleet Championships, the participant must be a member of SHBCC at the time of the race. Non-SHBCC members may participate in the daily races. Their position for the day will make them eligible to receive trophies for that day. Day of race standings for non-SHBCC members will be pulled out of the Skipper/Crew of the Year scoring (after daily scores have been totaled), moving fleet member sailors behind them up in the scoring. Single-handed boats will place only in the Skipper of the Year scoring and will not place in the scoring for Crew of the Year. Crews from boats finishing behind single-handed boat will be moved up to the first vacant crew finishing positions.

18.6 A participant who sails as both skipper and crew will qualify in the category where he/she actually sailed the most races in. The skipper scores (or crew scores if scoring in the crew category) will be totaled first and crossover scores added if needed. Scores will be transferred as is unless the crossover score is better than any of the current scores in the category. Then the scores will be carried over using a one-to-one matching criteria. For example, if a participant has skipper scores of 1,3,3, and crew scores of 1,1,4, he/she can only carry one first into the skipper category. Thus, the scores carried over will be 1,3,4. The second first becomes a third since this is the next best match and the 4 is carried over as is.

18.7 "Day of race" individual finishing position will be scored using the low point scoring with 1 point going for first, 2 for second, etc. This will determine an overall finishing position for the day. Provided there are more than 3 races on a race day, one throw-out race will be allowed in scoring. A DNF for a distance or "extended buoys" race shall receive a position equal to the number of finishers plus one. If the race is held, a boat must at least start a race in order to get scored. For the Statue of Liberty race, those who are turned back at the bridge and scored in the Little Miss Liberty scoring will be added after those who completed the full course in finish order.

18.8 Ties (day of racing) will be broken in the following order of precedence (stopping once the tie is broken):

- a) compare finishes, who had most firsts, seconds, thirds, etc.
- b) who beat who in the last fleet race in which both boats sailed and kept their score
- c) Shall remain tied.

18.9 “Day of racing” overall finishing position will be assigned the associated points which will be counted toward the Fleet Championship scoring:

Position	Points	Position	Points
1	25	14	12
2	24	15	11
3	23	16	10
4	22	17	9
5	21	18	8
6	20	19	7
7	19	20	6
8	18	21	5
9	17	22	4
10	16	23	3
11	15	24	2
12	14	25	1
13	13	26	0

18.10 Ties for the Fleet Championship series will be broken in the following order (stopping once the tie is broken): a) compare finishes counted in scoring, who had most firsts, seconds, thirds, etc. b) Compare head to head races (all races sailed). c) Who beat who in the last race in which both boats sailed in that category. (crossover scores don’t count) d) Shall remain tied.

18.11 A boat must start at least one race to have participated in the race day and be placed in the scoring for that day. If racing is cancelled for the day, all skippers and crew, who registered, will receive 1 point for the “non” race. This race shall count toward the series, but may be thrown out. If the skipper and/or crew sail in the scheduled makeup race, the actual finishing score will replace the 1 point score if they registered for the original race. If he/she doesn’t attend the makeup race but registered for the cancelled race, they keep the 1 point score.

18.12 Blue Water Regatta hosted by Atlantic Highlands Yacht Club: Racing in the Blue Water Regatta will count towards our fleet racing series as one race. Club members can race either one or two days of the regatta. If you sail both days, your best score from either day will count towards the overall fleet championship series.

18.13 Scores for the daily races shall be promptly tallied (subject to revision) and announced the day of the race.

## 19. TROPHIES

19.1 Trophies or a giveaway for those who participate in the required number of races and run an official fleet race will be awarded at the Wine Down.