

Merrick Team Race

BHYC

Optimist/Club 420

Sailing Instructions

**Bay Head Yacht Club
Bay Head, New Jersey
August 8th, 2024**

1. **Rules:** The regatta will be governed by:

- The Racing Rules of Sailing, including Appendix D – Team Racing Rules
- The prescriptions of US Sailing
- The IODA Class Rules
- These Sailing Instructions

except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions.

2. **Entries:** Eligible teams may be entered by properly completing and submitting a registration form. All skippers and crews must be from the same Yacht Club.

3. **Notices to Competitors:** Notices will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board located at the Merrick Center.

4. **Changes in Sailing Instructions:** Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than thirty minutes before the first warning signal of the day's races.

5. **Signals Made Ashore:** Signals made ashore will be announced orally and may be accompanied by a flag.

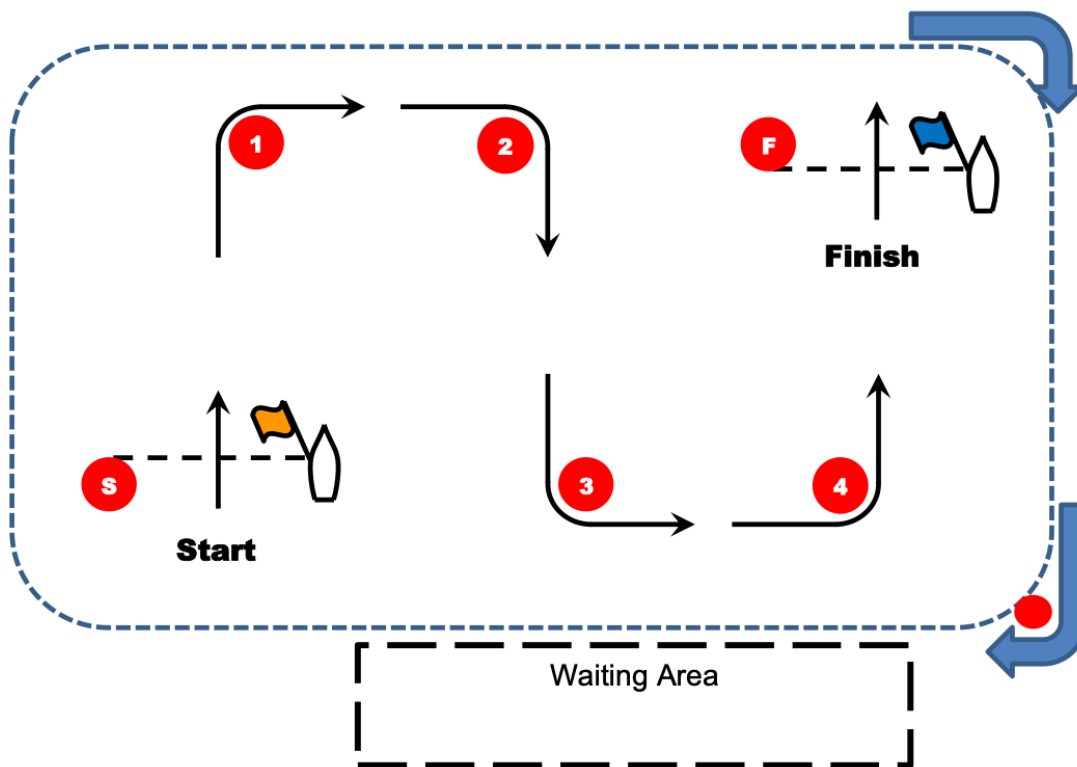
6. **Schedule:** The schedule, including warning signals and deadlines, will be announced at the competitor's meeting. The number of races will be at the discretion of the Race Committee. A schedule of race pairings will be distributed after the competitor's meeting.

7. **Format:** The regatta will be three on three team racing for 420s and four on four team racing for OPTIs. Depending on the number of registered teams and subject to wind and weather conditions, the format may be single or multiple round robins of all teams, or teams may be split into sub-groups for preliminary round robins. Qualifiers will sail a championship round. The format may be changed during the event at the discretion of the PRO. The regatta format to be attempted will be announced at the competitor’s meeting and posted on the Regatta Notice Board. At the discretion of the Race Committee, the format may be changed if there is not enough time to complete the attempted format. No race in a preliminary or elimination round will be started after 4:30 p.m.

Each team member will be issued an individual team identification colored sticker and shall affix his/hers to the clew end of the sail.

8. **Course:** Starboard hand Digital ‘N’ Course. The course will be designated by oral instructions from the Race Committee. Courses may be shortened by oral instructions.

After Finishing Race, stay clear of course and return to the waiting area.



9. **Marks:** The marks will be described at the competitor’s meeting.

10. **Starts:** The starting sequence will consist of the following sound signals made at the indicated times. **The race committee may hail the sailors on the water to change the sequence to a 2 minute starting sequence, as needed.**

Meaning

Timing

Sound Signals

(Attention)	(multiple short signals)	
Warning	3:00	three long
Preparatory	2:00	two long
	1:00	one long
	0:30	three short
	0:20	two short
	0:10	one short
	0:05	one short
	0:04	one short
	0:03	one short
	0:02	one short
	0:01	one short
	Start	0:00

The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat at the starboard end and the port end starting mark. Teams will separate to opposite ends of the line before the warning signal, until the preparatory signal at the direction of the Race Committee. Starts will not be delayed to accommodate capsized boats. A boat shall not start later than two minutes after her starting signal. Rule 30 (starting penalties) shall not apply under any circumstances.

11. **Recalls:** Recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rules 29-1 and 29-2, except that Code Flag “X” need not be displayed. A general recall may be signaled orally or by displaying First Substitute with two long whistles. A new warning signal may be made at any time after a general recall is signaled or after the First Substitute is lowered. This alters Rules 29-1 and 29.2.

12. **Changing the Course:** After the starting signal, the Race Committee may change the position of any mark, provided that no boat is on that leg of the course. There will be no signal for a course change. This changes RRS33.

13. **Abandonment:** The Race Committee may abandon a race in accordance with Rule 32, except that the requirement for signal flags is deleted. A three-minute period of calm winds may be considered a reason directly affecting the fairness of the competition for the purposes of Rule 32.1(e).

14. **The Finish:** The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and a finish mark designated for use by the committee boat for the course. After finishing, boats shall return to the waiting area by sailing to starboard of the finish vessel, clear of the course laylines, passing outside all small buoys identifying the return-to-start-lane and waiting area and shall not interfere with the boats racing.

15. **Scoring a Race:** The team race scoring system, rule D3 shall apply.

16. **Scoring a Series:** Rule D4, including D4.2 for breaking ties as follows:

4.2 – Breaking Ties Completed Series

Ties in a completed series shall be broken using, in order of preference:

- (a) the number of races or matches won when the tied teams met;
- (b) the points scored when the tied teams met;
- (c) if two teams remain tied, the last race between them;
- (d) total points scored in all races against common opponents; or
- (e) a game of chance

If a multiple tie is partially resolved by one of these, then the remaining tie shall be broken by starting again at 4.2(a).

4.3 Scoring Incomplete Series

If a series is not completed, teams shall be ranked according to the results from completed rounds, and ties shall be broken initially using the results from races or matches between the tied teams in the incomplete round. If no round has been completed, teams shall be ranked in order of their race (or match) win/loss ratios.

Thereafter, D4.2 (a)-(e) shall be used to break ties.

17. **Safety:** USCG approved PFDs shall be worn when afloat. If leaving the racing area before the end of the day's racing, a competitor shall notify the Race Committee before retiring.

18. **Alternative Penalties:** The team race alternative penalty, rule D3.1(b) (10 points/6 points) shall apply.

19. **Protests:** Protests involving rules of part 2 (except RRS 14), RRS 31.1, 42 or 44 shall be held in accordance with the following procedure, and will be held onboard a judge boat or finish boat:

- a. The hearing will begin as soon as all parties are assembled.
- b. If no one raises an objection, the protest will be determined to be valid.
- c. Each party will be given about 1 minute to state their case.
- d. The judge may question the parties and/or call witnesses.
- e. Each party will be given about 1 minute to question the other party.
- f. The parties are excused. The judge will determine the facts and make his decision.
- g. The judge informs the parties of the decision orally and submits the decision to the scoring official.

The judge boat shall be equipped with the current RRS for use by the jury and the parties to the protest. A competitor may not request redress or to reopen expedited protest hearings after a decision is made. (Changes RRS 66)

20. **Official Vessels:** The regatta will be umpired in accordance with RRS Appendix D2 as modified by these sailing instructions. Some races may have more umpires than others as determined by the PRO.

21. **Coach and Support Boats:** Parents, coaches and other support boats may not be in the racing area from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished that race or the race committee signals postponement, general recall or abandonment. They shall not assist or interfere with any sailor during a race, except in an emergency. Upon finishing, all sailors are requested to transit immediately to the waiting area, keeping clear of the race course and any boats which are racing. All coaching shall occur in the vicinity below the starting area. Infringement of this policy will be reported to the judge and, at the judge's discretion, warnings or penalties may be assessed to the respective team.

No parent may ride on a coach boat, nor may they coach sailors during a race. Infringement of this policy will be reported to the judge and, at the judge's discretion, the parent will be asked to leave the race course and penalties may be assessed to the respective team.

21. **Breakdowns:** Rule D5 is modified so that breakdowns of boats or equipment provided by the competitors shall not be grounds for redress. A breakdown caused by a breach of a rule by an opponent may be grounds for redress, and if so, Rule D5.1 applies. Requests for redress will be resolved by the competitors using the expedited hearing, in lieu of written requests. The requesting competitor must notify

the Race Committee of the intention to use this procedure immediately after finishing or as reasonably possible if unable to finish. The result of the hearing shall be submitted to the scoring official.

23. Team Stickers: Each team shall be assigned a unique team sticker or 2. At all times during the regatta, these sticker(s) shall be securely attached to the clue area of the sail. Any other streamers or stickers on the sail or sprit, including red, blue, white or green fleet streamers, shall be removed during this competition.

24. Prizes: Will be awarded at the conclusion of racing.