



Around Monterey Bay Mile Buoy Long Distance Race (MBYRA #)

September 12, 2026

Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club
Monterey, CA

Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

- 1.1. This race will be governed by the rules as defined in the 2025-2028 *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and these sailing instructions.
- 1.2. All competitors are required to wear personal flotation devices while racing per RRS 40.1.
- 1.3. Racing rule 52 is changed for the Short Handed Sailing (SHS) division only, to allow the use of autopilots during the race.

2. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1. All boats shall comply with the Safety requirements and equipment specified in the event **Notice of Race**, and any amendments.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1. A mandatory skippers meeting will be held at 900 hours (9AM) on September 12, 2026, via Zoom at:
<https://middlebury.zoom.us/j/92959388297?pwd=M6fF2l3YtLhbJBIQVUDuuKLKxc0ejM.1>
Password: 284001
- 3.2. Changes to the Sailing Instructions (if any) will be announced at the skippers meeting and posted on the event website posted no later than 1000 hours on the day of the race.
- 3.3. Oral changes to the Sailing Instructions may be announced on the water by the race committee prior to the start on VHF channel 68 as per RRS 90.2(c).
- 3.4. Race committee contacts for reporting via text that you have finished the course (see sec. 8.6):
Monterey start: Mark Chaffey: (831) 236-5191

Moss Landing start: Lara Jaques: (310) 945-6767

Santa Cruz start: Geoff Boraston: (831) 566-5229

4. SCHEDULE AND CLASS FLAGS

- 4.1. There will be one start that includes all classes and divisions.
- 4.2. The Class Flag will be code flag B for all divisions.
- 4.3. The warning signal at all three starting locations will be at **11:55:00** hours on Saturday, May 11, with the start at **12:00:00**. Times at all locations are to be referenced to GPS within one second.

5. RACE AREA AND COURSE

- 5.1. The race area will be around the Mile Buoys outside the harbors of Monterey, Santa Cruz and Moss Landing.
- 5.2. The 44.06 nautical mile course requires competing boats to round all three Mile buoys on the shore side of each Mile buoy. Boats are free to sail the course clockwise or anti-clockwise. The description and locations the Mile Buoys are:
 - Monterey (red gov. buoy "R4" with 4 sec red light and bell): **N36° 37.47' W121° 53.75'**
 - Santa Cruz (red and white gov. buoy "SC" with whistle): **N36° 56.38' W122° 00.71'**
 - Moss Landing (red and white gov. buoy "MLA" with bell): **N36° 47.93' W121° 48.08"**

6. START CHECK-IN

- 6.1. All boats shall check in with the race committee at their start location on USA **VHF 68** prior to the start between the hours of 1130 and 1155. This communication will verify the float plan data for the calling vessel. Any changes from the filed float plan in the number and names of crew on board must be communicated to the Race Committee at this time. Check in is not complete until a boat has verified that the float plan is complete and receives confirmation from the race committee. Failure to complete this communication successfully may result in a score of DNC. This changes RRS rules 63.1 and A5.
- 6.2. Boats starting in Santa Cruz and Moss Landing may text their check-in and float plan confirmation to the appropriate race committee (see sec. 3.4 above).

7. THE START

- 7.1. Boats may start at any of the three Mile Buoy starting areas. Boats will start between the Mile Buoy and a race committee boat anchored to the shore side

of each Buoy. All three starts will be simultaneous and to windward (Monterey starts only).

- 7.2. The Starting lines will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on each race committee Signal Vessel and the appropriate Mile buoy (Monterey starts only).
- 7.3. After the starting signal, as a courtesy, the race committee will attempt to hail the sail number(s) of the boat(s) identified on the course side of the starting line by VHF channel 68 (Monterey starts only).
- 7.4. Boats starting at Santa Cruz and Moss Landing will not have a race committee starting boat and must self-start, crossing their respective start/finish lines described in sec. 8 below no earlier than 11:00:00AM GPS time. Santa Cruz Start is between Mile Buoy and Lighthouse Point.
- 7.5. Competitors are requested to monitor **VHF 16** after starting.

8. THE FINISH

- 8.1. Boats shall finish at the same Mile buoy where they started. Boats sailing the course clockwise shall leave the finish Mile buoy to starboard. Boats sailing an anti-clockwise course shall leave the finish Mile buoy to port.
- 8.2. Boats finishing at the Monterey Mile buoy shall cross the imaginary line between the Monterey Mile Buoy and the red and white radio mast at Cannery Row.
- 8.3. Boats finishing at Moss Landing shall cross the imaginary line between MLA and the Green can "1" off the northern breakwater entrance to Moss Landing harbor.
- 8.4. Boats finishing at Santa Cruz shall cross the imaginary line between the SC Mile Buoy and the Walton Lighthouse at the end of the Santa Cruz harbor breakwater.
- 8.5. Finishing boats shall take their own finish times to within one second from GPS and report these times to race@mpyc.org or via text at (831) 236-5191 with the name of the boat and the sail number.
- 8.6. For safety reasons, boats are also required to check in with the race committees where they started upon finishing the course or retiring from racing by sending a text message as soon as practicable. Failure to check in at the time of finish, or soon thereafter may lead to disqualification from the race.

9. TIME LIMIT

- 9.1. There is no time limit, but boats finishing after dark are requested to report their positions and expected finish times to the respective race committees.

10. SCORING

- 10.1. Scoring will be Time-On-Time (TOT) using Monterey Bay PHRF and BAMA ratings. The finish orders and times will be posted on the event website as soon as possible after receiving finish times.

11. PENALTIES

- 11.1. RRS Appendix V1 and V2 will apply.

12. PROTESTS

- 12.1. US Sailing protest forms will be used and can be downloaded at <https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/US-Sailing-2017-2020-Protest-Form.pdf>
- 12.2. Protests and requests for redress shall be lodged with the organizing authority at race@mpyc.org within 90 minutes after the finish of the protesting boat.

13. PRIZES

- 13.1. The winners of each division will be engraved on a perpetual trophy kept at MPYC.
- 13.2. Prizes will be awarded to each Division for first place and additional places based upon the number of entries at the discretion of the organizing authority. Prizes will be delivered to each club for distribution to the winners.

14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 14.1. Sailing in an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this race participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The race organizers (OA, race committee, host club, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this race. By participating in this race, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from all liability associated with each competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

15. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 15.1. For further information contact race@mpyc.org or Jean du Preez (831) 917-8757