

TGIF Fun Racing Event Rules

These races are organized by Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club.

1. RULES

1.1 The races are governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). This document serves as the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

1.2 Appendix T, Arbitration will apply in the event of a disagreement of the interpretation of the rules between or among boats. All boats are reminded of rule 14 which states that all boats, including those with right-of-way, are required to avoid a collision.

2. CHANGES TO EVENT RULES

2.1 Any change to the Event Rules will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the main floor of the clubhouse, and will be communicated by radio on channel 71 prior to the start.

3.2 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on 71.

3.3 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio 71.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 The event is open to all boats in the ABYC Fleet.

4.2 All boats must be helmed by a member of Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club.

4.3 No flying sails are permitted.

5. FEES

5.1 There are no fees.

6. RISK STATEMENT

6.1 Although it is our intention to only run races when the weather is non-threatening, RRS 3 still applies. It states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

7. CODE OF CONDUCT

7.1 Competitors shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

8. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

8.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flagpole outside by the patio to the southwest of the clubhouse.

8.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

9. SCHEDULE OF RACES

9.1 Racing will be held on Friday evenings starting June 26, 2026 to September 4, 2026.

9.2 A five-minute competitors' meeting will be held at 5:45 each Friday on the patio. The purpose of the meeting will be to determine how many boats plan to race and if there are any weather concerns.

9.3 The scheduled time of the first warning signal is 1830.

9.4 There will be one race each Friday.

10 CLASS FLAGS

10.1 There will be no class flag as all boats will sail in one division unless numbers warrant splitting into 2 divisions.

11. EVENT VENUE AND RACING AREA

11.1 The race area will be south of the entrance to the outer harbour entrance of ABYC.

12. THE COURSE

The course will be from the start to mark 4 of the ABYC fixed race course, leaving mark 4 to port. Boats will then leave marks 3, 2 and 1 to port and then mark 8 to starboard and return to the start/finish mark to finish. See the 2026 Events Book for the exact location of the course and marks. If the boat that was the starting signal vessel is no longer on station, please record the time you reached the start/finish mark and give it to the race officer once upstairs in the clubhouse.

13. THE START

13.1 The start/finish mark will be an orange inflatable mark located approximately 200 metres south of the entrance to the outer harbour.

13.2 The signal vessel will be located approximately 200 metres south of the start/finish mark. The signal boat will be a member's boat, a coach boat or one of the ABYC mark boats.

13.3 Boats are required to sail on starboard tack past the signal boat and hail their sail number prior to the start to indicate their intention to race.

13.4 The starting line is between the mast (if a sailboat) or the RC member approximately mid-ships (if a mark or coach boat) on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end inflatable mark.

13.5 Races will be started using RRS Appendix V (Sound Signalling Starting System). A copy of Appendix V is attached. PLEASE NOTE: Appendix V uses a **three-minute start sequence!!**

13.6 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the signal vessel will make a series of short sounds and a radio announcement on channel 71 at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

13.7 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number.

14. THE FINISH

14.1 The finish line is between the start/finish mark and the southeastern entrance to the outer harbour or the start boat if it is still on station.

14. TIME LIMIT(S)

14.1 The official time limit is 2000 in June and July and 1945 in August. The Race Committee may shorten course if the wind drops by the signal boat positioning to the port side of one of the rounding marks. An announcement of the shortened course will be made on channel 71.

15. HEARING REQUESTS

15.1 The purpose of the TGIF races is to kick off the weekend by enjoying a Friday evening sail with friends and family. Rule 14 requires that all boats avoid a collision. If you feel that another boat has broken a rule, and thus a protest is necessary, protest forms will be available in the clubhouse on the bulletin board. It is preferred for this event, however, that a friendly discussion with one of the club's judges take place with the two parties so that the rules can be explained in a friendly manner.

15.2 Hearings will be held in the board room after racing the following week.

16. SCORING

16.1 Races are not scored. This changes Appendix A.

16.2 Results may be calculated to allow for 'bragging rights' at the bar after racing.

16.3 If the signal boat decides to race, she shall have 4 minutes deducted from her finish time in order to compensate for the time taken to haul and stow her anchor and set her sails.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

17.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

18. PRIZES

18.1 Fun prizes *may* be given out upstairs in the clubhouse after the race.

Appendix V SOUND SIGNALLING STARTING SYSTEM

The intended use of the Sound Signalling Starting System is for starting small-boat races (including but not limited to team racing) or when race committee resources are limited. Rules in this appendix replace Racing Rule of Sailing (RRS) 26 and permit changes to Race Signals and the corresponding rules in Part 3.

This appendix applies only if the sailing instructions so state and this appendix is attached to them.

V1 All of RRS 30 is deleted.

V2 Races will be started by using the following signals. Times will be taken from the commencement of the sound signals. No visual starting signals will be made. This changes Race Signals – Preparatory Signals and RRS 26. *Time Before Starting Signal*

Before the warning	Series of short sounds	Attention
3 minutes	3 long	Warning signal
2 minutes	2 long	Preparatory signal
1 minute 30 seconds	1 long, 3 short	
1 minute	1 long	
30 seconds	3 short	
20 seconds	2 short	
10 seconds	1 short	
5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1 seconds	5 short, 1 second apart	
0	1 long	Starting signal