



Harken – Pro-Tech
28th Annual Pumpkin Bowl Regatta
West Vancouver Yacht Club, British Columbia, Canada
October 17 & 18, 2026

Optimist Weekend
Sailing Instructions (SI)
V 1.0 Issued October 7, 2026 at 20h15

The regatta is organized by the West Vancouver Yacht Club (the Organizing Authority).

The notation [NP] in a rule of the sailing instructions means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

The notation [SP] denotes that a boat or a Support Person may be subject to a specified penalty without a hearing for breaking that rule.

All times are Pacific Daylight Times (PDT).

1 RULES

- 1.1 For the Gold Fleet, in addition to meeting the requirements of RRS 60.2 and RRS 60.3, a boat intending to protest another boat concerning an incident in the racing area in which they are involved or see shall, at the first reasonable opportunity after they finish or retire, notify the race committee on the signals boat of their intent to protest and the sail number of the boat(s) they intend to protest. This changes RRS 60.4 (a).
- 1.2 Competitors may take candy from the Witch of the West (Vancouver Yacht Club).

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 hours on the day it will take effect, except that:
 - 2.1.1 If Race Committee decides to move the Silver Fleet from the Bravo Course to the Green Course, they will post this change to the Official Notice Board at least 30 minutes to the D flag being raised.
 - 2.1.2 Any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours 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 at: <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/iiDQySnlrS/#notice-board>. Official communication will be through the Official Notice Board.
- 3.2 [NP] The regatta hosts a WhatsApp group for the unofficial and informal distribution of information to competitors, support persons, friends and family. The link to join is: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/GtstIEtYC0c6xLl96XIGAk>.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 [DP][NP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the WVYC flagpole on the west side of the Clubhouse.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the Race Signal AP.
- 5.3 [DP][NP] Flag D with one sound means "Boats may now leave the harbour." Boats shall not leave the harbour until this signal is made. The warning signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after the D flag is displayed.

6 SCHEDULE

- 6.1 After sailing on Sunday, October 18, chili and hot chocolate will be available for all sailors at the Yachting Centre.

7 CLASS FLAGS

7.1

Class	Flag
Opti Gold	Optimist Black logo on Yellow
Opti Silver	Optimist White logo on Blue
Opti Green	Optimist Black logo on Green

8 RACING AREA

- 8.1 See NoR Addendum B.
- 8.2 Race Committee may locate the Green Course close to Fisherman's Cove while the Bravo Course maybe located further towards Point Atkinson and Passage Island.



9 COURSES

- 9.1 The diagrams in Addendum A and B show the courses, including the order in which marks are to be rounded, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.2 No later than the warning signal, the course to be sailed for each race will be signaled from the signal boat by displaying numeral pennants #1 or #2 or #3 as specified in Addendum A for the class starting.
- 9.3 In the absence of one of the gate marks, the remaining mark is to be left to port.
- 9.4 Opti Gold Fleet will sail on the Bravo course.
- 9.5 Opti Silver Fleet will sail on the Bravo course, unless Race Committee decides to have them sail on the Green Course. See SI 2.1.1 for how this will be communicated.
- 9.6 For the Opti Gold and Silver Fleets, the course will be a windward/leeward.
- 9.7 The Opti Green Fleet will sail on the Green Course with a course of Start-1-Finish.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 Marks are described in Addendum A and B.
- 10.2 When a mark-bot is used as a mark, reasonable movement of a mark-bot on the course will not be grounds for redress. Such movement includes movements caused by windage, wind, a mark-bot returning to station after contact with a boat, and contact with a mark-bot that does not result in damage to either the boat or the mark-bot. This changes RRS 61.4(b); however, RRS 31 remains in effect.

11 THE START

- 11.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signals boat and the course side of the other starting mark.
- 11.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least 1 minute before a warning signal is made.
- 11.3 [NP] For Gold Fleet, a boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.
- 11.4 [DP][NP] Boats not *racing* shall stay clear of the start area (at least 50 meters in any direction from the start line), during the starting sequence of the other fleets.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move an existing mark (or move the finishing line). The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the moved mark (or finishing mark) may not yet be in the position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark maybe relocated without further signaling to maintain the course configuration. This changes RRS 33.
- 12.2 For courses L2 and L3, the Race Committee may simultaneously change course and shorten a race at the gate (marks 4p and 4s) by displaying both flags C and S and making



repetitive sound signals. This means that the competitors are to proceed from the gate to the finish line to finish the race. This changes RRS 32 and RRS 33.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line for all courses will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signals boat and the course side of a blue mark.
- 13.2 [DP][NP] Boats not *racing* shall stay clear of the finish area (at least 50 meters in any direction from the finishing line).
- 13.3 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat in their class sails the course and finishes shall be scored Did Not Finish without hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.
- 13.4 Despite SI 13.3, if the Race Committee determines that the finishing order of some boats still racing is unlikely to change, it may use reasonable discretion to score those boats points equal to their position in the race at that time. This changes RRS A3, A4 and A5.2. Scores so determined will not be grounds for redress.
- 13.5 Upon a race committee official advising a boat that they have been finished on course as per SI 13.4, the boat shall follow instructions, if any, such as returning to the start area.

14 TIME LIMIT AND TARGET TIMES

- 14.1 Target time for Opti Gold and Silver Fleets is 25 minutes. Failure to meet the target times will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b).
- 14.2 For the Gold and Silver Fleets, if no boat has finished within 60 minutes, then race will be abandoned.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1 For all fleets, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty except that if the breach is within the *zone* or a judge signals a penalty, it shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.
- 15.2 RRS P2.2 and 2.3 will not apply and RRS P2.1 is changed so that it will apply to all penalties. This changes RRS P2.

16 HEARING REQUESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the signals vessel docks. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 16.2 Protests and requests for redress shall be filed online using the form provided at https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/protests/new?event_id=16184 within the protest time limit.
- 16.3 There is a jury desk in the Yachting Center for this event, but hearing requests shall be filed online.
- 16.4 Hearing Notices will be posted online at <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/schedules/16184/event> within 30 minutes of the



protest time limit expiry to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

- 16.5 The protest committee will attempt to resolve all boat-on-boat protests by arbitration if possible as per RRS Appendix T. Hearings, if required, will be held in person or electronically at the discretion of the Chief Judge. The time, location and method of hearing will be detailed on the hearing schedule. While every attempt will be made to resolve incidents quickly, hearings may not be held on the same day of the incident due to technical logistics.
- 16.6 Any scoring enquiries shall be filed at https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/scoring_inquiries/new?event_id=16184.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 [DP][NP] All competitors must “check out” when leaving the dock by advising the check-out person at the top of the ramp. They must “check in” when returning to the dock each day by advising the check in person at the top of the ramp.
- 17.2 [DP][NP] Failure to comply with SI 17.1 before leaving the harbour, or with SI 17.1 by the end of protest time or by the time posted on the ONB (whichever is later) shall result in the boat receiving a 50% scoring penalty as calculated in RRS 44.3(c) added to the race score sailed nearest in time to that of the incident without a hearing.. Any boat so penalized may request redress under RRS 61.4(b) if the competitor believes the race committee made an error.
- 17.3 [DP][NP] A whistle shall be attached by a lanyard to the PFD of all competitors. The lanyard shall be long enough to permit the sailor to use the whistle while wearing the PFD.
- 17.4 Competitors are solely responsible for their own safety. However, in circumstances that the race committee considers hazardous, it may require a competitor to accept help.
- 17.5 [DP][NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible and may be disqualified from the event for failure to do so.
- 17.6 [DP][NP] The race committee may protest a boat including Support and Coach boats that impedes or obstructs commercial traffic, or sails between a tug and its tow. Any resulting disqualification may be for the race or for the series at the discretion of the Protest Committee.
- 17.7 The On – Water Emergency Muster point is located at the West Dry Dock crane. See map in NoR Addendum A – Event Venue Plan.
- 17.8 [NP] [DP] ALL coach, support and spectator boats are required to call “Pumpkin Control” on VHF channel 73 (Bravo) or 68 (Green) when leaving and returning to the harbour to report number of people of board.



18 SUPPORT BOATS [DP][NP] except as noted [SP]

- 18.1 Support / Coach boats must register at the Yachting Centre with a deposit of \$20 to receive their identification flag. The deposit will be returned upon return of the identification flag.
- 18.2 [SP] Attendance by coaches and other support boats at the Coaches Meeting is mandatory.
- 18.3 [SP] Coaches are required to monitor their applicable course Race Committee VHF channel (see Addendum A and B), to determine if their assistance is required in case of emergency or rescue situations.
- 18.4 Any Support or Coach boat that delivers athletes to the dock, or they are aware that a boat they are responsible for is retiring, must inform the Race Officer that they are doing so and report the sail number of the boat retiring.
- 18.5 Any Support or Coach boat delivering Competitors to the dock must inform Pumpkin Control for the relevant course that they are doing so and report the sail number of the retiring boat.
- 18.6 Coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to the start until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. The racing area is defined as the area bounded by the lay lines from the start area to the furthest windward mark, and the starting area and the start line extensions defined as the Exclusion Zone Boundary in the Course Diagram. Coaches and support boats also must maintain a minimum distance of 50 metres distance from the competing boat or any mark of the course (for all classes on the course) within the following exceptions:
 - 18.6.1 Supporting the back 30% of the Opti Gold fleet, the back 75% of the Opti Silver Fleet, and 100% of the Opti Green Fleet.
 - 18.6.2 At the request of the Race committee, a coach boat may enter the area where boats are sailing to offer or provide outside assistance to a boat.
 - 18.6.3 In an emergency situation, a coach boat may, on its own judgment, enter where boats are sailing to aid a boat for which it is responsible.
- 18.7 All support boats must accept trash from competitors. See SI 20.

19 REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

- 19.1 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

20 TRASH DISPOSAL

- 20.1 [DP] Competitors shall not put trash in the water. Trash may be placed aboard coach boats and other support boats.
- 20.2 WVYC is committed to minimizing waste and to recycling whenever possible.



21 STANDARD PENALTIES

- 21.1 A breach of NoR 1.4 (tow lines): a two-point penalty, or 10% of their race score (whichever is greater) per race without a towline. The penalty will not exceed the DNF score.
- 21.2 A breach of SI 18.2 or SI 18.3 (Support Boat VHF or Coach attendance at coaches meeting): 10% of the race score or 2 points (whichever is greater) against the race closest in time to the incident for each sailor assigned to the coach or support boat.



Addendum A – Course Diagrams

BRAVO COURSE: Opti Gold and Silver

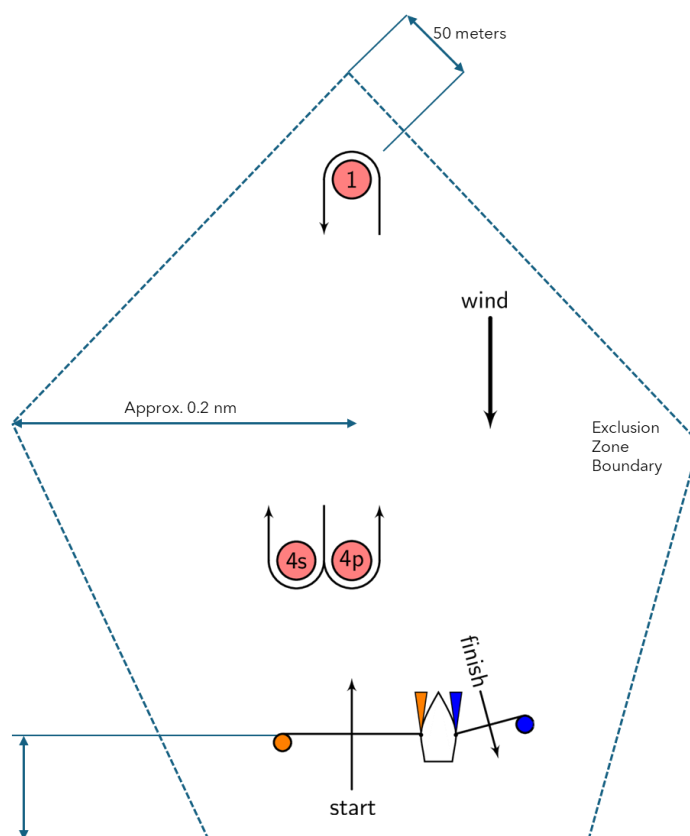
Race Committee - VHF Channel 69

Alternate Channel (e.g. for boat rescue coordination) – VHF Channel 73

Marks 1, 4 p, 4 s: Yellow Robotic Marks or Tetrahedrons

Start Mark - Orange Robotic Mark or Tetrahedron

Finish Mark – Blue Tetrahedron or Blue Robotic Mark



Course	Marks Rounding
L1	Start – 1 – 4p – Finish
L2	Start - 1 – Gate (4s 4p) – 1 – 4p – Finish
L3	Start - 1 – Gate (4s 4p) – 1 – Gate (4s 4p) – 1 – 4p – Finish



GREEN COURSE: Opti Green

Race Committee - VHF Channel 72

Alternate Channel (e.g. for boat rescue coordination) – VHF Channel 68

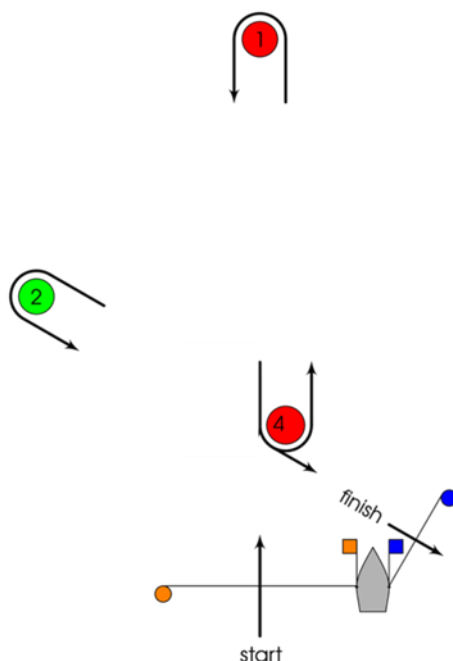
Mark 1: Yellow Robotic Mark or Tetrahedron

Mark 2: Green Tetrahedron

Mark 4P: Yellow Tetrahedron or Tetrahedron

Start Mark - Orange Robotic Mark or Tetrahedron

Finish Mark – Blue Tetrahedron



Green Fleet: Start – 2 - Finish

Course and Mark Roundings for Opti Silver when they are moved to the Green Course

Course	Marks Rounding
L1	Start – 1 – 4 – Finish
L2	Start - 1 – 4 - 1 – 4 – Finish
L3	Start - 1 – 4 – 1 – 4 – 1 – 4 – Finish



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