



Sailing Instructions
2026 HIYC McDougall Fall Dinghy Series
Updated 8/30/2026

1. RULES: This document extends the Notice of Race document. Changes to the Racing Rules of Sailing are indicated in **bold**.
2. SAFETY:
 - a. PFDs must be worn at all times while sailing.
 - b. WHISTLE: Sailors are encouraged to have a whistle attached to their PFD to aid in requesting assistance.
 - c. HEADING IN EARLY: A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible, if it is safe to do so.
 - d. BARGES: All boats at all times **MUST** keep clear of large vessels navigating the channel. Failure to do so is grounds for disqualification at the discretion of the Race Committee. When a boat is becalmed or otherwise unable to sail out of the channel before an approaching barge is half a mile distant, she may use any method of propulsion to clear the channel provided she does not thereby gain a significant advantage in the race. This adds an exception to **RRS 42.3**, as permitted by **RRS 42.3 (i)**.
3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board, which is the pin board inside the HIYC clubhouse. Changes will be posted at least 30 minutes before the race committee leaves the dock for the day the change will take effect.
4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE: Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Race Committee boat at the dock.
 - a. When flag "AP" (Postpone) is displayed ashore, the subsequent warning signal will not be sooner than 30 minutes after lowering the "AP". This changes the meaning of **Race Signal "AP"** in this circumstance.
5. SCHEDULE OF RACES: is as described in the Notice of Race.
6. COMMUNICATION ON THE WATER: The Race Committee may hail competitors to communicate about the course, changes to the course, and starting order. Competitors may request that the Race Committee repeat a hail. Failure to hear a hail is not grounds for redress.
7. THE START: **RRS 26** is replaced with **US Sailing Prescription Appendix U**. A 3-minute auditory sequence will be used. If flags are also used at the discretion of the Race Committee, **the auditory signals take precedence.**

<i>Sound</i>	<i>Time until start</i>
3 long	3 minutes
2 long	2 minutes
1 long, 3 short	1 minute 30 seconds

1 long	1 minute
3 short	30 seconds
2 short	20 seconds
1 short	10 seconds
5 short	5, 4, 3, 2, 1 seconds
1 long	0 seconds.

8. ORDER OF STARTS: The order of starts, and whether there will be a delay between each class's starting sequence, will be hailed by the Race Committee on the water.
9. CLASS FLAGS: Class flags are optional and may be used by the Race Committee at their discretion.
10. CHECK IN: Skippers must check in with the Race Committee while on the water before sailing his/her first race of the day, by sailing past the stern of the committee boat while on starboard tack and hail his/her name and sail number.
11. STARTING LINE: The starting line will be between the staff of an orange flag on the Race Committee boat, and an orange/yellow/red buoy to port of the committee boat.
 - a. The Race Committee may trail a mark from the stern of the Race Committee boat. The trailing mark will be considered to be an extension of the committee boat. A boat may not pass between the trailing mark and the committee boat.
12. FINISHING LINE: The finishing line will be between the staff of a blue flag on a Race Committee boat and the course side of an orange/yellow/red buoy. An orange flag may be used in place of a blue flag at the discretion of the Race Committee.
 - a. The Race Committee may at its own discretion finish competitors in place for any reason, including to respond to safety concerns, or to facilitate more racing. This changes **RRS 35**.
13. RECALLS: When individual recalls are signaled, the Race Committee will attempt to hail the sail numbers or other identifying characteristics of the recalled boats by hailing. This adds onto **RRS 29.1**. Failure of the Race Committee to hail or failure of a boat to hear the hail shall not relieve the boat of its obligation to start correctly.
14. THE COURSE:
 - a. Courses will be windward/leeward.
 - b. The windward mark *may* have an offset buoy.
 - c. The leeward mark *may* be a gate.
 - d. The starting area may be in the middle of the course or it may be downwind of the course.
 - e. The race committee will announce *the number of legs of the course*. The course will be communicated to competitors by hailing. The race committee *may* also write the number of legs on a dry erase board.
 - f. Marks will be orange/yellow/red buoys placed by the Race Committee.
15. TIME LIMIT: Boats that do not finish within 10 minutes of the first boat in their class may be scored in place at the discretion of the Race Committee.

16. PROTESTS:

- a. A boat intending to protest shall attempt to notify the Race Committee boat at the finish line of its intent to protest and identify the protested boat at the first reasonable opportunity. This adds onto **RRS 60.3**.
- b. Protests will be written and delivered to the Race Committee PRO within 45 minutes of the committee boat docking. This time limit will be displayed on the notice board if the Race Committee has been informed of an intention to protest. This modifies **RRS 60.3 (b)**.
- c. Protest notices will be posted within 75 minutes of the committee boat docking to inform competitors of the place and time of hearings, in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- d. Arbitration meetings will take place prior to formal protest hearings, as defined by **RRS Appendix T**.