



Around Monterey Bay Mile Buoy Long Distance Race

September 12, 2026

Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club

Monterey, CA

NOTICE OF RACE

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. This handicapped long-distance race around the three Mile buoys on Monterey Bay was conceived by former MPYC Commodore and Race Chair Jean du Preez based on the original Monterey Bay Cup. The inaugural Around the Bay race in 2020 was held in support of the Fire Relief Funds in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties.
- 1.2. The race is 44 nautical miles in length forming a large triangle around the three Mile buoys at each harbor in the Monterey Bay.
- 1.3. The race is co-organized by the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club, Elkhorn Yacht Club and Santa Cruz Yacht Club.
- 1.4. This race is part of the Monterey Bay Yacht Racing Association series of five long distance races. Entering this race is required to be eligible for the overall Monterey Bay Yacht Racing Association (MBYRA) trophy.

2. RULES

- 2.1. The race will be governed by the rules as defined in 2025-2028 *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 2.2. Racing rule 52 is changed for the Short Handed Sailing (SHS) class only, to allow the use of autopilots during the race.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. The race is open to all boats holding a valid 2026 Monterey Bay PHRF or BAMA rating. If a boat does not hold a current PHRF certificate, the Organizing Authority may convene and rule on an assigned rating before race time.
- 3.2. Registration for the race shall be made online using the MPYC registration portal ['Round The Bay Registration](#). **Entry deadline** is 2000 hrs (8 PM) on Thursday, September 10, 2026.
- 3.3. This event is open to all mono-hull and multi-hull sailing vessels recognized by the Yacht Racing Association (YRA).
- 3.4. Boats may enter one of the following Fleets:
 - 3.4.1. A Fleet with spinnaker (less than or equal to PHRF 90)
 - 3.4.2. B Fleet with spinnaker (PHRF 91 and greater)
 - 3.4.3. C Fleet Multihulls
 - 3.4.4. D Fleet Jib and Main

- 3.4.5. There also will be a short handed sailing (SHS) division within the A, B & D fleets. SHS boats are single or double-handed. Please notify the race organizers if you are sailing in the SHS division.
- 3.5. One-Design boats are invited to participate as a class. If five boats of a single type register, they will form a class.
- 3.6. The Organizing Authority reserves the right to modify the divisions based upon entries received. If two or more multihulls are entered they will be scored as a class, otherwise they will be scored with the appropriate PHRF class.
- 3.7. A liability waiver must be E-signed by each boat skipper during the registration process.
- 3.8. A complete and accurate MPYC float plan must be submitted prior to, or at the virtual skippers meeting at 0900 hours on September 12, 2025). Blank forms are available on the event website. Completed forms may be submitted in person, with registration, or emailed to race@mpyc.org before the submission deadline.
4. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND EQUIPMENT
 - 4.1. Boats shall be equipped in accordance with Federal Equipment Requirements for Recreational Vessels Yachts and meet the MBYRA Safety Equipment Requirements for "Coastal" revision 2026. (available on the event website). In addition, it is highly recommended that all boats carry two (2) cellular phones with batteries fully charged.
 - 4.2. Section 3.6.4 Handheld Flares is changed to: a boat shall carry US Coast Guard flares meeting day-night requirements not older than the expiration date.
 - 4.3. The Organizing Authority reserves the right to reject an entry based on its sole opinion of the seaworthiness of the boat for coastal competition where rescue may be delayed.
5. FEES
 - 5.1. The entry fee is \$50.00 per boat.
6. BOATS
 - 6.1. The race will be sailed in mono-hull or multihull boats with valid PHRF ratings issued by the Monterey Bay PHRF or BAMA Committee.
 - 6.2. Boats without a PHRF rating may sail the course, but will not be scored.
7. COURSE
 - 7.1. The 44.06 nautical mile course will start between the relevant Mile buoy (outside the Monterey, Moss Landing, and Santa Cruz harbors) and a race committee boat anchored to the shore side of each Mile buoy or a shore point in the case of Moss Landing. All three starts will be simultaneous and to windward.
 - 7.2. Competitors will round the other Mile buoys and finish back at the Mile buoys where they started.
 - 7.3. Boats can decide whether to sail the course clockwise or anticlockwise provided they round all three Mile buoys on the shore side of each Mile buoy.
8. SCHEDULE
 - 8.1. A mandatory online skippers meeting will be scheduled for **0900 hrs (9AM) on September 12** via Zoom. A Zoom link will be sent to each entry prior to the skippers meeting.
 - 8.2. The warning signal for the race will be at **1155 on Saturday September 12, 2026**.
 - 8.3. There will be one start for all classes at each Mile buoy.

9. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1. The Sailing Instructions will be available on the event website no later than September 10 and will also be e-mailed to registered skippers.

10. SCORING

- 10.1. Scoring will be based on Monterey Bay PHRF and BAMA ratings and will be scored time-on-time. The finish orders and times shall be posted on ClubSpot.
- 10.2. The finish time limit is set at 2000 (8 PM). The time limit may be adjusted at the skippers meeting depending on expected conditions. Boats crossing the finish line after the time limit will be scored as a DNF. This changes RRS 35.

11. PRIZES

- 11.1. 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.

12. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 12.1. Sailing is 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.

13. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 13.1. For questions please contact race@mpyc.org