

Race Management

Level 2

*BC Sailing & Canadian Yachting
Association*

Session 1

- ▶ Duties of a Principal Race Officer
- ▶ Leadership of a club race committee

Introduction

Race Management 2

- ▶ **Course schedule**
 - ▶ Target: leadership of a club race committee
 - ▶ 3 sessions - 3 hours each

- ▶ **National & provincial structure**
 - ▶ Canadian Yachting Association
 - ▶ BC Sailing

- ▶ **Certification levels**
 - ▶ Local - level 1 & 2
 - ▶ National - level 3 and 4

The Rules in Sailing

Race Management 2

- ▶ International Sailing Federation (ISAF)
- ▶ The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)
 - ▶ Note Canadian prescriptions
- ▶ Sailing instructions
- ▶ Safety and equipment standards
 - ▶ ORC or local, like PIYA
- ▶ Rating rules
 - ▶ PHRF, IMS
- ▶ Class rules

Organization of a regatta

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- ▶ Organizing authority
 - ▶ Yacht club or class association
 - ▶ Usually under the fleet captain
- ▶ Led by a Regatta Chair
- ▶ Regatta chair appoints
 - ▶ Committee ashore
 - ▶ Principal race officer
 - ▶ Other technical people

Regatta chair duties

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- ✓ Find committee heads
- ✓ Deal with the invited classes
- ✓ Negotiate with the host club
- ✓ Arrange (or find) trophies
Or appoint a prize chair
- ✓ Arrange use of the water
- ✓ Help PRO with Notice of Race

Regatta Committee Ashore

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- ▶ SOCIAL!
- ▶ Promotion & press
- ▶ Billeting
- ▶ Boats
- ▶ Finance - maybe a treasurer
- ▶ Sponsorship
- ▶ Prizes

Race committee - Technical

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- ▶ Race committee chair (PRO)
- ▶ Registration
- ▶ Safety
- ▶ Harbourmaster
- ▶ Measurement
- ▶ Jury chair
- ▶ Scoring

A good PRO

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- ▶ Technical knowledge
 - ▶ Training
 - ▶ Experience
 - ▶ Local knowledge

- ▶ Leadership ability
 - ▶ Self-confidence
 - ▶ Able to educate the crew
 - ▶ Appropriate personality

Members of a race committee

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- ▶ Recorder
- ▶ Timer
- ▶ Mark set
- ▶ Flag officer
- ▶ Sound officer
- ▶ Line judge
- ▶ Safety officer

Safety Officer

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- ▶ Reports to PRO
- ▶ Full charge of health & safety
 - ▶ not combined with other jobs, like jury, press, spectator boats.
- ▶ Health on the water
 - ▶ water or other fluid, adequate food
- ▶ Prevention
 - ▶ Y flag
 - ▶ tow line requirement
- ▶ Accident response
 - ▶ pre-arrange ambulance, hospital, first aid
 - ▶ Rescue PEOPLE first, then boats

Notice of Race (1)

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- ▶ Now found in RRS M1 and M2
- ▶ Responsibility of the Regatta Chair
 - ▶ But make sure you have some input
- ▶ Areas for discussion
 - ▶ Number of entries
 - ▶ How many on the starting line?
 - ▶ Classes invited
 - ▶ What classes on what course?
 - ▶ Schedule
 - ▶ How many races a day?
 - ▶ When should racing start and end?

Notice of Race (2)

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Telling the world about
your regatta

What classes are
invited?

When can I register?

When does racing
start?

Other information

Advertising category

Measurement
requirements

Expected changes to the
racing rules

Courses to be sailed

Scoring system

Prizes

Sailing instructions (1)

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- ▶ Now found in RRS M2
- ▶ Use the guide in RRS appendix N
- ▶ Explain the conduct of your regatta

Sailing Instructions (2)

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Must include

Rules
Schedule
Courses
Marks
Starting & finishing
Time limits
Scoring system

Other information

Advertising category
Changes to the Rules
Registration procedure
Measurement or inspection
Location of the official notice board
Safety requirements
Approximate course length
Time limits
Protest procedures

Our guiding principles

- ✓ Fair sailing
- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Give them what they want

Skippers meeting

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- ▶ Decide who leads the meeting
 - ▶ Make sure you have input
- ▶ Agenda
 - ▶ Welcome from host club
 - ▶ Social & prizegiving schedule
 - ▶ Location of regatta office
 - ▶ and the Official Notice Board
 - ▶ Introduce judges
 - ▶ Note where protests filed & heard
 - ▶ First aid & rescue facilities
 - ▶ Wind / weather / tide presentation
- ▶ DO NOT comment on sailing instructions
 - ▶ If necessary, get questions in writing
 - ▶ Post jury responses

You need some gear

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- ✓ Watch (digital)
- ✓ Hand bearing compass
- ✓ Horns & whistles
- ✓ GPS
- ✓ Tape recorder
- ✓ Duct tape
- ✓ Wool for tell-tales
- ✓ Sun screen

On the Water

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- ▶ Get there early
 - ▶ Time before things start is more valuable than during the regatta

- ▶ Check
 - ▶ Equipment
 - ▶ Weather
 - ▶ Consider postponement
 - ▶ Communications gear
 - ▶ Radios, cell phones, etc.

- ▶ Leave the dock
 - ▶ At least one hour before
 - ▶ First day, add another half hour!

Course types

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- ▶ Windward -leeward
- ▶ Triangles
 - ▶ 45 degree angle
 - ▶ 60 degree angle
 - ▶ Olympic triangle
- ▶ Trapezoids
- ▶ Fixed marks
 - ▶ Islands
 - ▶ Navigation marks

Course considerations

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- ▶ Start / finish
 - ▶ Extended start/finish
 - ▶ Separate start/finish boats

- ▶ Windward/leeward congestion
 - ▶ Spacer mark at top
 - ▶ Gate at the bottom

- ▶ Port/starboard roundings

- ▶ Fair sailing issues
 - ▶ Beaches
 - ▶ Freighters
 - ▶ Tall buildings
 - ▶ Commercial traffic

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Session 2

- ▶ Duties of a Principal Race Officer
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Review

Race Management 2

- ▶ Our guiding principles
 - ▶ Fair sailing
 - ▶ Safety
 - ▶ Give them what they want

- ▶ Race committee
 - ▶ Jobs, not people

- ▶ Course layout
 - ▶ Why windward-leeward?
 - ▶ Why triangle
 - ▶ Port roundings
 - ▶ Extended start/finish
 - ▶ Leeward gate

Course Length

Measure length in MINUTES

Youth	30 - 45 min
Lasers	45 min
Boards	30 - 40 min
Cruising Class	60 - 75 min
Catamaran	60 - 90 min
Consider	time limit
	weather

Calculate the length

Figure the actual
DISTANCE sailed
for each leg

start with the
first weather
leg

TIME to sail the
distance

calculate it in
minutes

Add the times
together

total course
length

The magic formula

Calculating course length

Time in minutes

$(\text{Distance} \times 60) / \text{speed in knots}$

Useful numbers

1.4 and 0.7

Starting line

Preparation

- ▶ Anchor in plenty of water
 - ▶ get lots of anchor line out
 - ▶ mark it so you know what you have

- ▶ Establish wind pattern
 - ▶ Steady
 - ▶ Oscillating
 - ▶ Progressive shift
 - ▶ Do something

Starting line (2)

How long is the line?

- ✓ 1.25 times fleet length
- ✓ Sailboards need less room
- ✓ Longer if windier
- ✓ Longer is better
but not too long

Starting line angle

- ▶ Start at 90 degrees to the wind
 - ▶ Wind in the starting area
- ▶ Is one end favoured?
 - ▶ Favoured course side
 - ▶ Tide
 - ▶ Wind
- ▶ Protecting the committee boat
 - ▶ Not by adjusting the line
 - ▶ Use dinghy, spacer buoy

Adjusting the line

- ▶ Don't be subtle!
 - ▶ Depending on level of competitors
- ▶ Example: 8 Stars / Martin 242's or 15 Tasars
 - ▶ 250 foot line with a 5 degree bias
 - ▶ One end will be favoured by 22 feet
 - ▶ One or two boat lengths!

Downwind starts

- ▶ Running start: same as upwind
 - ▶ Square to the wind
- ▶ If not square, over-correct
 - ▶ Competitors will head for the favoured end
- ▶ Reaching start
 - ▶ Be dramatic!

Weather mark

- ▶ Place it directly upwind
- ▶ How far?
 - ▶ Your mark set person should know
- ▶ Allow for different wind direction up the course
- ▶ Keep the course diamond wide

Reach marks

- ▶ Calculate the bearing
 - ▶ Look back at the committee boat
 - ▶ Add or subtract 45 degrees
 - ▶ Use 60 degrees for boats without spinnakers

Race Management

Level 2

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Session 3

- ▶ Duties of a Principal Race Officer
- ▶ Leadership of a club race committee

Review Previous Sessions

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- ▶ Guiding principles
 - ▶ Fair sailing
 - ▶ Safety
 - ▶ Give them what they want
- ▶ Talking to competitors
 - ▶ Who gets to?
- ▶ Distance / time formula
- ▶ When to set marks
 - ▶ When do they have to be in?
 - ▶ Set the weather mark for Race 1

Before the start

- ▶ Postponement
 - ▶ See RRS 27.3
 - ▶ "for any reason"
 - ▶ Needs an 'AP', so keep it ready
- ▶ Reasons for postponement
 - ▶ Error in procedure
 - ▶ Equipment problem
 - ▶ Safety issue
- ▶ Abandonment
 - ▶ "for any reason"
 - ▶ Not used

Recalls

- ▶ Individual
 - ▶ must identify the boats
 - ▶ "the race committee shall promptly display flag X."
 - ▶ i.e. immediately!

- ▶ When does the flag come down?

- ▶ General recall
 - ▶ Unable to identify all OCS boats
 - ▶ Error in procedure
 - ▶ See RRS 29.3
 - ▶ Instead of the AP?

Starting Penalties (RRS 30)

- ▶ 'I' flag
 - ▶ Round the end rule
 - ▶ Boats are OCS in the last minute
 - ▶ Easier to spot OCS boats
 - ▶ Some fleets expect it
- ▶ 'Z' flag
 - ▶ Percentage penalty
 - ▶ Don't use it
- ▶ Black flag
 - ▶ Purpose: to remove poor starters
 - ▶ After at least one general recall

Shorten course

- ▶ When?
 - ▶ Definition of code flag 'S'
- ▶ Why?
 - ▶ Time limit
 - ▶ Bad weather
- ▶ How?
 - ▶ Definition of 'Finish' (page 109)

Changing the course

- ▶ RRS 33
- ▶ Code flag 'C'
- ▶ Either of
 - ▶ Plus or minus
 - ▶ Compass course to the next mark
- ▶ Sound is required
 - ▶ repetitive sounds
 - ▶ five at a time

Abandonment

- ▶ Code flag 'N'
- ▶ RRS 32
 - ▶ Error in procedure
 - ▶ Foul weather
 - ▶ Insufficient wind
 - ▶ Missing mark
 - ▶ Any other reason
- ▶ Reminder: safety is our responsibility
- ▶ Fairness
 - ▶ How far into the race?
 - ▶ Time limit
 - ▶ Marks rounded
 - ▶ Fleet expectations

Missing mark

- ▶ RRS 34
- ▶ Code flag 'M'
 - ▶ should be on the mark set boat
- ▶ Sound is required
 - ▶ repetitive sounds
 - ▶ five at a time

Finishing line

- ▶ Short as possible
- ▶ Blue flag suggested
- ▶ What about horns?
 - ▶ use whistle, voice
 - ▶ Who gets a horn?
- ▶ Recording
 - ▶ May have more than one team
 - ▶ Get times for first and last in each division
 - ▶ Record all boats - even OCS
- ▶ Watch for protest flags
 - ▶ Not required to notify us unless in the SI's

Wrapping it up

It's been a long day

- ▶ Keep all paper
- ▶ Meet with the team
 - ▶ Review the day
 - ▶ Look for
 - ▶ equipment problems
 - ▶ improvements for tomorrow
 - ▶ Set up the next day
 - ▶ Get gas
 - ▶ Other supplies
- ▶ Don't leave until
 - ▶ Scoring is completed
 - ▶ Protest time is ended