SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
Sandy Bay Yacht Club
Rockport, Massachusetts

1 RULES

1.1 Races will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of U.S. Sailing, the rules of applicable racing classes (except as any of these are altered by these Sailing Instructions), and by these Sailing Instructions.

2 ELIGIBILITY

2.1 All skippers and crew participating in regular scheduled races of SBYC shall be members in good standing or be a guest of said member as set forth in the By-Laws.

2.2 Yacht owners agree that whenever their yachts participate in any race sponsored by SBYC, whether sailed by the owner or anyone else, they shall have aboard all appropriate safety equipment.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS & CHANGES IN THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Notices to competitors or changes in the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Race Committee bulletin board located next to the Snack Bar.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole.

4.2 Code flag "AP" with 2 sound signals means "All races are postponed". When flag "AP" is displayed ashore, the first warning signal will be made not less than thirty minutes after removal, unless the race is postponed again or abandoned. This changes Race Signal AP

4.3 Code flag "N" with 3 sound signals means "All races are abandoned".

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Information will be posted on the Race Committee bulletin board.

5.2 When more than one race for one or more classes will be held on the same day, the warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable.

5.3 When there has been a long postponement and when more than one race (or sequence of races, for two or more classes) will be held on the same day, the warning signal for the first race and each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound for at least four minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

6 CLASS FLAGS

6.1 For one design classes, the class flag will display the class emblem. Cruising class flag will be the letter "A".

7 RACING AREA

7.1 The racing area will be as shown on the attached course chart.

7.2 Cruising Class races beyond the area shown on the course chart are described in the Cruising Class circular.

8 THE COURSES

8.1 The course to be sailed and the compass heading to the first mark will be displayed on the course posting ladder on the Race Committee Signal Boat. The course will be displayed using letters and numbers on white cards and the compass heading displayed using numbers on black cards. The Race Committee may also display the distance in nautical miles to the first mark using a decimal number on white cards. All course, heading, and distance designations will be arranged vertically.

8.2 When a single letter is displayed, that indicates a course pattern to be followed (see the SBYC course chart). A numeral below the letter indicates the number of times the course pattern is to be sailed.

8.3 The course may vary from fleet to fleet and it will be posted prior to your start.

8.4 The start/finish line, when in the middle of the course, must be honored. Sailing through this line on a leg of the course will be grounds for disqualification (if the orange flag is not displayed on the Committee Boat, the starting line does not exist, and you may sail through the 'line').

8.5 Cruising Class courses are described in the Cruising Class circular.

8.6 If government marks are to be used as marks of the course, letters identifying the marks will be displayed from top to bottom on the course posting ladder in the order the marks are to be rounded. A numeral in the column indicates the number of times the preceding marks are to be rounded. A single letter displayed just forward of the column indicates a course pattern to be followed using the preceding marks (see course chart for patterns).

9 MARKS

9.1 Portable yellow inflatable marks will be used as often as possible.
9.2 Portable orange or yellow mooring balls may be used for 420s and Optimists.
9.3 If a new mark is set for a second or subsequent windward leg, that mark, as provided in Instruction 12.1, will be either yellow, identified with a horizontal black band, or orange.
9.4 Permanent (Government) marks are described on the course chart.
9.5 Marks for the Cruising Class not described in these Sailing Instructions are described in the Cruising Class circular.
9.6 Government marks or buoys must be honored except as follows:

a. When used as a mark of the course.
b. Green Can "C3" NNW of Gap Head (SBYC Mark E).
c. Red Nun "R2" at Oak Rock inside Thacher Island.

9.7 An offset mark may be used with a windward mark. The offset mark will be located on a line perpendicular to the wind and extending through the windward mark, about 150 feet from the windward mark. Boats shall pass the windward mark to port and then pass the offset mark to port. If an offset mark is in place, it must be honored.
9.8 A leeward gate may be used instead of a leeward mark. The leeward gate will consist of two marks, about 150 feet apart. Boats must pass between the two marks from the direction of the last mark, rounding either the port mark leaving it to port, or the starboard mark leaving it to starboard. If a leeward gate is in place, it must be honored.

10 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1 The following area is designated as an obstruction: the submerged breakwater, between the G "3" Gong at the northern edge, and the R "2" Bell at Avery Ledge, as shown on the enclosed chart.

11 THE START

11.1 Races will be started by using Rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
11.2 For 420s and Optimists, races may be started in accordance with the Sound Signal Starting System, Appendix S of the US Sailing Prescriptions.
11.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.
11.4 The starting order will be posted on the Notice Board. The Race Committee reserves the right to change the starting order.
11.5 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
11.6 Delay of start for a class may be requested by its fleet captain or representative, who shall notify the fleet and the Race Committee.
11.7 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes Rule A4.
11.8 The starting line may be separated from the leeward mark. If so, the port end starting mark will be orange and the leeward mark yellow whenever possible.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not yet be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain the course configuration. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
12.2 Rule 33 is changed to allow the Race Committee to give the compass bearing by hail.

13 THE FINISH

13.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee boat, which will display a blue shape or flag, and the course side of the finishing mark.
13.2 The finishing line will be as presented on downwind finishes; i.e., the Committee Boat may or may not move to the other side of the finishing mark as shown in the course diagrams.
13.3 Each yacht shall be prepared to identify the yacht finishing immediately ahead and astern by sail number if requested by the Race Committee

13.4 If the Race Committee intends to start another race on the same day, it will display the Second Substitute (with no sound) and the relevant class flags while boats are finishing.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 A boat that has taken a penalty or retired under rule 31 or 44.1 shall notify the Race Committee as soon as practicable.
14.2 As provided in Rule 67, the Protest Committee may, without a hearing, penalize a boat that has broken Rule 42.

15 TIME LIMITS

15.1 Time limit is 3 hours. If the first yacht of a class finishes within the prescribed time limit, the race is valid.
15.2 For one-design classes, boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat of her class sails the course and finishes may be scored Did Not Finish or scored as her current place indicates at the discretion of the Race Committee. This changes Rules 35, A4 and A5.
15.3 Cruising Class time limits may vary - see the Cruising Class circular for details.

16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

16.1 All yachts, with the exception of single-handers and 420s, shall display a red flag if protesting another yacht. This changes Rule 61.1(a)(2).
16.2 A yacht protesting another yacht shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible after she finishes or retires.
16.3 Protests and Requests for Redress shall be written on U.S. Sailing forms and lodged with the Race Committee within one hour of the docking of the Race Committee boat. Forms are available in the clubhouse.
16.4 Notices of protests by the Race Committee, Protest Committee or Jury will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b).
16.5 Breaches of instructions 11.5, 14.1, 18 and 21 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes Rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification of the protest committee so decides.

17 SCORING

17.1 See Notice of Race

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

18.1 Single-handers shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD while racing.
18.2 Each competitor shall check in on the starboard side of the Race Committee boat prior to the first race. Yachts failing to do so may be scored “DNS”. Late arrivals shall notify the Race Committee.
18.3 Yachts retiring from a race shall notify a Race Committee boat or Club launch operator as soon as possible.
18.4 Yachts not starting shall notify a Race Committee boat.

19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

19.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

20 RADIO COMMUNICATION

20.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

21 TRASH DISPOSAL

21.1 Boats shall not put trash in the water. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

22 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

22.1 Competitors participate in the races entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. Sandy Bay Yacht Club, it’s employees and it’s volunteers will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the races.

23 INSURANCE

23.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance.