

CCIA Committee Boat 101

SHORT COURSE IN RUNNING THE CCIA COMMITTEE BOAT

Approx time on water 1100- 1500 ± We shoot for a start time of 1230

Manning the committee boat should be enjoyable, a fun day on the water, regardless of the weather, as we are out there not only for a little competition, but to learn how to get the most out of our boats, and train the next generation to be the best and most competent sailors they can be. We are a team trying to accomplish the same goals, and you are an important part of the whole. Following the finish of the last boat, please join us at the dingy dock for our traditional post-race GAM.

Your responsibilities include starting the race, finishing the race, keeping track of the order of finish, the elapsed times, and a few other straightforward tasks as described below.

1100: Be at the dock ready to leave alone or with your crewmate(s) with the following equipment: **Racing Chart, Handheld radio, Starting horn, clip board w/pencil and paper, countdown or count up stop watch (Your's), Letter board, flag staff, Drop mark Z (red poly ball), and Pin End of the Starting Line (red poly ball or green float).** The small items can be found the Committee Boat canvas picnic bag in the Manager's office, and the Flag Staff and Letter Board under the Post Office along the path to the Berry's dock. Please be sure to check the Committee Boat bag for completeness.

The race can be run without the yard arm and the starting sequence flags. If this is the case (if the committee boat is shorthanded with just one person, for instance) the racers should be advised that there will be no flags, and that just the horn will be used for starting.

Sequence of events:

On the way out to the starting line, – Drop mark Z approx. 200 feet off the north shore of the entrance into X Cove in the position shown on the racing chart (this is a leeward turning mark, around which there is normally a lot of action). If Z is to be dropped in an alt position the Race Manager will tell you where.

– **Tie up to the large, white, CCIA mooring buoy**, located about 1/3 of the way off the shore towards Inner Herron. You can't miss it.

– **Transfer** the pin end of the starting line (the pin end is the opposite end of the starting line from the CB, and is either the second red poly ball or a green float) to a willing scat boat and have that boat drop the polyball so that it establishes a starting line that is square to the wind (allowance may have been made for tide) and is approx 200' away from the CB.

– **Login** the participating boats on Ch #71. All boats intending to race should call in on their own to announce that they are racing, but if they do not, remind them by using this language ;

“CCIA RACERS, CCIA RACERS

THIS IS THE COMMITTEE BOAT. PLEASE CHECK IN”

-Post the course on the course letter board using the letters given to you by the Race Manager.

– **If necessary (a late arrival at the starting line) it is OK to announce the posted course on Ch #71**, being sure to say what color the letters are (red means the mark must be left to port, green means to starboard – a crucial difference to the racers)

– **Begin the start sequence at approx 1225, wind permitting.** Be somewhat tolerant of stragglers who may have a hard time getting to the starting line, esp in very light air.

20-30 seconds prior to the 5 minute horn, sound many short blasts to alert the racers that the starting sequence is about to begin. To announce this on the radio is a nice touch, as well. Then.....

5 minutes (to go) – horn (one loud, long, blast) , hoist Class Flag (CCIA burgee)

4 minutes to go – horn (one loud, short blast), hoist blue flag

1231 1 minute to go – horn (one loud , medium length blast) lower blue flag

1230: start – horn one loud, long, blast, (the Ride of the Valkyries is OK too) lower Class Flag

The start of the 21s is the 5 min horn for the Vikings. Proceed with the same timing intervals as above.

Over early: boats that have put their bows across the imaginary line that runs between the starting pole (marked by the Race Committee Boat flag flying from the flagstaff, or other visible appendage) at the time the horn blows for the start are over early. When a boat is over early, the CB must hail OVER EARLY. The rules do not require that you hail the boat's # or name, rather it is the skipper's responsibility to recognize that his boat is over. However, in our small fleet we ask that the CB give the name and #s when they know them. It is also vital that you write down the "offenders" names in case of denial (never has happened at the Cove that I know of). Boats over early must restart by circling around either the CB or the Pin end.

Postponement: long series of short blasts, usually caused by no wind, or a major wind shift requiring a new course. The decision to postpone is a coordinated one between the Race Mgr. and the CB. After the decision is made to resume, the starting sequence begins anew with the series of short blasts.

Change of Course: Anytime after posting the original course, if the course is subsequently changed the racing fleet must be notified (even when this occurs before the starting sequence begins). Announce that there is a course change, and that racers should sail by the committee boat to get it. Request each racer to acknowledge that there has been a course change, and be sure to record their acknowledgement. Ask any racer who has not checked in to do so. Begin countdown sequence when appropriate.

If the starting sequence has already begun, and a course change is required, follow the postponement procedure above.

After the Vikings have started you are welcome to follow the fleet, take pictures, etc. In general, as long as you leave no wake, stay to leeward of a racer, and keep out of the way of boats coming about or jibing, you are welcome to go wherever you wish. Hang around some of the turning marks (you posted them) and you'll get a good idea as to what the action is all about. Bring a camera and we'll post the pictures on the Fleet web site.

FINISHING. Be sure to be back on station in plenty of time to record the order of finish, and the elapsed time of all Classes. Wait for the final boat. Coordinate with the Race Manager to see if there will be another race. We try to get two races in on each Saturday, and we average those results.

Protests: You are not the protest committee. However, if told, you should write down who the protestors are, and let the Race Manager know that there is likely to be a protest. He, she, will deal with it. Protesting boats must fly a red pennant or marker immediately upon deciding to protest. Hopefully, there will be no protests on a typical Saturday. The Regatta can be a bit more intense.

Post Race: Please return the Committee boat equipment bag with its contents to the Manager's Office, with the larger items under the Post Office on the deck by the Casino flagpole. Please make note of any missing items.

We look forward to seeing you at the GAM. Be sure to get one of our cool Racing Shirts if you have not received one before.

We can't thank you enough for helping us have a great day on the water, and we trust yours has been the same. We hope you will join us again on the committee boat (we love committee boaters and cannot get enough of you), or on board a racing boat, or at any of our Fleet events. Please accept our \$50 per person or \$100 per boat as a token of our appreciation.

The Christmas Cove Fleet, 2014

Linc Spaulding, Commodore, 2014-2015

PS Your comments on how to improve life on board the Committee Boat are greatly appreciated.
Contact: linc@sheppardenvelope.com, or 644-1101