



GYA 420 CHAMPIONSHIP

Organizing Authority: Long Beach Yacht Club (LBYC)



September 19-20, 2026

Long Beach, MS

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta shall be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and the GYA Regulations for Sanctioned Events.
- 1.2. The US Sailing Prescriptions in the Preamble to Part 5, Section B, and RRS 63.1(b) are deleted.
- 1.3. Protests alleging a breach of a Rule of RRS Part, or RRS 31, shall not be accepted from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident. This changes RRS 60.4(a)(2).

2. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors shall be posted on the official notice board located on the elevator wall under the club. At the end of each day of racing, the Race Committee (RC) shall post its docking time as well as any RC actions.
- 2.2. Any questions regarding these Sailing Instructions (SIs) shall be submitted in writing to the regatta desk at the upstairs dining area one hour before the Competitors Meeting. The regatta desk shall post written answers on the official notice board.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the SIs shall be posted on the official notice board 60 minutes before the scheduled start of the first race of the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races shall be posted on the official notice board by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed via the club flagpole, located south of the club.
- 4.2. When flag 'AP' is displayed ashore, 1 minute is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes.' This changes RRS race signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. No fleet shall sail more than eight (8) races per day; sixteen (16) races are scheduled.

SATURDAY		
11:30	Competitors Briefing	Downstairs lounge area.
12:55	Warning Signal First Classes (Back-to-back races to follow)	South of Long Beach Harbor
SUNDAY		
10:55	Warning Signal First Classes (Back-to-back races to follow)	South of Long Beach Harbor
15:30	No warning signal will be made after this time.	

6. CLASS FLAG

6.1. The class flag will be the Club 420 Class flag.

7. RACING AREA

7.1 The racing area shall be south of Long Beach Harbor.

8. CHECK IN

8.1. Prior to the warning signal for the first race of each day, a boat shall sail past the stern of the RC signal boat and hail her bow number until acknowledged by the RC.

9. THE COURSES

9.1. The diagrams in Appendix B show the race courses, the order in which the marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9.2. No later than the warning signal, the RC will display the course to be sailed and approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

10. MARKS

10.1. Marks 1 and 2 will be orange tetrahedrons.

10.2. The starting marks will be a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and a nearby orange tetrahedron.

10.3. New marks will be yellow tetrahedrons.

10.4. The finishing marks will be a staff displaying a blue flag on the RC signal boat and a nearby orange tetrahedron.

11. THE START

11.1. Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.

11.2. The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.

11.3. A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 60.5b(1), A4, A5.1 and A5.2.

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the RC shall lay a new mark (or move the finish line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When a new mark is replaced in a subsequent change, it shall be replaced by an original mark.

13. THE FINISH

13.1. The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of the nearby finishing mark.

14. TIME LIMITS

14.1. The time limit for the first boat to reach the first mark is 30 minutes. If no boat has passed the first mark within the time limit, the race will be abandoned.

14.2. The time limit for the first boat to finish is 90 minutes.

14.3. The Finishing Window is 20 minutes. The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course. Boats starting but failing to sail the course within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized, or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing.

14.4. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place two more than the finishing place of the last boat that sailed the course within the Finishing Window and was not penalized under RRS 30.3 or 30.4. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

15. HEARING REQUESTS

15.1. Hearing Request forms are available at the official notice board. Protests, requests for redress, and requests for reopening shall be delivered there within the posted protest time limit.

15.2. The protest time limit for each day of racing is 60 minutes after the Race Committee signal boat docks. The protest time limit shall be posted on the official notice board.

15.3. Notices of protests and requests for redress shall be posted as soon as possible, but no later than 20 minutes after the protest time limit, to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

15.4. Hearings will be held in the upstairs dining area and will be heard in approximately the order of receipt.

15.5. On the last scheduled day of racing, a request for redress based on a Protest Committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This is in addition to RRS 61.2(b)(2) requirements.

16. SCORING

- 16.1. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.2. Each boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores.

17. RESPONSIBILITY

- 17.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. Neither the Organizing Authority nor the host club nor the race officials shall accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta.

18. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 18.1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

Appendix B

