



# HHSA Race Management Training

April 18, 2020

Ted Slotwinski



# Who has not ...

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- Signed up for Race Committee this year?
  - Need to be RC at least once or have 3 points deducted from High Point score



# Expectations

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- Volunteers
- Once/twice per year
  - 20 Wednesday races
  - 15 Weekend races/regattas/frostbites
- Important to do well
- Sometimes events are beyond your control
- Racers need to think too



# Miscellaneous

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- RC is in charge of the race
  - But be willing to listen to suggestions
- 20+ boats & 100+ people rely on RC to be:
  - Competent
  - Safe
  - Fair



# Definition of a Rule

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- ***Rule* (from RRS Definitions)**

- (a) The rules in this book, including the Definitions, Race Signals, Introduction, preambles and the rules of relevant appendices, but not titles;
- (b) World Sailing Advertising Code, Anti-Doping Code, Betting and Anti-Corruption, Disciplinary Code, Eligibility Code, Sailor Classification Code, respectively Regulations 20, 21, 37, 35, 19, and 22
- (c) the prescriptions of the national authority, unless they are changed by the notice of race or sailing instructions in compliance with the national authority's prescription, if any, to rule 88.2;
- (d) the class rules (for a boat racing under a handicap or rating system, the rules of that system are 'class rules');
- (e) the notice of race;
- (f) the sailing instructions; and
- (g) any other documents that govern the event



# RRS 26 Starting Races

## 26 STARTING RACES

Races shall be started by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

<i>Signal</i>	<i>Flag and sound</i>	<i>Minutes before Starting signal</i>
Warning	Class flag; 1 sound	5*
Preparatory	P, I, Z, Z with I, or black flag; 1 sound	4
One-minute	Preparatory flag removed; 1 long sound	1
Starting	Class flag removed; 1 sound	0

\*or as stated in the sailing instructions

The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding class.



# New for 2020

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- Class starting groups have been changed to balance the number of boats in each start:
  - Spinnaker Class and Non-Spinnaker Racing Class will start together as the first start
  - Non-Spinnaker Cruising Class will start alone as the second start
- Time Correction Factor (TCF) changed to match PHRF:
  - $TCF = 650 / (550 + PHRF \text{ rating})$



# Equipment

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- Locker Location
  - HHS West Side – Number 11 – Combo \*\*\*\*
- Flag halyard rig
- Shotgun/air horns
- Flags (gray bag)
- Marks
- Course Boards
  - Letter for Course
  - Class and Length
- Sign up sheets
- Report shortages to Race Rear Commodore





# Pre-Race

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- Review
  - HHSA Race Committee Manual
  - Sailing Instructions
  - HHSA Rules
  - Course Book
- Weather
  - Weather Underground
  - CBOFS
  - Cell phone apps
  - Local TV



# Pre-Race

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- Crew
  - 3 or more, at least one experienced
- On Site as early as practical
  - Observe weather
  - Assign & review jobs
- Sync watches w/ GPS or use cell phone (sec)
- Assess need to delay start
  - Weather
  - Traffic on Wednesdays
  - RC not ready



# Pre-Race

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- Assess need to change course
  - Wind direction and/or wind strength
  - Post new course before warning
- Assess need to cancel
  - Weather (be sensitive to small boats)
    - Storm
    - No wind
  - Hoist “N” flag + 3 horns + announce VHF
  - It’s the RC’s call



# Wednesday Courses

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- Select from Course Book
  - Average expected wind strength & direction
  - Often
    - Spin - Long, Non-Spin Racing & Cruising – Short
  - But Sometimes
    - Short for Everyone, or Long for Everyone
- Read the SI's!
  - Note that RRS 90.2(c) limits RC's ability to change SI's



# Wednesday Courses

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- Aim for  $\sim 1$  hour for fastest boat
- Adjust start location
  - Lengthen or shorten course
  - Directly downwind of 1<sup>st</sup> mark for upwind leg
- Set finish on correct side of finish mark
  - Finish at lit mark
- Observe time limits
  - First boat in each class for race to count
  - Time Limit Expired (TLE)
- Always 2 starts



# Weekend Courses

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- Regattas: Goal = 3 short races
- Frostbites: Goal = 2 short races
- Other Races
  - Per Sailing Instructions
- Time Limits per Sailing Instructions
- Always two starts, Spinnaker/NS Racing first
  - Except 1 start for Frostbites & Double-handed race
- Read the SI's!
  - Note that RRS 90.2(c) limits RC's ability to change SI's



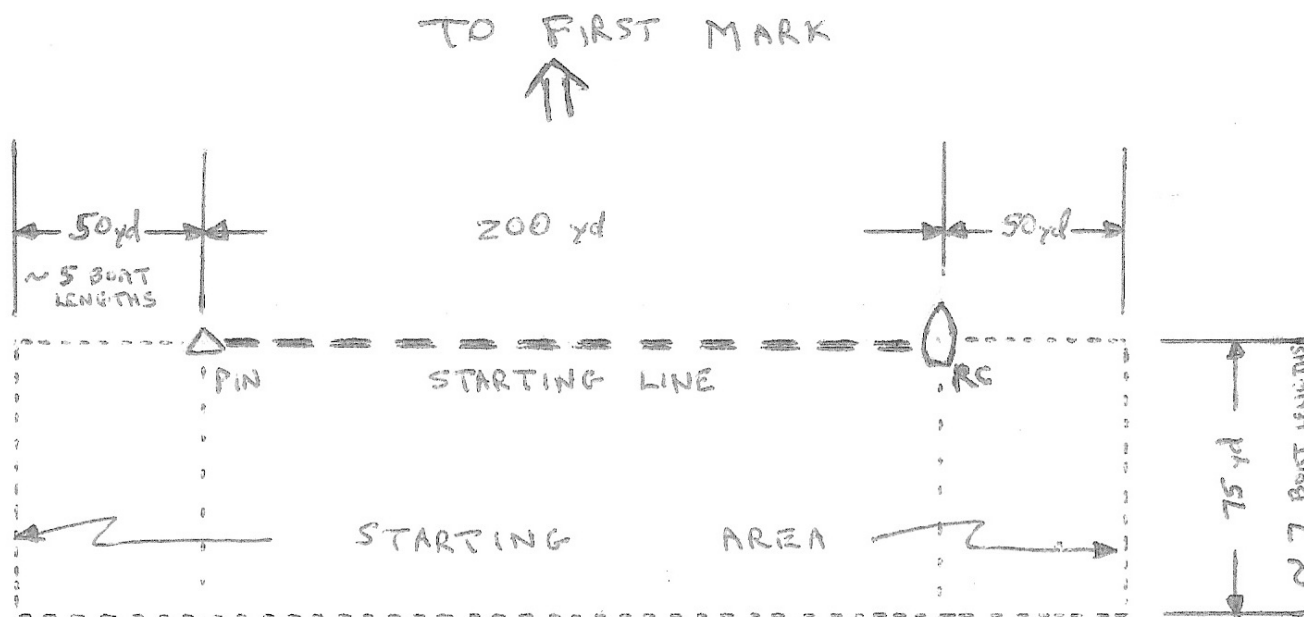
# Starting Line

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- Set ~30 minutes before warning
- CB normally on starboard end
- Length: ~1.5x total length of boats
  - Typically about 100-200 yards
  - 1 minute @ 3 knots = 100 yards
- Orientation
  - Perpendicular to wind for first leg
  - Perpendicular to course only if reach/fetch leg
- Course boards on CB side opposite the line



# Starting Area



HHSA RACE STARTING AREA.





# Setting the Line

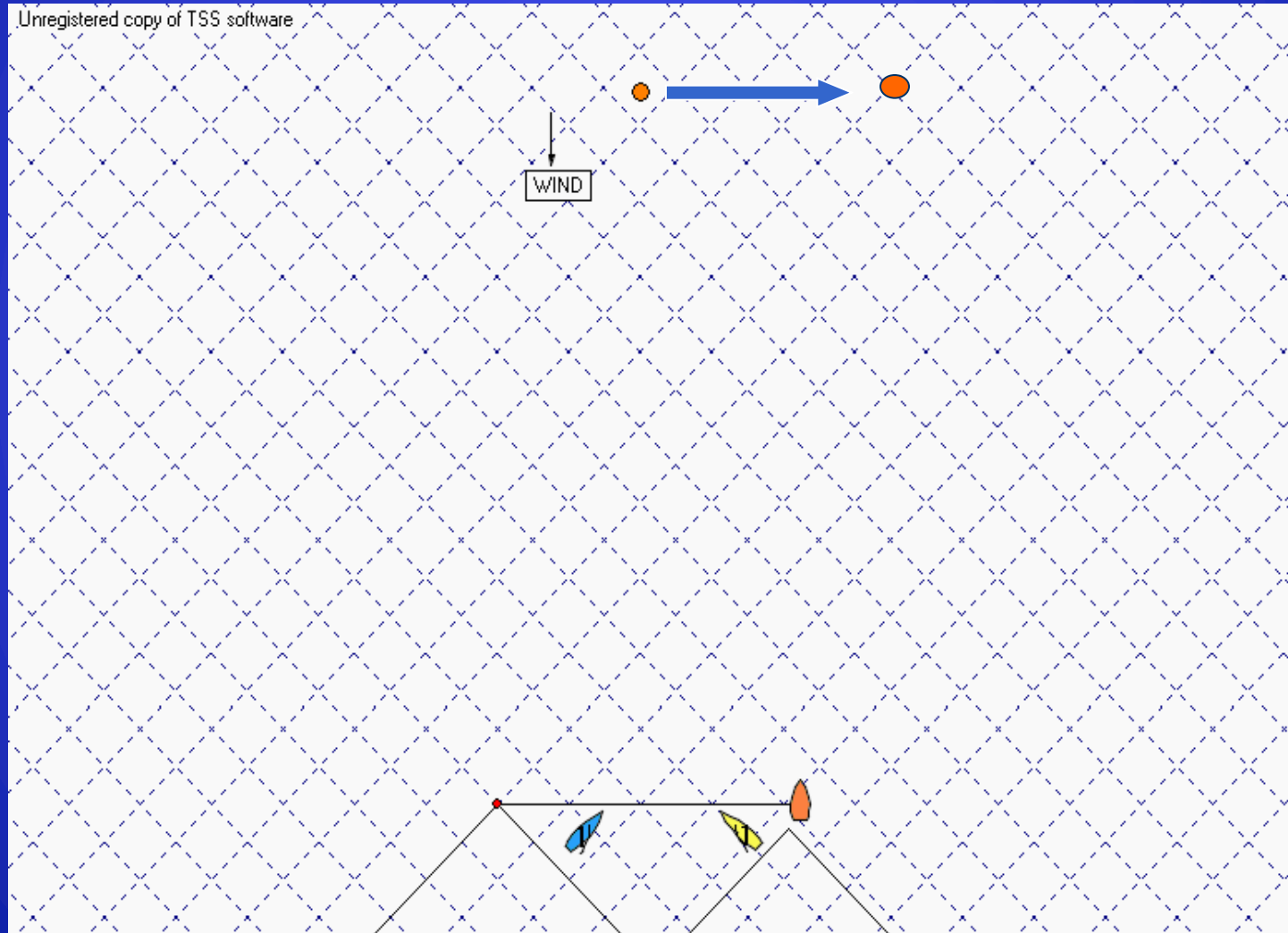
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- It is important that RC's set a line that is square to the wind when the first mark cannot be reached without tacking
  - RC's have an obligation to make the playing field **fair** for everyone
    - If a line is skewed the boats at the favored end will have a big advantage over boats at the other end – the longer the line the bigger the advantage
  - RC's have an obligation to make the playing field **safe** for everyone
    - The favored end will get lots of boats stacked up, and if the favored end is the committee boat then barging occurs and the risk of collisions is very real



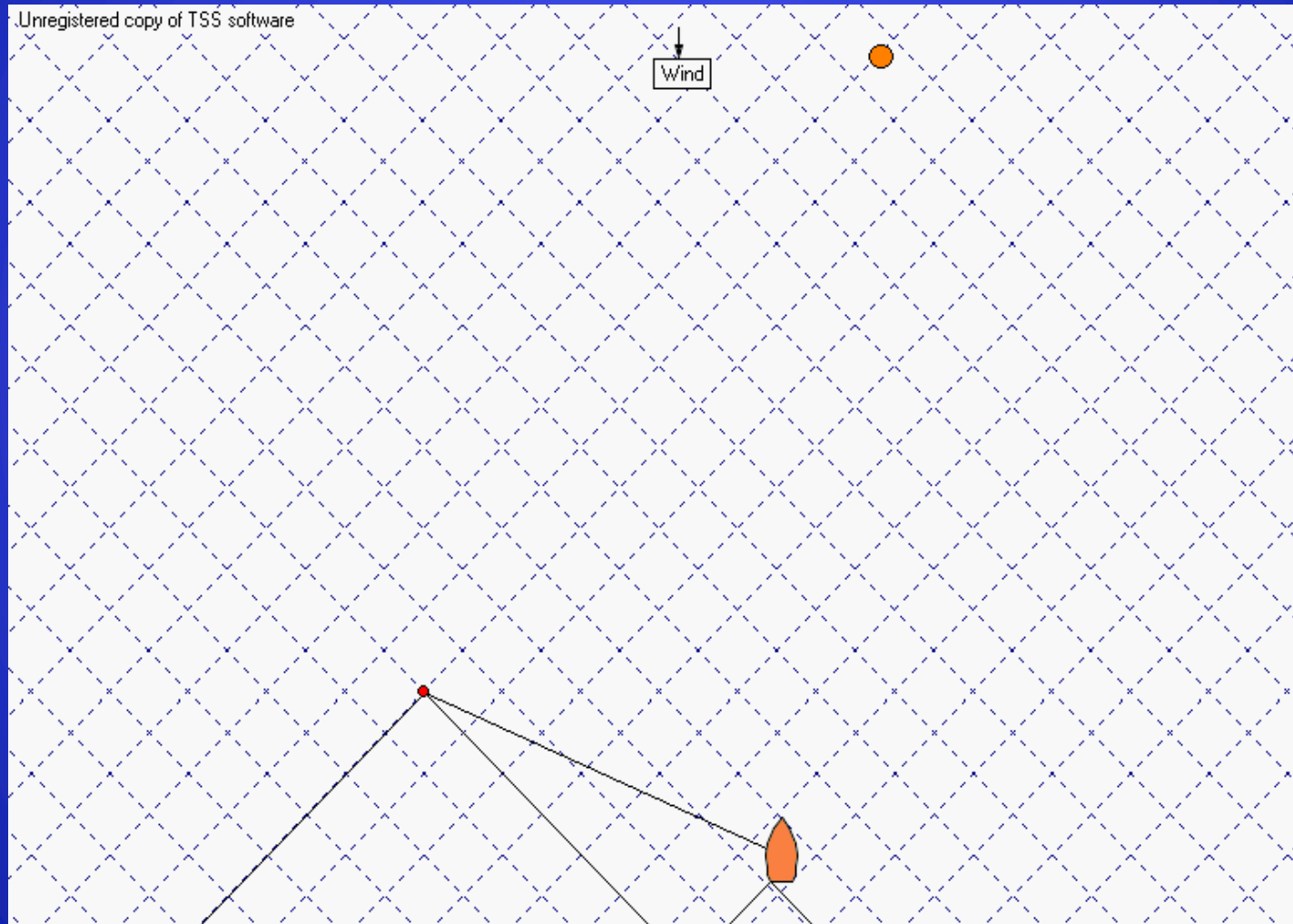
# The Perfect World....

Unregistered copy of TSS software



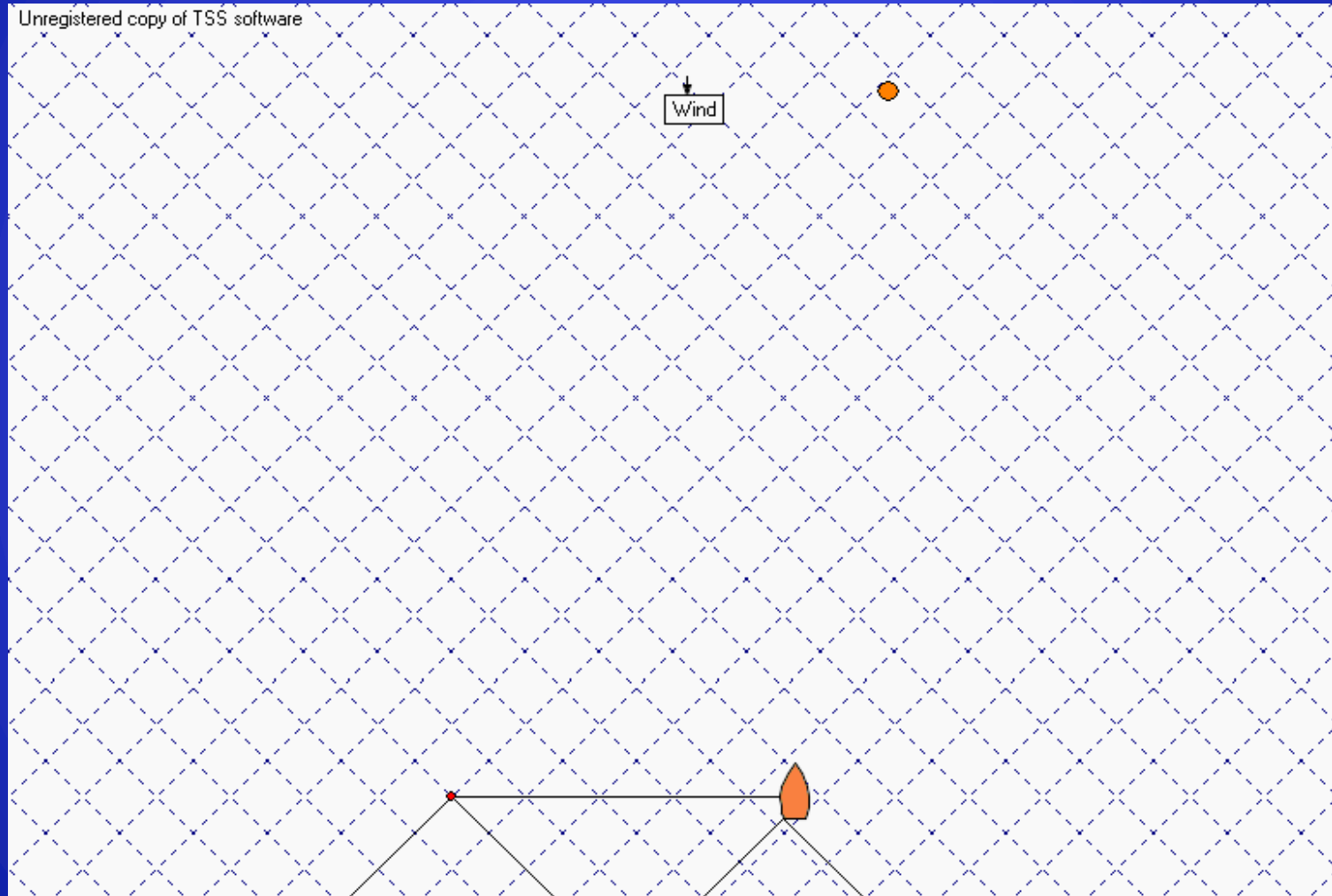


# Square to Mark?



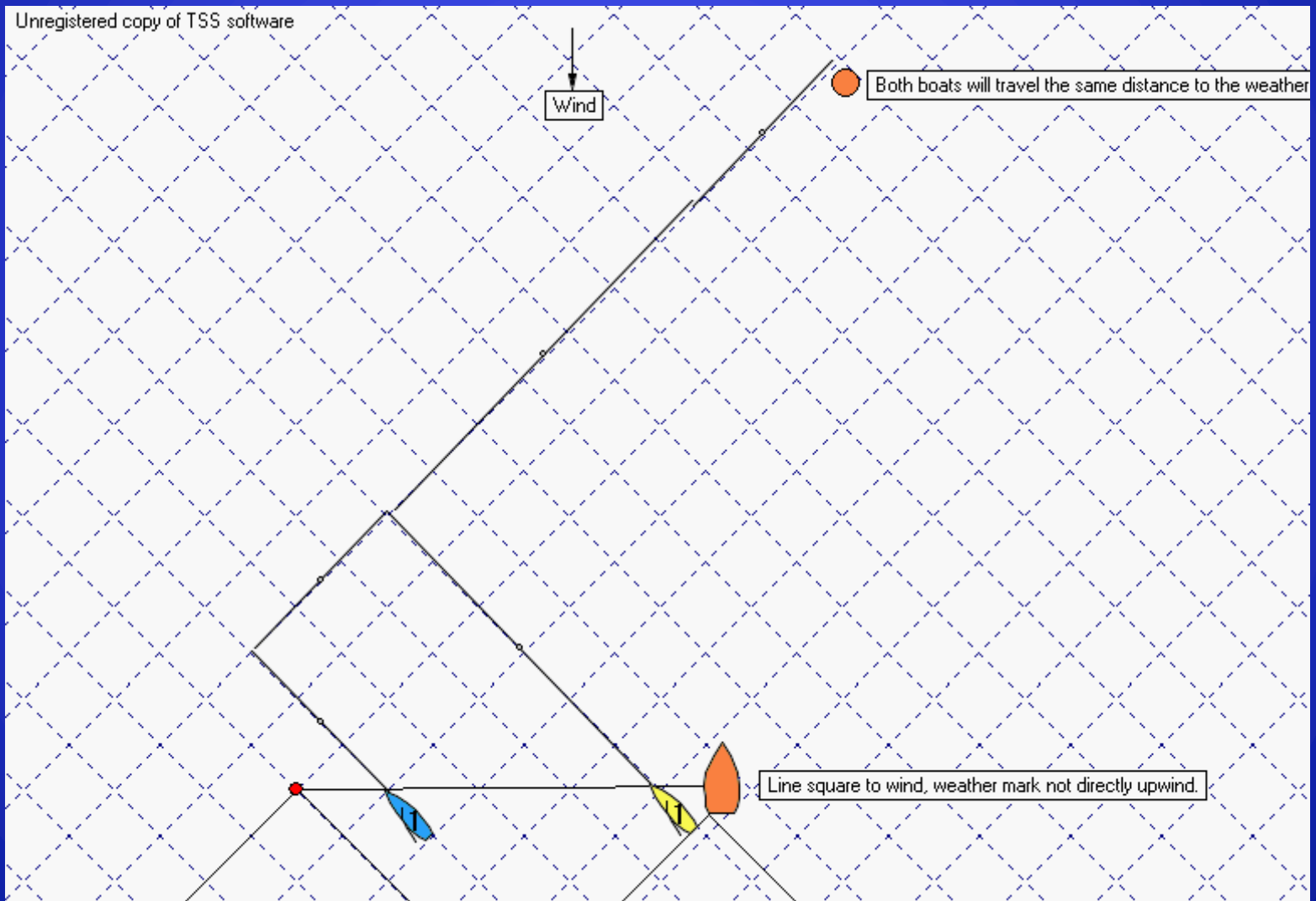


# Square to Wind?



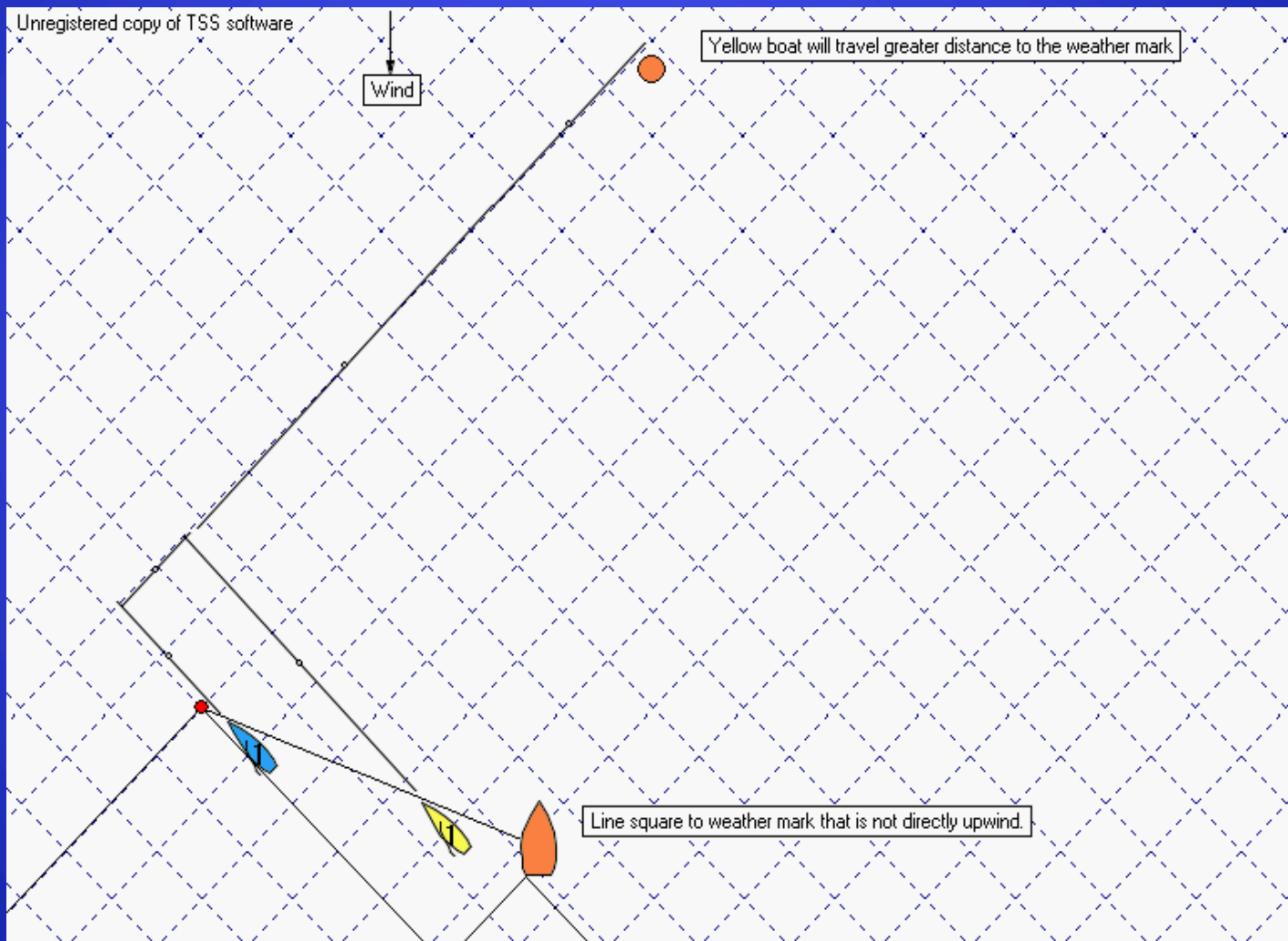


# Count the blocks



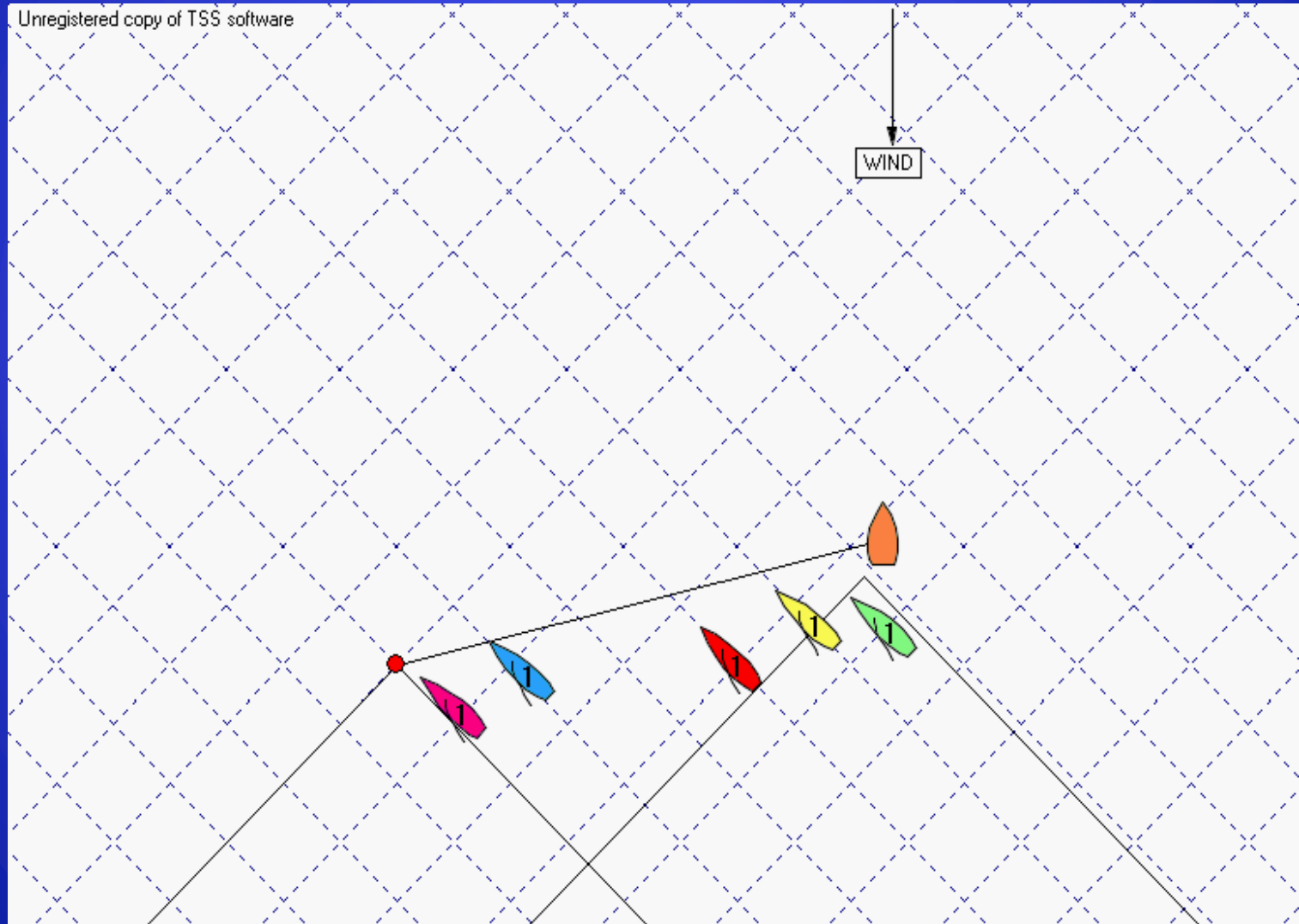


# Compare again...





# Who wins?







The diagram illustrates a fire spread model on a grid background. A fire front is shown moving from a source (red dot) towards a fuel source (orange flame). The fire front is composed of several colored segments (pink, blue, red, yellow, green) labeled '1'. A wind arrow points downwards, indicating wind direction.





# Communications

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- VHF channel 68
- Trend towards more:
  - Countdown to signals
  - Announce intentions e.g. delay, course selection
  - Racers listen more, talk less



# Starting Sequence

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- Time
  - Timer must not get distracted
  - Use GPS/cell phone time if practical
- Visual signals must be accurate
  - At top of hoist at “mark”
- Sound signals
  - Gun or horn for warning & start
  - Horn for preparatory “up” and “down”
- Record all starters, incl. DNS, OCS



# Recalls

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- Individual Recall
  - When you can identify all early starters
  - “X” flag up with 1 horn
  - Lower “X” flag without sound
    - After all boats have returned to the start side of the line
    - At the next class one-minute preparatory flag down
    - After 4 minutes if there is no other start
- General Recall
  - Can’t identify early starters
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute up with 2 horns, lower Class flag
  - RC mistake



# Recalls

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- Restart
  - Recalled class – repeat entire sequence
  - Lower 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute one minute before warning
    - 1 horn
    - Usually start warning with clock 5 minute periods
      - Less potential for timing mistake
      - 5,6,9,10 or 10,11,14,15 better than 7,8,11,12
  - Followed by any other classes not already started



# Wednesday Start Sequence

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<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Visual</u>	<u>Sound</u>
6:29	Attention	L down	Horns
6:30	Spin/NS R warning	6 up	1 horn
6:31	Spin/NS R preparatory	P up	1 horn
6:34	Spin/NS R 1-minute	P down	1 long horn
6:35	Spin/NS R start	6 down	Gun/horn
	NonSpin Cr warning	White up	
6:36	NonSpin Cr preparatory	P up	1 horn
6:39	NonSpin Cr 1-minute	P down	1 long horn
6:40	NonSpin Cr start	White down	Gun/horn



# After Start

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- **Shorten Course** (RCM Section 9, HHSA Rules Section 11)
  - To any mark of course(s) shared by all racers
  - Set finish on course side of mark
  - Hoist "S" flag + 2 horns + announce VHF
  - Racers be alert, pass between RC & mark
- **Abandon** (RCM Section 11, HHSA Rules Section 13)
  - Weather
  - Time limits
  - Maybe only for one class
  - Not after one boat in class finishes
  - Hoist "N" flag + 3 horns + announce VHF



# Finish

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- CORRECT TIMES !!!
  - Hour: Minute: Second
- CORRECT FINISH ORDER !!!
  - Sequential list very useful as check
- Gun (optional) for 1<sup>st</sup> in each Class
  - Spin, NonSpin – Racing, NonSpin - Cruising
- Record any protests or **Scoring Penalties**
- Record TLE, DNF, & RET (no more RAF)



# Finish

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- Return RC gear to locker
  - Unless prior arrangement with next RC
  - Note shortages, damages
- Results to Race Rear Commodore or Scorer
  - Dispatch crew to HHS U-Dock or Skipper's Pier
    - Hank Chalkley – *Cantata*
    - Text cell phone photo
    - Mail paper copy to Hank





# Scenarios

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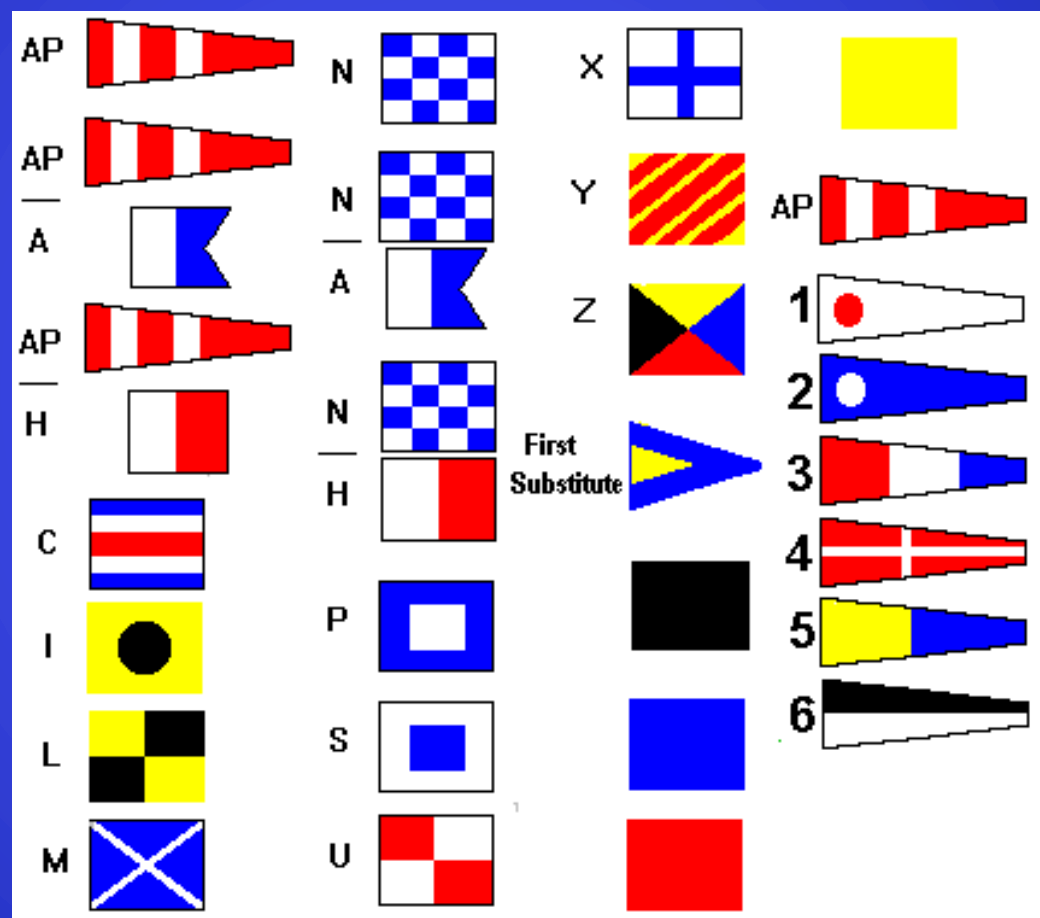
- Now let's see how this may all play out for a typical Wednesday evening race
  - Three Classes, two starts

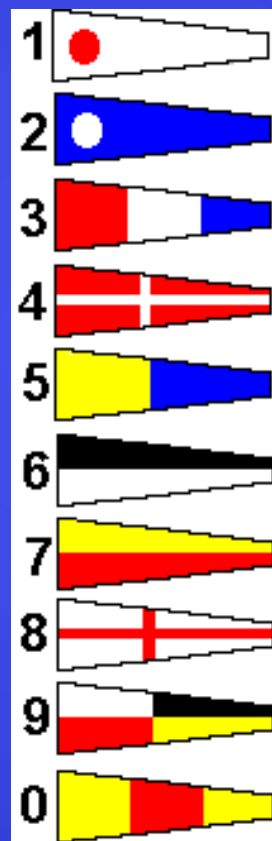


# New RC System for HHSA

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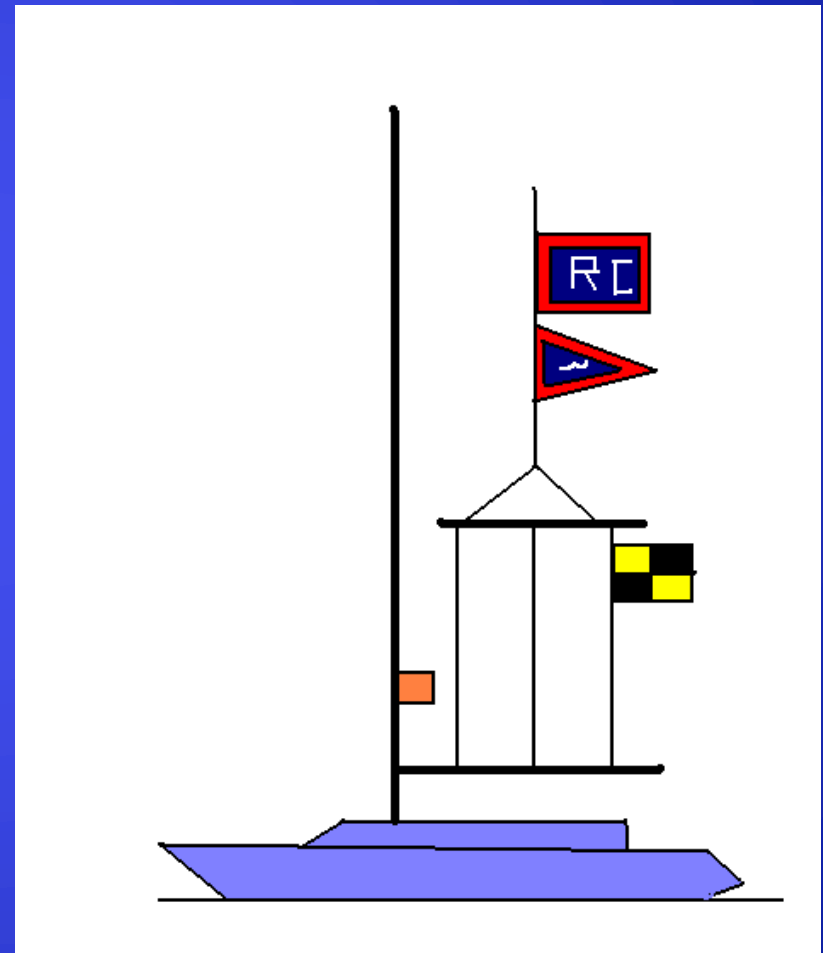






# Wednesday Event - Pre-Race

- ~5:30 PM
- RC underway
- "L" flag hoisted
- Wind NW/N 7-8 kts
- Select course B
- Locate start downwind of B, adjust length of 1<sup>st</sup> leg to make course longer/shorter





# Post Course

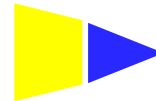
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**Short**



**Long**



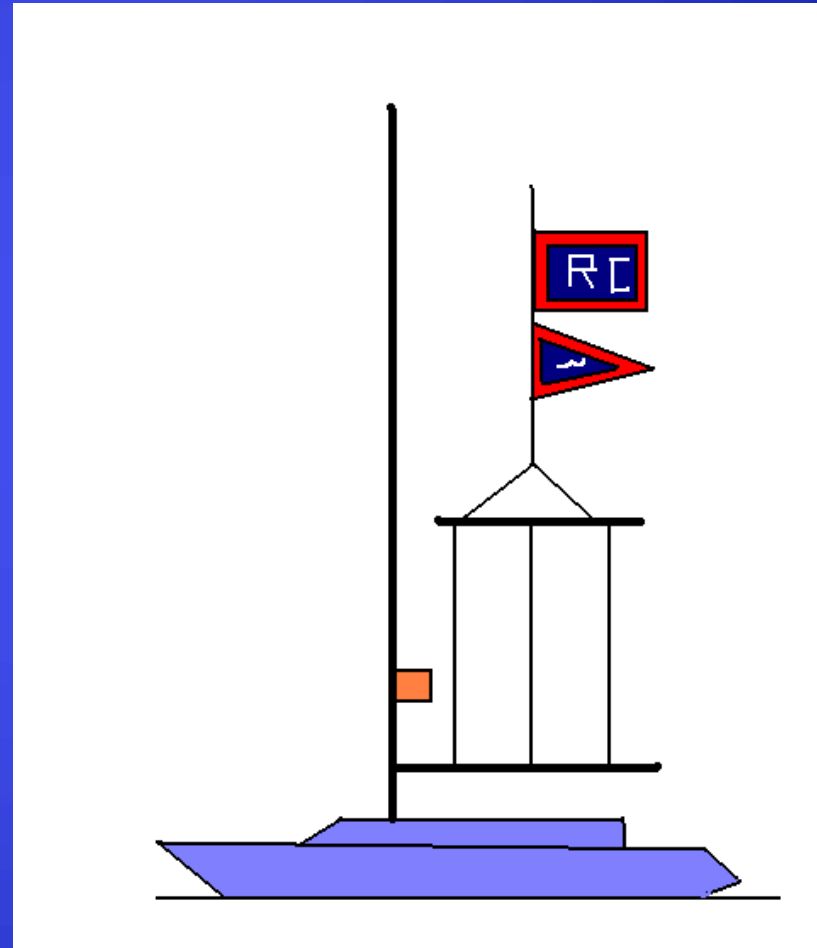
**Short**

**B**



# Ready to Race

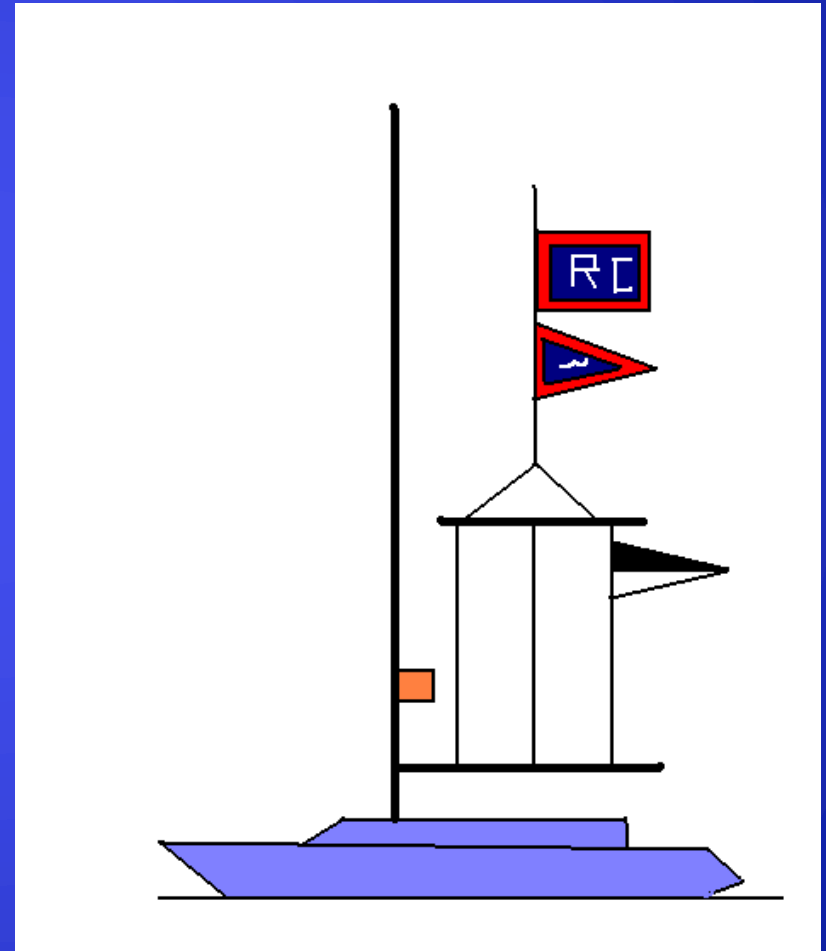
- 6:29 PM
- Lower "L"
- Multiple horns





## 2 Starts - Spinnaker/NS Racing Warning

- 6:30 PM
- Hoist "6" pennant
- Gun or horn

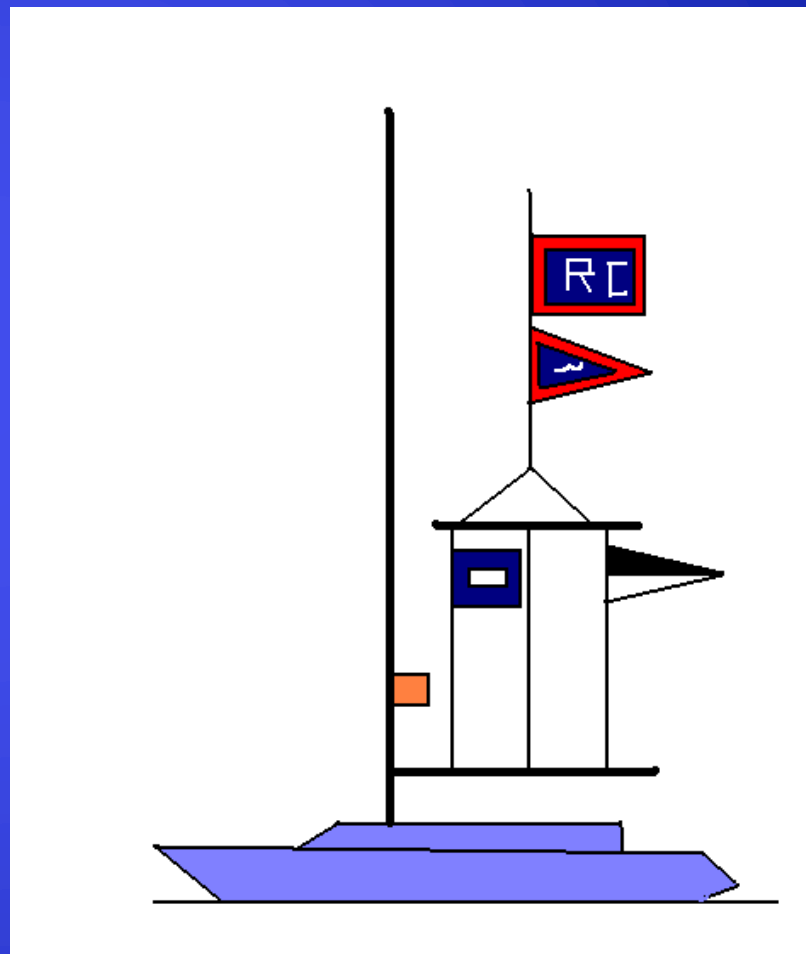






# Spinnaker/NS Racing Preparatory

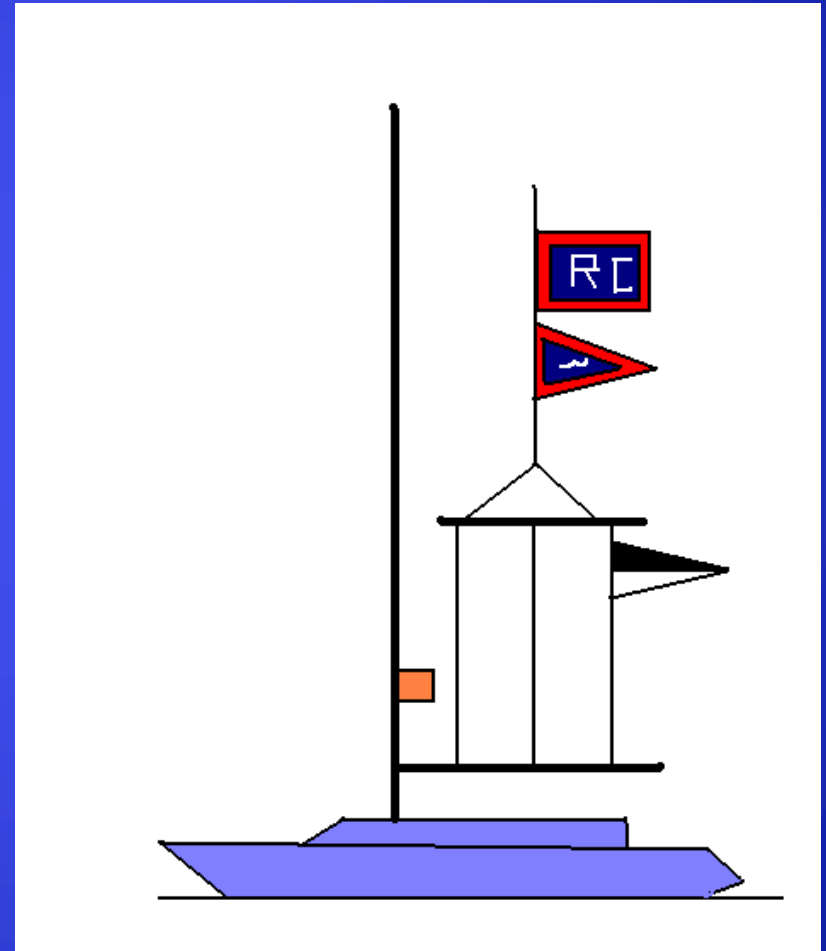
- 6:31 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn





# Spinnaker/NS Racing 1-minute

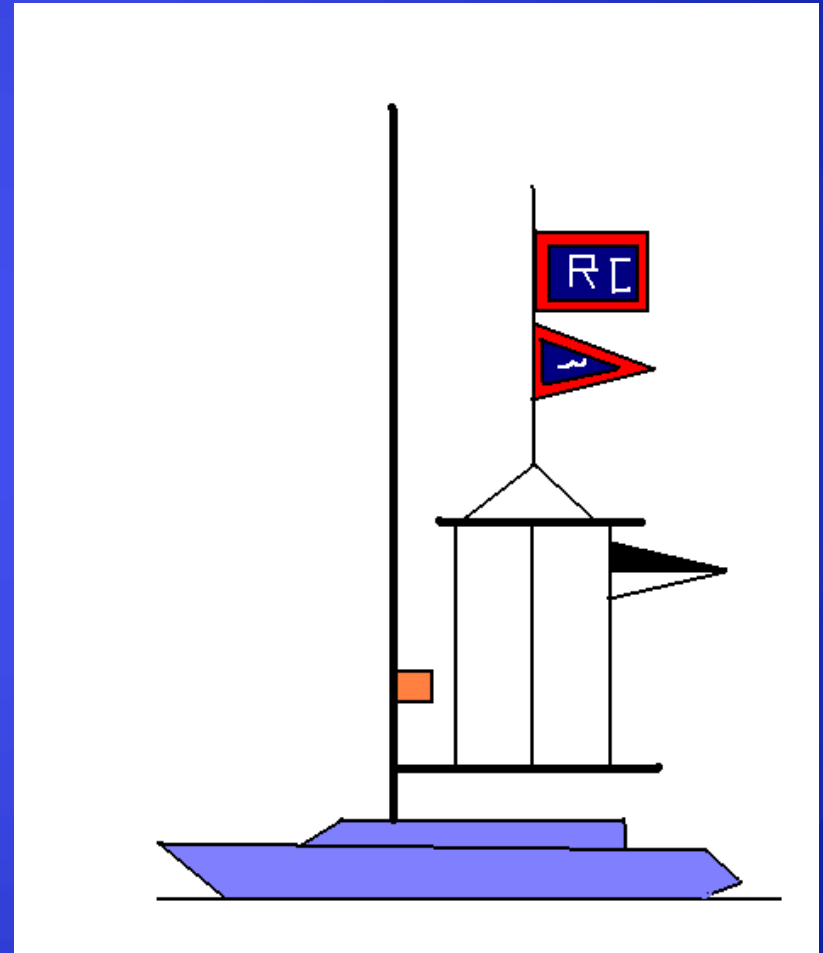
- 6:34 PM
- Lower "P" flag
- 1 long horn





# Spinnaker/NS Racing Start, Non-Spinnaker Cruising Warning

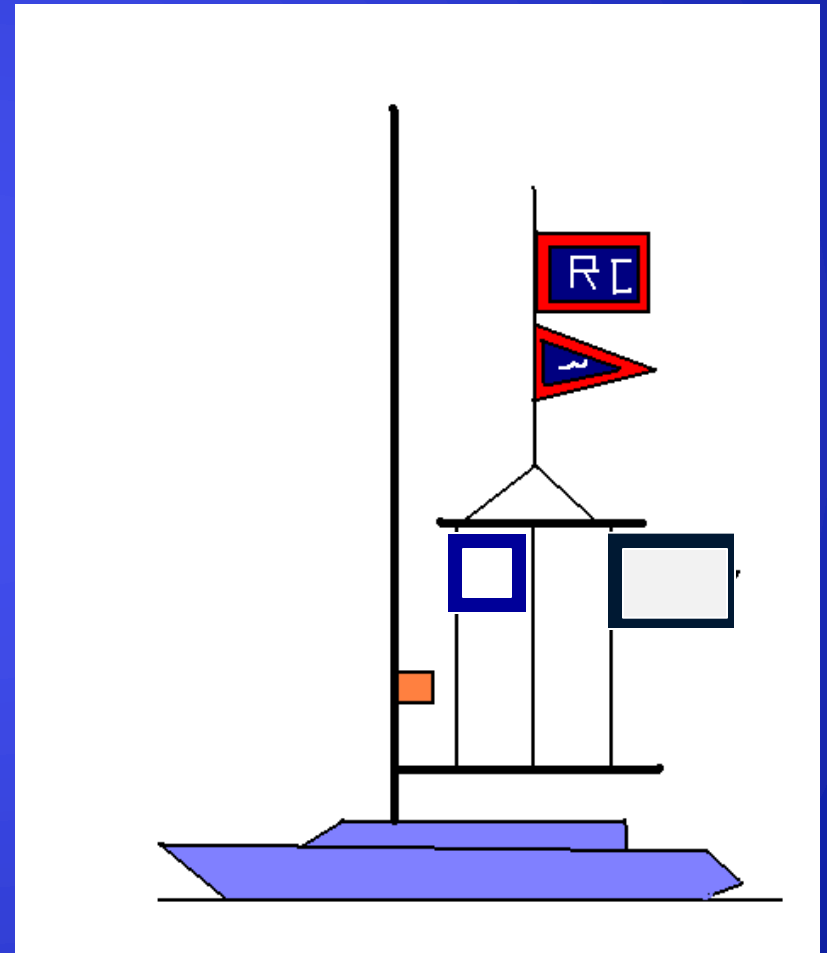
- 6:35 PM
- Lower "6" pennant
- Hoist "White" flag
- Gun or horn





# Non-Spinnaker Cruising Preparatory

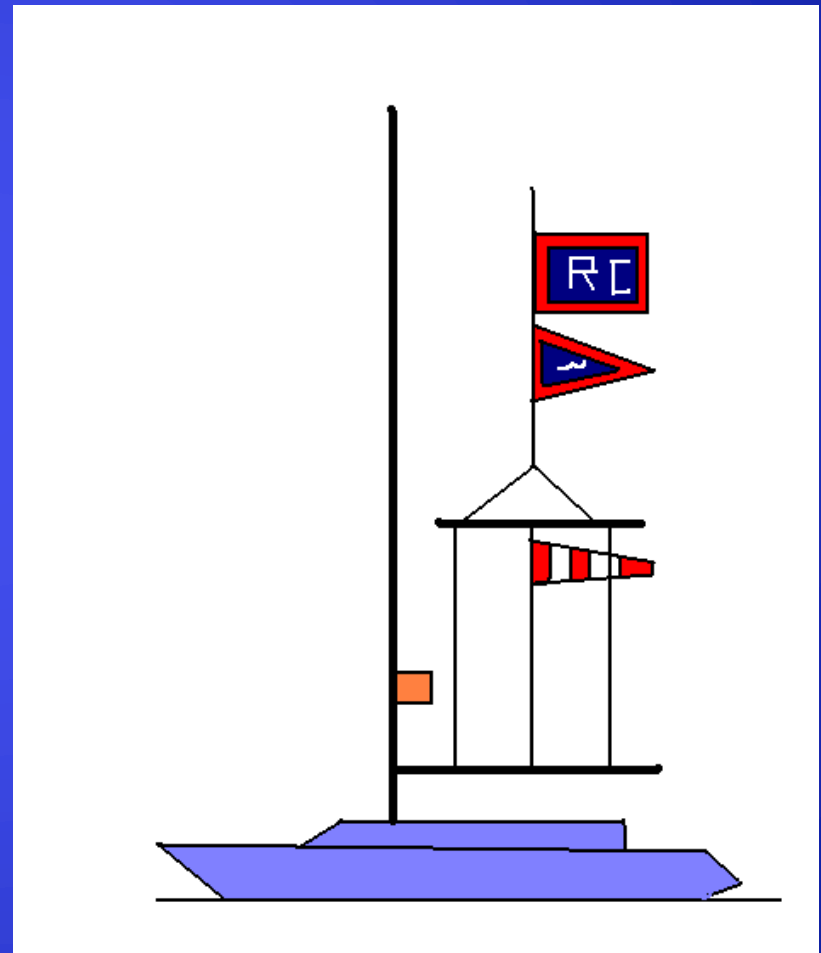
- 6:36 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn





# Postponement

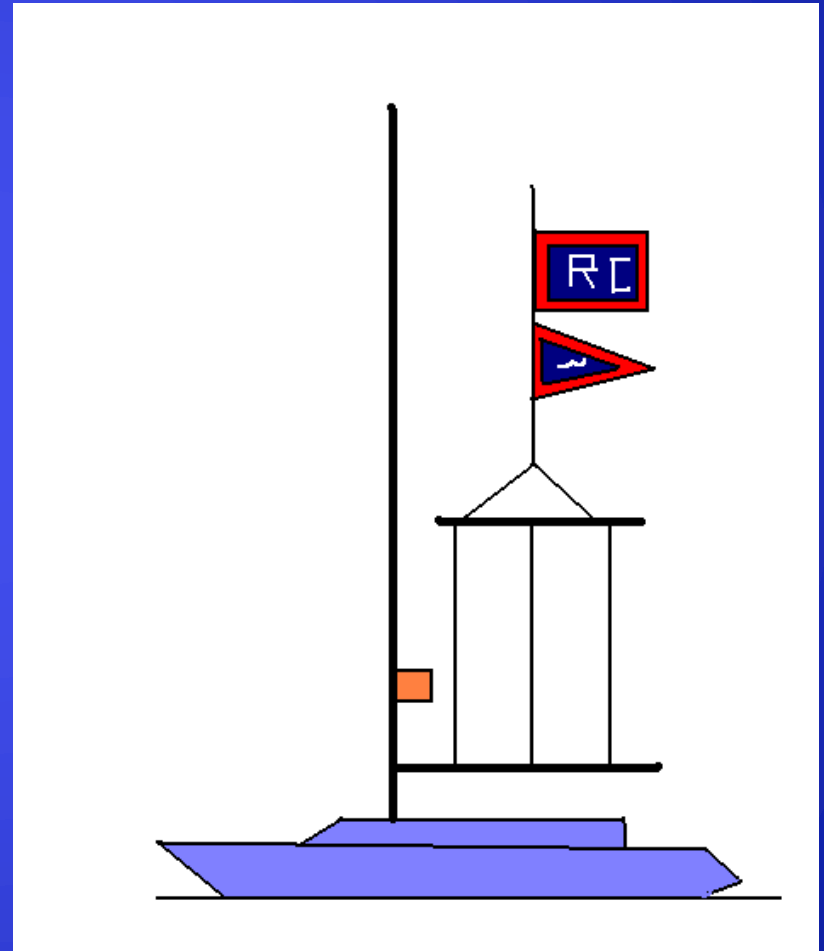
- 6:38 PM
- Anchor drags, can't maintain line by adjusting scope – must reset
- Lower "P" & "White" flags
- Hoist "AP" flag
- 2 horns
- VHF - expect to start sequence at 6:50





# Ready to Resume Racing

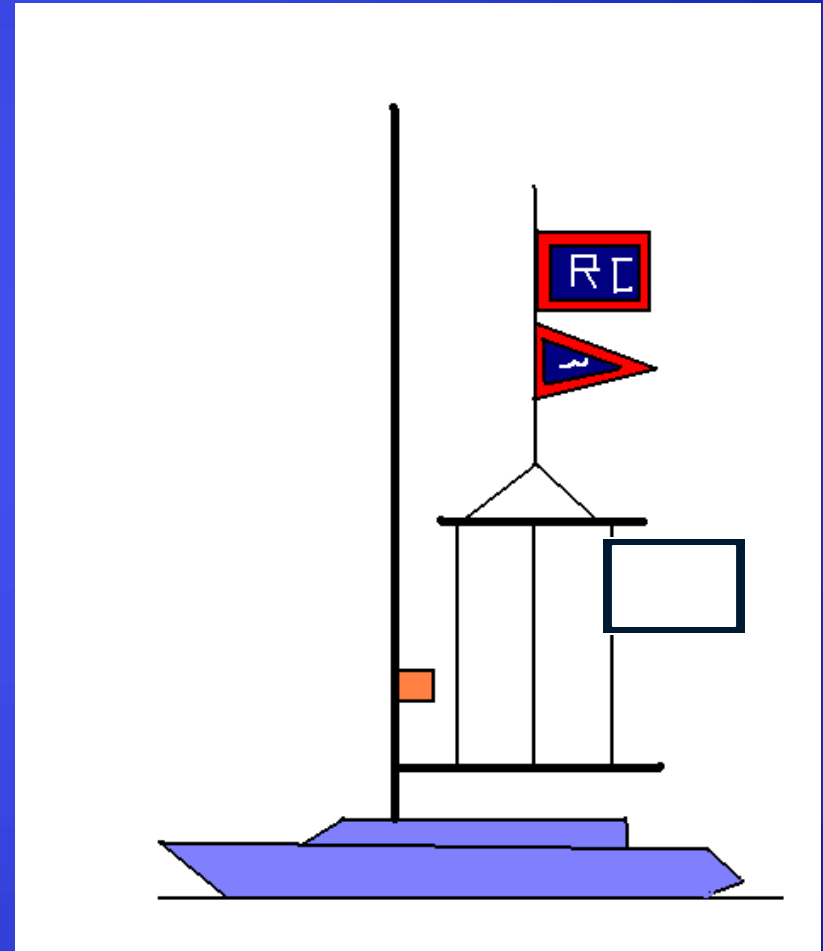
- 6:49 PM
- Lower "AP" flag
- 1 horn





# Non-Spinnaker Cruising Warning

- 6:50 PM
- Hoist "White" flag
- Gun or horn

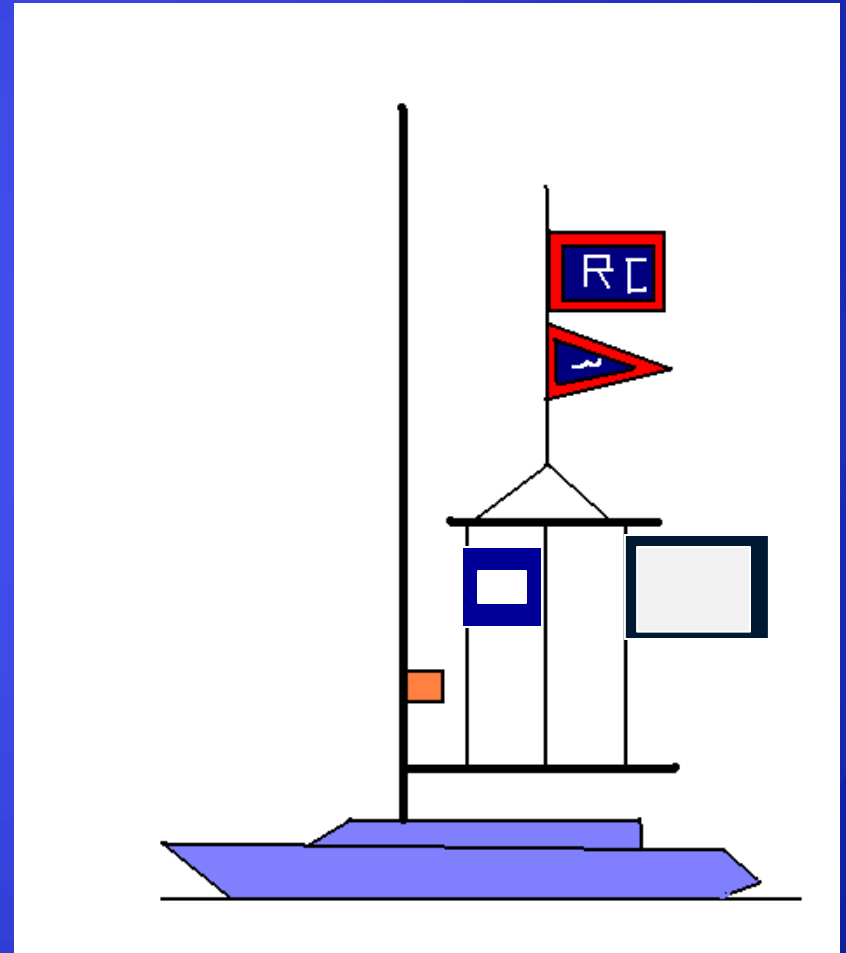






# Non-Spinnaker Cruising Preparatory

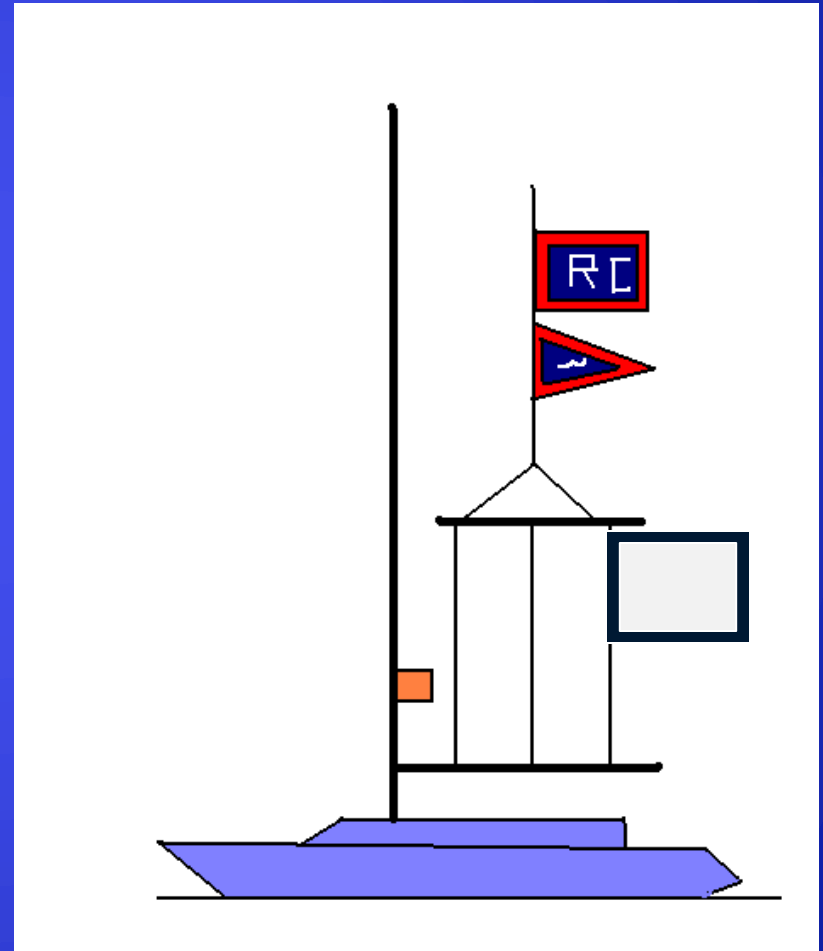
- 6:51 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn





# Non-Spinnaker Cruising 1-minute

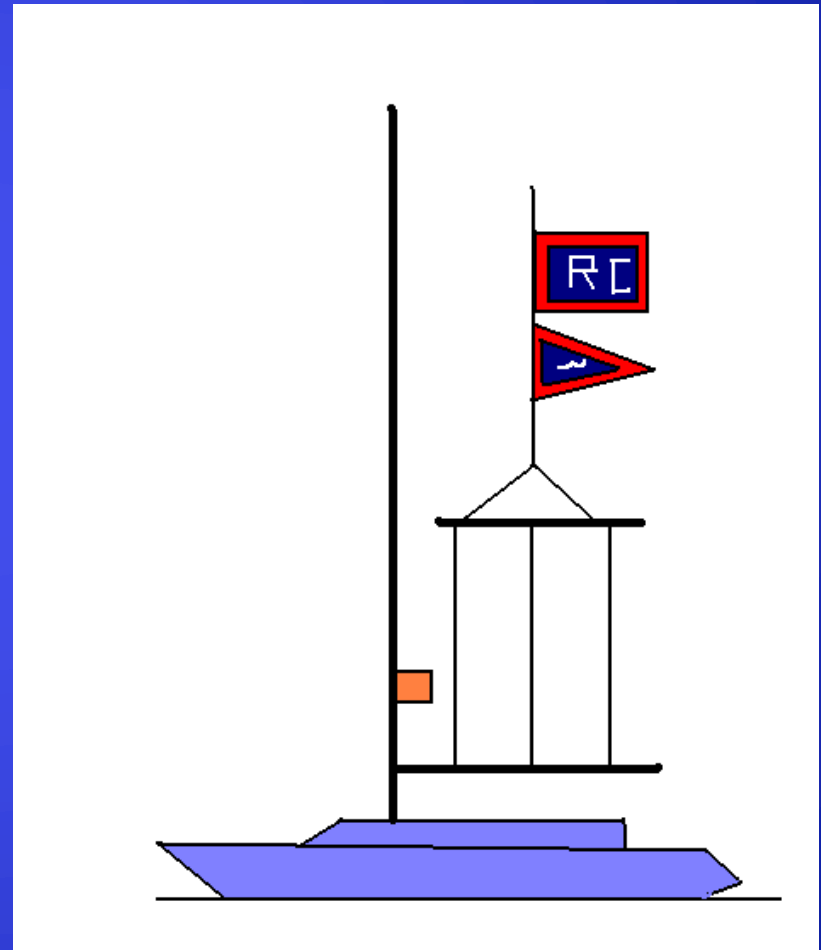
- 6:54 PM
- Lower "P" flag
- 1 long horn





# Non-Spinnaker Cruising Start

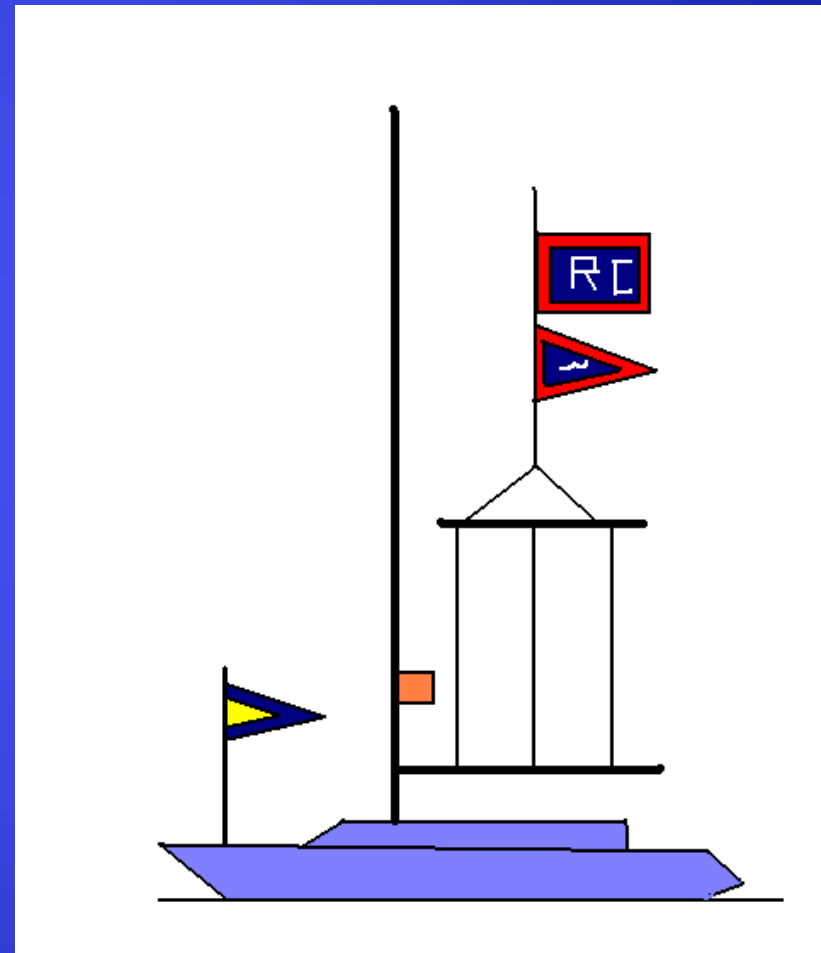
- 6:55 PM
- Lower "White" pennant
- Gun or horn
- More boats over early than can Identify -  
General Recall





# General Recall

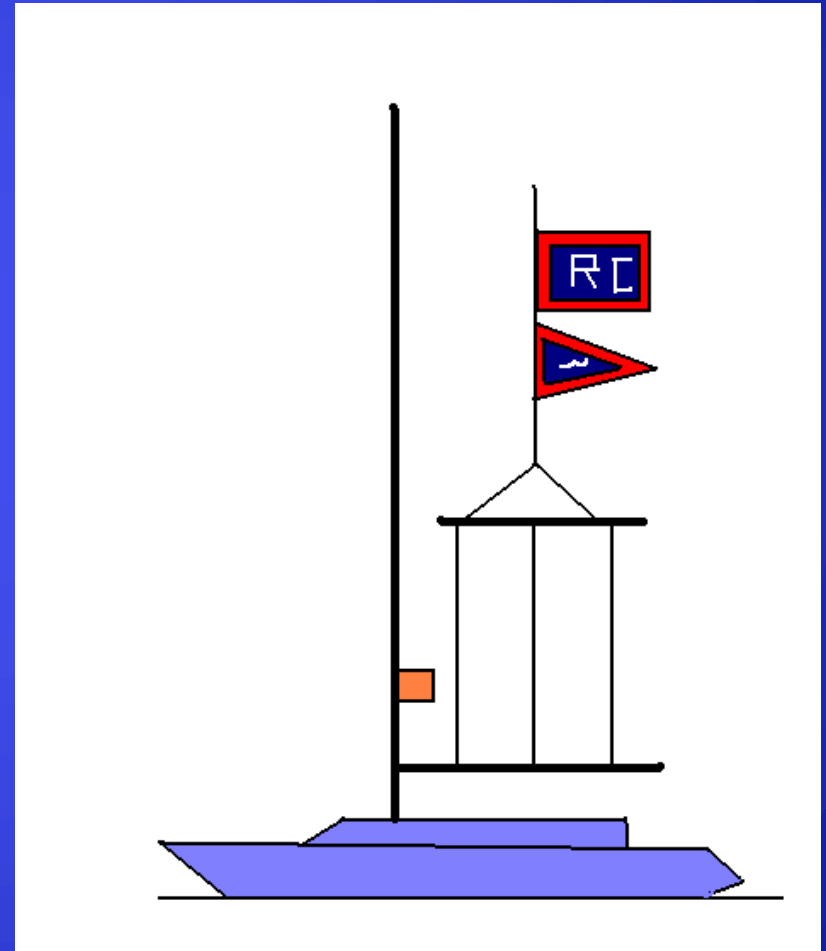
- 6:55 PM
- Lower "5" pennant
- Hoist 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute
- 2 horns
- Pick time to resume
- Allow boats to get back
- RC ready
- 5-min clock interval
- VHF – expect to resume at 7:05





# Ready to Start Racing

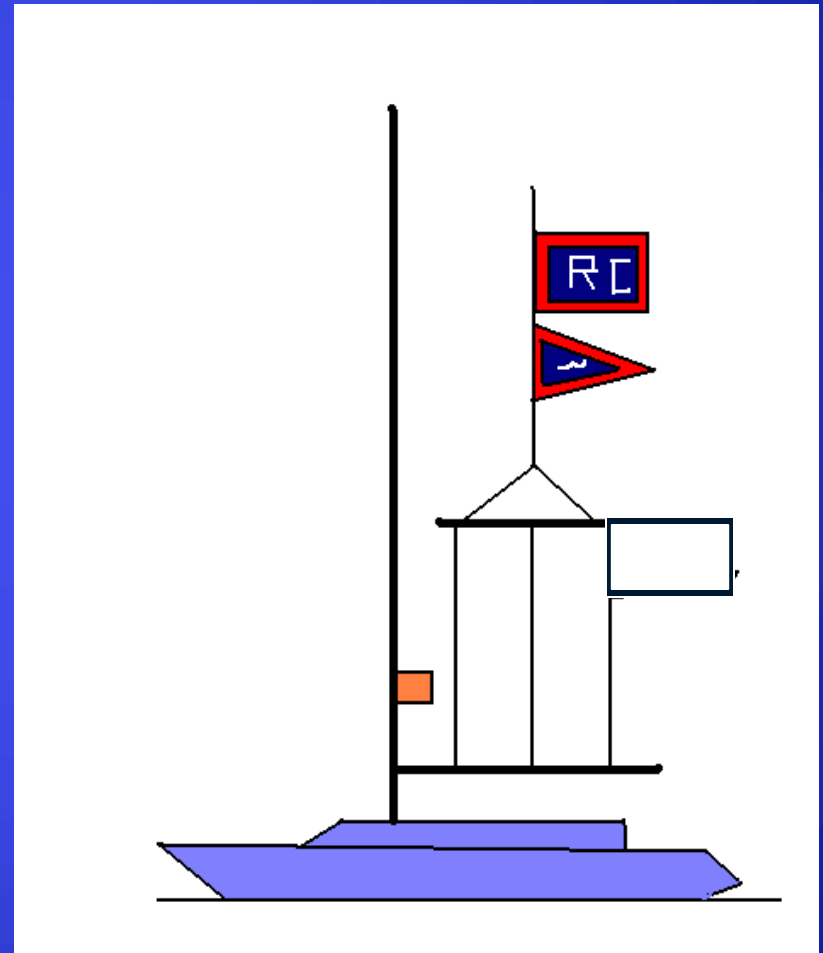
- 7:04 PM
- Lower 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute
- 1 horn





# Non-Spinnaker Cruising Warning

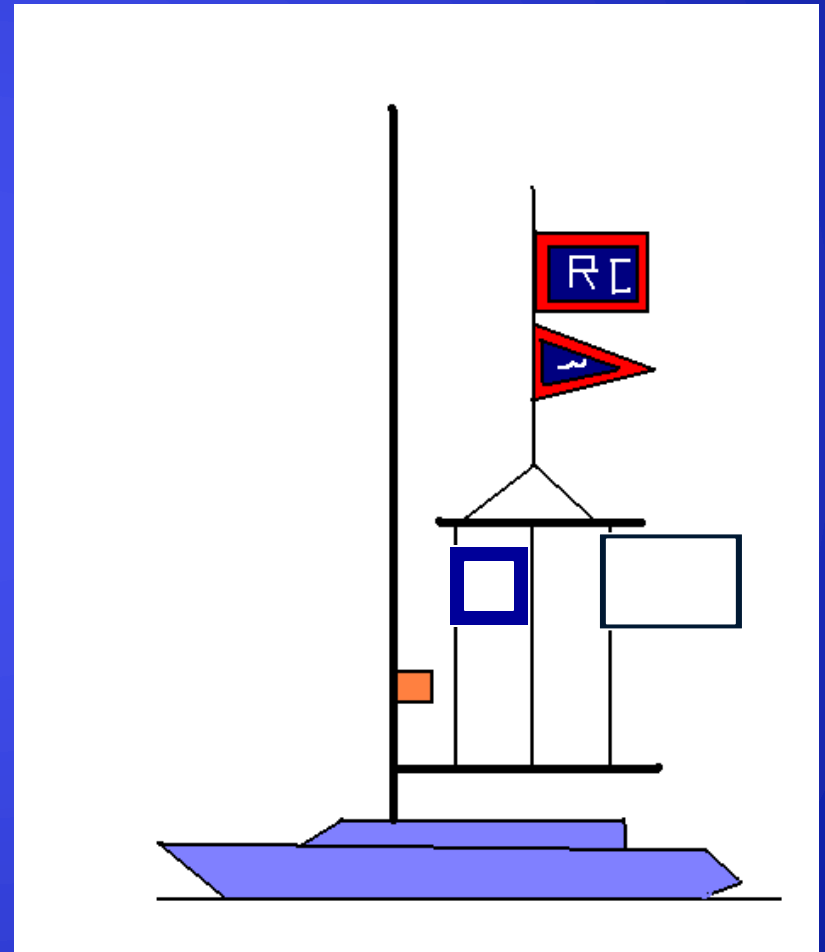
- 7:05 PM
- Hoist "White" flag
- Gun or horn





# Non-Spinnaker Cruising Preparatory

- 7:06 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn

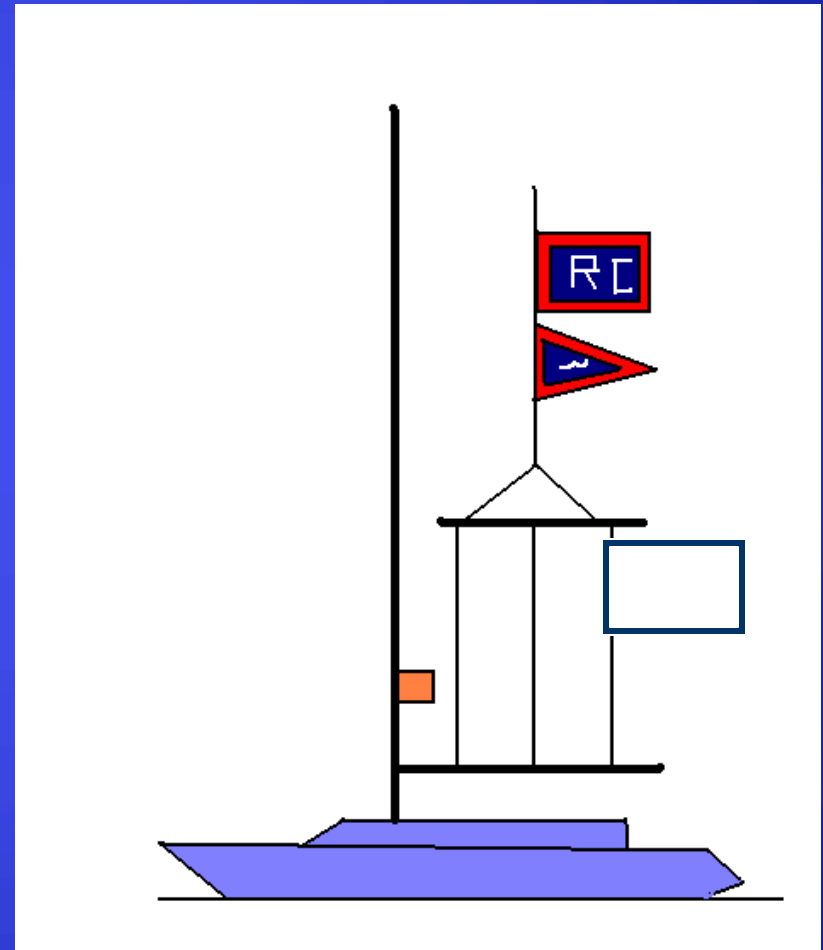






# Non-Spinnaker Cruising 1-minute

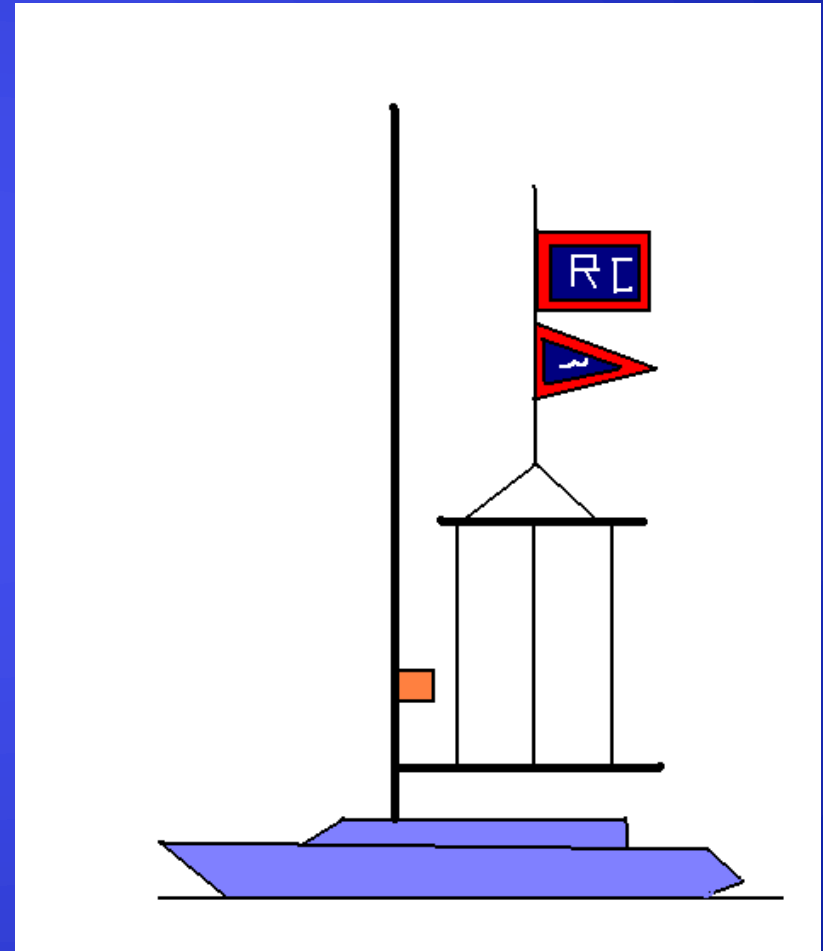
- 7:09 PM
- Lower "P" flag
- 1 long horn





# Non-Spinnaker Cruising Start

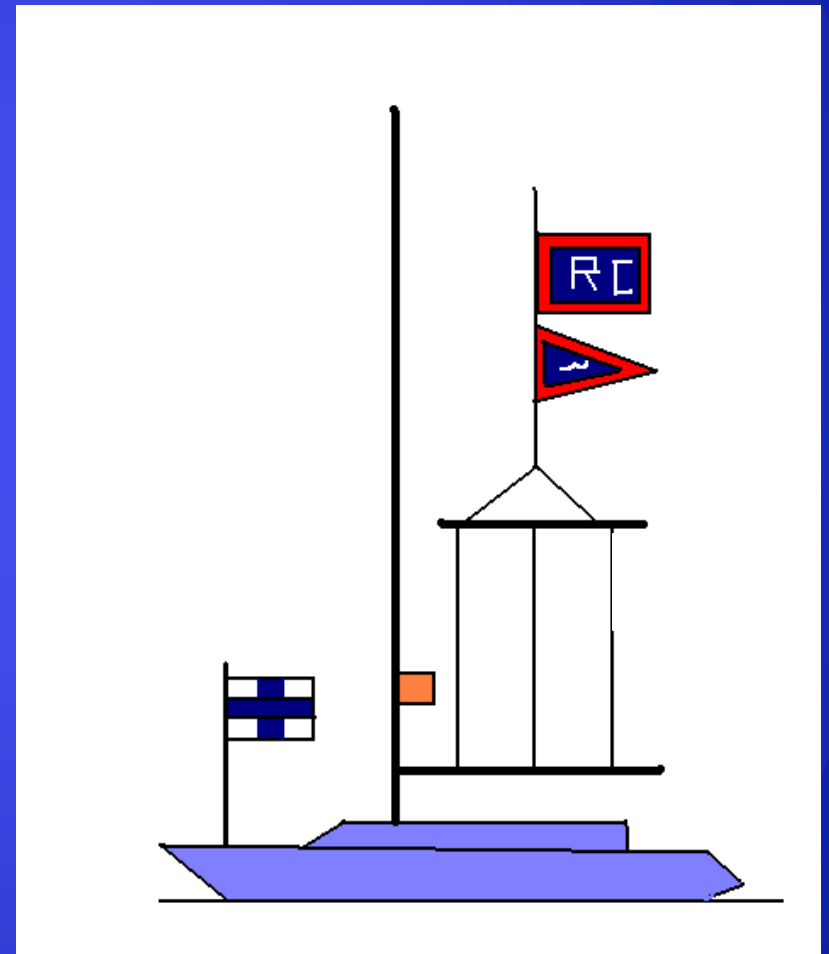
- 7:10 PM
- Lower "White" flag
- Gun or horn





# Individual Recall

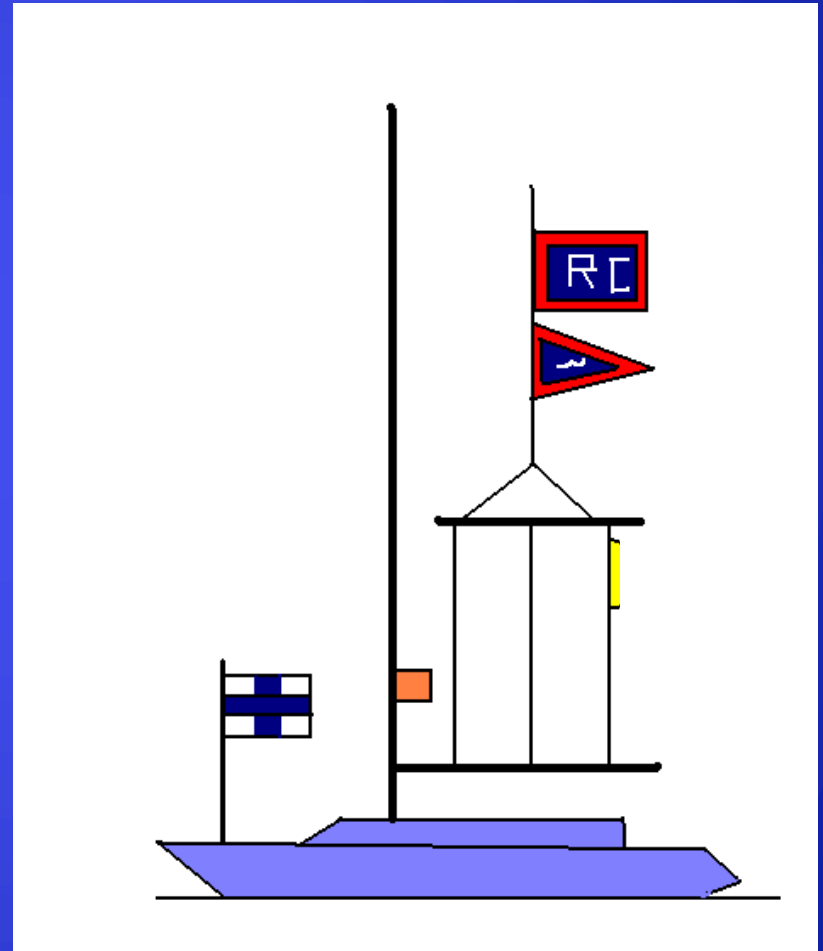
- 7:10 PM
- RED SKY, WHOOSH over early
- Hoist "X" flag
- 1 horn
- Announce on VHF





# OCS Restarts

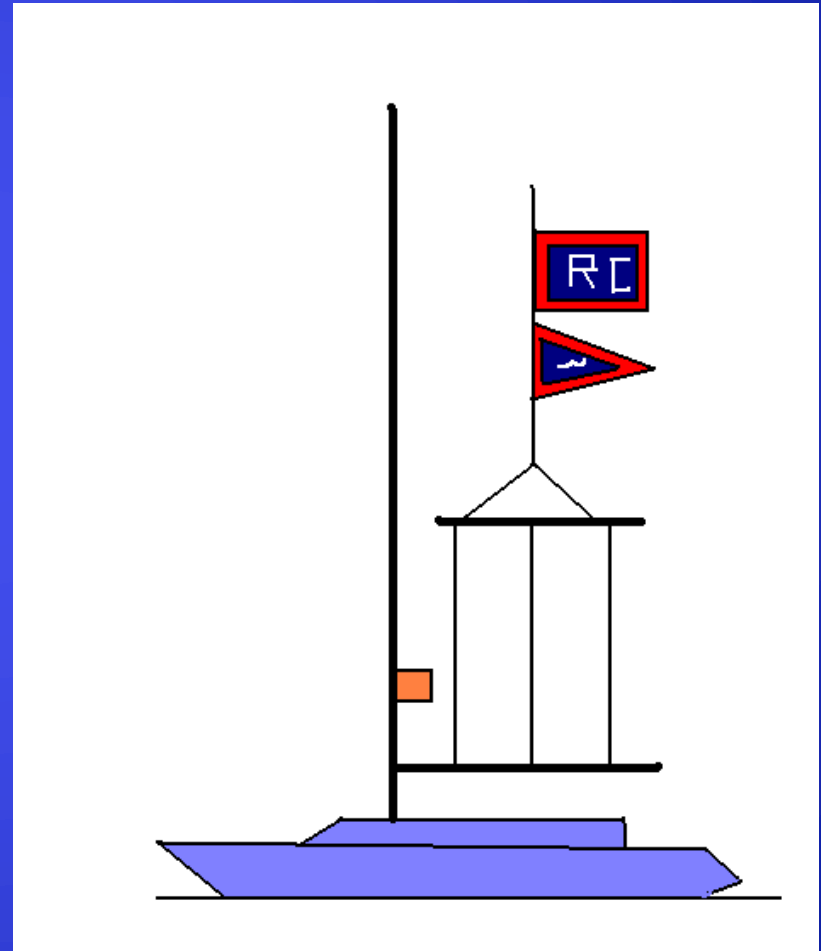
- 7:12 PM
- RED SKY restarts
- WHOOSH still OCS
- "X" flag remains up





# OCS Restarts

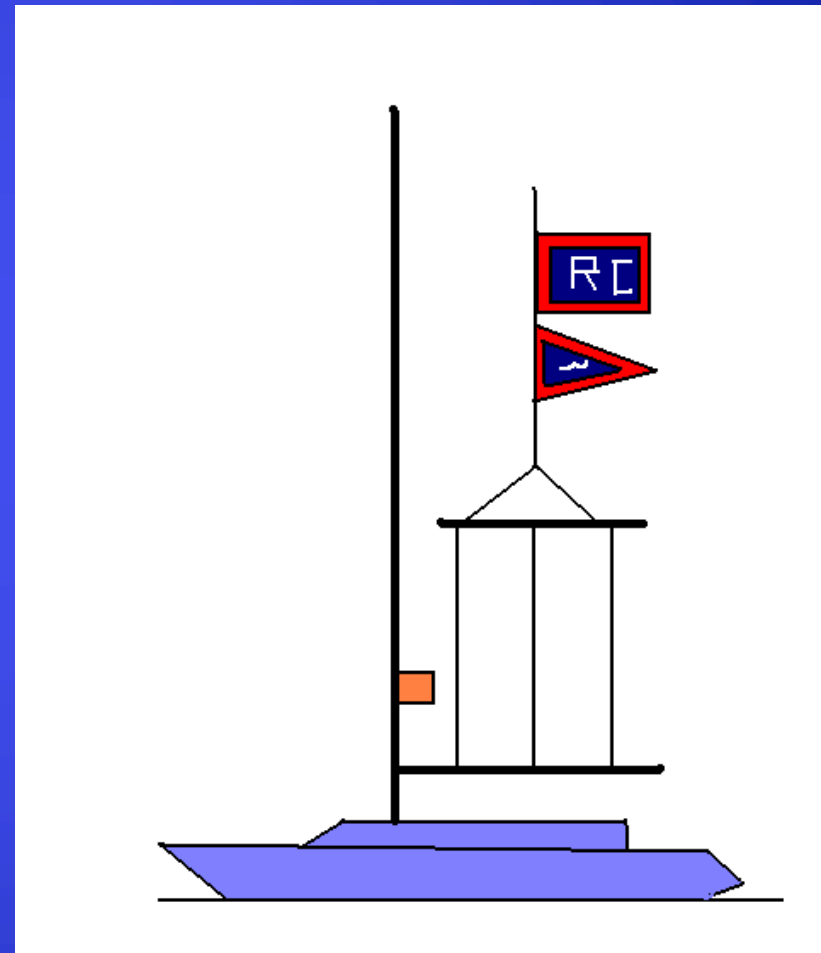
- 7:13 PM
- WHOOSH restarts
- Lower "X" flag





# Set Finish

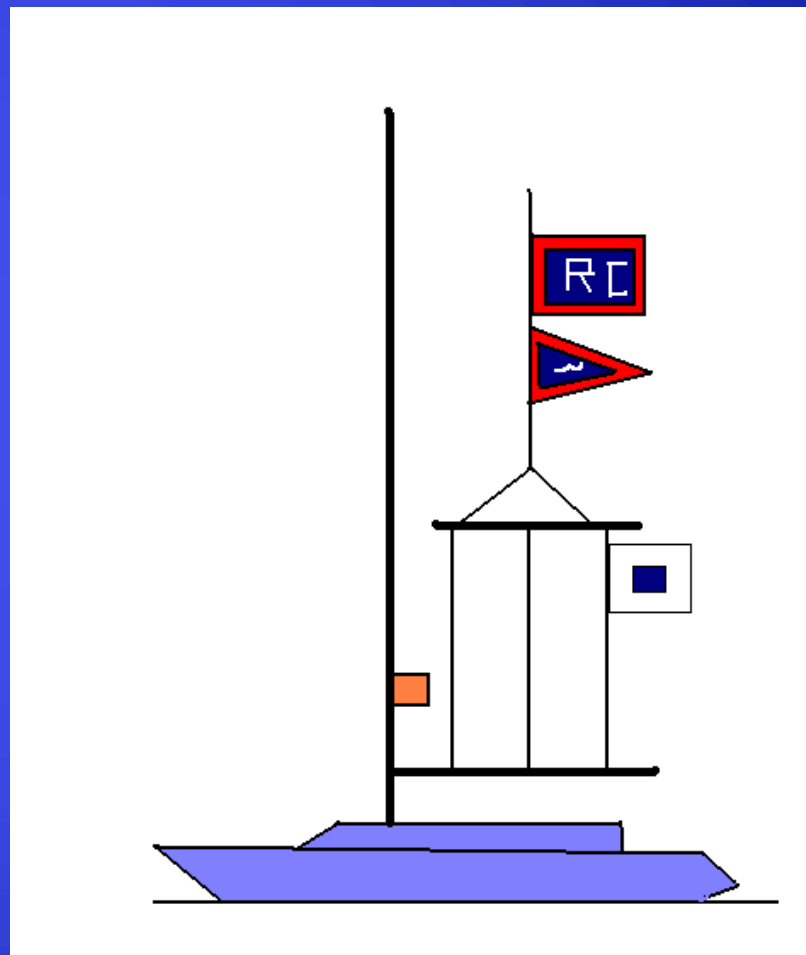
- Pickup pin
- Head to finish at HHSA A
- Set up to anchor on correct side (A to port for finishing boats)
- Line <100 yards
- Line square to final leg





# Shorten Course

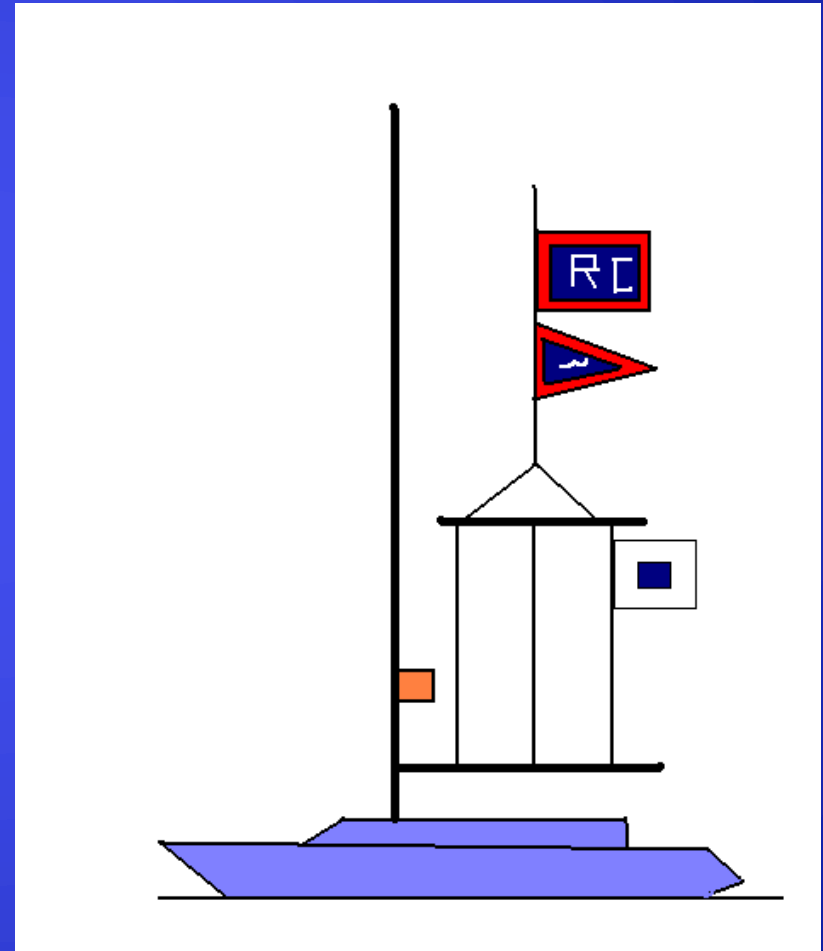
- 8:00 PM
- Wind dying
- Shorten to G1
- Anchor on course side
- Hoist "S" flag
- 2 horns
- Announce VHF





# Finishes

- 8:23 PM
- DELIRIUM first  
Spin finisher
- Gun

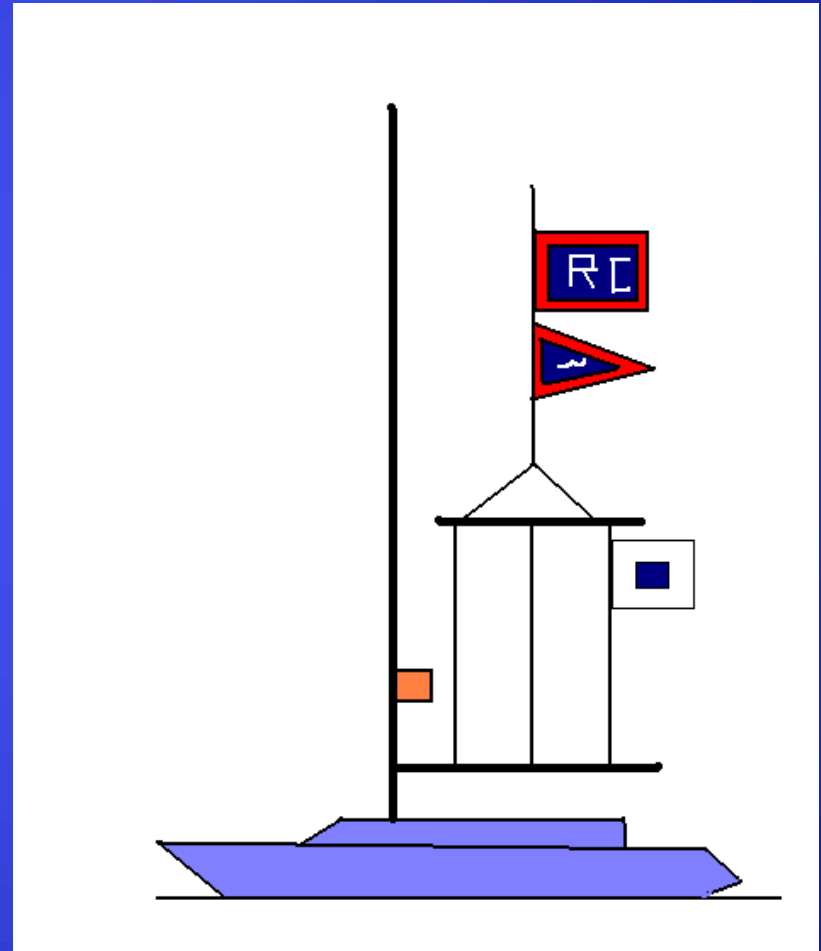






# Finishes

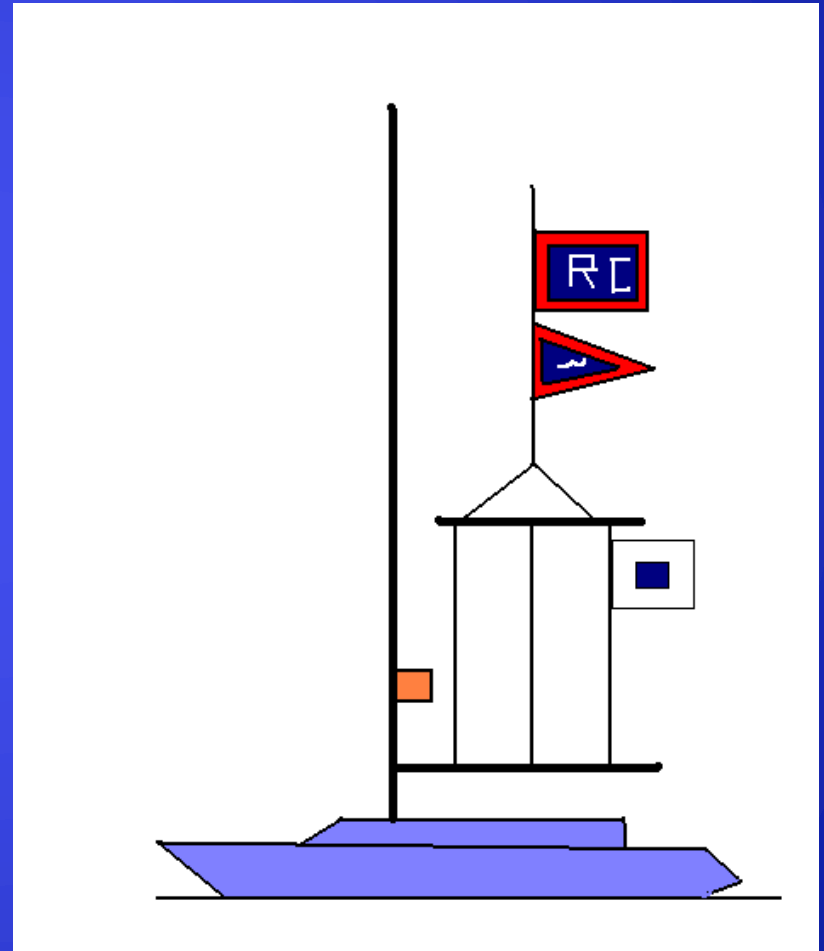
- 8:43 PM
- JUBILEE, RESILIENT, CANTATA approaching overlapped
- RESILIENT first Non-Spin Racing
- Timer – 20:43:sec,sec,sec
- Horn, gun, horn





# Finishes

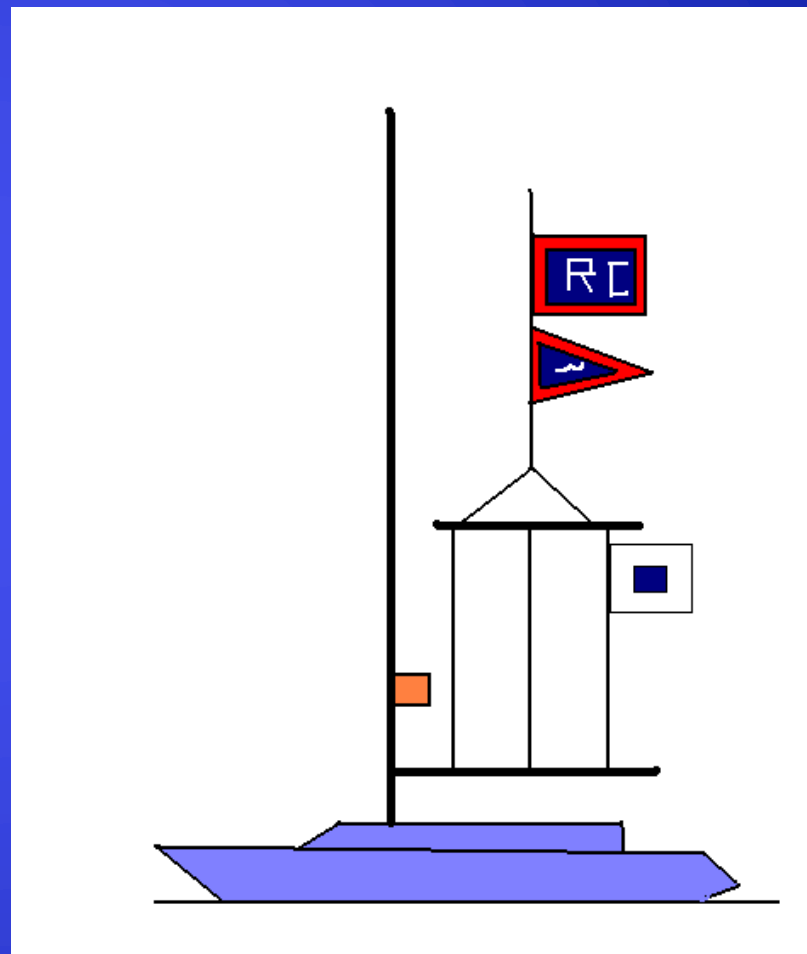
- 8:59 PM
- SECOND WIND first  
Non Spin Cruising finisher
- Gun





# Finishes

- 9:20 PM
- 1 Spin, 1 Non-Spin R, 2 Non-Spin C  
remain on course
- 9:30 PM (check SI's for each class!)
- Time limit expired
- 3 horns + VHF
- RC returns to dock
- Return RC gear to locker
- Submit scores and notes of protests, etc.





# Review

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- Setting a square line – ask for help
- Setting the correct line length
  - For the Start
  - For the Finish
- Setting the starting area relative to the first mark
- Starting sequences on the “5”s
- Get out of jail free – AP Flag
- Visual and audible signals in sync, use VHF
- OCS – X-ray from the bow and one horn
- General Recall – 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute from the bow and two horns
- Calling boats across the finish line
- Check in for a race by passing by the Race Committee!



# Remember

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- **Be Prepared**
- **Be Consistent**
- **Be Predictable**
- **Don't Make Racers Guess what you are doing**
- **MAKE IT FUN!**



# The End

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