

## Race and Course Management

1. Make yourself aware of what is available to the race officer in the race cupboard.
  - a) Signing on and result sheets.
  - b) Sea race box check contents - weatherproof flipboard – burgee – horn – pencils – chalk -stopwatch - compass.
  - c) Safety box.
  - d) Radios x 2. (Be aware of how to operate them, then test.)
  - e) Blackboard.
2. Decide on the course to be set indicate on board plus the number of laps to be completed.
3. Prepare Rib for launch and place the above gear on board with the addition of the race flags and requisite number of race marks.
4. Remember “Start on time”.
5. When in position lay Leeward mark. From this position use the Burgee to establish wind direction. Consider keeping the marks close if windy for safety and close if no wind for time to finish.
6. Make your way to Christchurch Bay, keep well clear of marked channel and sandbars, if northerly wind far enough from shore to enable windward mark to be laid.
7. Make your way to windward and lay mark, check with Burgee that Leeward mark is still downwind of the Windward mark.
8. If Windward/Leeward course has been decided on, make your way to the Leeward mark.
9. Position Rib in place to enable starboard rounding with the start line at 90 degrees to the Windward mark using the Leeward mark as the Pin end. Estimate the distance at approx 1.5 x the length of boat x the number of boats in the race.

## The Start

1. Count the number of racers or record numbers on sails as necessary.
2. When ready and in position raise orange flag on station. Use standard 5, 4, 1 & start for the race sequence.

At	5 minutes raise warning/class flag (no 1 or 3).
	4 minutes raise P flag
	1 minute lower P flag, RO Looks along the line from behind the mast where orange flag is hoisted to the pin end mark, as soon as this flag is lowered and if competitors cross the line they must make their way back to the start side of the line. Explain “dipping”.

At the start (0 minutes) the warning/class flag is lowered.
3. All boats clear of course side then all boats clear the race starts. The race officer checks along the line at the 5 minute signal if any boat is over and can be identified Individual flag is raised along with one sound signal. Boat to return to the start side of the course to start

again, if boat continues it is not recorded as finishing. This flag can be removed 4 minutes after start with no sound signal.

4. Too many boats over when numbers can not be identified then General Recall flag to be hoisted along with 2 sound signals.
5. All boats to return to the start side of the line. With the General Recall flag still showing the starting sequence can start with the lowering of this flag after a count of 1minute, the class warning flag is then hoisted, the start sequence begins again along with sound signals. Race can be postponed prior to the start for a number of reasons, raise flag with 2 sound signals. eg wind increases/drops, wind change, race team gets it wrong.
6. Abandon after race starts, avoid if at all possible.
7. Must be done ASAP after start by raising Abandonment flag with 3 sound signals (long) in races with large numbers send Rib showing abandonment flag to recall racers. Again wind changes or RO realises that individuals are over line at the start and failed to indicate.

### **During the Race**

1. Immediately the race starts the anchor is raised the Rib is then responsible for safety and any rescues.
2. It is to the race officers advantage should the race have to be finished early to make his/her way to the Leeward mark. Position the Rib at approx 90 degrees to the finish line from the penultimate mark, this can be a shorter line than the start line. Boats to finish passing Starboard of the mark between this and the Rib. Note the finish times. It is a good idea to record the times of each boat after each lap should the race need finishing you will then have a result.

### **Finishing the Race**

1. The Race Officer should set the timing of the race to last between 45 to 60 minutes. This can easily be determined by timing the first lap and judging the finishing time by the number of laps.
2. Should this be less than the number that has already been indicated in the clubhouse then the race can be shortened by raising the S - Shortened Course flag along with 2 long sound signals.
3. The race team prepare themselves for the finish by making ready the result sheet and pencil using the weatherproof flipboard. The RO calls out the number of the boat and then the time as the front of the boat passes across the line. A sound signal is given as each boat finishes and noted on the record sheet.
4. In club racing should the windward mark be closer to the clubhouse the race can be finished here.
5. When all boats have finished all marks can be retrieved and placed on board the Rib, boats are then to be escorted into the harbour.