



HHSA Race Management Training

April 17, 2021

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Who has not ...

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



Expectations

- 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

- 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

- ***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 Regulations that have been designated by World Sailing as having the status of a *rule* and are published on the World Sailing website;
- (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'); - PHRF
- (e) the notice of race; - HHSA Racing Rules fill this role
- (f) the sailing instructions; and - HHSA SIs
- (g) any other documents that govern the event - HHSA Course Book



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>Visual signal</i>	<i>Sound signal</i>	<i>Minutes before Starting signal</i>
Warning	Class flag	1 sound	5*
Preparatory	P, I, Z, Z with I, U, 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 2021

- Same three classes, but with separate starts:
 - Spinnaker Class
 - Non-spinnaker Racing Class ($SA/D \geq 18.0$)
 - Non-Spinnaker Cruising Class ($SA/D < 18.0$)
- Shorthanded racing (1 or 2 onboard)
 - No separate class - may do in any race - season awards
 - Inform RC at check-in, burden on boat not RC
- Hull versus crew/equipment
 - Start, finish, OCS
- Finish flag
 - Orange for HHSA, maybe blue for CBYRA races



Equipment

- 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 Rear Commodore (Racing)



Pre-Race

- Review
 - HHSA Race Committee Manual
 - Sailing Instructions
 - HHSA Rules
 - Course Book
- Weather
 - Weather Underground. etc
 - CBOFS
 - Cell phone apps
 - Local TV
 - Follow Link on HHSA Racing Page



Pre-Race

- 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

- 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

- 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

- Aim for ~ 1 hour for fastest boat
 - Wind knots: <6 6-10 10-15 >15
 - Course nmi: 2-3 3-5 4-6 5-7
 - Note that windward legs equal $\sim 1.4x$ rhumb line
- Adjust start location
 - Lengthen or shorten course
 - Directly downwind of 1st mark for upwind leg
- Set finish on correct side of finish mark
 - Finish at lit mark



Wednesday Courses

- Observe time limits
 - First boat in each class for race to count
 - Individual boat time limits (DNF, formerly TLE)
 - Note earlier DNF time limit, now 2030
- Always 3 starts



Weekend Courses

- Regattas: Goal = 3 short races
- Frostbites: Goal = 2 short races
- Other Races
 - Per Sailing Instructions
- Time Limits per Sailing Instructions
- Always three starts
 - 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

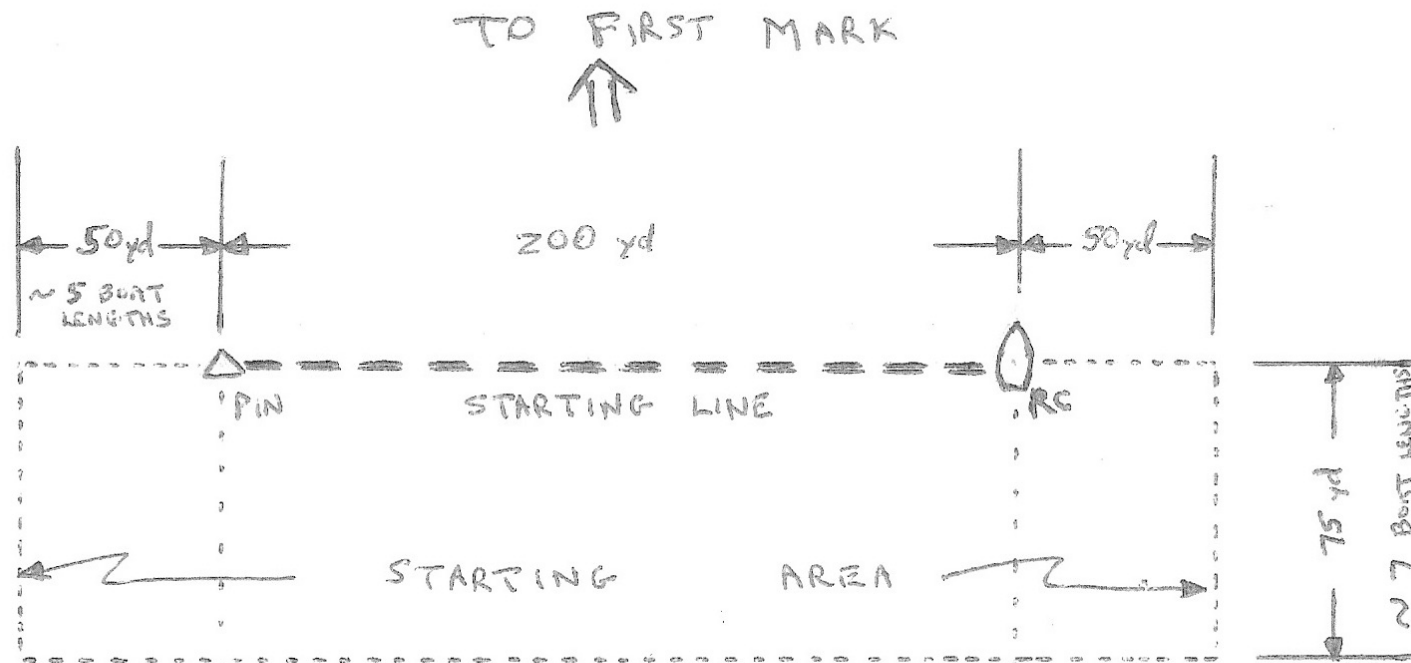


Starting Line

- Set ~30 minutes before warning
- Signal boat 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 SB side opposite the line



Starting Area



HHSA RACE STARTING AREA.

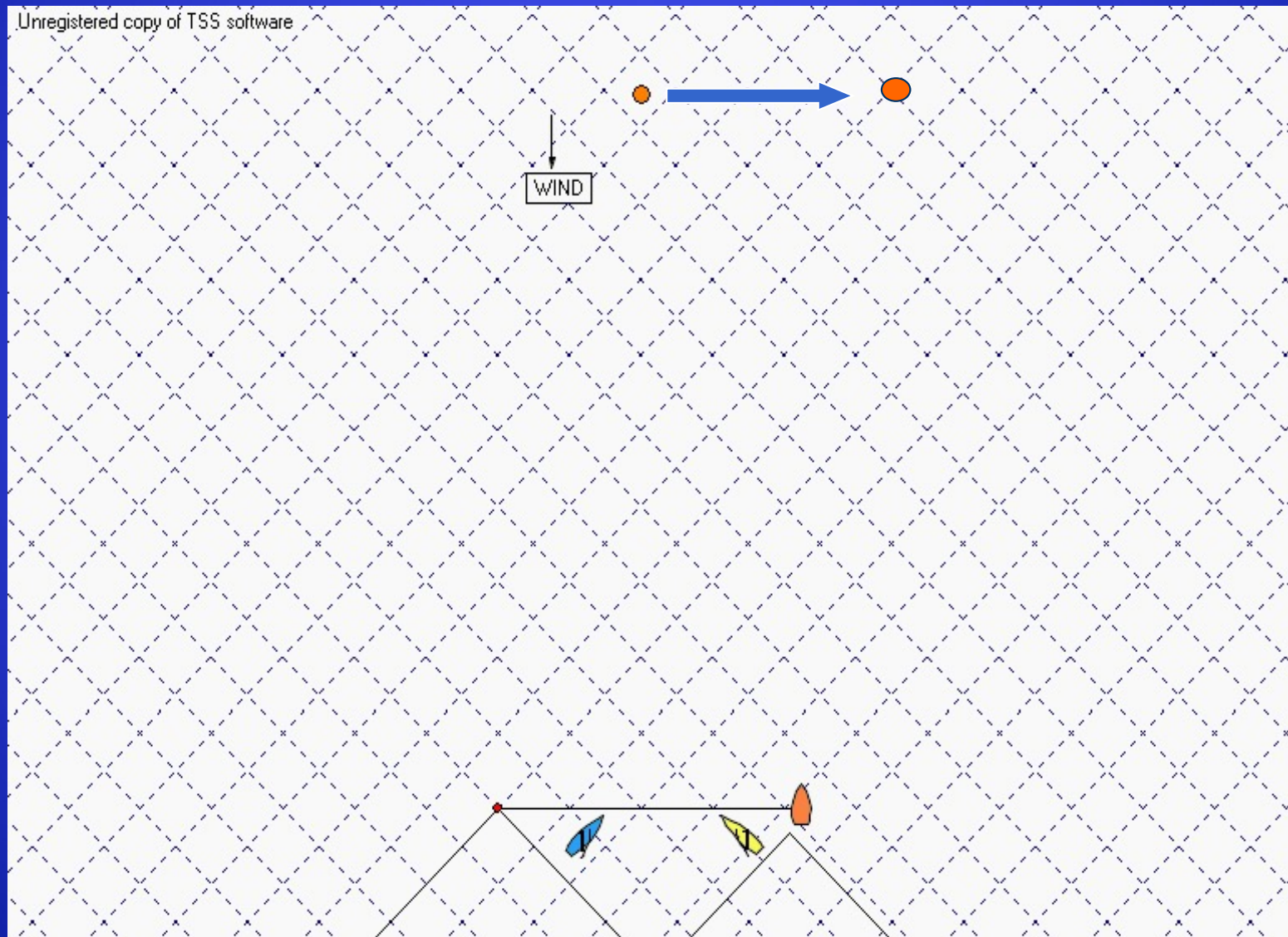


Setting the Line

- 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

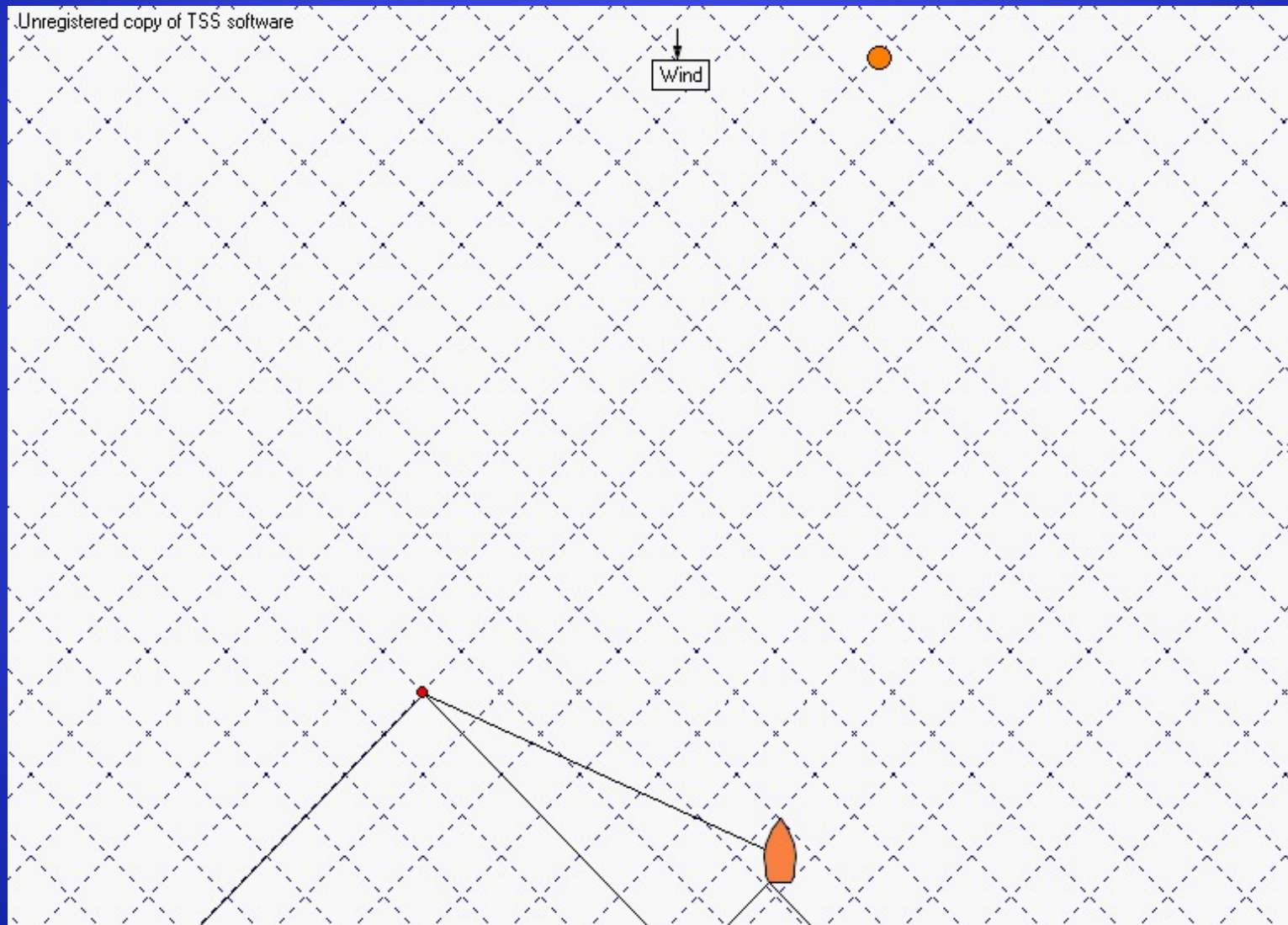


The Perfect World....



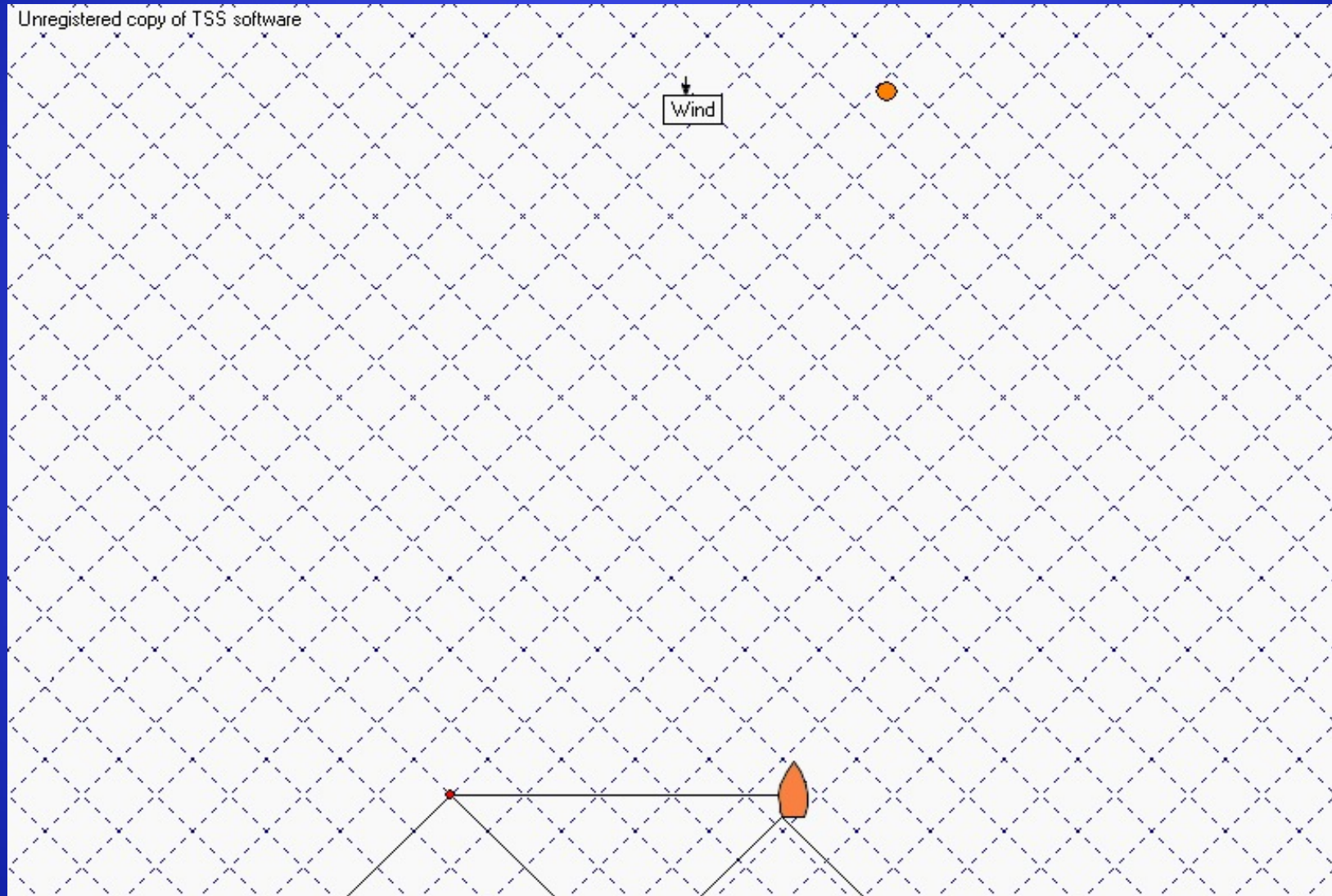


Square to Mark?



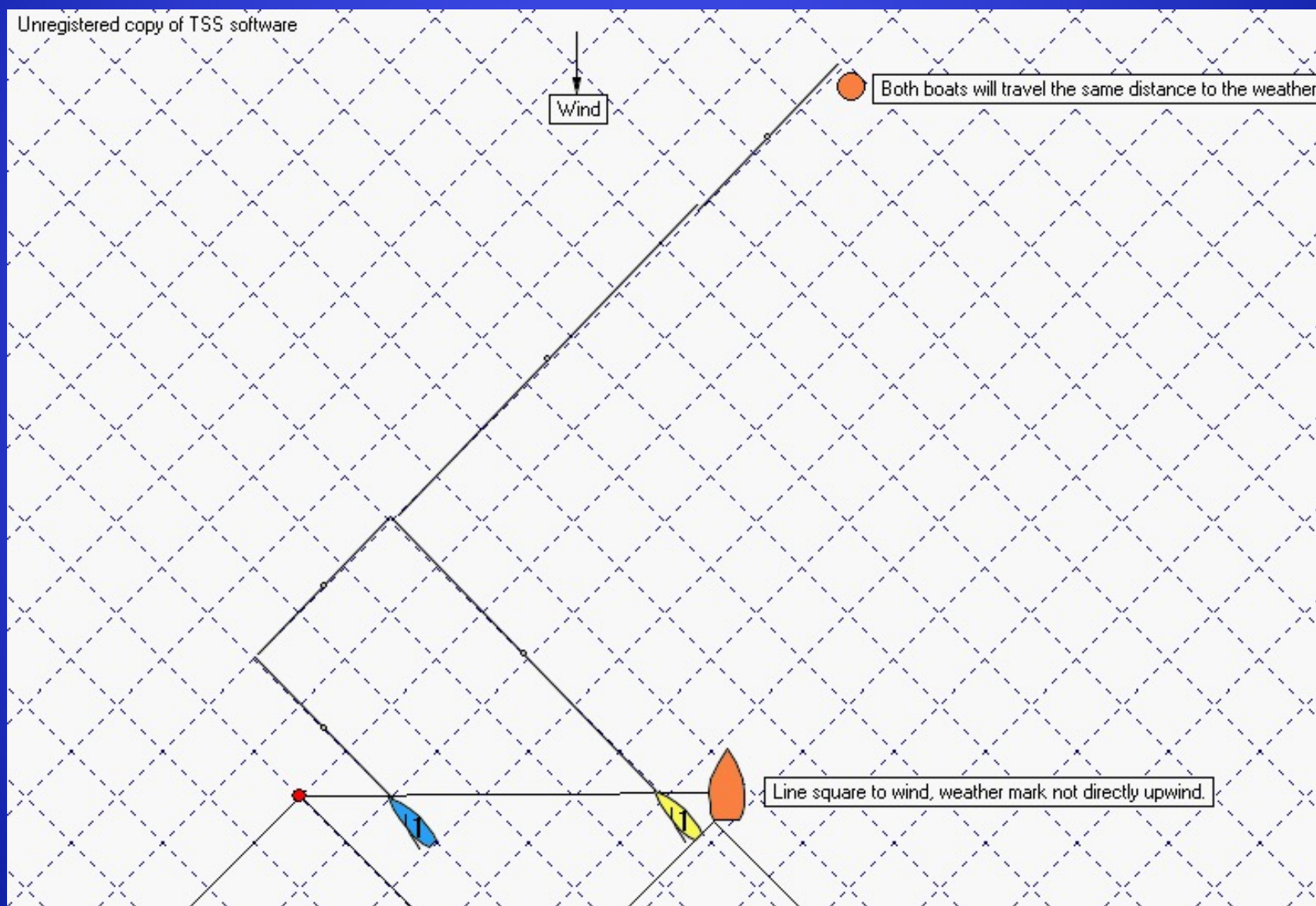


Square to Wind?



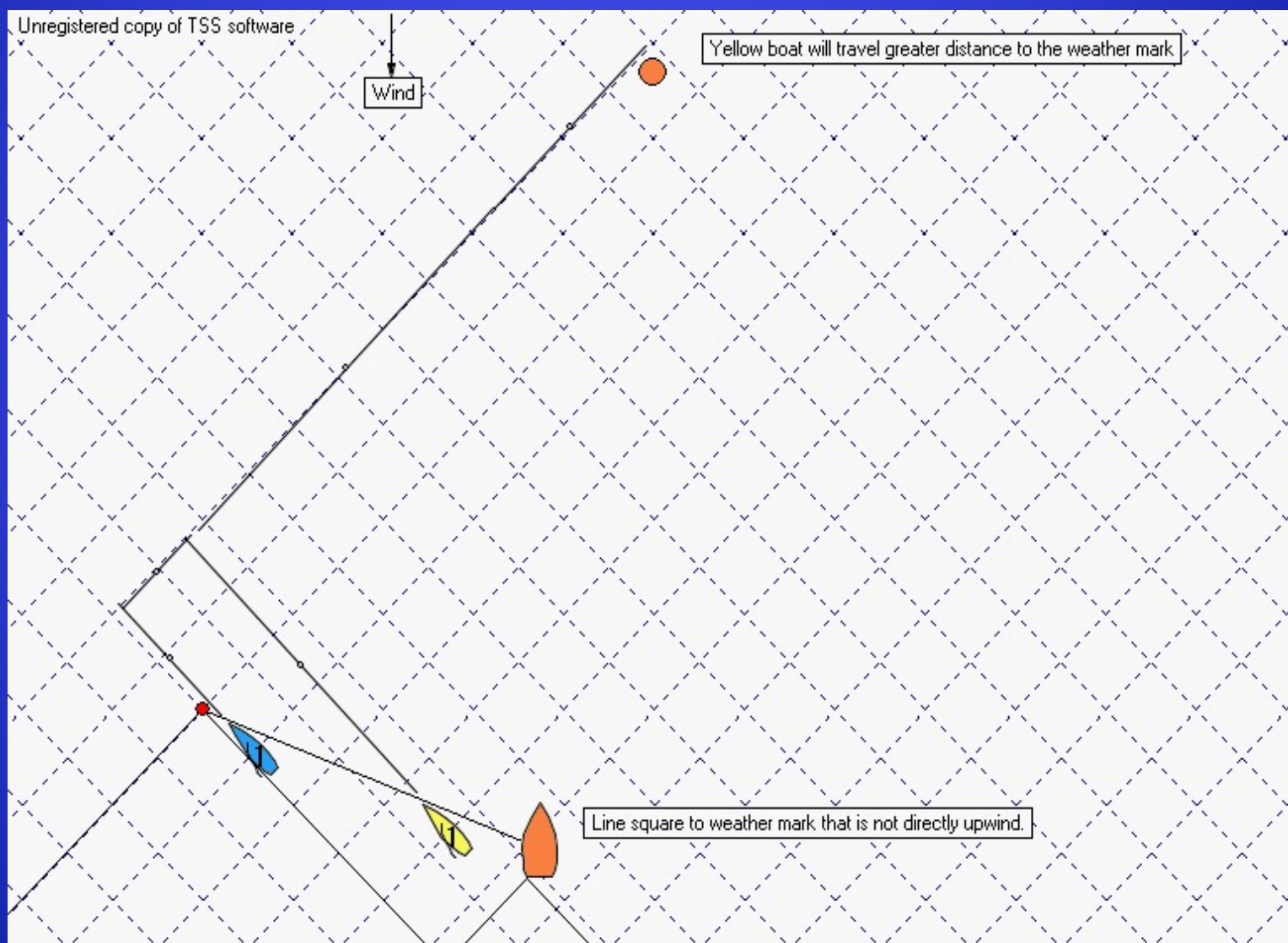


Count the blocks



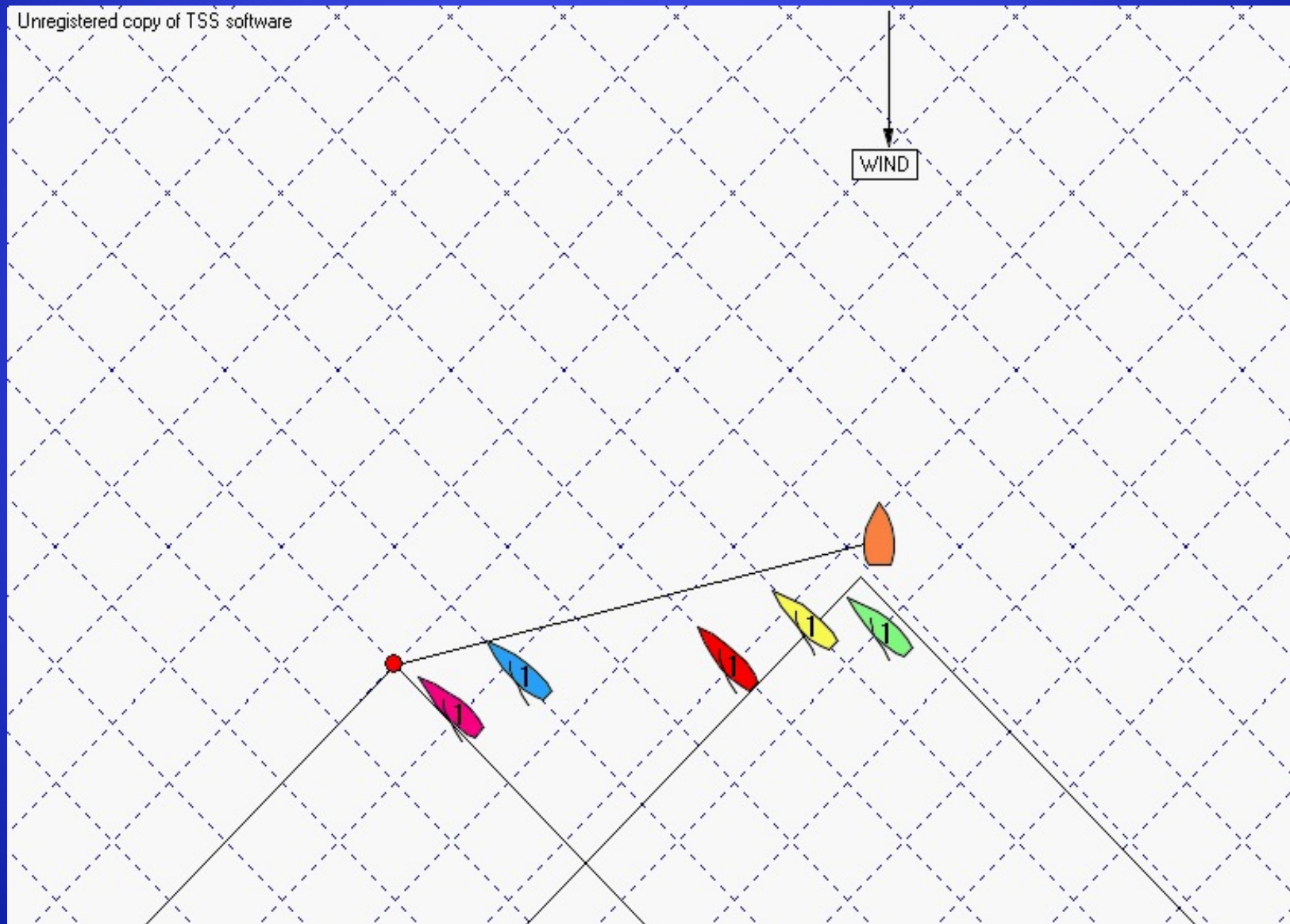


Compare again...



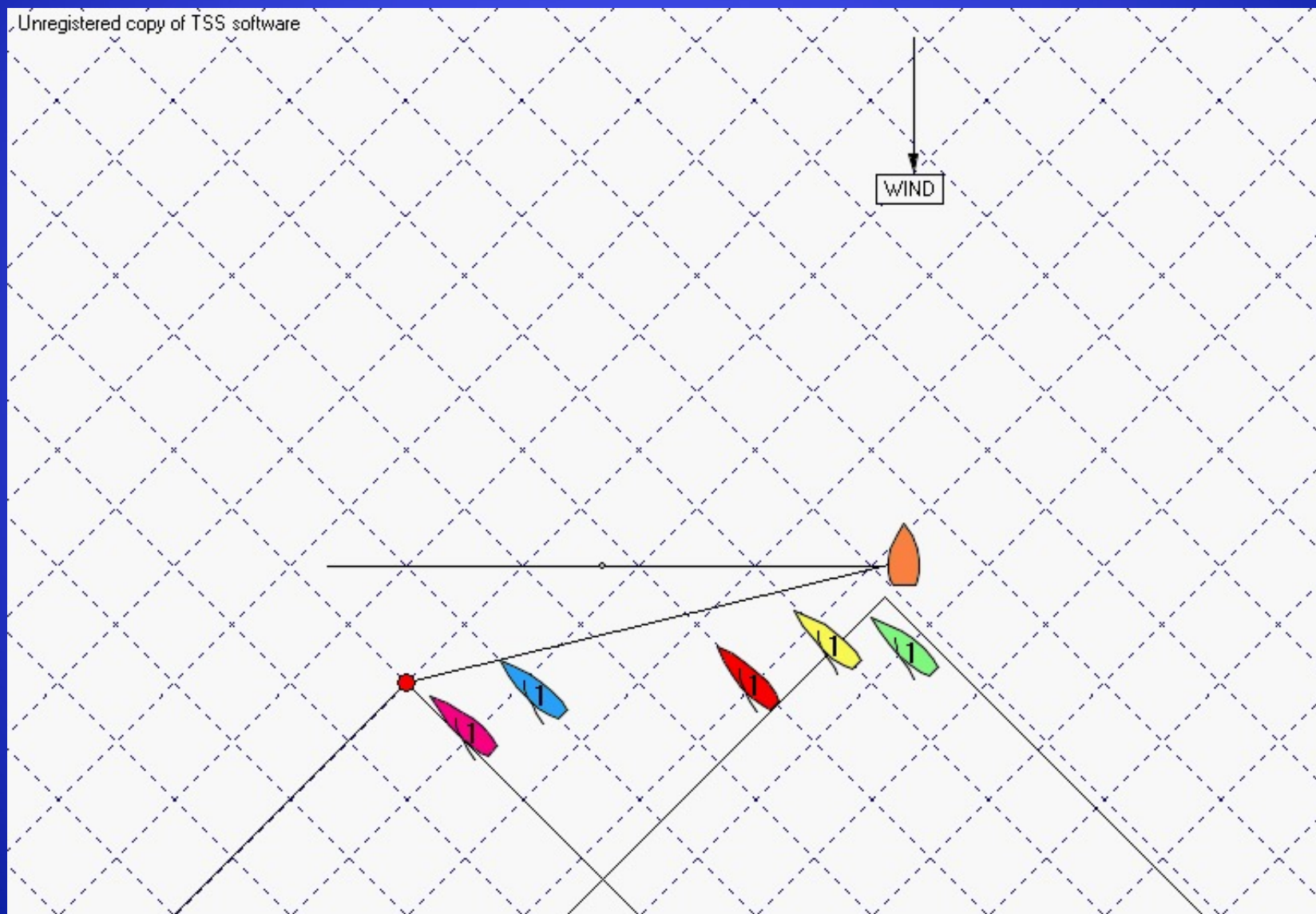


Who wins?





See?





Communications

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



Starting Sequence

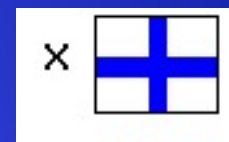
- Time
 - Timer must not get distracted
 - Use GPS/cell phone time if practical
- Visual signals must be accurate
 - At top of hoist at “mark”
- Sound signals
 - Gun or horn for warning & start
 - Horn for preparatory “up” and “down”
- Record all starters, incl. DNS, OCS, RET, DNF



Recalls

- 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
- 1st Substitute up with 2 horns, lower Class flag
- RC mistake





Recalls

- Restart
 - Recalled class – repeat entire sequence
 - Lower 1st 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
- Note
 - RC will attempt to hail OCS boats, but error in signal alone by the RC does not entitle an OCS boat redress



Wednesday Start Sequence

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Visual</u>	<u>Sound</u>
5:59	Attention	L down	Horns
6:00	Spin warning	6 up	1 horn
6:01	Spin preparatory	P up	1 horn
6:04	Spin 1-minute	P down	1 long horn
6:05	Spin start	6 down	Gun/horn
	NonSpin R warning	5 up	
6:06	NonSpin R preparatory	P up	1 horn
6:09	NonSpin R 1-minute	P down	1 long horn
6:10	NonSpin R start	5 down	Gun/horn
	NonSpin Cr warning	White up	
6:11	NonSpin Cr preparatory	P up	1 horn
6:14	NonSpin Cr 1-minute	P down	1 long horn
6:15	NonSpin Cr start	White down	Gun/horn



After Start

- Shorten Course
 - 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
 - Weather
 - Time limits
 - Maybe only for one class
 - Not after one boat in class finishes
 - Hoist "N" flag + 3 horns + announce VHF



Finish

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



Finish

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

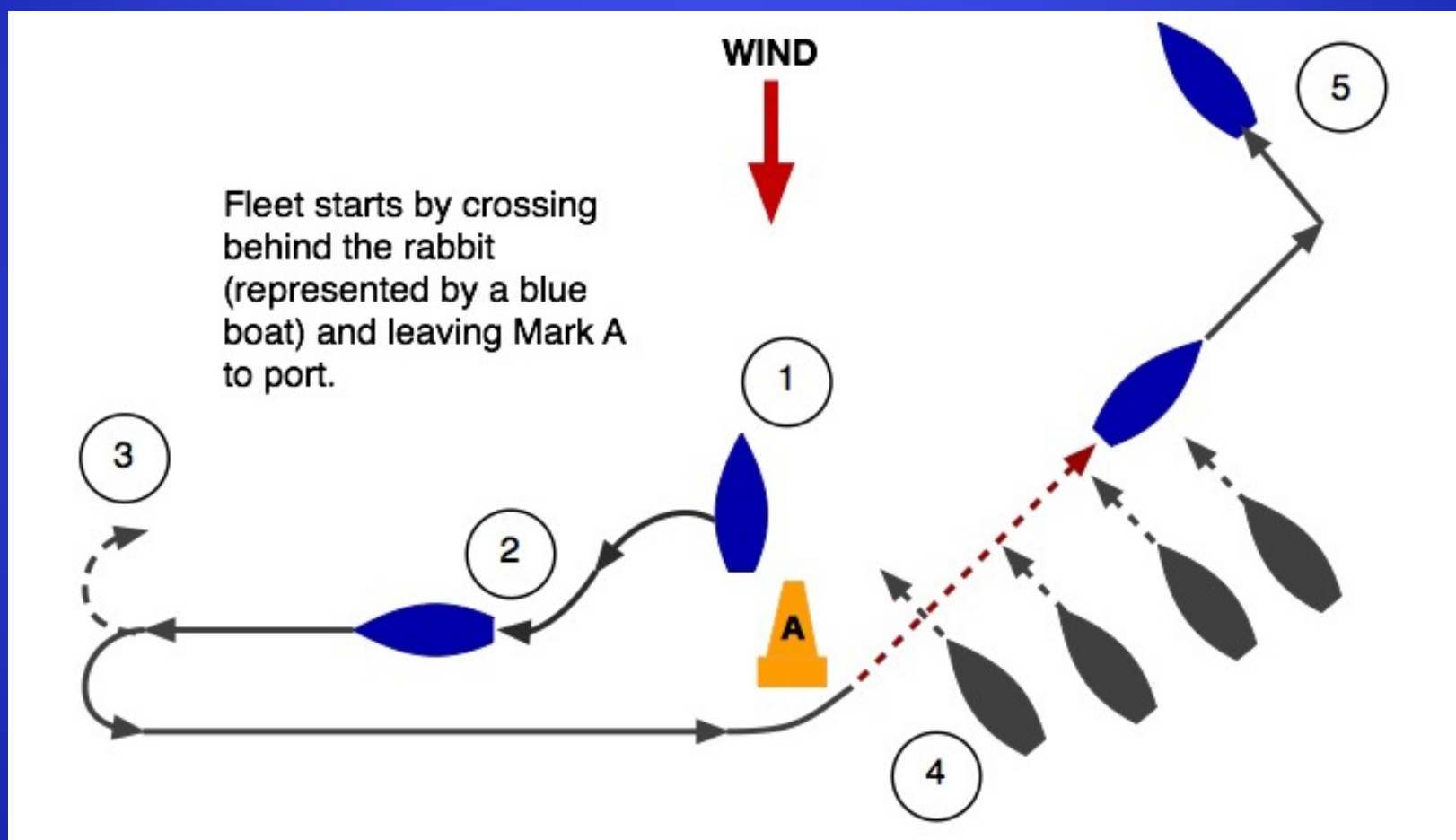


Rabbit Start

- May be used for windward start in absence of RC boat
- Single start for all classes
- Rabbit display HHSA burgee on backstay
- Start time = when rabbit transom passes mark
- Radio/sound signals. No visual signals
- Boats record own finish times per HHSA Rules



Rabbit Start





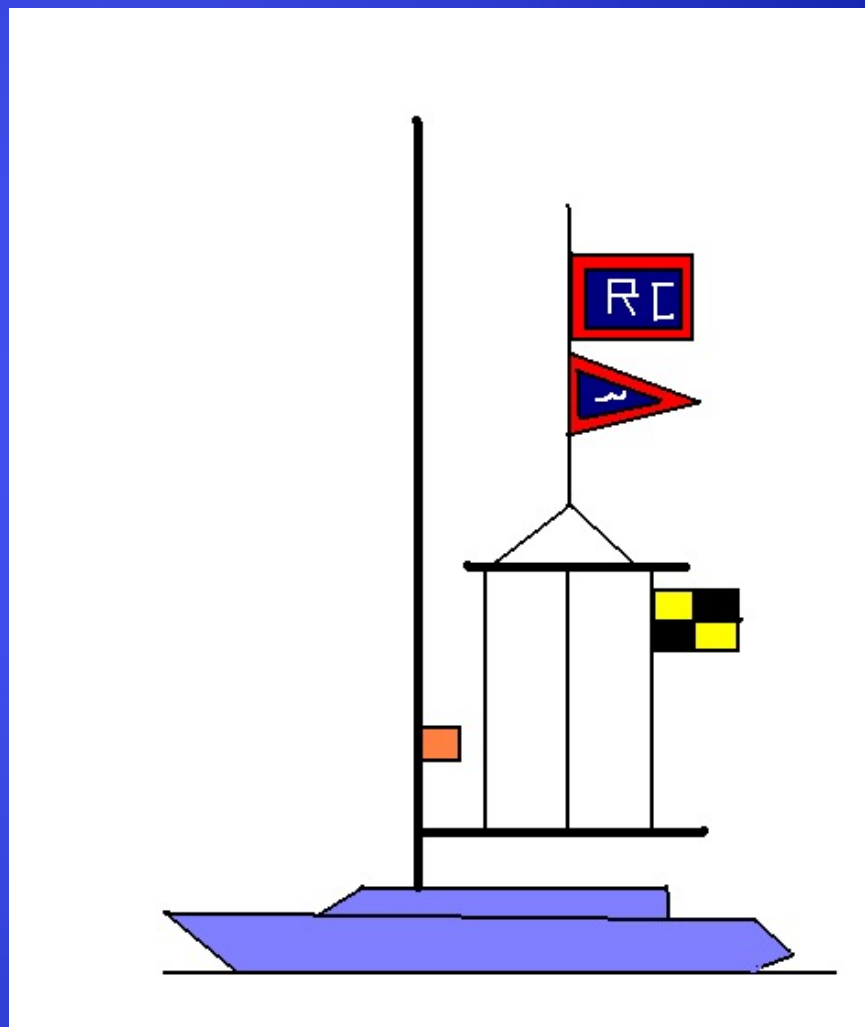
Scenarios

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



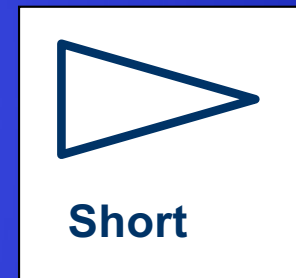
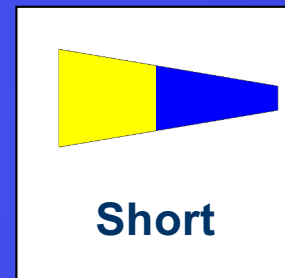
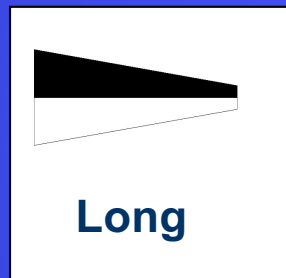
Wednesday Event - Pre-Race

- ~5:00 PM
- RC underway
- "L" flag hoisted
- Wind NW/N 7-8 kts
- Select course B
- Locate start downwind of B, adjust length of 1st leg to make course longer/shorter





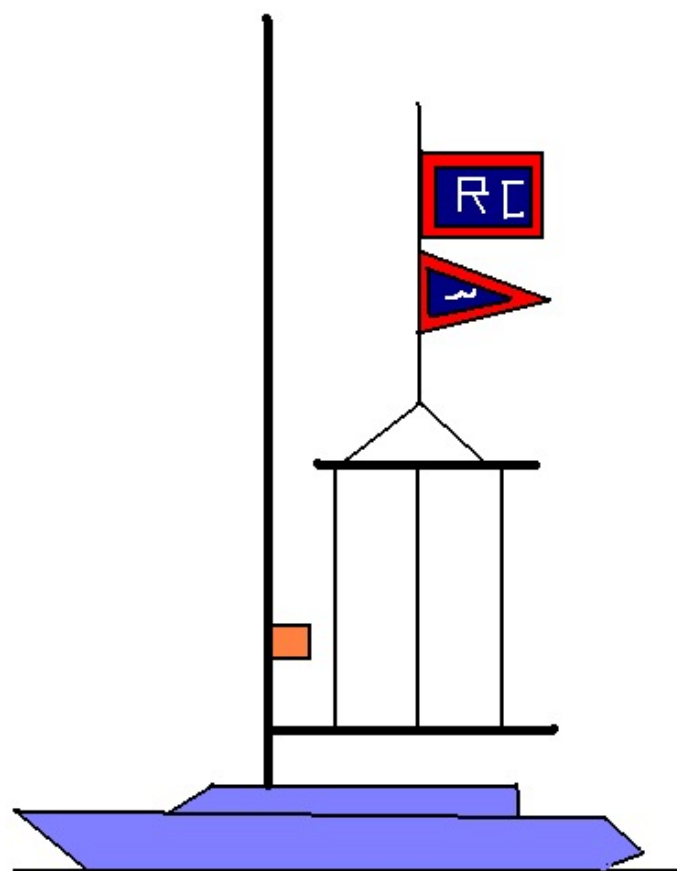
Post Course





Ready to Race

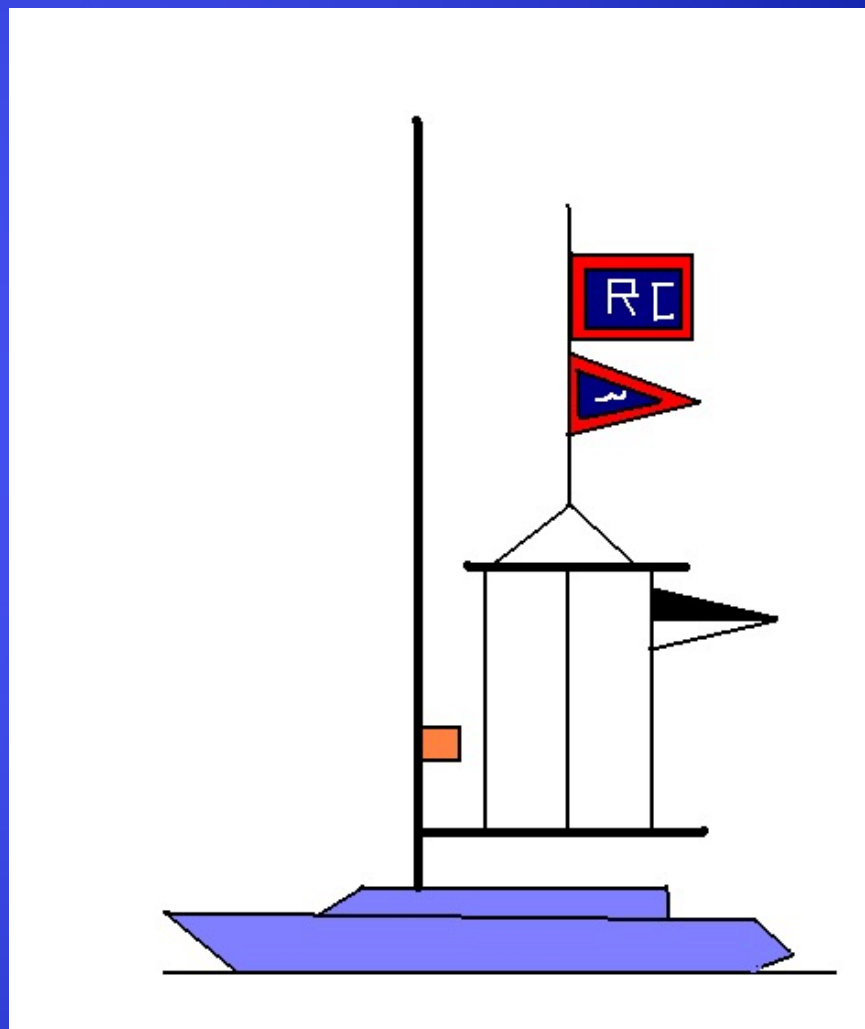
- 5:59 PM
- Lower "L"
- Multiple horns





3 Starts - Spinnaker Warning

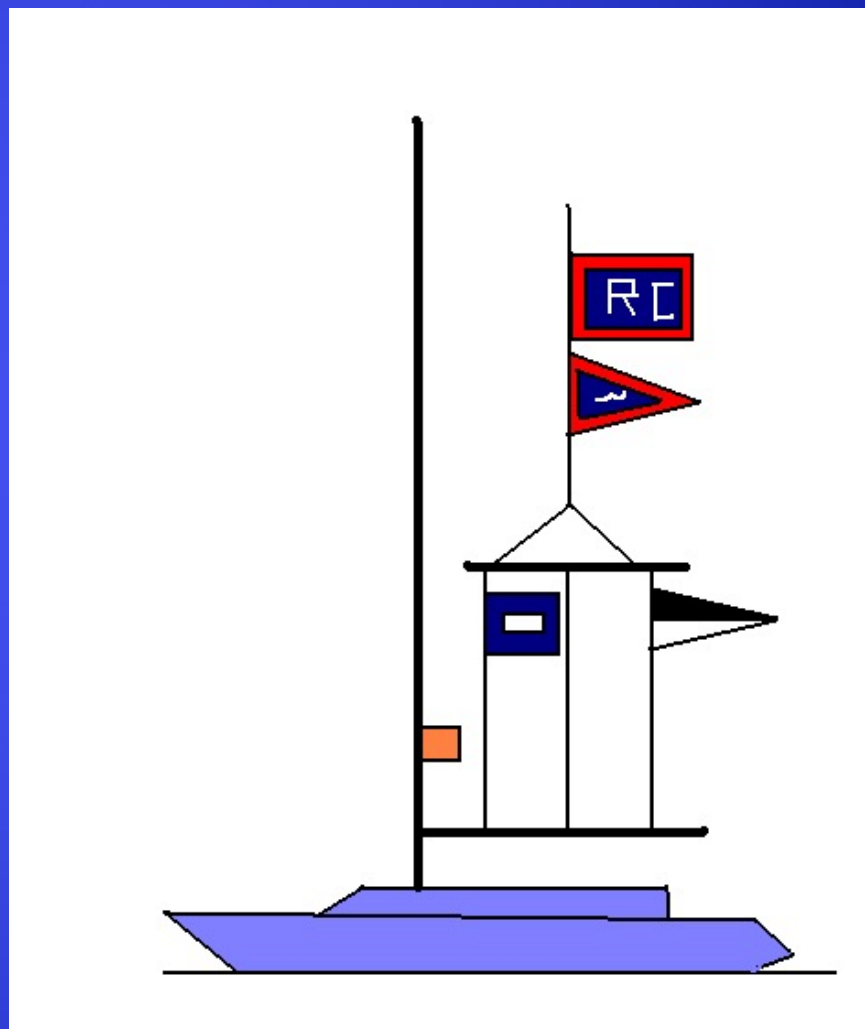
- 6:00 PM
- Hoist "6" pennant
- Horn





Spinnaker Preparatory

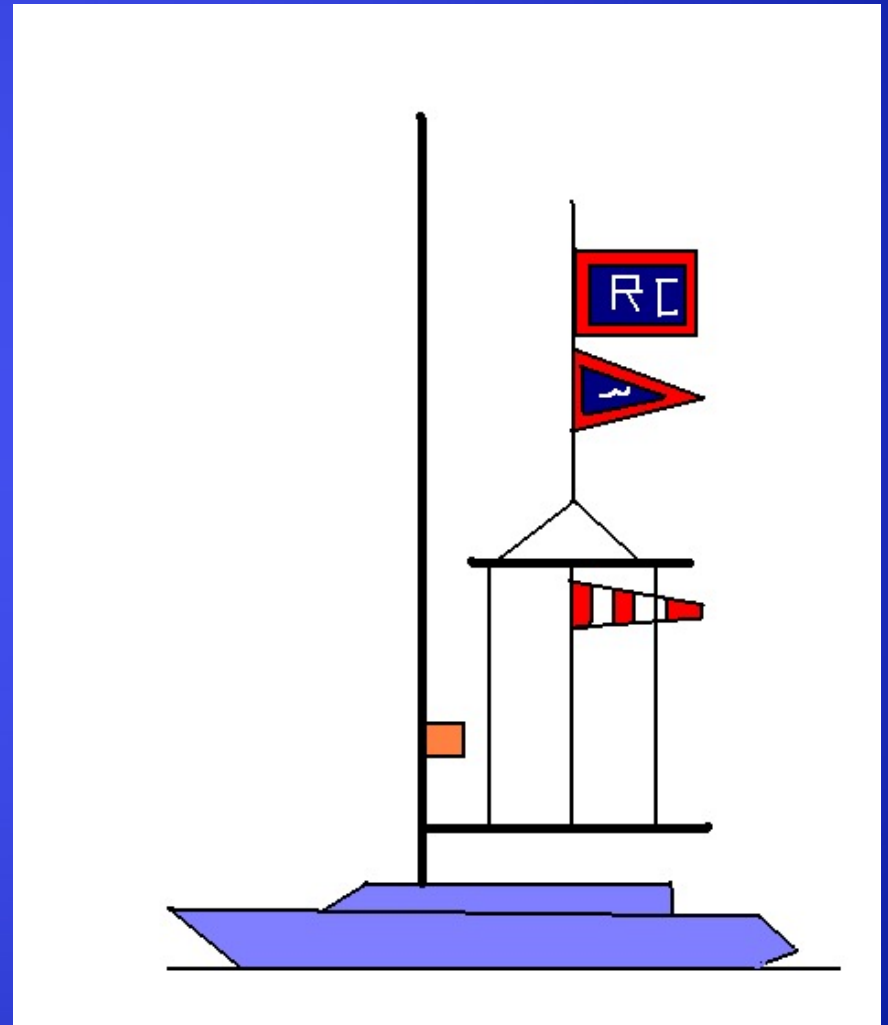
- 6:01 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn





Postponement

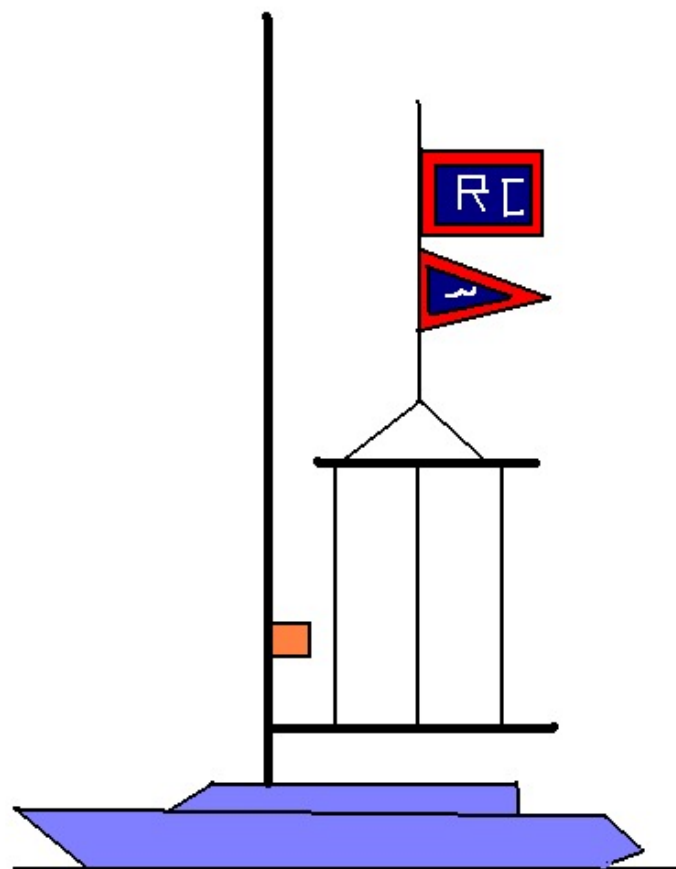
- 6:03 PM
- Anchor drags, can't maintain line by adjusting scope – must reset
- Lower "P" & "6" flags
- Raise "AP" flag
- 2 horns
- VHF - expect to start sequence at 6:20





Ready to Resume Racing

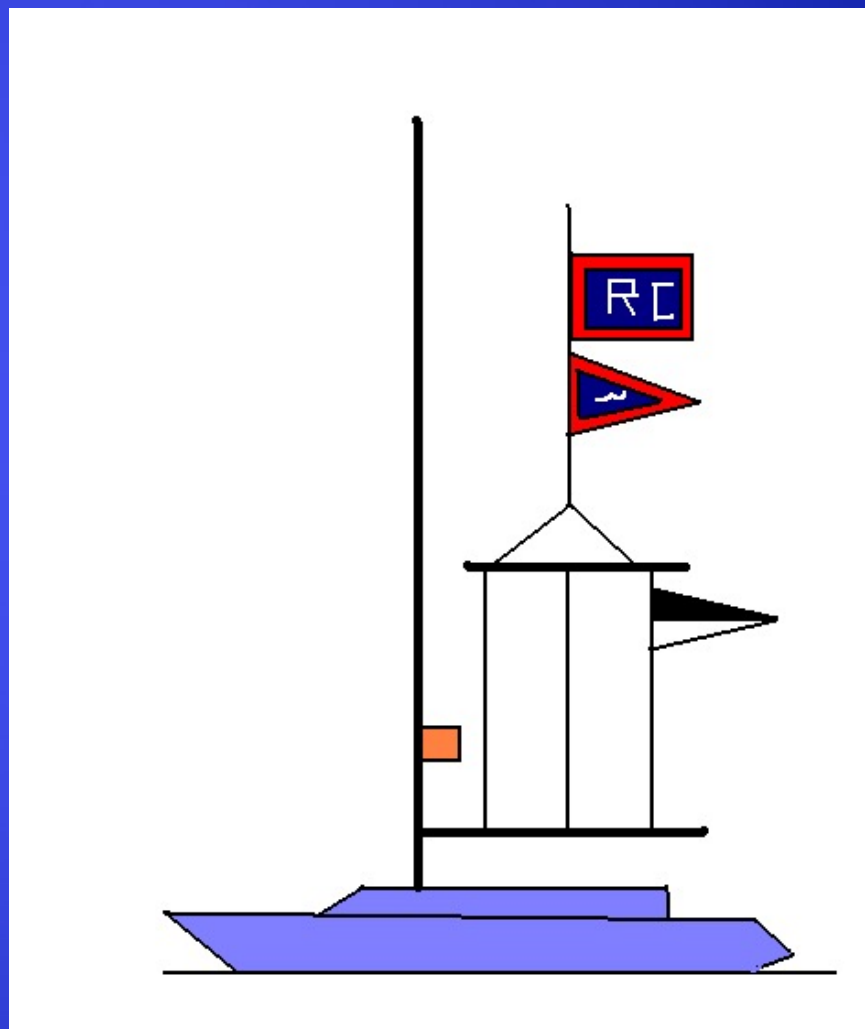
- 6:19 PM
- Lower "AP" flag
- 1 horn





Spinnaker Warning

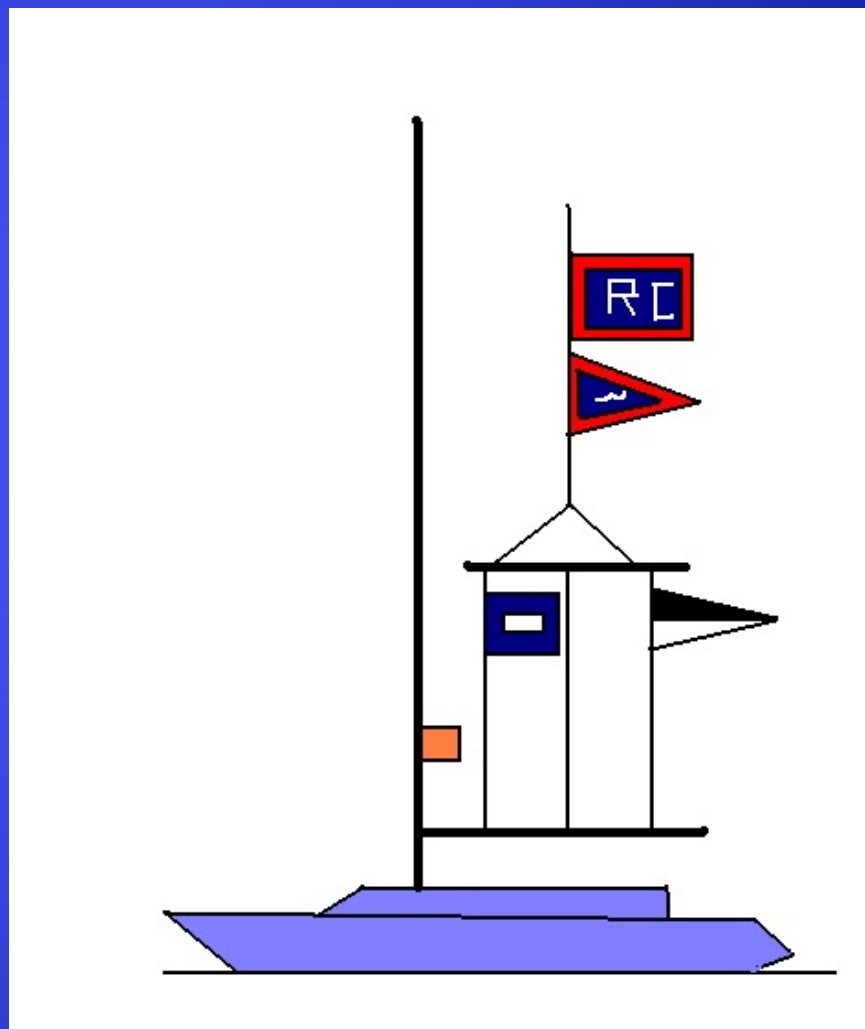
- 6:20 PM
- Hoist "6" pennant
- Horn





Spinnaker Preparatory

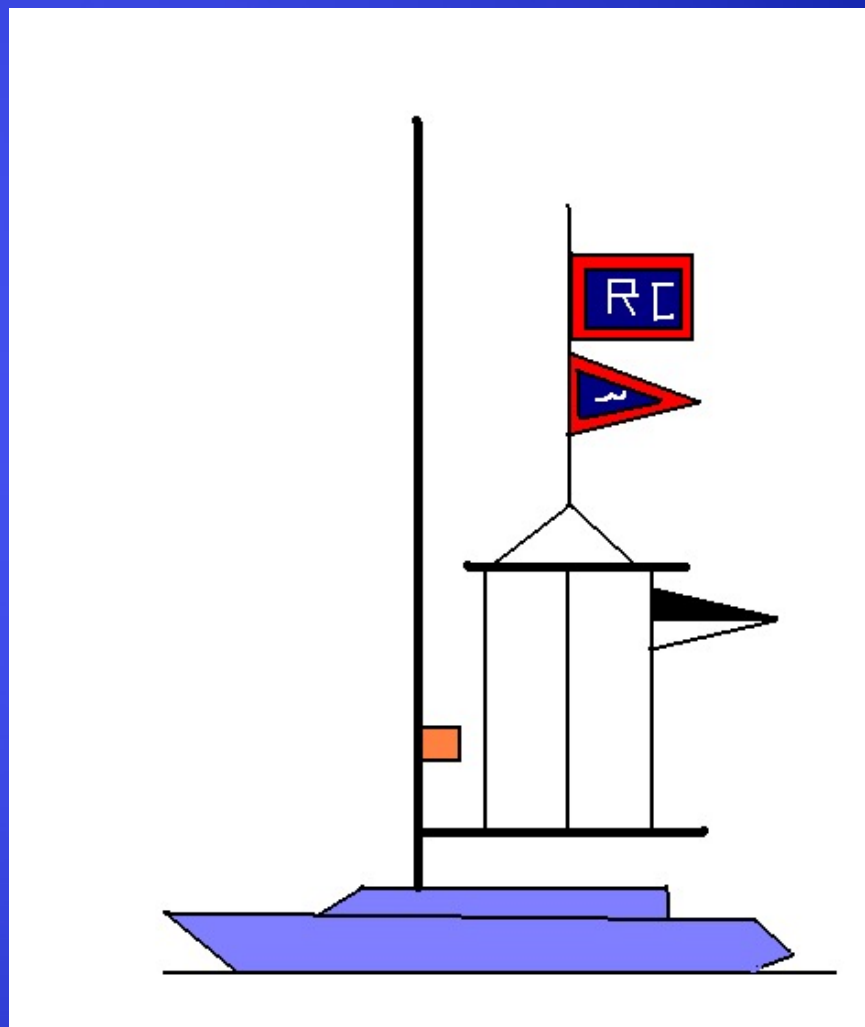
- 6:21 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn





Spinnaker 1-minute

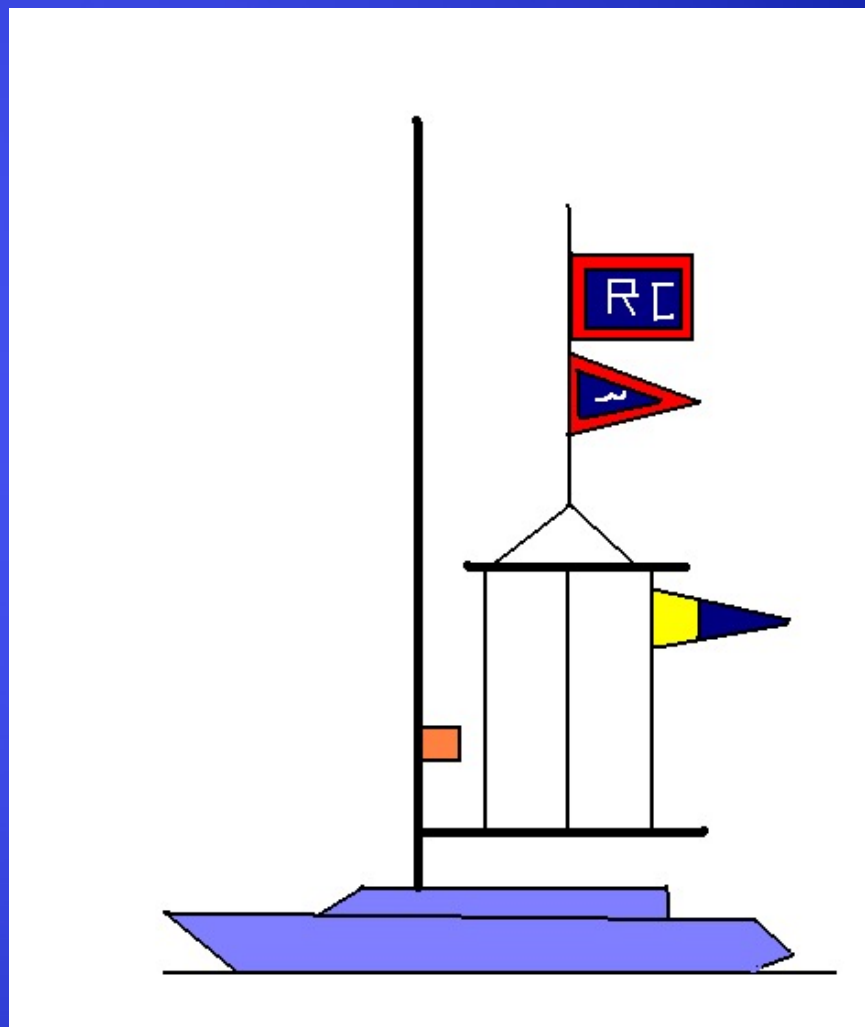
- 6:24 PM
- Lower "P" flag
- 1 long horn





Spinnaker Start Non-Spin Racing Warning

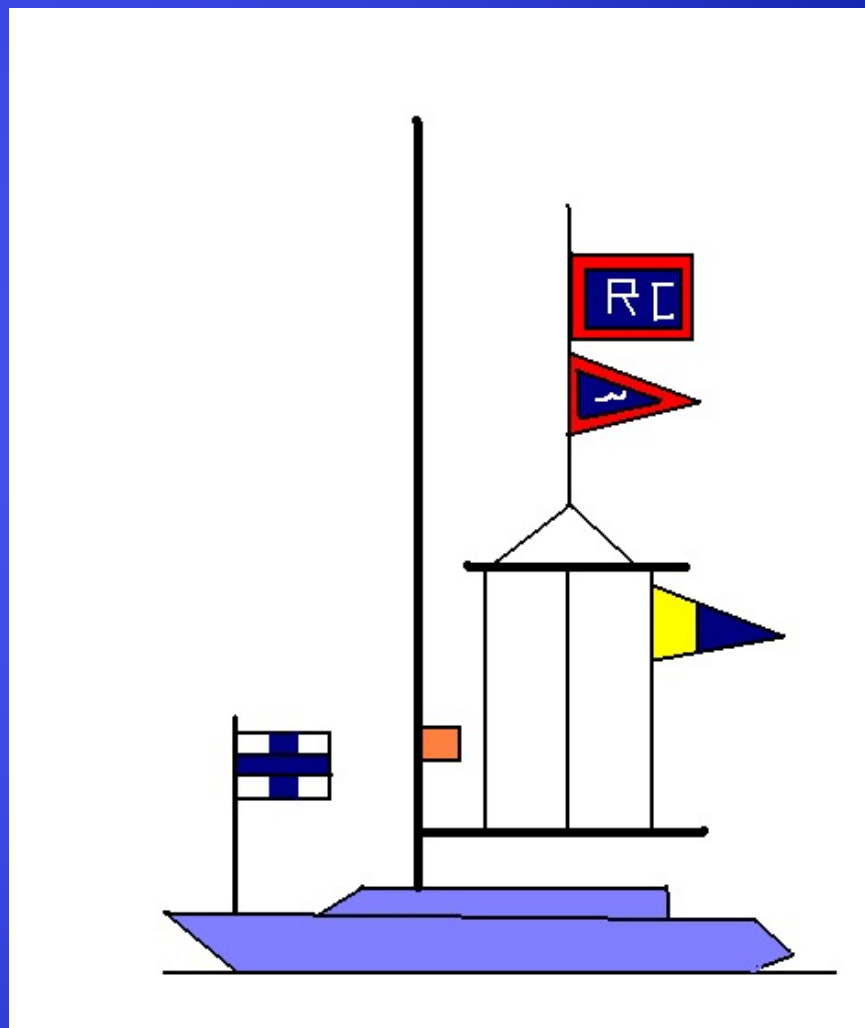
- 6:25 PM
- Lower "6" pennant
- Hoist "5" pennant
- Horn





Individual Recall

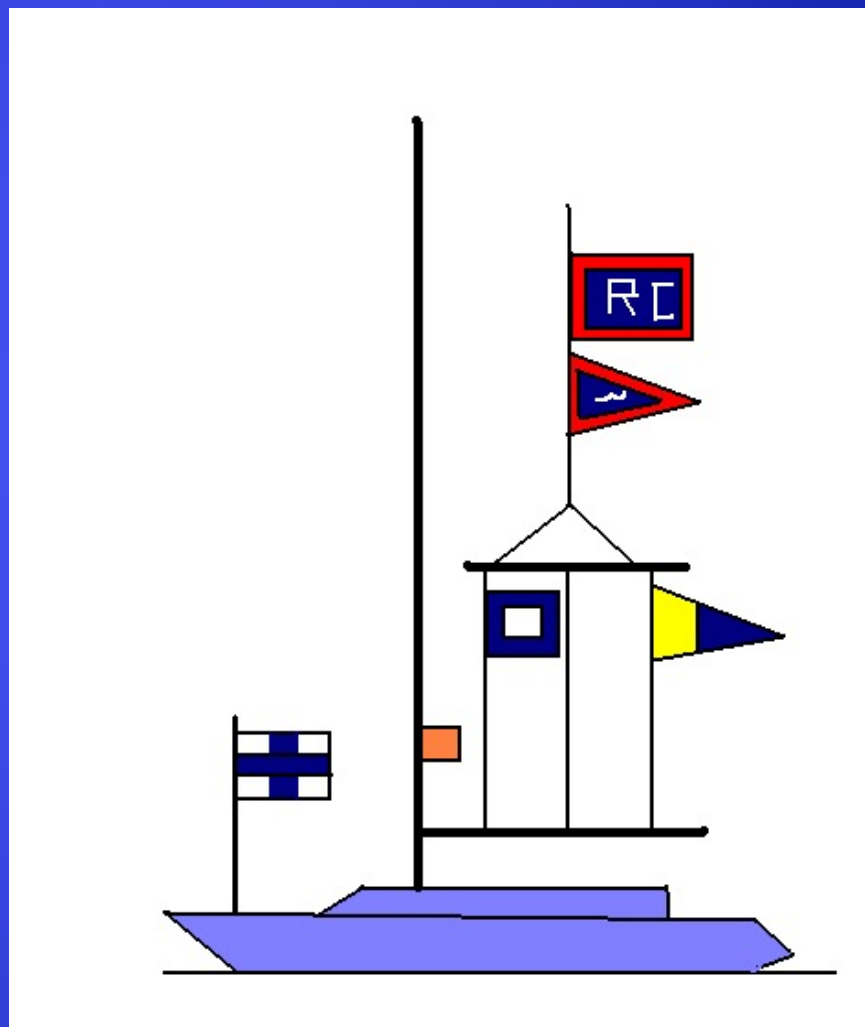
- 6:25 PM
- DELIRIUM, GLISSADE
over early
- Raise "X" flag
- 1 horn
- Announce on VHF





Non-Spin Racing Preparatory

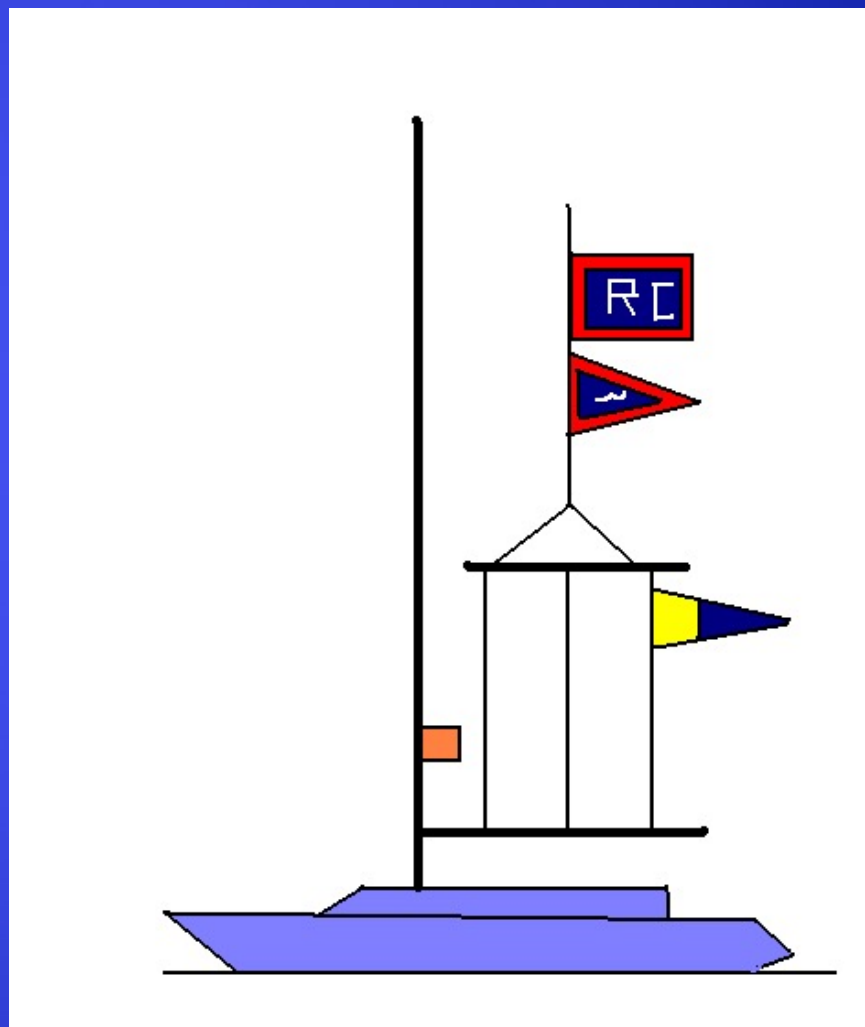
- 6:26 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn
- DELIRIUM restarts correctly
- GLISSADE still OCS
- "X" remains up





Non-Spin Racing 1-minute

- 6:29 PM
- Lower "P" flag
- 1 long horn
- GLISSADE still OCS
- Lower "X" flag

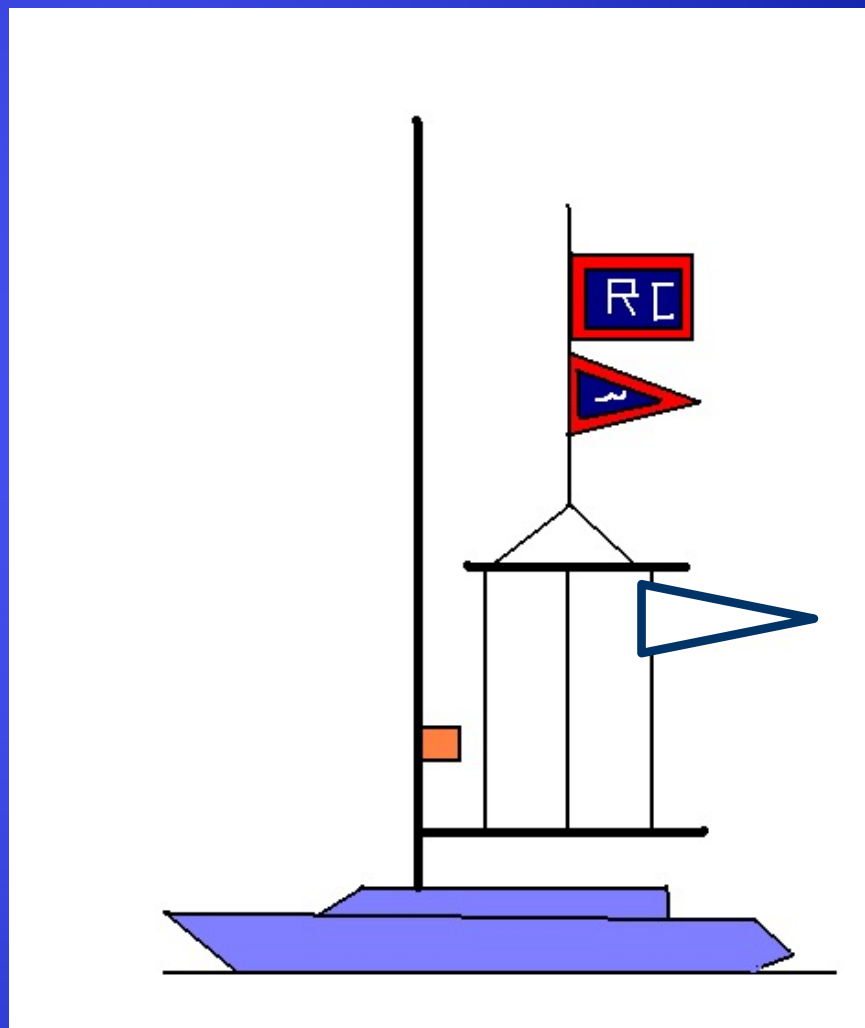




Non-Spin Racing Start

Non-Spin Cruising Warning

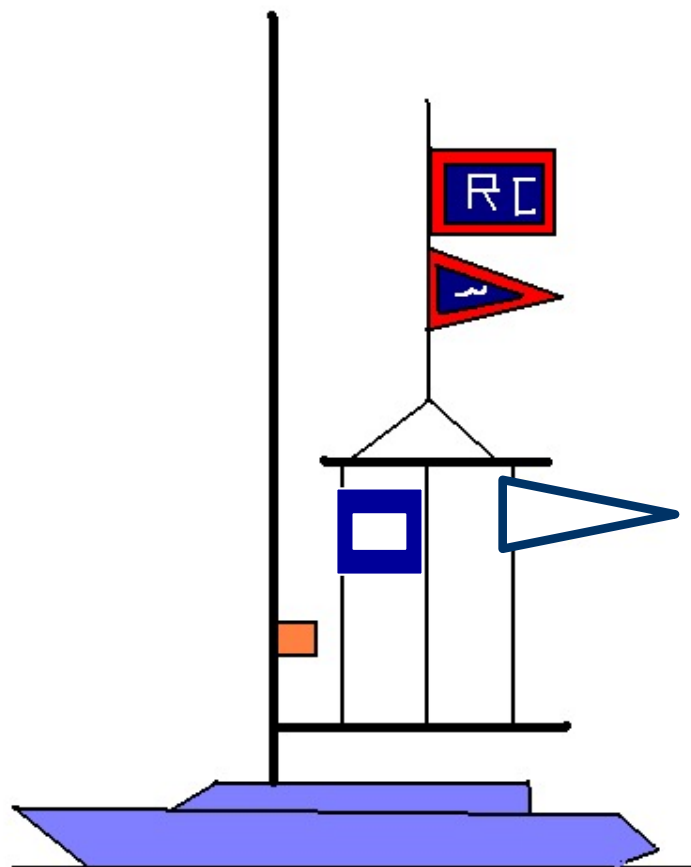
- 6:30 PM
- GLISSADE finally starts
1-boat length ahead of
NS-R - OK!
- Lower "5" pennant
- Hoist "White" flag
- Gun or horn





Non-Spin Cruising Preparatory

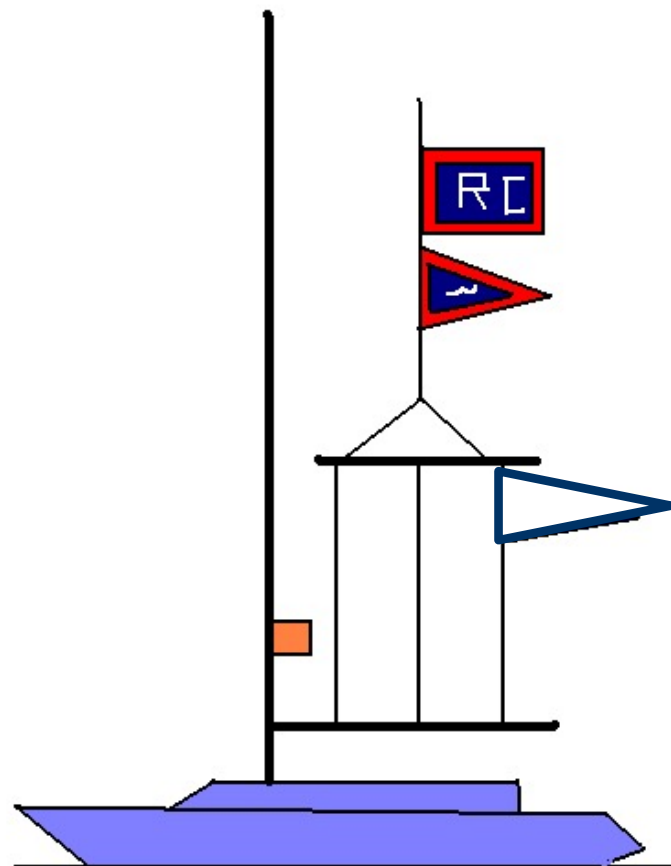
- 6:31 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn





Non-Spin Cruising 1-minute

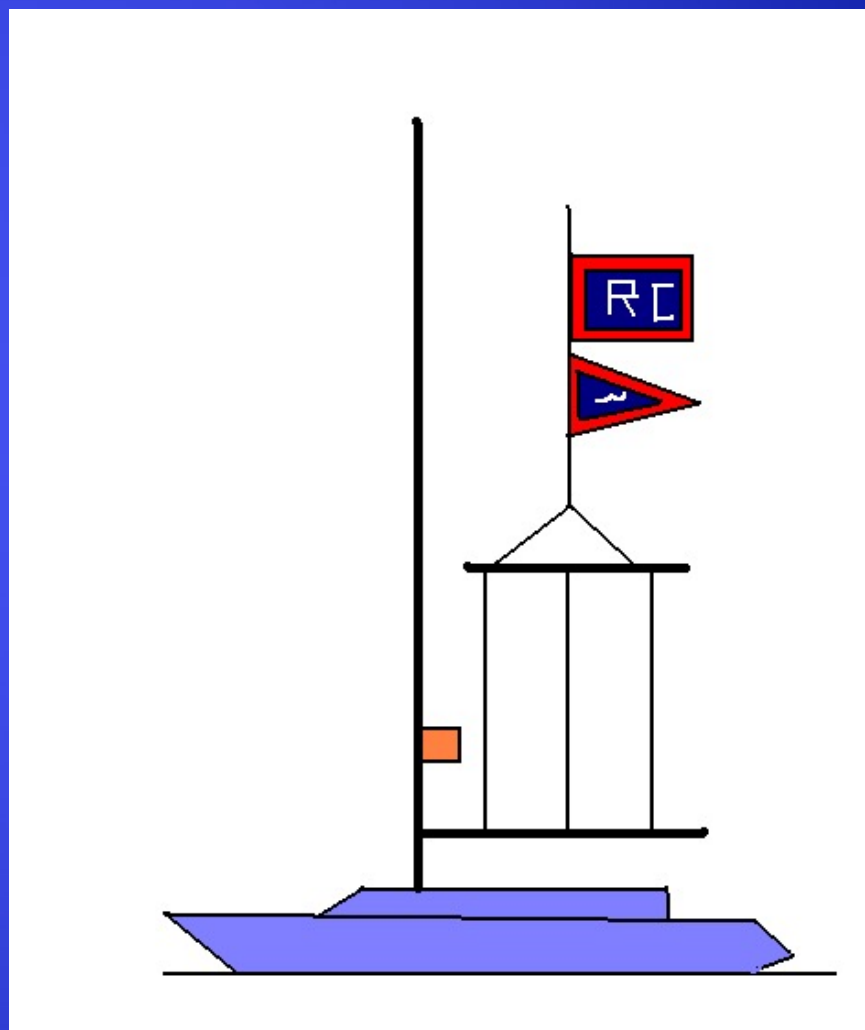
- 6:34 PM
- Lower "P" flag
- 1 long horn





Non-Spin Cruising Start

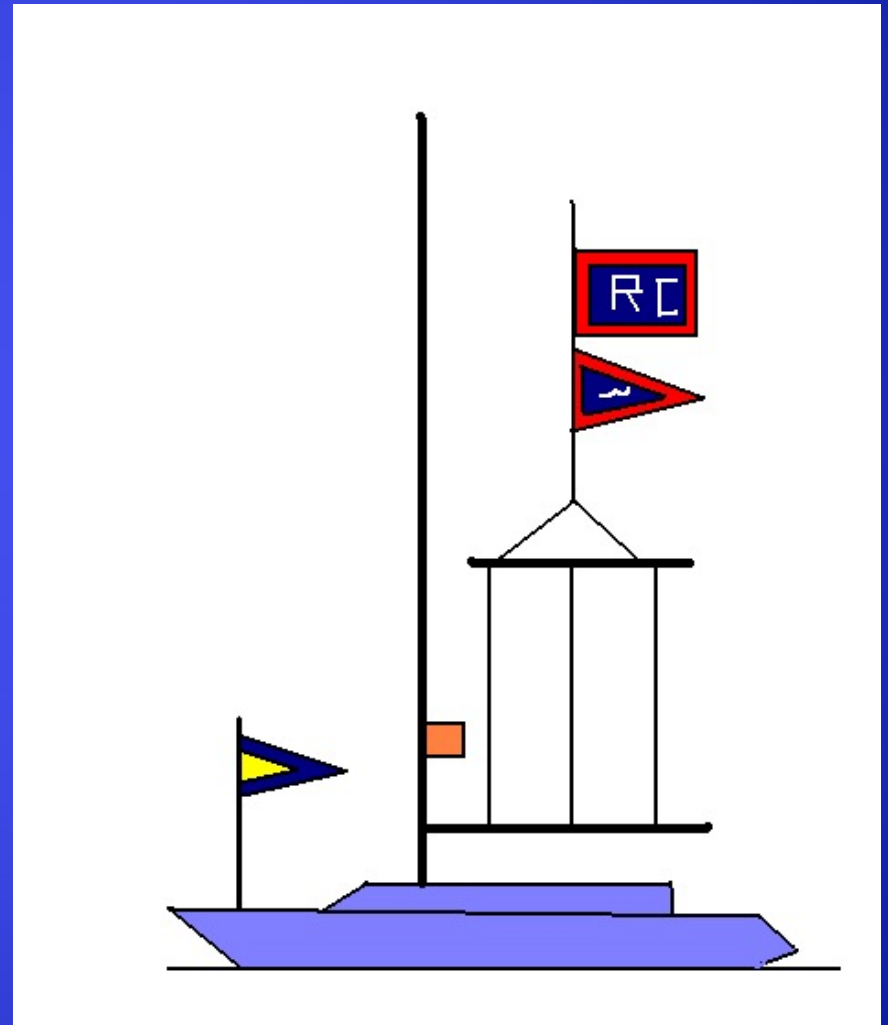
- 6:35 PM
- Lower "White" pennant
- Gun or horn
- More boats over early than can Identify -
General Recall





General Recall

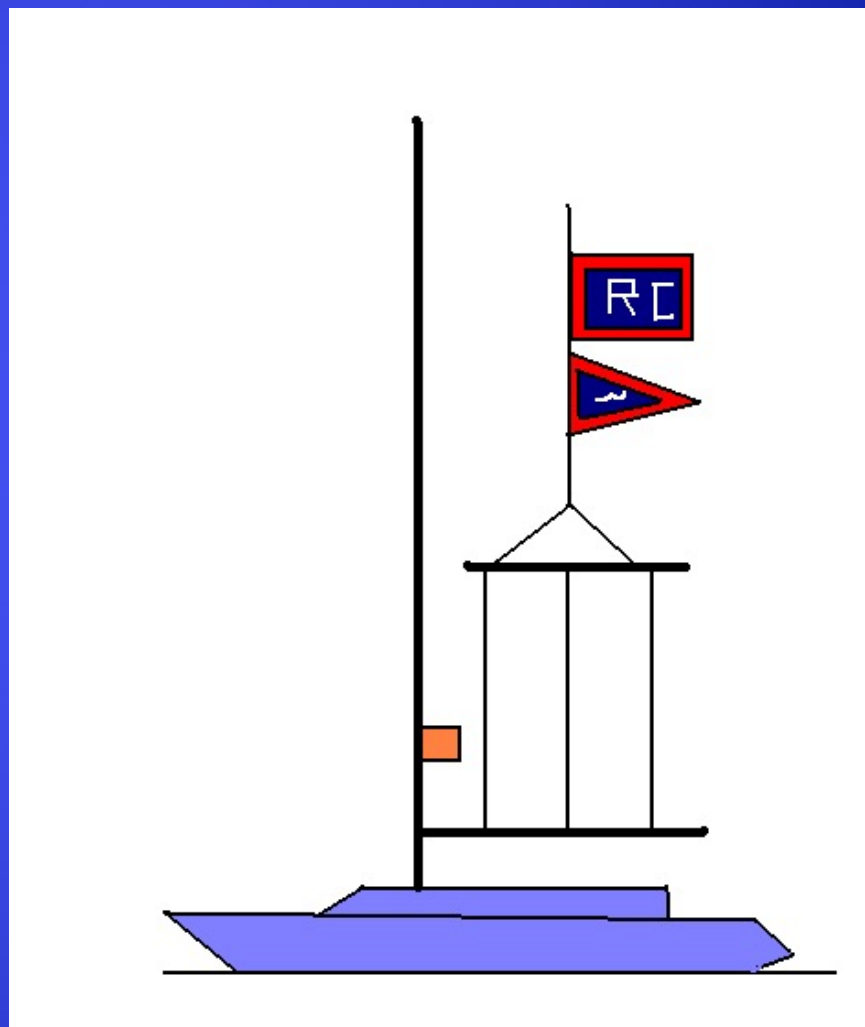
- 6:35 PM
- Lower "white" flag
- Raise 1st Substitute
- 2 horns
- Pick time to resume
- Allow boats to get back
- RC ready
- 5-min clock interval
- VHF – expect to resume at 6:45





Ready to Start Racing

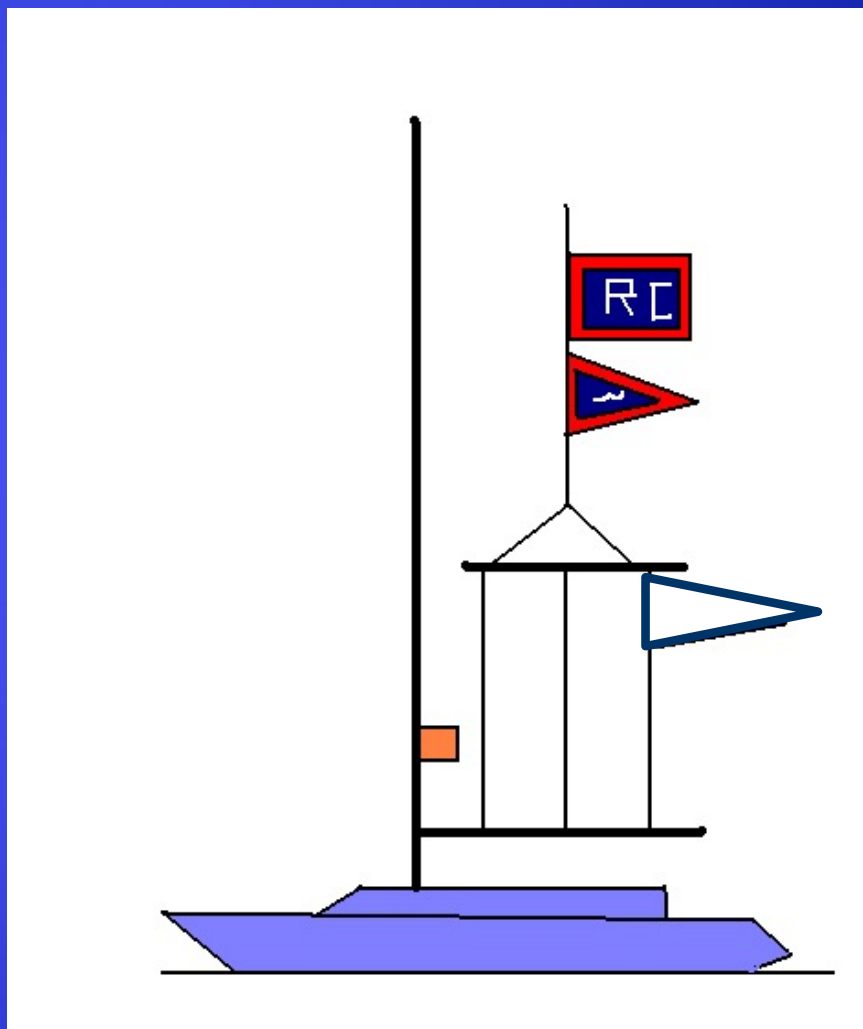
- 6:44 PM
- Lower 1st Substitute
- 1 horn





Non-Spin Cruising Warning

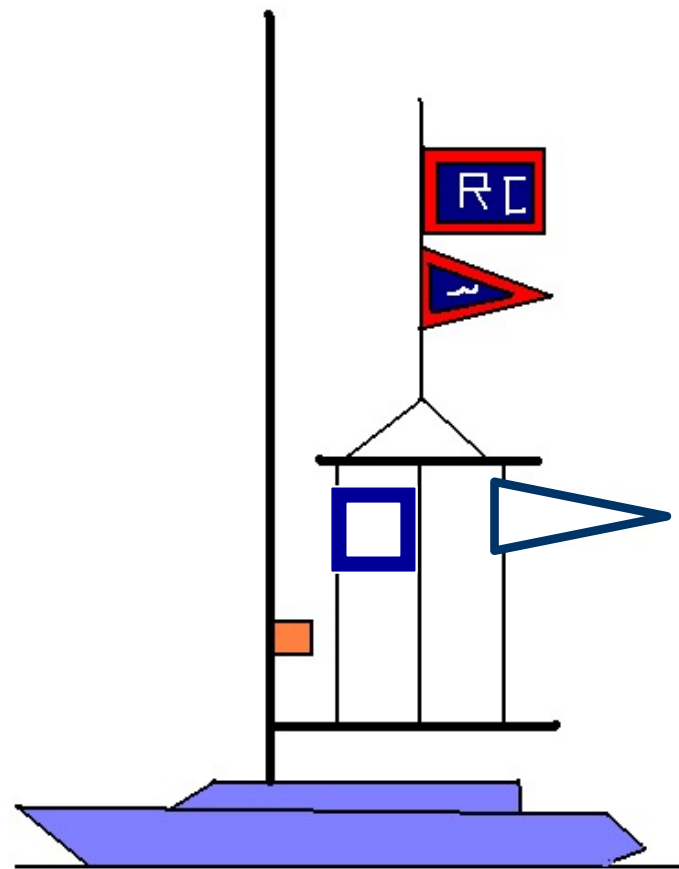
- 6:45 PM
- Hoist "White" flag
- Horn





Non-Spin Cruising Preparatory

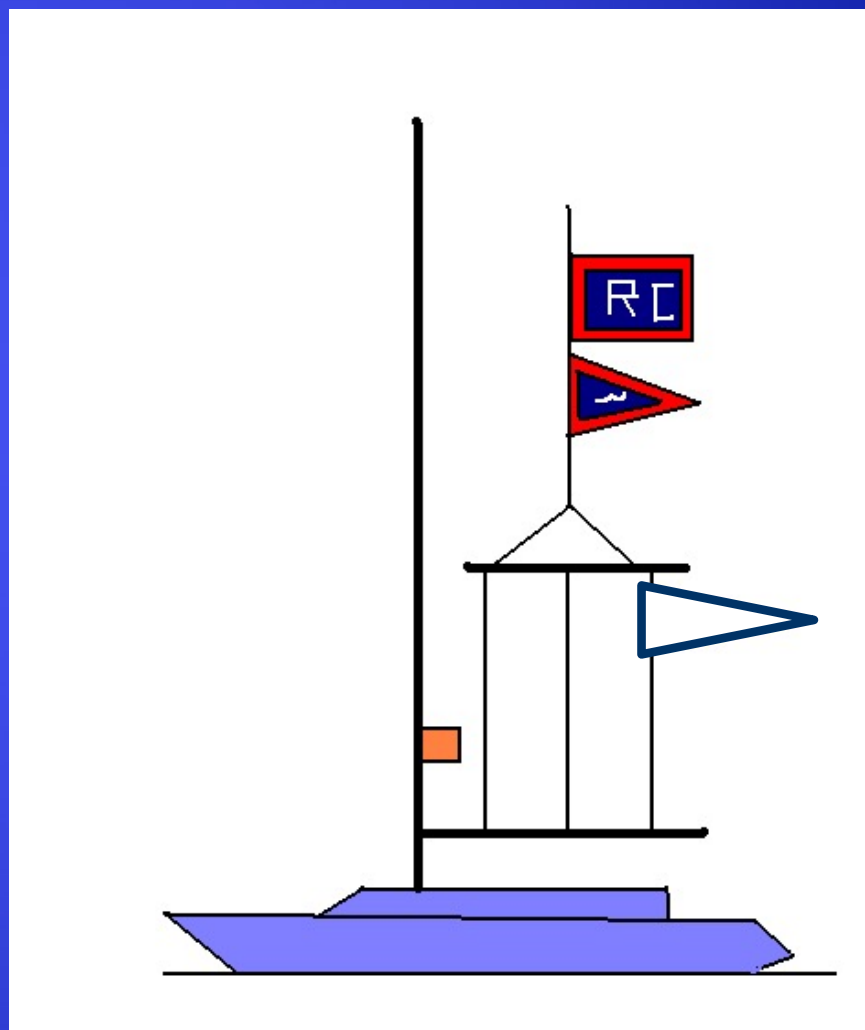
- 6:46 PM
- Hoist "P" flag
- 1 horn





Non-Spin Cruising 1-minute

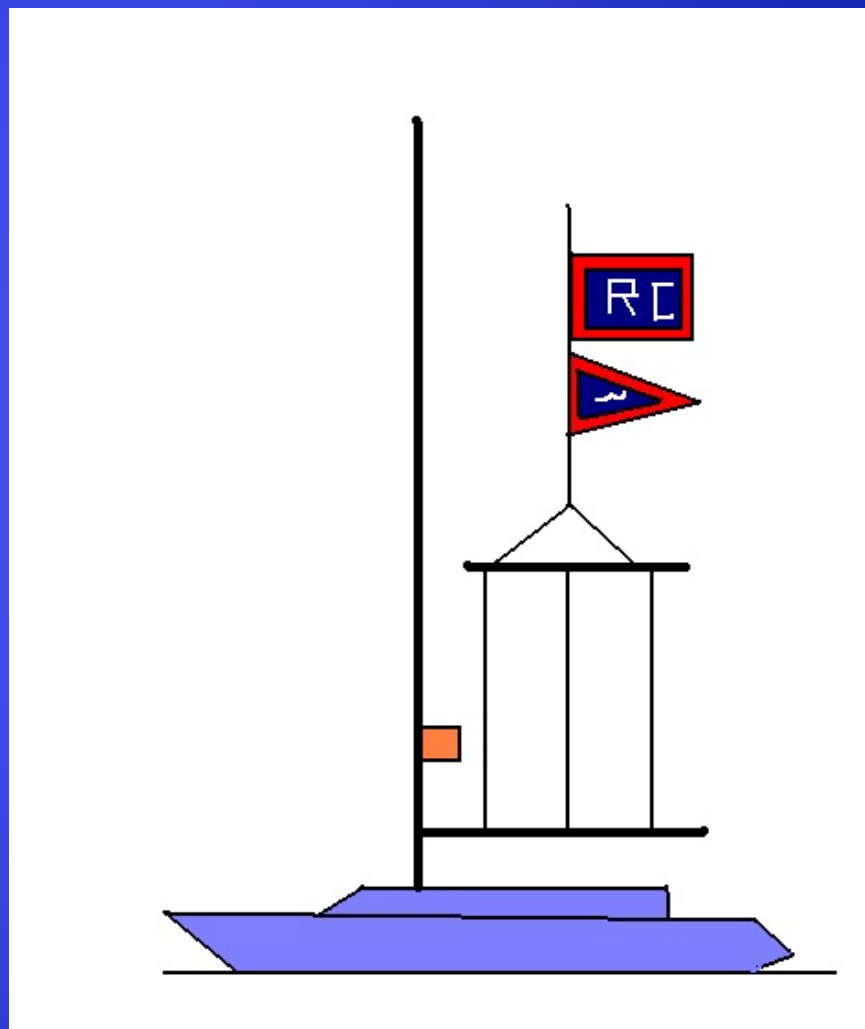
- 6:49 PM
- Lower "P" flag
- 1 long horn





Non-Spin Cruising Start

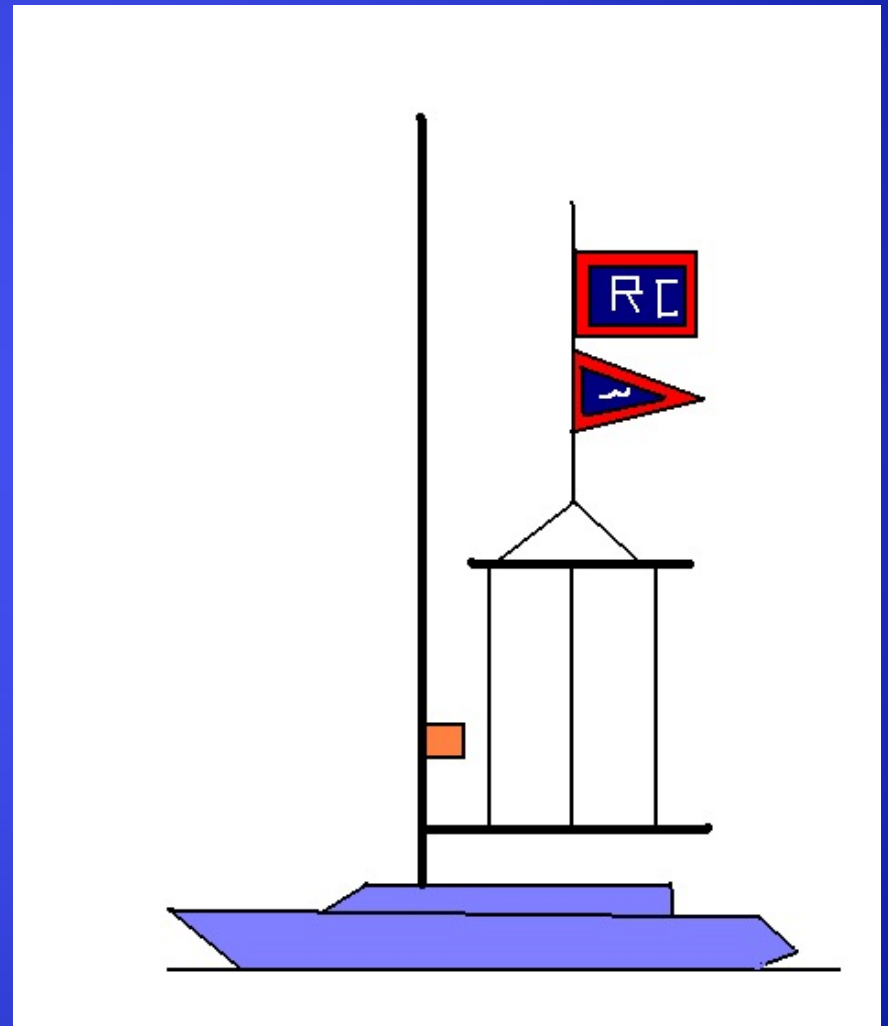
- 6:50 PM
- Lower "White" flag
- Gun or horn





Set Finish

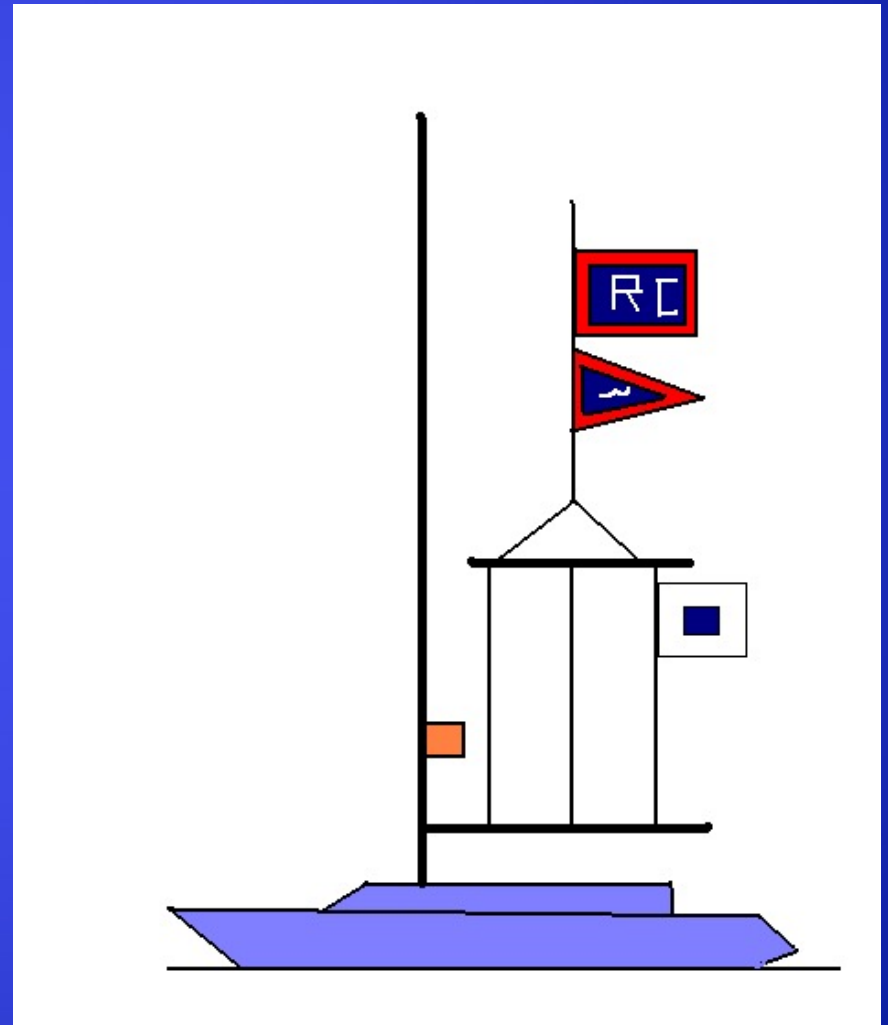
- Pickup pin
- Head to finish at HHSA A
- Set up to anchor on correct side (A to port for finishing boats)
- Line <100 yards
- Line square to final leg





Shorten Course

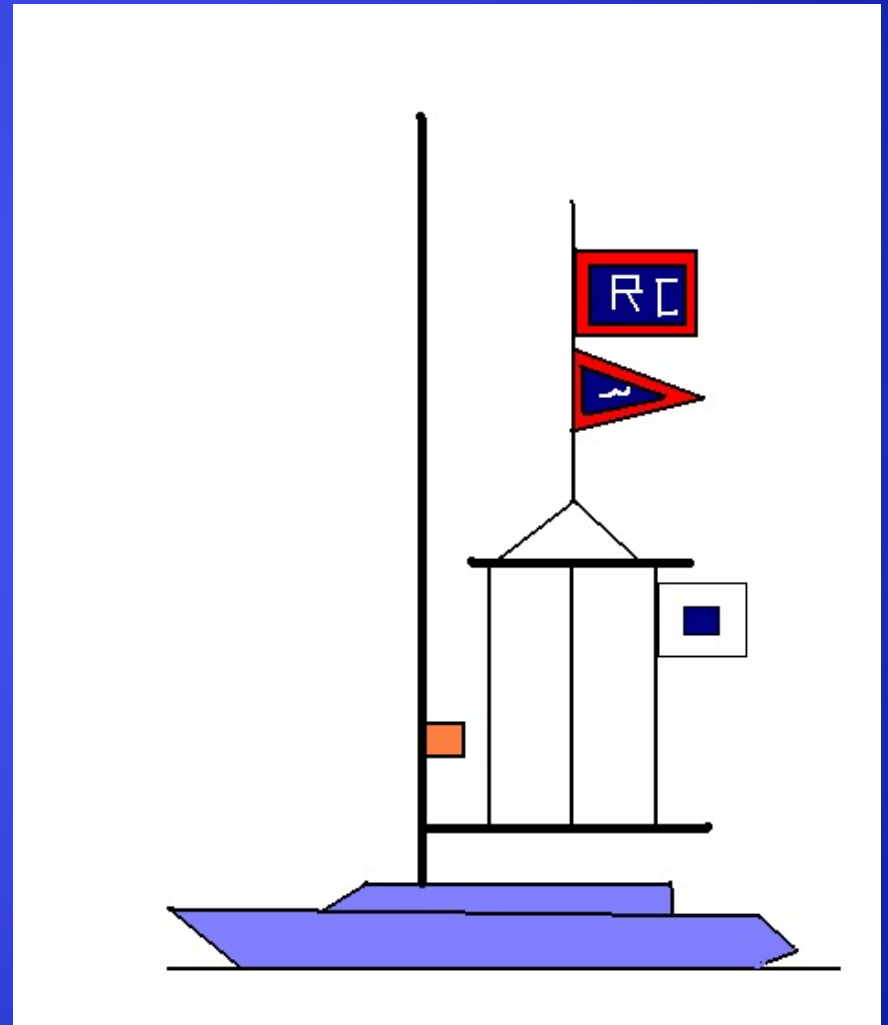
- 7:30 PM
- Wind dying
- Shorten to G1
- Anchor on course side
- Hoist "S" flag
- 2 horns
- Announce VHF





Finishes

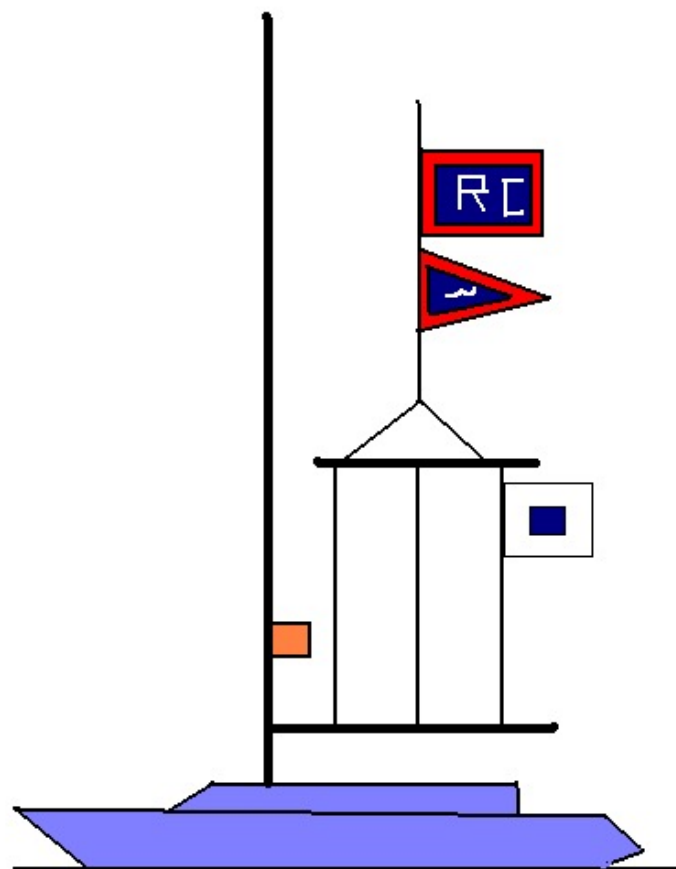
- 7:43 PM
- DELIRIUM first
Spin finisher
- Gun





Finishes

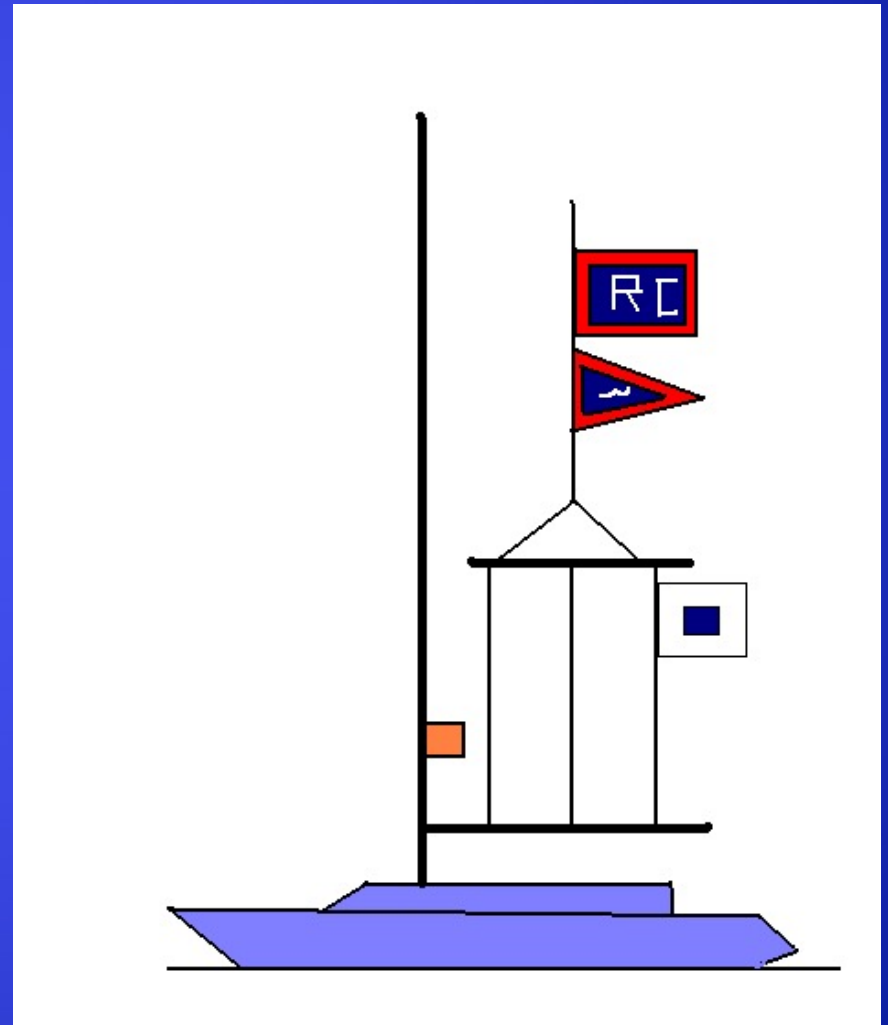
- 7:53 PM
- JUBILEE, RESILIENT, CANTATA approaching overlapped
- RESILIENT first Non-Spin Racing
- Timer – 19:53:sec,sec,sec
- Horn, gun, horn





Finishes

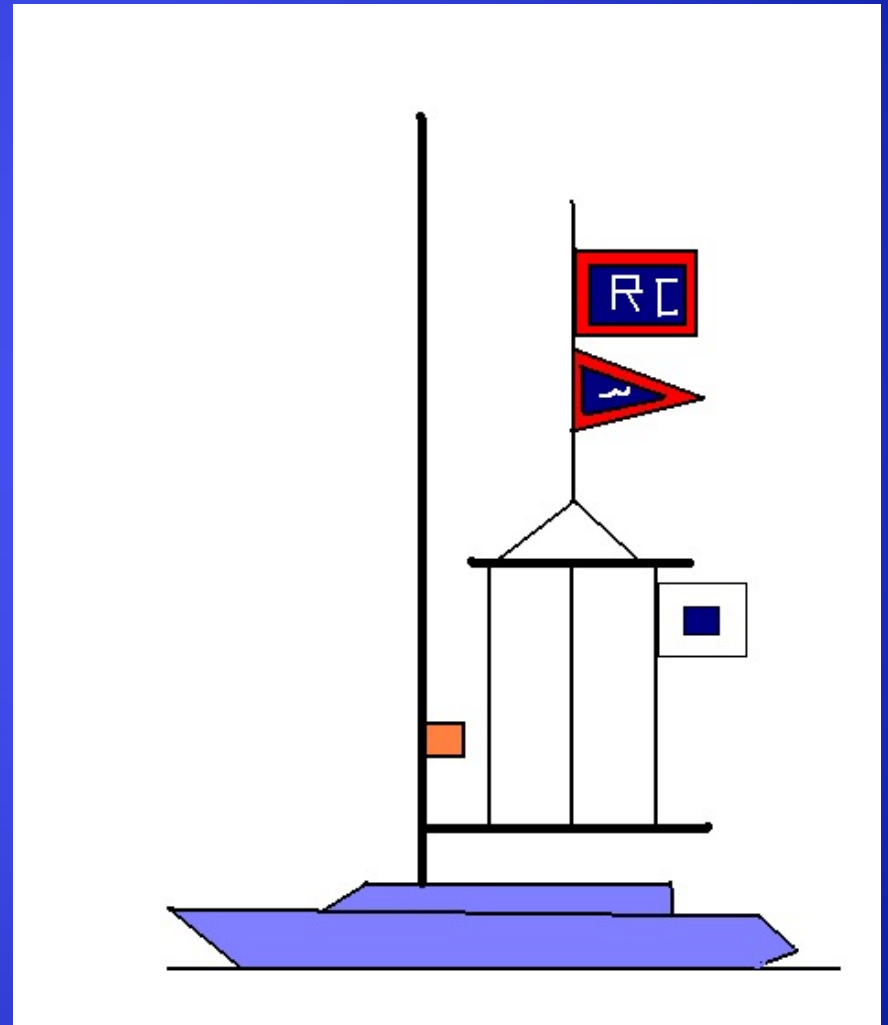
- 7:59 PM
- SECOND WIND first
Non Spin Cruising finisher
- Gun





Finishes

- 8:20 PM
- 1 Spin, 1 Non-Spin R, 2 Non-Spin C remain on course
- 8:30 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

- Setting line square to the WIND – 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 – 1st 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

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



The End





All Flags used in Racing (for reference)

