

GUIDELINES FOR RACE COMMITTEE

To Race Committee personnel:

The following **GUIDELINES** are meant to help you as you serve on the Race Committee.

It is important to review the NOR, Sailing Instructions, start times, and other information found on our website (oriental dinghy club.com) prior to race day. It is a good idea to check the weather forecasts in advance. There should be everything you need in the dock box, except the electronics mentioned below. Please return items to the dock box as you found them.

There is a loose-leaf RC Binder with lots of information that will be helpful to you on the water. All members on the Signal Boat are encouraged to review the RC Guide from US Sailing that is in it. This can be done in the dead time between starts and finishes. In addition there is the very large US Sailing RC Manual for your perusal ahead of time. Call Ken Small (249-0140) to obtain the latter.

The basic role of the RC is to offer the contestants a fair and challenging race event. Fundamental to this is to set a good course. A good course is of the appropriate length, including a square starting line of the appropriate length, and a good first leg to windward. A windward leg to the finish is desirable if possible. The course for the Spinnaker fleet is easily adjusted by moving marks. A good first and final leg of the PHRF must be accomplished by proper placement of the committee boat. This means as dead to leeward of the first mark as possible, and to weather of the final mark. This may require initial location way out in the river, and possibly moving the finish line after the start. Doing this will insure that the “big” boats get the best course possible while still using government marks.

There is a scheduled time for the Warning Gun each race day. At exactly that time, a flag should be hoisted. It should either be the Class Flag which will be the Warning Gun in the starting sequence, or the Postpone Flag indicating a delay. In the event you postpone, racers will use the lowering of the Postpone Flag to indicate one minute to the Warning Gun. There are precise instructions for this procedure, and others, in the RC Binder which you will have brought aboard.

Use GPS or Atomic time if you can bring the equipment with you. The RC boat does not have a GPS. In any event, it is helpful to the racers if you sound a bunch of rapid toots to give the racers a “heads up” that there is to be a signal soon.

If you are using a Mark Boat, it is best to establish with them a VHF channel other than the racer’s channel specified in the race’s Race Instructions. This enables you to chat about wind shifts etc. without offering information to the racers.

A detailed itemized list of things to do is under [***Guide to Running a Race***](#). Which is also under Race Management Tab ... Please click on that link to see / print that list.