

The following TIPS are to assist you as you prepare to serve on the ODC Race Committee. PROs (Principal Race Officers) **SHOULD CALL YOUR CREW EARLY IN THE WEEK** and share these TIPS with your crew. Prior to race day it is important to review the weather, NOR, Sailing Instructions, start times, and other information found on our website (OrientalDinghyClub.com). Under Race Management you will find a Guide to Running Fleet Races and a form for Recording Race Results. There should be everything you need in the dock box. **PROs are responsible to see that all items are returned to the dock box as you found them: loose flags put back into the proper slot in the flag bag, and the color coded flags on staffs in their own bundle, letters or numbers back in the box if you took some out. There is a separate bundle of flags for the Chase Boat.**

The sign of a good RC is staying on time and the proper use of flags and signals. In the Signal Boat plastic box there is a loose-leaf RC Binder with lots of information. All hands on the Signal Boat are encouraged to read it and review the Join the Race Committee Team guide from US Sailing. 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.

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. 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. 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 Join the Race Committee Team guide in all the RC plastic boxes. If you are using a Chase Boat, it is best to establish with them a VHF channel other than the racer’s Channel 72. This enables you to chat about wind shifts etc. without offering information to the racers. There is also a plastic box with information for the Chase Boat.

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 (~ 1.5 X the aggregate lengths of the boats starting), and a good first leg to windward. A windward leg to the finish is desirable if possible. The course for the OD fleet is adjusted by having the assigned Chase Boat move the marks.

NEW FOR PHRF RACES IN 2009: There are two fleets and they will start at different times. **We have changed to TIME ON TIME SCORING** so the logging of the **EXACT START TIME** is critical. **YOU WILL NEED TWO FINISH SHEETS, ONE FOR EACH RACE.** GPS or Atomic time is the best but **use the same good timer** for the start and finish. This year we should have a wind instrument aboard the Signal Boat. **We ask you to be sure and log the average wind for each race on the score sheet.** Ask a competitor if necessary or provide an estimate. **THERE ARE NEW PHRF COURSES THIS YEAR AND IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRO (with advice of the fleet captain??) TO SET THE COURSES.** The PHRF fleet wants two short races if possible, none to start after 1430. The old long AOG style course should be used in the heavier wind conditions. They should have at least one good windward leg during the race. The NOR and SIs tell of Windward/Leeward courses as well as a variety of triangles. Please insure that you are ready to do so. Please contact the following if there are any questions:

Dick Mannion – RC Committee Chairman 249-3676
Bill Kirsch – Ensign fleet captain 745-8034
George Sechrist – Laser fleet captain 249-3264
John Lindroth – PHRF fleet captain 638-9001

As soon as is practical, PHRF scores should be sent to the social at Sailcraft Marina, and OD results to the social at Charlie Carpenter's house. All results must then be transmitted to Bill Kirsch for inclusion in the ODC records and on the website. Please note the requirements for protest hearings in the SIs. All RC personnel should attend the social in the event that there is to be a hearing. Bring your rule books.

PLEASE READ THE ODC RC BOAT INSTRUCTION SHEET ABOARD. Every year something gets damaged that reading the instructions would have avoided. Please don’t assume that you know how ODC wants it done. **Please contact Joe Valinoti to report any problems** joesail1@gmail.com
Please do not change or adjust the dock lines All lines have eye splices or loops for easy placement.

Thank you for volunteering in this most important function of your club.