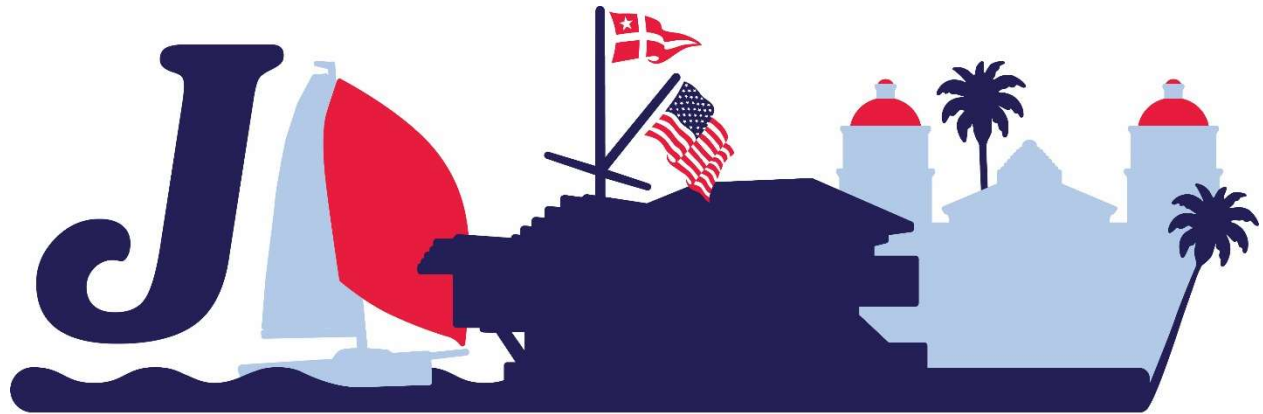


# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



## 70 US NATIONAL '26 CHAMPIONSHIP

**JULY 9-12, 2026**

The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Santa Barbara Yacht Club (SBYC)  
in conjunction with the International J/70 Class Association (IJ70CA)  
and the US J/70 Class Association (USJ70CA)

**Event Site:** <https://sbyc.org/2026-j70-us-national-championship>

**YachtScoring Site:** <https://yachtscoring.com/emenue/50623>



ESTABLISHED 1872

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SANTA BARBARA

YACHT CLUB

**1. RULES**

- 1.1 NOR 1 contains a list of rules for this event. Competitors are reminded to take note of these.
- 1.2 [NP] The RRS changes for using RaceSense will be identified in Addendum RS.
- 1.3 The following US Sailing Prescriptions shall not apply: preamble to Part 5 Section B, RRS 63.1 and 63.2, and RRS 81.
- 1.4 The notation [NP] in a *rule* means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that *rule*. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.5 The notation [DP] in a *rule* means that the penalty for a breach of a *rule* may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 1.6 The notation [SP] in a rule means that a penalty may be applied by the Race Committee (RC) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4, and A5.

**2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

**3. COMMUNICATION**

- 3.1 The official notice board will be online at [https://yachtscoring.com/notice\\_board\\_summary/50623](https://yachtscoring.com/notice_board_summary/50623).
- 3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communication with the race committee on US VHF marine channels.
- 3.3 [NP] On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF Channel 71. Failure of the RC to broadcast, mistaken broadcasts, or failure of a competitor to receive this information will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 3.4 [NP] [DP] Boats shall report retirement from racing via VHF 71 and may use the VHF radio to request or provide assistance in an emergency.
- 3.5 [DP] Except as provided in SI 3.5, from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, a boat shall not:
  - 3.5.1 Make or receive voice or data transmissions.
  - 3.5.2 have contact with a *support person*.
- 3.6 [NP] Competitors may opt-in for supplementary unofficial communications using the following WhatsApp link or QR code: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/Cyq30YQzUyzLr0YGeHKRPU>
- 3.7 The race office is located at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club - 130 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109, on the southwest corner of the building.  
Telephone – (805) 965-8112, ext 114. Email – [racing@sbyc.org](mailto:racing@sbyc.org).

WhatsApp QR

**4. [DP] CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 4.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.
- 4.2 Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment provided by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

**5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SBYC flagpole.

- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 60 minutes’ in race signal AP.
- 5.3 The RC intends to broadcast its intentions for the day at 1000 each morning via the WhatsApp chat.

## 6. SCHEDULE

6.1 The schedule is as follows:

DAY	DATE	TIME(s)	EVENT	LOCATION
Thursday	July 9, 2026	1000 – 1400	Check-in	SBYC Fleet Room
		1500	1 Practice Race	
		1730	Competitors Briefing	SBYC Beach
		1800	Opening Ceremony w/ Third Window Brewing Smashburgers & Beer	SBYC Beach
Friday	July 10, 2026	0800 – 1000	Check-in	SBYC Beach
		1000	[DP] Check-in closes;	
		1300	First Warning Signal	
		Post Racing	Hors D’oeuvres & complementary wine from Peake Ranch	
Saturday	July 11, 2026	1300	First Warning Signal	SBYC Beach
		1800	Mt. Gay Beach Party with and hosted dinner	
Sunday	July 12, 2026	1300	First Warning Signal	SBYC Upstairs
		1530	No Warning Signal after this time, except as a result of a General Recall	
		Post Racing	Awards & hors d’oeuvres	

- 6.2 Up to nine (9) races are scheduled. The RC will intend to sail up to three (3) races per day, subject to wind and weather conditions. A maximum of four (4) races may be sailed per day to maintain the overall regatta schedule, at the discretion of the RC.
- 6.3 On the last day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1530 local time.

## 7. CLASS FLAG

The class flag is a blue J/70 logo on a white background.

## 8. RACING AREA

Attachment B shows the location of the racing area. The racing area is an approximate area where the Race Committee Signal Boat will be anchored.

## 9. COURSES

- 9.1 The diagrams in ‘Attachment C – Course Chart’ show the course, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.2 No later than the warning signal for each race, the RC signal vessel will announce the approximate magnetic bearing and distance to the first weather mark on VHF 71.

**10. MARKS**

- 10.1 The starting pin will be an orange inflatable tetrahedron.
- 10.2 The finishing pin will be a yellow inflatable tetrahedron.
- 10.3 Windward mark 'W' and offset 'O' will be orange inflatable tetrahedrons.
- 10.4 The leeward gate will consist of a pair of yellow inflatable tetrahedrons.
- 10.5 New marks as provided in instruction 13.1 and 13.2 will be:
  - a.) A green inflatable mark to replace 'W'.
  - b.) A yellow inflatable mark with a black band to replace a gate mark.

**11. OBSTRUCTIONS**

- 11.1 [DP] The areas defined by lines commencing at the nearest shores and connecting each contiguous City of Santa Barbara swim buoy are designated as obstructions. Boats shall not sail into that area.
- 11.2 [DP] Visiting Cruise Ships including a 100-yard perimeter around the vessel are designated as obstructions.

**12. THE START**

- 12.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat at the starboard end and an orange inflatable tetrahedron.
- 12.2 A boat that does not start within five (5) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This change is added to RRS A5.1.

**13. CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the mark may not yet be in the new position.
- 13.2 To move the leeward gate, the race committee will set the new mark at one end of the gate and an original mark at the other.
- 13.3 The race committee may, without signal, move a mark to change the direction up to 10 degrees or the length up to 10% of the previous length, provided that no boat is sailing to the mark. This changes rule 33.

**14. THE FINISH**

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark as shown in 'Attachment A – Course Chart'.

**15. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 15.1 RRS Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, Rule V1 – Penalties at the time of the incident will apply. The first two sentences of Rule 44.1 are changed to: 'A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while *racing*. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the *zone* around a *mark* other than a starting *mark*, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.'

- 15.2 The Protest Committee may impose suitable penalties, other than disqualification, for violations of Class Rules, including the J70CR and J70ER. However, in no case shall the penalty for such a violation be less than a ten percent (10%) scoring penalty calculated pursuant to RRS 44.3(c). This changes RRS 64.
- 15.3 Appendix V, Rule V2 – Post Race Penalties will apply:
- (a) Provided that rule 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident.
  - (b) A Post-Race Penalty is a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rule 44.1(a) applies.
  - (c) A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by delivering to a member of the protest committee a written statement that she accepts the penalty and that identifies the race number and where and when the incident occurred.
- 15.4 The Protest Committee may impose discretionary penalties other than disqualification for violations of RRS non-Part 2 rules. This SI does not apply to breaches of RRS 2, 28 or 31.
- 15.5 The Protest Committee may impose discretionary penalties other than disqualification for violations of Class Rules, including the International J/70 Class Rules (J70CR) and the J/70 Equipment Regulations (J70ER). However, in no case shall the penalty for such a violation be less than a ten percent (10%) scoring penalty calculated pursuant to RRS 44.3(c). This changes RRS 64.

## 16. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1 The race time limit for each race is 90 minutes. The target time for each race is 60 minutes. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 16.2 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes within the race time limit will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing, unless they subsequently retire, are penalized, or are given redress. The score for TLE is the number of finishers plus two points, but no worse than the score for DNF. This changes RRS 35 and is added to RRS A4, A5, and A10.

## 17. HEARING REQUESTS, SCORING INQUIRIES, & PENALTY ACCEPTANCE

- 17.1 Hearing request forms for protests, requests for redress, or reopening of a hearing, as well as scoring inquiry forms and penalty acceptance forms are available at the front desk of SBYC and on the regatta website. Hearing requests, scoring inquiries, and/or penalty acceptance forms may be delivered to the SBYC front desk and shall be submitted within the appropriate time limit.
- 17.2 For all classes, the filing time limit for protests or requests for redress about an incident observed in the racing area is within 60 minutes of the Race Committee's return to the dock. The Race Committee docking time and filing time limit will be posted at: [https://yachtscoring.com/event\\_protests/50623](https://yachtscoring.com/event_protests/50623). The filing time limit for other hearing requests and scoring inquiries is 30 minutes after the relevant information is available to the filing party.
- 17.3 The Categorization Protest Time Limit (see World Sailing Categorization Code 3.1) is the protest time limit for the first racing day.
- 17.4 Protest times and locations will be posted at [https://yachtscoring.com/event\\_protests/50623](https://yachtscoring.com/event_protests/50623) no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

**18. SCORING**

- 18.1 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a championship.
- 18.2 Scoring shall be according to the Low Point Scoring System of RRS A2 and A4 as follows:
- 18.2.1 When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores.
- 18.2.2 When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

**19. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 19.1 [DP] [NP] Prior to the warning signal of her first race each day, each boat shall check-in with the RC signal vessel in the starting area. Each boat shall pass close astern on starboard tack and hail her bow number. When a boat has been recognized, the RC will hail the boat's bow number.
- 19.2 [DP] [NP] A boat that retires from a race or leaves the racing area between races shall notify the RC as soon as possible using the VHF Channel.
- 19.3 [DP] [NP] A boat not leaving the harbor for any of the day's racing shall inform the RC as soon as possible.
- 19.4 The penalty for breaking a rule in SI 19 shall be a twenty percent (20%) scoring penalty calculated pursuant to RRS 44.3(c) unless the Jury decides differently, applied without a hearing to a boat's first valid race of the day. This change is added to RRS A5.1.

**20. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 20.1 Substitution of competitors is not allowed without written approval of the event Technical Committee prior to racing on that day.
- 20.2 Repair, alteration, replacement, or substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized before racing by the event Technical Committee pursuant to J70ER 10.
- 20.3 Boats requesting approvals under SI 20 shall contact the event Technical Committee for instructions: (a) If off the water: by phone, text message, or WhatsApp (see SI 9 for contact information); (b) If on the water: hailing on the VHF Channel.

**21. [DP] [NP] EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

Pursuant to J70ER 4, a boat, sails or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Event Equipment Rules (see J70ER 2), IJ70CA Class Rules (J70CR), the NOR and these SI's. On the water, when instructed by a member of the RC or event Technical Committee, a boat shall proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

**22. [DP] [NP] EVENT ADVERTISING**

- 22.1 Boats shall display any event advertising supplied by the OA, in accordance with World Sailing Advertising Code. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Advertising Code 9.2 applies.
- 22.2 Any required sponsor or event identification stickers, decals and flags shall be placed on the bow or boom, in the cockpit or on a shroud or stay as directed by the OA. They shall be displayed from the close of check-in through the end of the event. If required to be placed on the bow, they shall be placed immediately aft of the bow numbers. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that the stickers remain on the boat and obtain replacements as necessary.

**23. [NP] OFFICIAL VESSELS**

Official vessels may be marked as follows:

Category	Flag
Race Committee Signal Boat	Blue flag with 'RC'
Technical Committee	Blue flag with white 'J/70' insignia
Media / RC Mark set	Yellow flag
Safety	Numeral Pennant '4'

**24. [DP] [NP] SUPPORT TEAMS**

- 24.1 Only registered Support Person Vessels (SPVs), including coach, press, private and spectator vessels that prominently display identification provided by the OA are allowed in the racing area. The person in charge of the competing boat(s) to which support vessels are attached shall acknowledge the presence of a support vessel on his check-in form and may pay the applicable fee on behalf of the support vessel.
- 24.2 All SPVs shall carry a working VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving normal domestic and international channels, including VHF Channel 71.
- 24.3 SPVs, and team leaders, coaches, and other support personnel, shall stay more than 150 meters to leeward of the starting line, leeward marks, and from any competing boats that are racing.
- 24.4 SPVs shall comply with any additional directions given by the OA, the RC, or the Protest Committee, including requests for assistance with rescues. Failure to comply may result in the accreditation being withdrawn and all access to the club facilities, grounds and docks being denied.
- 24.5 SPVs shall be kept in the places, both afloat and ashore, that they specify during check-in.
- 24.6 Operators of SPVs and all competitors are reminded that J70CR I.3 (Outside Assistance) is in effect. See NOR 1.

**25. [DP] [NP] TRASH DISPOSAL**

Trash shall be placed in the appropriate containers when the boats return to shore.

**26. [DP] [NP] BERTHING**

Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while in the harbor. Local boats may be allowed to berth on their boat lift with the boat lift all the way lowered.

**27. PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded as specified in the NOR.

**28. RISK STATEMENT**

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. By participating in the event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers (organizing authority, host yacht club, race committee, protest committee, sponsors, and any others acting in an official capacity for the event) from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in the event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**29. RACE OFFICIALS**

**Regatta Chair:**

- Geoff Fargo – [gfargo@containeralliance.com](mailto:gfargo@containeralliance.com) / (805) 896-5084

**SBYC Race Director / Principal Race Officer:**

- Brad Schaupeter – [racing@sbyc.org](mailto:racing@sbyc.org) / (805) 965-8112 (o) / (310) 850-5213 (m)

**US J/70 Class Administrator / Technical Chair**

- Chris Howell – [howell@j70office.com](mailto:howell@j70office.com) / (440) 796-3100

**Chief Judge**

- Steven Holmstrom – [toothvet@mac.com](mailto:toothvet@mac.com)

**Class Technical Representative**

- Ed Furry – [ed@sail22.com](mailto:ed@sail22.com) / (616) 304-8312

## ADDENDUM RS

### RaceSense RRS changes

#### [NP]Rules and Instructions for Using the Vakaros and RaceSense System

RS.1 Each boat shall have a working Vakaros Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge configured for RaceSense at check-in. Boats without a configured Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge may have one provided by the OA, for applicable fees. This shall be mounted as required by the OA or class at all times while racing.

RS.2 Competitors shall

- a) calibrate their Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge before registration/check-in. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure their device remains in proper calibration throughout the event.
- b) Turn the Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge off after sailing each day. Battery life is approx. 100 hours

RS.3 The Vakaros RaceSense system will be used by the Race Committee (RC) and the relevant information will be available to all boats.

RS.4 Instructions for using the electronic Atlas 2 can be found here [Atlas 2 User Guide](#) or Atlas Edge can be found here [Atlas Edge User Guide](#).

RS.5 Competitors shall take all reasonable measures to keep the Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge safe and operational and promptly notify Vakaros staff on the water or ashore of any device issues.

RS.6 The countdown to the start on the Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge from RaceSense will be the official time. Signal flags will only be used for information purposes. This changes RRS 26.

RS.7 The visual identification of boats infringing RRS 29 and 30 by the RC is replaced with electronic identification through the Vakaros RaceSense system, modifying RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, and 30.4.

RS.8 RaceSense will be used to call the Finish Line.

RS.9 Any alleged failure of the Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge, RaceSense system, or communication systems will not constitute grounds to request redress by a boat or the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 61.1(a), 61.1(c).

RS.10 If the RC vessel displays flag Oscar (Old School) with a long sound signal before the warning signal of a race, RS.6 and RS.7 inclusive will not apply to that race.

RS.11 If the RC vessel displays flag Romeo (Re-Boot) with a long sound signal before the warning signal of a race, Competitors shall restart their Vakaros Atlas or Atlas Edge unit by switching it off, waiting 10 seconds and then switching it back on to reconnect to the RaceSense network. Flag R will remain displayed for a minimum of 2 minutes and will be removed with the next warning signal.

RS.12 If firmware updates to Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge devices are required between scheduled race days, notice will be sent to all boats via email and/or SMS and or the Regatta What's App Group.