

# AYC Thursday Night Race Series

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2024

### 1) ORGANIZING AUTHORITY & KEY DATES

- A) The Anchorage Yacht Club (AYC) is the Organizing Authority (OA) for the AYC Thursday Night Race Series.
- B) All races will be governed by the 2021-2024 World Sailing's [Racing Rules of Sailing](#) including US Sailing Prescriptions (RRS) and the rules of [Midwest PHRF](#) except as altered by the Notice of Race or these Sailing Instructions.
- C) Race schedule:
  - (1) Series begins: Thursday, May 23, 2024 and continues throughout the season on Thursday evenings through Thursday, September 12, 2024. There will be no race on Thursday, July 4.
  - (2) The first warning is scheduled for 1840 on Thursday evenings in May through August. **The first warning is scheduled for 1810 in September (September 5 and September 12).**
  - (3) Series ends: Thursday, September 12, 2024

### 2) STARTING TIMES

Starting times for each section will be published separately along with the scratch sheet.

### 3) NOTICES AND CHANGES

- A) Notices to competitors (if any) will be posted on the AYC Yacht Scoring [Thursday Night Race Series website](#) and/or announced on VHF channel 69 prior to the start of that evening's race.
- B) Any change in the Sailing Instructions, start times, or Notice of Race will be posted on the [series website](#) at least 24 hours before the day it will take effect.
- C) Oral changes may be made prior to the start of the race if deemed advisable and necessary following hoisting of code flag "L".

### 4) STARTING AREA

- A) There will be 4 starting areas, SA1, SA2, SA3 and SA4. See diagram labeled Starting Areas at the end of this document for details. The committee boat will announce on VHF channel 69 the *intended* starting area for each race when leaving the harbor and again when on station. It is each skippers' responsibility to go to the correct starting area.
- B) **Since there are multiple starts, boats starting in later sections are not to interfere with boats in earlier starts.** The starting area is defined as an area extending one-half the length of the start line at both sides of the start line, and extending one half the length of the start line beyond each end of the start line. After the warning signal for the first start, all boats that are not starting or not already racing are required to:
  - (1) Stay outside of the starting area so as to not interfere with boats that are starting.
  - (2) Stay out of the triangular area defined by the start line and the weather mark.
- C) The "I" flag rule is always in effect, even if the flag is not flown by the committee boat. Any yacht on the course side of the start line less than one minute prior to their start must

clear themselves by sailing around the ends of the start line. **Violators are subject to protest by the committee boat and other racers.**

5) **SIGNALS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE BOAT**

A) **Signal flags**

<u>FLAG</u>	<u>Color and marking</u>	<u>Signal</u>
<b>A</b>	Blue and white	Course A (Alpha)
<b>B</b>	Red	Course B (Bravo)
<b>C</b>	Red blue and yellow stripes	Course C (Charlie)
<b>D</b>	Blue with yellow stripes	Course D (Delta)
<b>X</b>	White with a blue cross	Individual recall
<b>First Substitute</b>	Blue with yellow triangle	General recall
<b>AP</b>	Red with white stripes	Postponement
<b>N</b>	Blue and white checkers	Race Abandoned
<b>P</b>	Blue with white square	Preparatory signal
<b>S</b>	White with blue square	Shortened course
<b>L</b>	Yellow and black	Come within hail of this boat
<b>1</b>	Silver Grey	1 "SPIN A"
<b>2</b>	Blue	2 "SPIN B"
<b>3</b>	Orange	3 "SPIN C"
<b>4</b>	Yellow	4 "JAM A"
<b>5</b>	Green	5 "JAM B"
<b>6</b>		
<b>NR</b>	Bright white rectangle	New Racer

B) **Individual recall “X” flag**

Any boat over the start line prematurely must restart or be scored Did-Not-Start (DNS). The committee boat will signal one horn blast and hail the boat by sail number or boat name over VHF channel 69 and/or the hailer. The recalled boat must keep clear of all other boats that have started or are starting correctly. If the boat does not hear the committee boat hail and fails to restart, then the boat will receive a DNS for that race. To restart, use rule 30.1 “Round-an-End Rule”. **Do not sail back through the start line.**

C) **General recall “1<sup>st</sup> Substitute” flag**

All boats must restart. Signal will be any or all of the following: two short horn blasts, by voice or hailer, announcement over VHF radio channel 69.

D) **Postponement "AP" flag**

Can be done at any time before a start. Signal will be the following: two long horn

blasts and an announcement over VHF radio channel 69.

E) **Abandonment "N" flag**

Can be done at any time during the race. Signal will be all or any of the following: three long horn blasts, by voice or hailer, general announcement over VHF radio channel 69 with "N" flag flown.

F) **Cancellation**

Can be done any time prior to start. Signal will be the same as for abandonment.

G) **Shortened course "S" flag**

A shortened course will be announced over VHF radio channel 69 with the "S" flag flown and two long horn blasts. Further details may be given via VHF radio channel 69.

H) **New racer "NR" flag**

New racers may request a new racer flag (bright white and to be flown on the backstay). It is expected that other racers give new racers the benefit of the doubt by hailing them with helpful assistance on rules and tactics.

6) **RACE COURSE**

A) The course will be one of A-D (refer to course diagrams at the end of this document) and set by the committee boat in consultation with the Sail Racing Committee. Round all marks to port. A finish mark will be set to starboard of the committee boat. The finish mark shall be left to port and the committee boat to starboard when finishing.

B) The committee boat will fly the appropriate letter flag for the course selected. The course flag and direction board will be displayed by the committee boat by the first warning signal. It will be displayed until the last start.

C) The committee boat may make courtesy broadcasts for the course selection (A-D) and course direction.

D) Please note, the charlie flag (C flag) will not be used to indicate change of course, it will only be used to indicate course C as indicated in these Sailing Instructions.

E) The start line will be between the race committee flag on the moored committee boat and a yellow or orange tetrahedral inflatable race buoy to port of the committee boat. The first leg will run to a mark upwind of the start (refer to course diagrams).

F) The finish line will be between the race committee flag on the moored committee boat and an inflatable white tetrahedral race buoy starboard of the committee boat. On the final leg, racers shall finish by leaving the committee boat to starboard and the white finish mark to port (refer to course diagrams).

7) **IDENTIFICATION - CHECK IN**

A) Yachts shall check in by hailing the committee boat prior to the start of the race and at the finish. It is the responsibility of each skipper to make sure that their boat is properly identified.

B) To prevent unnecessary traffic in the starting area, a boat that arrives to the starting area at 1840 or later must postpone their check in until their boat section's start sequence commences. **If a boat does not check in, then they will not be scored and will instead receive a Did-Not-Compete (DNC). The VHF radio is not an acceptable means of check in. Boats in the second/third/fourth/fifth starts must remain OUT of the starting area, as defined in section 4B of these Sailing Instructions, until their section warning.**

8) **RADIO**

A) **General use of the radio (VHF channel 69) is considered a courtesy and designated for use by the committee boat and Sail Racing Committee only, except for the following:**

- (1) Notification of emergency or danger
- (2) Notification of withdrawal from the race
- (3) Notification of filing a protest (in addition to the RRS protest requirements)
- (4) Notification of acceptance of alternate penalty
- (5) A response to a specific committee boat request directed to your boat or to the fleet in general

## 9) THE FINISH

A) The finish line is the invisible line (and vertical plane) between the race committee flag and the finish mark. Cross the finish line by leaving the committee boat to starboard and the finish mark to port. (Note—the race finish does *not* normally make use of the start mark except in unusual circumstances.)

B) **Each skipper is responsible for recording the actual finish time of their yacht and, if possible, the yacht directly ahead and astern.** This information shall be provided to the committee boat and the Sail Racing Committee after the race upon request. **This instruction is of particular importance when the committee boat is not on station at the finish.**

–Rough sea state (>4 foot waves) and late finishers are two examples for which the committee boat may not be on station for a finish.

C) If the committee boat is not on station when a yacht finishes the race, then the yacht's finish time shall be when the yacht reaches a position **both abeam and within 50 feet** of the AYC buoy at the finish line.

## 10) TIME LIMITS THURSDAY SERIES

A) The time limit, to round the first mark, is one hour after the start of the last section. This time limit is for any boat in the fleet, not individual sections. If a boat, from any section, rounds the first mark within the time limit, then the race will continue for all sections. If no boat rounds the mark within the time limit, then the race is abandoned for all sections.

B) If a yacht is on course to finish within the time limit but significantly later than the fleet, then the committee boat may require the yacht to record her own finish time. *This serves as a courtesy to the committee boat and enables the committee boat to begin cleanup.*

C) No yacht will be scored after **2 hours** have elapsed from the last start. Yachts not finishing within this 2 hour limit will be scored as Did-Not-Finish (DNF). If no yacht completes the course within 2 hours of the last start, then the race is abandoned.

## 11) SHORTENING OR CHANGING COURSE (RRS 32 & 33)

A) A shortened or change of course will be announced over VHF radio channel 69 with the “S” flag flown and with two long horn blasts.

B) RRS 33 (a) and (b) are changed to read as follows:

- i) Changes to a leg of the course will be signaled by the committee boat over VHF radio channel 69. The committee boat shall describe how the course is being changed for each section. For example, if no boats have rounded the first mark of a bravo course, then the committee boat could say “The course has been shortened and changed for all sections to an alpha course.” Or, if some JAM boats have rounded the first mark of a bravo course, then the committee boat could say “The course has been shortened and changed for

spinnaker sections only to an alpha course.”

- ii) Racers are instructed to monitor VHF radio channel 69. The committee boat will make every effort to display appropriate flag signals, but adverse weather or other circumstances may limit communication to VHF radio only. Note that transmissions from a handheld VHF are often not clearly received by a second handheld at the far end of the course. Low power masthead transmissions are more effective at being received by the entire fleet.

## 12) PROTESTS

The protester must at the first reasonable opportunity: 1) hail the skipper being protested, 2) fly a red (protest) flag, and 3) notify the committee boat of the pending protest. Protests shall be completed using an [official protest form](#). Protests shall be delivered within **one hour** after the committee boat docks to either 1) the committee boat skipper, or 2) any member of the Sail Racing Committee. If the hearing cannot be held the same day, then the hearing will be scheduled no later than 14 days after the incident. Race results will be rescored, as necessary, based on decisions of the protest committee.

## 13) ALTERNATE PENALTIES (RRS 44.1 & 44.2)

Refer to the 2021-2024 World Sailing’s Racing Rules of Sailing concerning penalty turns. A boat may clear itself by a one turn (Touching a Mark) or two turns (When Boats Meet) penalty after getting well clear of other boats as soon after the incident as possible. If the boat caused injury or serious damage, or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach, then her penalty shall be to retire.

## 14) RETIREMENT FROM THE RACE

Yachts retiring (RET) from the race are required to notify the committee boat.

## 15) AUXILIARY POWER

Yachts are considered to be racing after the preparatory signal for their respective starts, and must be under sail power only at the time the preparatory signal is made (four minutes prior to their section's start).

## 16) WHISKER POLES (RRS 55.2)

- A) Only one whisker or spinnaker pole (length not to exceed the "J" measurement on the MWPHRF certificate) shall be used at one time. When in use, it must be attached to the foremost mast and may be carried on the same side or the opposite side on which the boom has been set.
- B) Poles that can be extended beyond the "J" length must be banded to indicate the maximum proper length. No handheld poles or devices allowed.

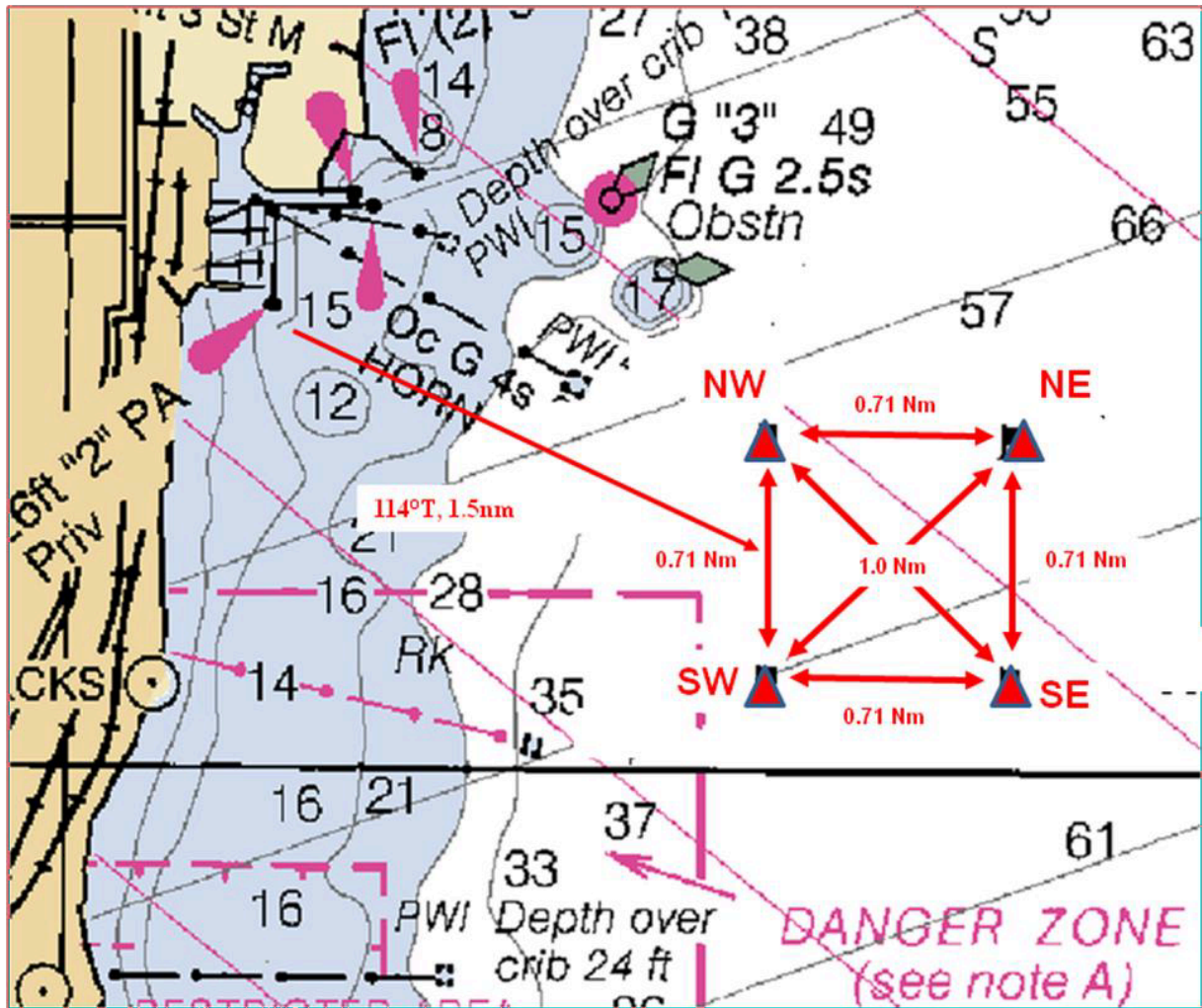
## 17) HEADSAILS

Spinnakers (asymmetrical spinnakers, cruising spinnakers, bloopers, or gennakers) are only allowed by boats registered within an AYC spinnaker section. Boats may use a tight-luffed staysail provided that 1) staysail dimensions do not exceed the headsail dimensions appearing on the boat’s MWPHRF certificate; 2) the sail is flown in the spirit of a staysail, being tacked on the boat’s centerline and aft of the headstay; and 3) no other MWPHRF regulations are violated. On leeward legs, two headsails may be used by JAM section boats, but only one headsail may be hoisted in the headfoil.

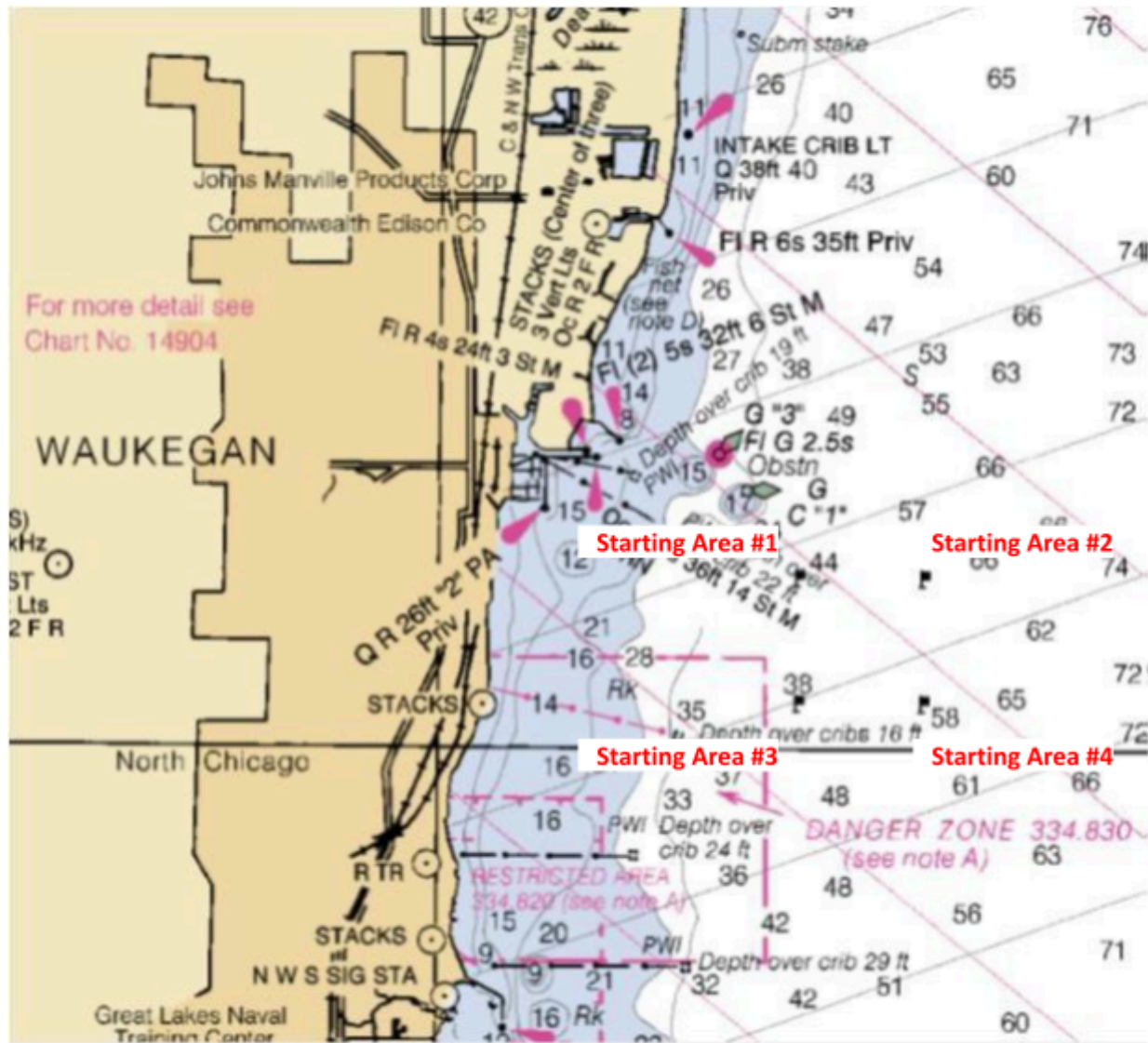
### 18) SKIPPERS' MEETING

Meetings may be scheduled at the beginning of either the race series or an individual race. Additional meetings may be scheduled as required. If necessary, then a general notice will be made of the meeting date, time, and location.

### COURSE DIAGRAMS





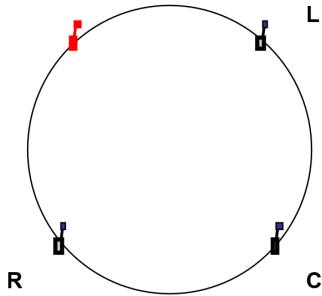


## MARK COORDINATES

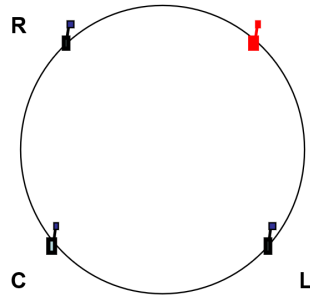
Buoy Identifier	Starting Area	Latitude (DD MM.MMM)	Longitude (DD MM.MMM)
NW	SA1	42 20.934	87 47.262
NE	SA2	42 20.934	87 46.307
SW	SA3	42 20.226	87 47.262
SE	SA4	42 20.226	87 46.307

# STARTING AREAS

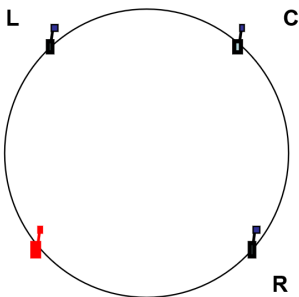
**Starting Area 1 (NW Mark)**



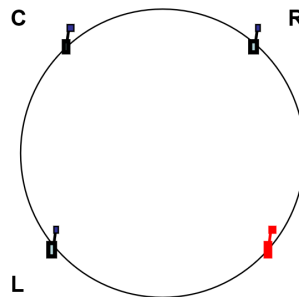
**Starting Area 2 (NE Mark)**



**Starting Area 3 (SW Mark)**



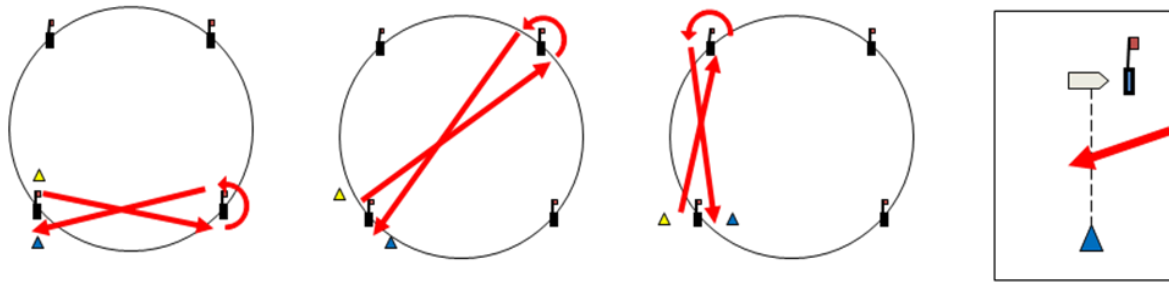
**Starting Area 4 (SE Mark)**



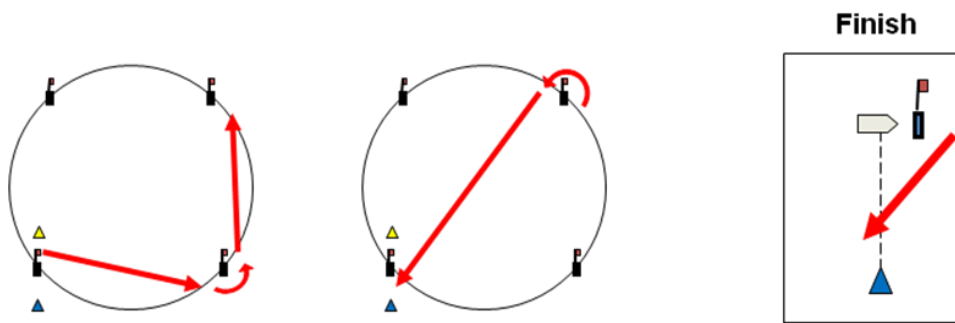


## JAM Courses

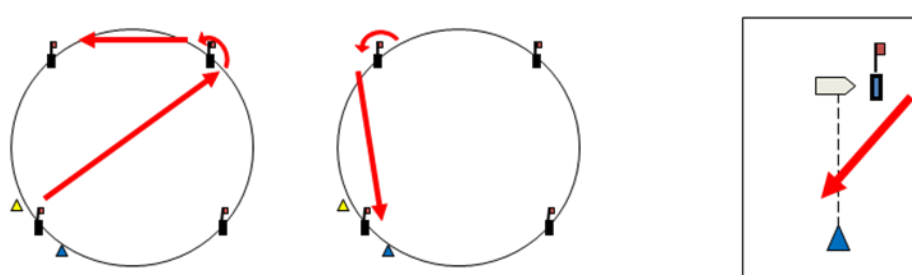
Alpha courses 1.42nm (right mark), 2.0nm (center mark), 1.42nm (left mark)



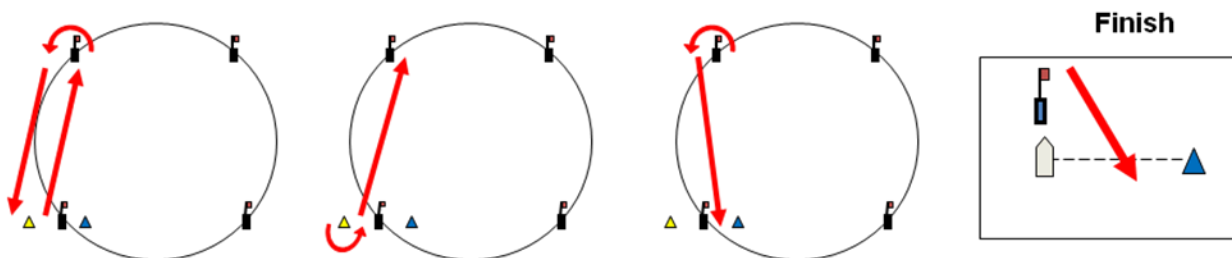
Bravo Course, right mark, 2.42nm



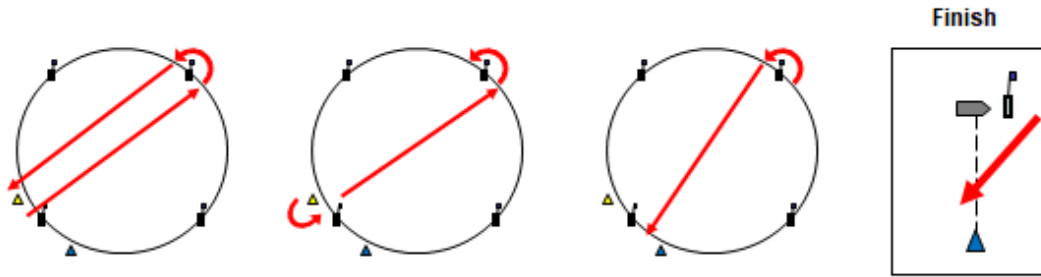
Bravo Course, center mark, 2.42nm



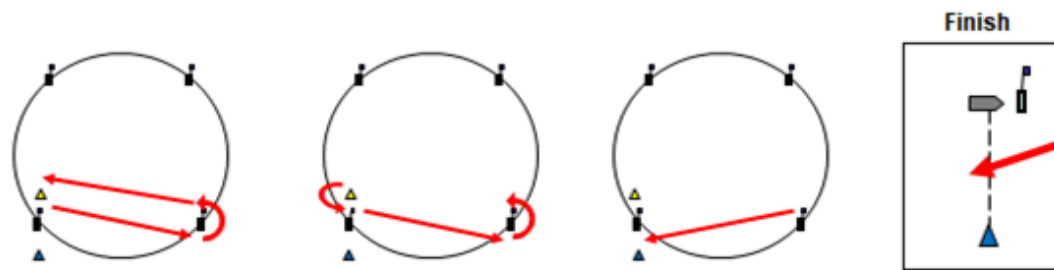
Charlie Course, 2.84nm (left mark, same course for JAM and Spinn)



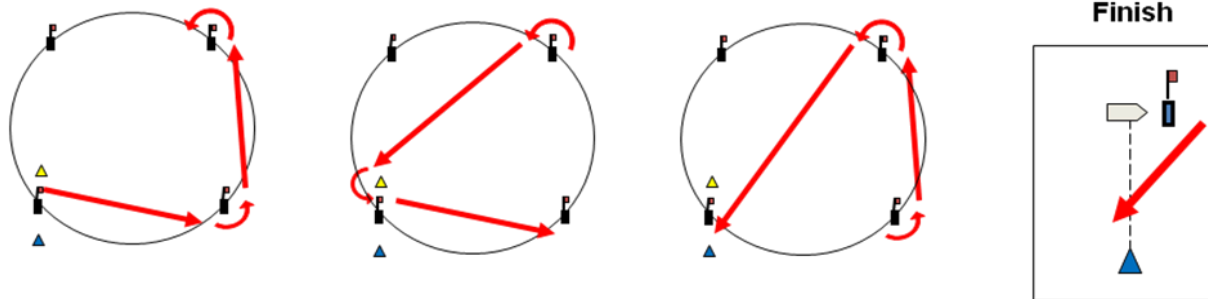
**Charlie Course, center mark, 4.0nm (same course for JAM and Spinn)**



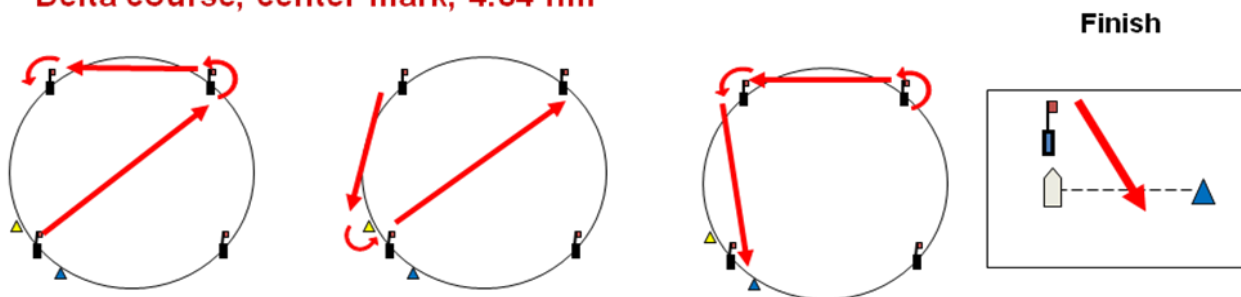
**Charlie Course, right mark, 2.84nm (same course for JAM and Spinn)**



**Delta course, right mark, 4.84 nm**

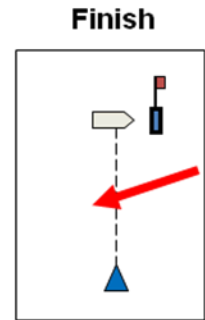
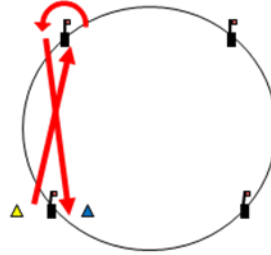
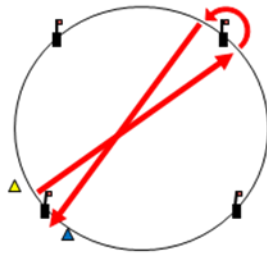
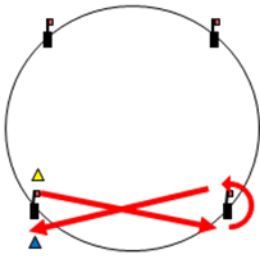


**Delta course, center mark, 4.84 nm**

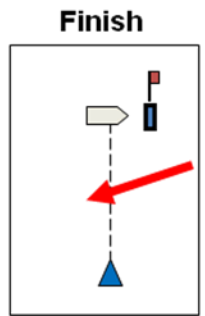
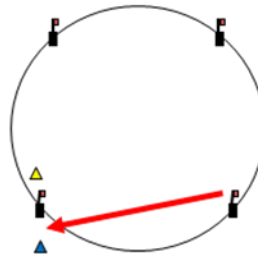
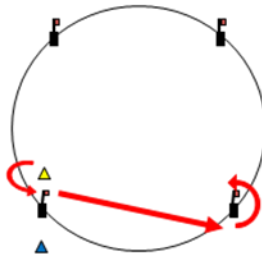
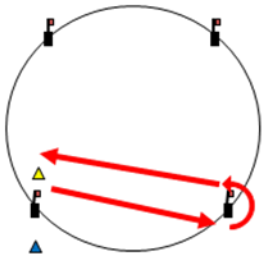


## Spinn Courses

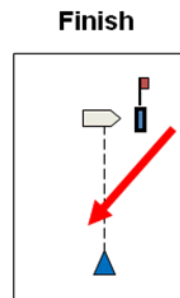
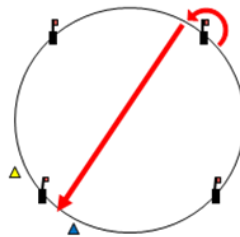
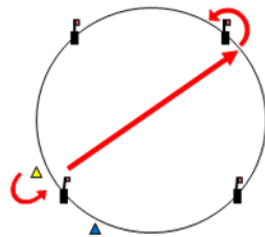
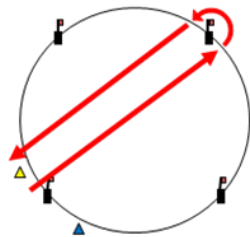
ALPHA Courses 1.42nm (right mark), 2.0nm (center mark), 1.42nm (left mark)



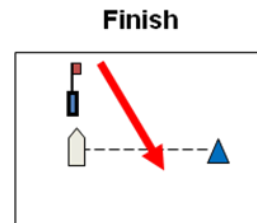
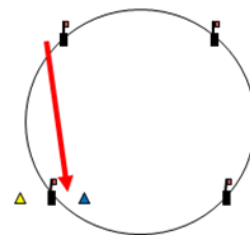
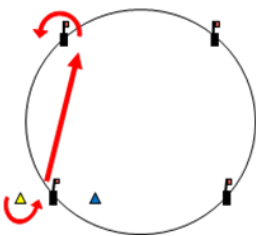
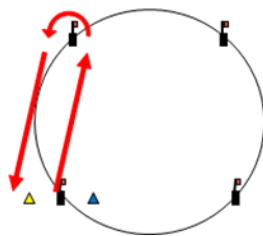
BRAVO Course, right mark, 2.84nm



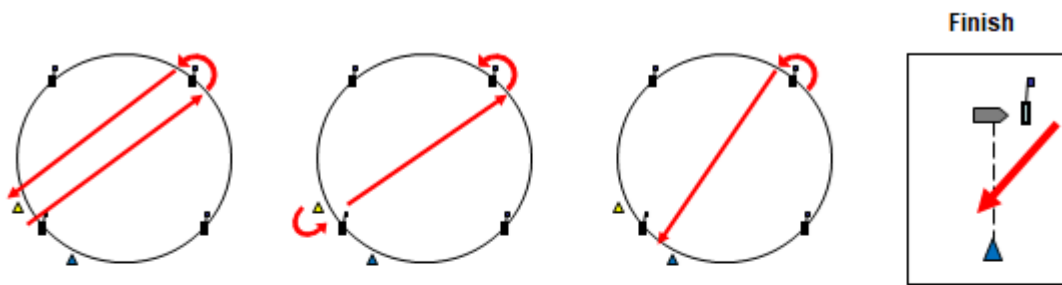
BRAVO Course, center mark, 4.0nm



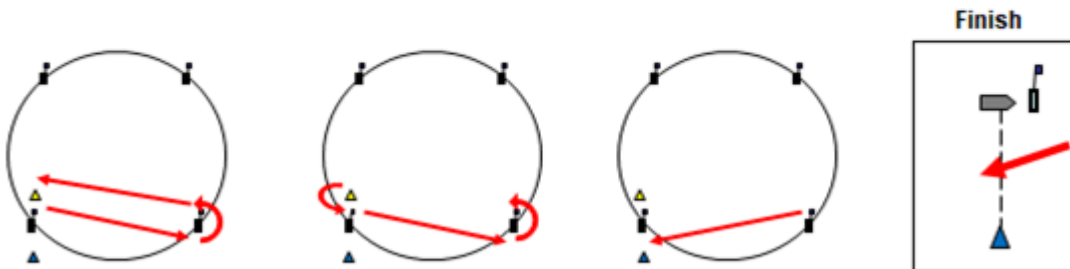
CHARLIE Course, left mark, 2.84nm (same course for JAM and Spinn)



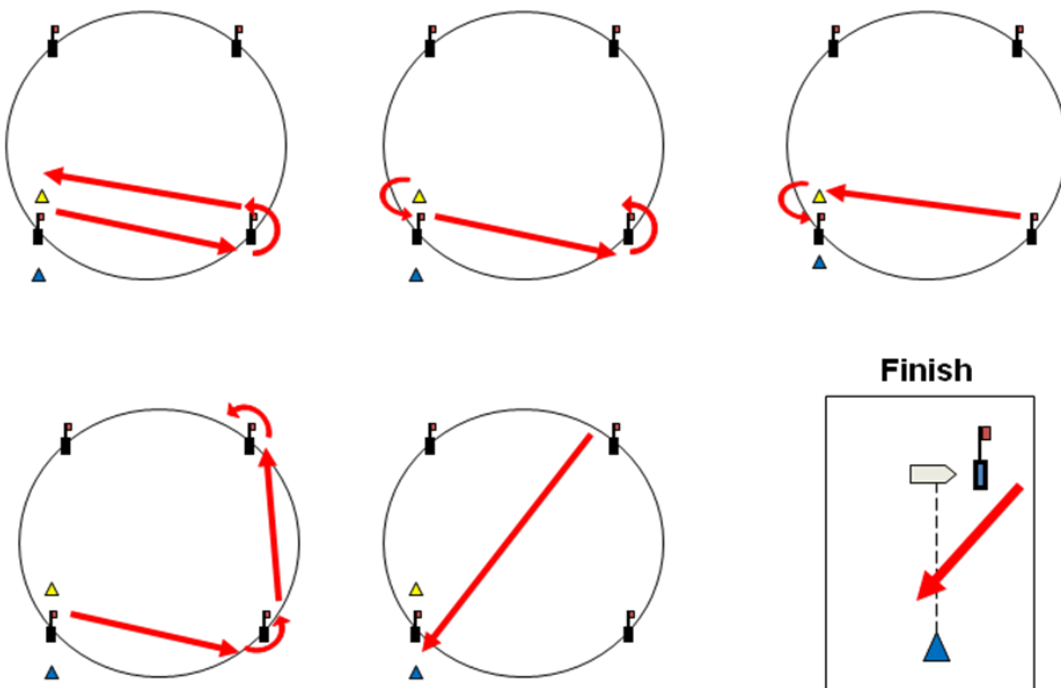
**CHARLIE Course, center mark, 4.0nm (same course for JAM and Spinn)**



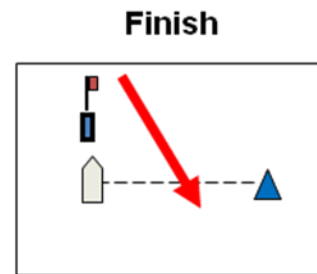
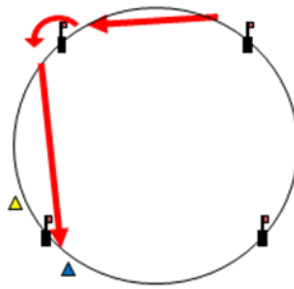
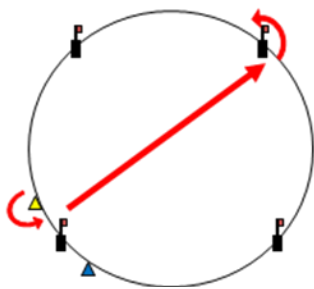
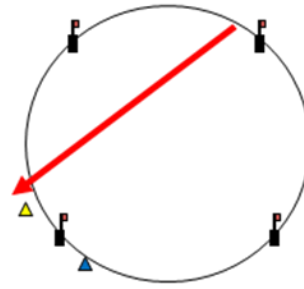
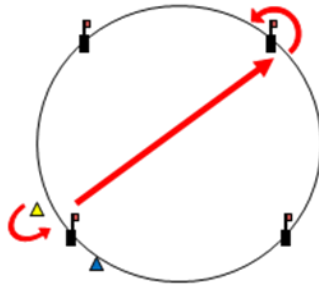
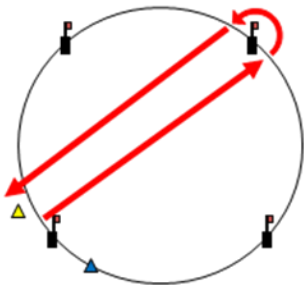
**CHARLIE Course, right mark, 2.84nm (same course for JAM and Spinn)**



**DELTA Course, right mark, 5.26nm**



# DELTA Course, center mark, 6.42nm



# Course Signals

Boats shall fly their appropriate AYC colored section flags on their backstay prior to the start and through the finish line.

### Section flags:



### Course flags:

