

Notice of Race: Ultimate 20 North Americans and Express 37 Nationals

OA: Richmond Yacht Club, 351 Brickyard Cove Road, Pt Richmond, CA 94960

Date: October 2-4, 2026



1. RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2. RRS 40.1 shall apply while crew are on the water.
- 1.3. RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: A protest is invalid if “(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or”

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be available after 1500 on Thursday, September 24th.
- 2.2. Changes to the rules will be posted on the Official Notice Board by 0930 on the day they take effect. Changes to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before they will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1. The Official Notice Board is located outside the downstairs Race Office. Additionally, race documents will be available on the online notice board. The online notice board URL can be located on the event’s information page on the RYC club calendar.
- 3.2. On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SIs.
- 3.3. From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The event is open to Ultimate 20 and Express 37 boats that are owned or chartered by a member or members of their respective Class Associations as of the date of the event. For the Ultimate 20, owners and helmsperson, if different, must be members of the Class Association.
- 4.2. Eligible boats may enter by completing registration, including payment of fees (including any late fees), online by 1700 September 24th prior to the event. The link to register will be posted on the event’s information page on the RYC club calendar.
- 4.3. For Ultimate 20, all boats are subject to inspection of equipment and sails as called for in Article OD-IV and OD-VII of the Rules of the Ultimate 20 Class Association (Class Rules) as in effect at the time of the event. Competitors must complete an inspection form to be witnessed and signed by another competitor to be submitted at time of registration.
- 4.4. Weight Limits:
 - 4.6.1 For Ultimate 20, the crew weight limit is 614 lbs unless a weight limit waiver is sought as described in OD-II of the Class Rules.
 - 4.6.2 For Express 37, submission of completed and signed copies of the crew weight and required equipment forms must be received by the Express 37 Class Secretary prior to 1800 on October 1st.

5. ENTRY FEE

- 5.1. For Ultimate 20, the entry fee is \$270 if received on or before September 15th. The entry fee includes three Saturday evening buffet tickets. There will be an additional late entry fee of \$50 for entries received after September 15th.
- 5.2. For Express 37, the entry fee is \$500 if received on or before September 15th. The entry fee includes Saturday evening buffet tickets for five people. There will be an additional late entry fee of \$50 for entries received after September 15th.
- 5.3. Additional tickets for the Saturday evening buffet will be available when registering on the Regatta Network site.

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5.4. Refunds may be requested until the registration date, less a processing fee charged by Regatta Network

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. For Ultimate 20, shore check-in is required on Friday between 0900-1000. All Ultimate 20s must be afloat by 1000 on Friday and may not be hauled out during the weekend without express permission from the Race Committee.
- 6.2. For Express 37, check in will be on the water at the Race Committee boat by passing on starboard tack at least 10 minutes prior to the First Warning.
- 6.3. Friday: Ultimate 20 Competitors Briefing: 1000
Express 37 Long Distance Race First Warning 1155
Ultimate 20 Windward-leeward First Warning shortly thereafter.
- 6.4. Saturday and Sunday shall be windward-leeward buoy racing.
- 6.5. No races will be started after 1500 on Sunday.
- 6.6. See separate "Additional Event Information" for information regarding local logistics, any additional competitors' briefings, first warning signal on Saturday and Sunday, and shoreside social events at Richmond Yacht Club.

7. VENUE

- 7.1. Windward-leeward courses will be in the Southampton area defined as outside of the Potrero Channel breakwater and as far east as Brooks Island.
- 7.2. For Express 37, the Long Distance Race shall be in the Southampton, Berkeley Circle, and Central Bay area.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1. The course(s) to be sailed will be shown using numeral pennant flags and will be described further in the SIs.
- 8.2. For windward-leeward courses, the courses will be around temporary marks.
- 8.3. For the Long Distance Race, the course will use temporary marks or fixed marks, or a combination thereof. Refer to the YRA Center Bay and North Bay Charts and Description of Marks (<https://yra.org/descriptionofmarks/>)
- 8.4. Additional course information may be included in the Sailing Instructions

9. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 9.1. RRS Appendix V1 applies
- 9.2. Unless the course is shortened at the windward mark, penalties for incidents that take place while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible after rounding the offset mark. This changes RRS 44.2.

10. SCORING

- 10.1. Three races are required to be completed to constitute a regatta.
- 10.2. Throwouts
- 10.2.1. For the Ultimate 20s, when fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 10.2.2. For the Express 37s, no scores will be excluded.
- 10.3. Competitors shall verify their sail number at check-in for each race day. A boat that races with a different sail number than listed in their registration shall be scored DNC.

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11. WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

11.1. Decision to Race: Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.' **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.** The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

11.2. Authorization for First Aid and Medical Treatment: By participating in this event, competitors automatically authorize the Organizing Authority and its representatives to provide emergency first aid and to arrange for medical assistance and transport to a medical facility in the event of a medical event or emergency, and that the competitor is solely responsible for any and all associated related costs and expenses.

11.3. Photos and Publicity: By participating in this event, boat owners, competitors and support persons automatically grant to the organizing authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

12. INSURANCE AND SAFETY

12.1. Competitors are required to have an adequate line for towing.

12.2. Valid third-party insurance with no less than \$100,000 coverage for property and bodily injury is required for each competitor's boat.

13. PRIZES

13.1. Prizes will be given as follows: 1st, 2nd and 3rd. The Perpetual Trophy for each class will be awarded to the top finishing boat in each class.

14. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the Regatta Chair for the event. Their contact information is listed on the event's information page and given below:

Ultimate 20: Mike Josselyn sfbaymike@yahoo.com

Express 37: Lisa Wilson samiamlw@yahoo.com

Principal Race Officer: Ian McClelland ian.m.mcclelland2013@gmail.com