

# Appendix 1 to MSSA Sailing Instructions for 2020

The Sailing Instructions for the 2020 Summer Series are modified as follows to accommodate restrictions necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure fair and safe competition for all racers:

1. **Crew Limits:** To reduce the risk of COVID-19 among crew, the MSSA will be using '+1' crew limits. The maximum number of people allowed on a boat will be limited by the size of the boat. Take the first digit of the boat size and add 1. If your boat is 20-29' the maximum amount of people is 2+1 = 3. For a 30-39 the maximum number of crew aboard (including the captain) is 4, and so on. Captains: You are responsible for determining if you can safely race with these crew limitations. You are responsible for deciding who you allow on your boat.
2. **Divisions:** This year all racing will have a single start. Divisions A, B, C, D will all have the same start. Note that if we start getting a very large fleet (greater than 10 boats) this may change but be prepared for a single start with the sequence starting at 1900. Be on time to the race area, sails up, engines off by 1900.
3. **Committee Boat:** As in a typical year, a committee boat will be utilized to determine the course used, run the start of the race, monitor the progress, record finish times, etc. Because of social distancing restrictions, we anticipate that many committee boats will be short of crew. To compensate for this, we, as racers, should anticipate that some of the normal start procedures may not occur this year.
  - a. The standard starting procedure requires the committee boat to raise a flag and sound a gun or horn at the right time. With a short-handed committee boat all racers should be aware that the FLAGS may not be used this year. We will require that the GUN or HORN be used to signify the start of the sequence, and at time+1, time+4 and time+5 (start of the race). The flags SHOULD be used, but may not be.
  - b. The committee boat shall announce the starting sequence times on the radio as follows:
    - I. Warning signal (5 minutes prior to the start): "Racers, start of sequence gun in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, GUN".
    - II. Preparatory signal (4 minutes prior to the start): "Racers, preparatory signal in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, GUN".
    - III. One Minute signal (1 minute prior to the start): "Racers, one minute signal in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, GUN".
    - IV. Start: "Racers, starting signal in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, GUN".
  - c. To summarize: captains please note you should not rely on the race flag for this year. Please rely on the HORN instead. If you have questions, please hail the committee boat on VHF 68.
  - d. Committee boat: If you have 3-4 crew please use the flags. If you are short-handed and cannot manage horns and flags, please make sure the horn is on time and disregard the flags. Again, please use the VHF Radio to count down start times to make it easier on yourselves and the racers.

We all want MSSA racing to be safe, fun, and fair. In the time of COVID-19 we ask all racers to be flexible, considerate, and kind to your fellow competitors, members, and committee boats.