



# Sailing Instructions

TALL CACTUS REGATTA – 11 April 2026  
Arizona Yacht Club - Lake Pleasant, Arizona

1. **Rules.** The series will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and applicable class and fleet rules, which are available from fleet captains.
2. **Changes to Sailing Instructions.** Any changes to the Sailing Instructions may be published on the AYC Web site, [www.arizonayachtclub.org](http://www.arizonayachtclub.org) by 8:00 am the day of the regatta. The Race Committee may also communicate changes to instructions on the water by displaying "Come within hail" (code flag "L").
3. **Radio Communications.** On the water, the race committee will monitor and may communicate with competitors via VHF radio on Channel 68.
4. **Schedule.** The scheduled time of the warning signal for the race is 1:00 pm.
5. **Change to Start Time:** If there is not enough wind at the appointed start time, the Race Officer may delay the start by displaying "Come within Hail" (Code Flag L) and a Numeral Pennant. The numeral indicates the number of 10-minute increments that the start is delayed. i.e. 2 = 20 minutes. The race committee will attempt to communicate this via VHF as well.
6. **Starting.**
  - a. In place of class flags, class boards will be displayed for starts. This modifies Rule 26.
  - b. The start board will be "PHRF" for all fleets.
  - c. The first start will be the standard 5 minute start per rule 26. The class and course board will remain UP at the end of the first start.
  - d. Each start following the initial start will be indicated by one long blast on the horn.
  - e. Competitors who are not near their start time are asked to keep clear of the start area.
  - f. The Race Committee will try to utilize VHF to communicate starting sequences and keep competitors informed of progress. Failure to hear such communications will not be grounds for a redress request.
7. **Racing Area and Courses.** 2026 Tall Cactus Course Chart will be published to the AYC Racing Page. All rounding marks are left to port. Marks will be inflatable yellow cylinders and red and green tetrahedrons.
8. **Check-in and Checkout.** Each boat must check in by sailing aft of the Race Committee on starboard tack and hailing fleet, sail number and souls on board. A boat that retires from a race or retires from racing before the end of the race day shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible, preferably via VHF.
9. **Starting and finishing line.**
  - a. The starting and finishing line will be between the orange mast on the committee boat and a small red buoy mark.
  - b. If any part of a boat's hull is on the **course side** of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee may attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress request.
10. **Time Limit.** To be scored, all boats must finish by 5:00 pm. Boats not finishing within the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF.)
11. **Protests.** This is a fun regatta. Protests will only be heard in the case of damage or injury.

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