

## To RACE COMMITTEE PERSONNEL:

The following TIPS are to assist you as you prepare to serve on the ODC Race Committee. PROs SHOULD CALL YOUR CREW EARLY IN THE WEEK and share these TIPS with your crew. It is important to review the weather, NOR, Sailing Instructions, start times, and other information found on our website ([oriental dinghy club.com](http://oriental dinghy club.com)) prior to race day. Within the Sailing Instructions there is a link to Fleet Race Times. Under Race Management you will find a Guide to Running Fleet Races and a form for Recording Race Results. There should be everything you need in the dock box, except the electronics mentioned below. **PROs are responsible to see that all items are returned to the dock box as you found them: loose flags put back into the proper slot in the flag bag, and the color coded flags on staffs in their own bundle, letters or numbers back in the box if you took some out. There is a separate bundle of flags for the Mark Boat.**

The sign of a good RC is staying on time and the proper use of flags and signals. In a plastic box there is a loose-leaf RC Binder with lots of information that will be helpful to you on the water. PROs please help prepare less experienced RC crew for increased RC responsibility. All members on the Signal Boat are encouraged to review the Join the Race Committee Team guide from US Sailing that is in the Signal Boat box. This can be done in the dead time between starts and finishes. In addition there is the very large US Sailing RC Manual for your perusal ahead of time. Call Ken Small (249-0140) to obtain the latter.

The basic role of the RC is to offer the contestants a fair and challenging race event. Fundamental to this is to set a good course. A good course is of the appropriate length, including a square starting line of the appropriate length (~ 1.5 X the aggregate lengths of the boats starting), and a good first leg to windward. A windward leg to the finish is desirable if possible. The course for the One Design fleet is easily adjusted by having the assigned mark boat move the marks. The PHRF should have at least one good windward leg during the race. If not possible between two of the government marks, try and position the Signal Boat such that it will provide a windward leg at the start or finish. If providing a reaching or downwind start, place the pin so that the racers will want to use the whole line and not have a heavily favored end. Ask the racers for their help in placing the pin. Doing this will insure that the “big” boats will get the best course possible while still using government marks. **NEW FOR PHRF RACES – If the starting line is SIGNIFICANTLY off a line between two of our three marks, such that it would seriously affect the length of the course, THE RC MUST get a LAT/LON of the starting line and note it on the score sheet to go to Bill Kirsch. If not, then make no lat/lon note. If you include the lat/lon, we will use it. Have a racer get it for you if no GPS is aboard the signal boat.**

There is a scheduled time for the Warning Gun each race day. At exactly that time, a flag should be hoisted. It should either be the Class Flag which will be the Warning Gun in the starting sequence, or the Postpone Flag indicating a delay. In the event you postpone, racers will use the lowering of the Postpone Flag to indicate one minute to the Warning Gun. There are precise instructions for this procedure, and others, in the Join the Race Committee Team guide in all the RC plastic boxes. Use GPS or Atomic time if you can bring the equipment with you. The Signal Boat does not have a GPS. In any event, it is helpful to the racers if you sound a bunch of rapid toots to give the racers a “heads up” that there is to be a signal soon.

**PLEASE READ THE ODC RC BOAT INSTRUCTION SHEET ABOARD.** If you are using a Mark Boat, it is best to establish with them a VHF channel other than the racer’s Channel 72. This enables you to chat about wind shifts etc. without offering information to the racers.

Please let someone know if there is something missing, you break something, you have a problem with the boat, or anything else the club would need to know to correct. As soon as is practical, PHRF scores should be sent to the social at Triton Marina, and One Design results to the social at Charlie Carpenter’s house. All results must then be transmitted to Bill Kirsch for inclusion in the ODC records and on the website.

Thank you for your efforts.