Half Moon Bay Yacht Club
Last Gasp Regatta 2017

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

These are the HMBYC Sailing Instructions for the Last Gasp Regatta 2017, to be held 4 November 2017. The Organizing Authority for this regatta is the Half Moon Bay Yacht Club.

NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

The NOR and Sailing Instructions will be available at the check-in before the Sailors Meeting.

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the entry of the bar in the HMBYC.

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be made prior to 0900 hours, except that any change to the schedule of races will posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.

Changes, whenever possible, will also be posted on the HMBYC website.

RULES

To RRS 26 is added: a boat starting more than 4 minutes after the start of any race will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.

RRS 26 is changed to the audible-signal racing system of RRS Appendix U, unless rescinded at the Race Committee’s discretion. The starting sequence will be specified at the Sailors’ Meeting.

RRS 28.2 is changed: a boat breaking this rule may not correct her error and shall retire.

RRS 29.1 and RRS 30.1 are modified to permit the hailing of boats that are on the course side of the starting line at the start, in addition to prompt display of “X” flag. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, an untimely hail of these boats, failure to hail any boats, and the order of the boats in the hail shall not be grounds for granting redress.

RRS 35 is changed: a boat finishing more than 15 minutes after the first finishing boat in her division will be scored “DNF.” This changes rules A4 and A5.

RRS 40 is changed: all competitors shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, III or V, inherently buoyant only, Personal Floatation Device. The “Y” flag will not be
displayed. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal floatation devices. Note, however, that wet suits/dry suits are strongly encouraged for all dinghy classes.

RRS 41 is changed: Race Committee communications, via loud hailer and/or VHF, to competitors while racing shall not be considered outside help.

RRS 42.1 and 47.1 are changed: use of spinnakers is not permitted, regardless of whether a boat is equipped to fly them, except for the VX Class.

RRS 44.1 is changed: the penalty for breaking a rule in RRS Part 2 is changed to one turn. However, RRS 44.1(b) continues to apply: causing injury or serious damage, or gaining a significant advantage, obligates a boat to retire.

RRS 77 is changed for the Cal 20 class only: a boat may be identified by the color of her sails.

Under rule 86.1(b), in the definition of “Zone,” the distance is changed to two hull lengths.

RRS 61.1(b) is changed so that a boat intending to protest an incident that occurs in the race area shall notify the race committee boat of her intention as soon as possible after finishing, including the sail number or other identification of the boat(s) being protested. A red flag need not be displayed.

RRS 77 is changed such that a boat is not required to display national letters. Boats supplied by the HMBYC with color sails and no sail number shall be identified by the color of the sail.

As provided in RRS 67, the Protest Committee may, without a hearing, penalize a boat that has broken RRS 42.

RRS Appendix A4.2 is changed: a boat that is disqualified shall be scored two points more than the number of boats entered.

**SIGNALS**

All visual and sound signals will be made from the Race Committee boat. No signals will be made ashore. Times will be taken from the visual signals; the absence or mistiming of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

**SCHEDULE OF RACES**

Check-In will be 0900 to 1000. A mandatory Sailors’ Meeting will be held at 1000 on the HMBYC patio. The Warning Signal for the first race is scheduled at 1100.
Five to seven races are scheduled, time permitting. There will be two sets of races, before and after a lunch break. Three races will be run before lunch (four if time permits). After lunch, two (or three, if time permits) races will be run. Each race will be started by class. No races will be started after 1500.

THE COURSE
All races will be conducted within the waters of Pillar Point Harbor. All races for all classes will use a common course, consisting of the start/finish line, a windward mark plus offset, and a leeward gate. The start/finish line will be marked by an orange flag displayed on the Race Committee boat and a starting mark consisting of a small buoy with streamers on the top of the pole. The windward mark will be a temporary inflatable mark to windward of the committee boat, plus an offset mark consisting of a small inflatable ball to port (as approached from the start line) of the windward mark. The leeward gate will consist of two temporary inflatable marks to leeward of the Race Committee boat.

The Race Committee boat and any boat or dinghy tied to it are to be considered as a single mark.

Each race will consist of one or more start-windward-leeward-finish progressions, leaving all marks to port, except the leeward gate, which may be rounded as follows: around the port gate (facing downwind) to port or around the starboard gate to starboard. Course 1 will consist of one lap; course 2 will consist of two laps; course 3 will consist of three laps. For all courses, the start/finish line will be restricted.

The time limit for each race will be 60 minutes for the first boat to sail the course and finish. If no boat has finished the course within the time limit, the race will be abandoned.

Boats in classes whose Warning Signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence of other classes.

Any boat withdrawing from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as practicable.

SCORING
The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A will apply. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series. Rule A2.1 is modified: if fewer than 4 races are sailed, no scores will be excluded. Rule A4 is modified so that a disqualified boat shall be scored two places more than the number of boats entered in the series.

Trophies will be awarded to the skippers and crews of the top three finishers in each class. A class must have 3 boats registered to be awarded trophies.
PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

Protest forms will be available at the official notice board.

Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered, in writing, to the HMBYC bar within sixty minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the regatta.

Notices will be posted within forty minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in a location to be announced beginning at the time posted.

Notices of protests by the Race Committee and or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

A list of boats, under instruction 1.10, that have been penalized for breaking RRS 42 will be posted.

SAFETY

ALL boats shall carry a handheld VHF tuned to channel 69 or another channel as specified at the Sailors’ Meeting.