

# RACE SIGNAL FLAGS AND THEIR MEANING

The Four signal flags below are used at WWSC as pre-race signals



**Orange flag-** No sound signal - Raised when the line is set- Lowered on the first Warning Signal



**Handicap Warning Signal-** Raised 3 minutes before the Start + 1 sound signal lowered on the Start signal.



**Laser Warning Signal-** Raised 3 minutes before the Start + 1 sound signal, lowered on the Start signal.



**Handicap and Laser (Combined start) Warning Signal-** Code flag 'U' -Raised 3 minutes before the Start + 1 sound signal, lowered on the Start signal.

**ALL the signal flags below are as prescribed in the Racing Rules of Sailing.**



**Postponement - Code flag 'AP' – 2 sound signals - -Raised before the Warning signal**

Races not started are postponed. The Warning signal will be made 1 minute after its removal



**Preparatory - Code flag 'P'- Raised 2 minutes before the Start + 1 sound signal. Lowered 1 minute before the Start + 1 sound signal.**



**Black flag – 1 sound signal - Raised on 2 minute signal and lowered on 1 minute signal.**

The Black Flag Rule 30.3 will be in effect. A boat within the triangle formed by the ends of the line and the first mark during the minute before the start will be disqualified.

**Recall and Abandonment signals**



**Individual recall - Code flag 'X' – Raised + 1 sound signal in addition to the start sound signal..**

The 'X' flag is displayed until all boats that were over the line have returned correctly, or for two minutes from the original start signal .



**General recall - Code flag 'First Substitute' – Raised + 2 sound signals in addition to the start signal.**

The 'First Substitute' signal is raised when there are an unidentified number of boats over the line at the start or if there has been an error in the starting procedure. The signal will be lowered after two minutes if there is another fleet start in progress or one minute before, + a sound signal, the restart of the recalled fleet.



**Abandonment - Code flag 'N'- Raised + 3 sound signals in addition to any signal already made**

Race(s) are abandoned. Return to the starting area. A new Warning Signal will be made 1 minute after 'N' is removed.



**All races Abandoned- Code flag 'H'- When flown below Code flag 'N' racing is abandoned for the day**

**Finishing Signals**



**Committee boat is 'On Station' in preparation for the finish- Blue flag- Raised + 1 short sound signal**

When the Blue flag is the only signal flag flying ALL boats rounding the leeward mark will sail one more lap.



**Shortened course – Code flag 'S'- Raised + 2 sound signals, below the Blue flag, before the lead boat rounds the leeward mark**

As all race results are calculated on an 'average lap time' basis the number of laps to be sailed is not pre-determined. The 'Shortened Course' procedure is used to signify the end of the race. When the Blue flag + Code flag 'S' is displayed all boats must sail direct to the finish line after rounding the leeward mark to Port

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