

Buzzards Bay Regatta 2015
420 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
ATTACHMENT 4
GATE START PROCEDURE

1.1 Gate Start Procedure

- 1.1.1 When a gate start is used, the Race Committee will display flag "G" on the Race Committee signal boat no later than the warning signal.
- 1.1.2 The starting line (except for the Pathfinder) will be between the port end starting mark and the center of the stern of the Gate Launch, displaying flag "G".
- 1.1.3 Signals will be displayed from the Race Committee signal boat near the port end starting mark and may be duplicated on the Gate Launch.
- 1.1.4 The Pathfinder for the first race will be appointed by the Race Committee. The Pathfinder for subsequent races will be the boat that finished seventh (7th) in the preceding race. When this boat is unable to race, or has been Pathfinder previously in the event, the Pathfinder will be the boat that finished eighth (8th) in the preceding race, and so on.
- 1.1.5 The sail number of the Pathfinder will be displayed on the Race Committee signal boat prior to the warning signal.
- 1.1.6 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee will signal the length of the time between the starting signal and when the Gate Launch will stop at the starboard end of the starting line.
- 1.1.7 Prior to the warning signal, the Pathfinder shall report to the Gate Launch, also displaying flag "G" and positioned near the Race Committee signal boat. The Pathfinder shall follow the Race Committee's instructions. If the Pathfinder fails to comply with this instruction, she may be disqualified without a hearing and shall be ineligible for any restart of that race.
- 1.1.8 Within 10 seconds after the starting signal being made, the Pathfinder shall pass the port-end starting mark on a close-hauled port tack course. The Gate Launch will keep station close astern of the starboard quarter of the Pathfinder. The Gate Launch Guard Boat may keep station on the starboard side of the Pathfinder. The starting line will be open and boats may start once the Gate Launch has cleared the port end starting mark, regardless of the starting signal. RRS 29.2 (Individual Recall) shall not apply.

- 1.1.9 The Pathfinder shall sail her close-hauled course until released by a whistle or sound signal from the Gate Launch, after which she ceases to be a starting mark and may continue or tack onto starboard tack.
- 1.1.10 After the release of the Pathfinder the Gate Launch will maintain her course and speed until the time signaled by the Race Committee has elapsed. She will then stop, lower flag "G" half way and make a long sound signal. One minute after the Gate Launch stopped, the Race Committee will signal the closure of the starting line by lowering flag "G" on both the Gate Launch and the Race Committee signal boat and make a short sound signal. Any boat starting after lowering flag "G" will be scored DNS without a hearing.
- 1.1.11 All boats except the Pathfinder shall start on starboard tack.
- 1.1.12 A boat not having started correctly and which is on the port side of the extension of the Gate Launch's course between the starting signal and the closure of the starting line shall not cross the starting line from the course side.
- 1.1.13 A boat that touches the Gate Launch or the Gate Launch Guard Boat after the preparatory signal shall take a one-turn penalty according to RRS 44.2.
- 1.1.14 After the preparatory signal a boat shall be disqualified without a hearing and shall be ineligible for any restarts of that race if while approaching the line to start she:
- (1) causes the Pathfinder or Gate Launch or Gate Launch Guard Boat to alter course or speed, or
 - (2) touches the Pathfinder, or
 - (3) If a boat passes between or attempts to pass between the Pathfinder and the Gate Launch and/or Gate Launch Guard Boat that boat will be scored DNE.

If the race is restarted on the same day SI 10.4.15 will apply.

- 1.1.15 If a boat has been disqualified according to SI 10.4.7 or SI 10.4.14 and the race is restarted on the same day, her sail number shall be displayed on the Race Committee signal boat for at least three (3) minutes prior to the new warning signal. A boat whose number has been displayed shall leave the starting area before the next warning signal; however, a boat breaking this rule may participate in the restarted race providing she advises the Race Committee prior to the warning signal that she intends to protest another boat and/or requests a redress in connection with the incident. If either her protest is dismissed or her request for redress is denied, she shall be scored DNE for the race in question. This changes RRS 36, 62.2, 63.1 and Appendix A5.

1.1.16 The Race Committee may abandon a start in case of great disadvantage to some boats e.g. through the wind conditions or an interference with the Pathfinder/Gate Launch. Failure to comply with this instruction is no grounds for redress.

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