

Starting

Basic principals

1. Favored end
2. Timing
3. Speed
4. Clear air
5. Freedom to tack

Special Rules

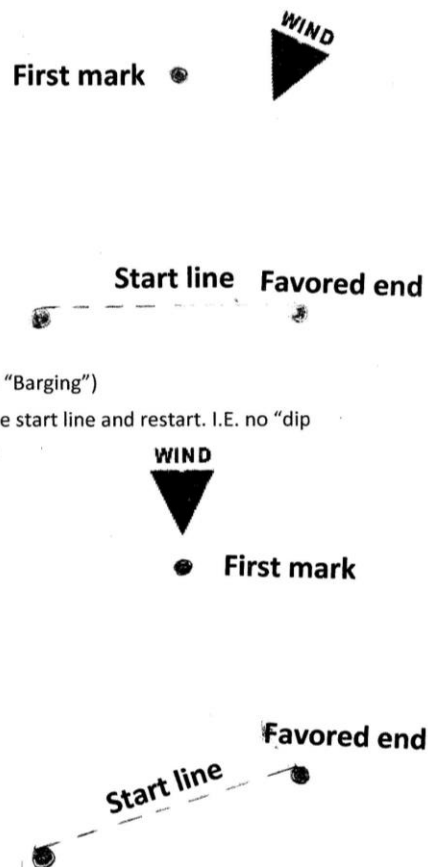
There is no proper course before the start bell (Rule 17)

Section C "At marks and Obstructions" rules do not apply (Mark Room – "Barging")

Rule 30.1 "I flag rule" If over early, a boat must sail around the end of the start line and restart. I.E. no "dip starts". This is a disadvantage to boats starting in the middle of the line.

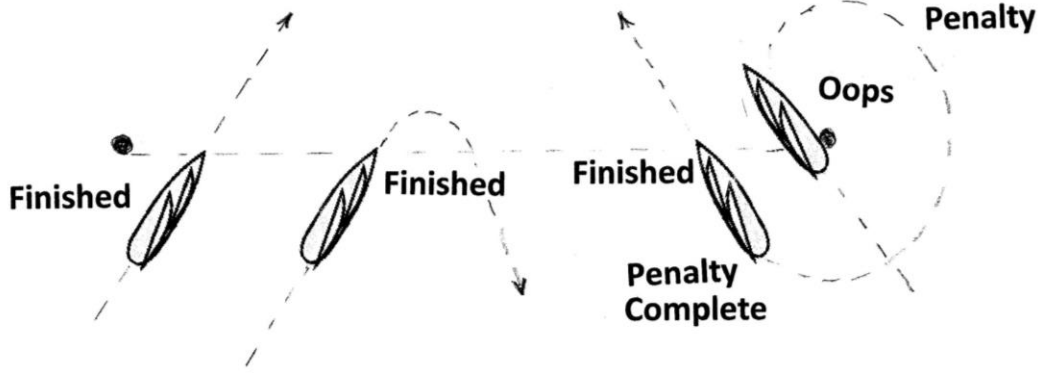
Start Strategies

- Starboard tack
- Port tack approach
- Reaching out – reaching in
- Vanderbilt start
- Dinghy Start



Finishing

WIND



Protests

1. When you are protested and are aware (or suspect) that you have violated a rule, you should, as soon as possible, get clear of other boats and do a penalty turn.
2. It is the obligation of each boat to protest another boat when that other boat violates a rule.
 - a. It makes sailors aware of and follow the rules which makes racing fairer and more fun for everyone.
 - b. The penalty turn effects the position of the offending boat with respect to the entire fleet, not just the protester. I. E. you owe the protest to the whole fleet.
3. If your boat touches a mark or another boat, a rule has been broken, because the rules are designed to prevent that from occurring. You should do a penalty turn even if nobody protests, or, if the touching is the result of another boat violating a rule, you should protest that boat.
4. There are no excuses, do the penalty turn and get on with racing.
 - a. "The wind changed, a gust made me hit him." One of the rules involving giving room was violated, because: Room is defined as the space a boat needs in the existing conditions while maneuvering promptly in a seamanlike way. In gusty or fluky conditions you need to give more room to other boats.
 - b. "It wasn't a big bump; I hardly touched it, or him." The rules don't recognize love taps.
5. When you protest, say, for example, "22 protests 24, 22 protests 24" loud enough for the other skipper to hear you (one reason for the control area). You do not have to explain why you are protesting. Most skippers know when they have violated a rule.
6. In formal regattas, there are post-race Protest Committees to resolve disagreements. In our club races we resolve things in a friendly manor on the water.