

APPENDIX B - GATE STARTS

505 starts will be Gate Starts signaled by ICF "G" flown by the Gate Launch. The starting area will be on the port side of the RC Signal boat.

Signals

The Committee Boat will display the pathfinder's sail number, the gate length (time), bearing to Mark 1 and type of course. Starting signals will be as RRS 26 and section 11 of the SI's.

Pathfinder

The Race Committee will nominate the Pathfinder for the first race. The sail number will be announced at the skipper's briefing.

The Pathfinder and the Reserve for the subsequent races will be the 505's which finished 5th and 6th respectively in the previous race. If these 505's are unable to race, or have acted as Pathfinder previously during the event, then the next finishers not so excused will take their places. The sail number of the Pathfinder and length of the gate (in time) will be written on the Committee Boat's board prior to each race.

Failure of the Pathfinder to follow any of the Gate Launch's instructions may result in her disqualification from that race or any restarts of that race.

Procedures

At the instructions of the Gate Launch the Pathfinder will commence a close-hauled port tack course leaving the fixed starting mark closely to port as close to the starting signal (0 minutes) as possible. She will be followed by the Gate Launch which will keep station close astern of her. When the gate launch clears the fixed starting mark the gate is open and yachts may start. The gate may open before the starting signal.

Starting Line

The starting line for all 505's except the Pathfinder shall be between the fixed starting mark on the port side of the Committee Boat and the center of the stern of the Gate Launch.

Starting

All 505's except the Pathfinder, shall start on the starboard tack after the Gate Launch has cleared the fixed starting mark. A 505 not having already correctly started and which is on the port side of the Gate Launch while the gate is opening shall not return across the starting line from the course side. RRS 29.1 "Individual Recall" shall not apply. 505's in violation of this instruction shall be recorded DNS.

Opening and Closing the Gate

The Pathfinder will continue her close-hauled course until she is released by the Race Committee. The Gate Launch will release the Pathfinder by hailing her. The Pathfinder is then free to tack or hold her course. The Gate Launch will maintain her course and speed for the posted amount of time from the starting signal; she will then stop and drift and make a sound signal to indicate that the Gate is fully open. After a minimum of 1 minute, ICF "G" will be lowered together with a sound signal signifying that the gate is closed. No competitor may start after the closing of the gate; such 505's will be scored DNS.

Interference

After the Preparatory Signal, a 505 shall not obstruct the Pathfinder. A 505 shall not pass between, or attempt to pass between, the Pathfinder and the Gate Launch or cause another 505 to do so on the Pathfinder's final approach to and during the start. The Race Committee may disqualify without a hearing any 505 that violates this Instruction, from this race and any subsequent restart of that race. However a 505 shall be entitled to a hearing if another yacht caused her violation.

Marks

The starting mark and the Gate Launch rank as starting marks from the Preparatory Signal until the Gate is closed. The Pathfinder also ranks as a mark until she is released.

General Recall

A General Recall may be signaled as per RRS 29.2 any time before the closing of the Gate. The new Warning Signal will be made 1 minute after the ICF "First Substitute" has been lowered.