

What you will need on Race Day.

- A person in charge of wind. **“Wind Boss.”** Determine wind direction at least 30 minutes before start. Keep track of shifts in wind velocity and direction. Wind building or dying? Steady or wildly oscillating? Educated guess: will there be a decent racing environment during the next hour or so? Decisions to be made: where to place the windward (and leeward) mark. How long a course to set. Whether to start on time or postpone until the situation settles down.
- A person in charge of the **Clock**. Once the starting sequence has begun, with everybody ready to perform their assigned functions, the clock person is in charge of the starting sequence count-down. Call out time remaining every 30 seconds, down through the 5 minute sequence until the start, continuing at least an additional minute in case there is a rolling re-start due to boats O.C.S. (on course side). Alternatively, get everybody organized to start a new sequence from scratch.
- A person in charge of **Flags** (the flag takes precedence over horns, which may be late without ill effect). Know which flag signifies what. Have flags accessible, ready to be raised or lowered on instruction of the clock person.
- A person in charge of **Horns**. Horn to be sounded with or immediately following a flag, **never before the flag** (if this happens, the RC must abort the starting process and do a re-start, as it will confuse racers).
- A **Recorder**. This person is to write down sail numbers of boats in the racing area before the start sequence, keep track of boats called OCS and whether or not they cleared the line correctly, keep track of protests noted verbally to the committee boat, and record the order in which boats finish, including the sail numbers of boats which did not finish. Responsible for knowing the status of all boats on the course for safety purposes in the event of a storm, cancellation and the possibility of boats left out on the lake.
- The **PRO (Principal Race Officer)** What else could possibly be left to do? - 2 jobs. PRO is to make certain all the other tasks are assigned to people who know what they are doing. PRO **sights down the starting line** to determine whether or not boats are OCS, inform flag and horn people about proper procedure (individual recall or general recall) and inform the recorder of the sail numbers of boats OCS. PRO is also, if possible, to inform the chase boat of OCS boats and call OCS sail numbers on loud speaker (rule states boats themselves are responsible for knowing whether they were OCS, so the notification is optional and advisory).

IF this sounds like a cast of thousands, and the RC has recruited only a limited number of people, jobs may be combined. The **Recorder** may also be in charge of **Flags**. The **Flag Person** may also do **Horns**, as they are sounded at or **after** the flags. Because the position of the starting line sight and the horn cord are close together, the **PRO** could easily do both. During the start sequence the **Wind Boss** could do almost anything else, as the task temporarily disappears **In order to run a race with competence, there must be at least three people on the RC boat**, otherwise race management will take on the characteristics of a “Chinese fire drill”.

Check list of things to be aboard committee boats and functioning before leaving the docks:

- Buoys with anchor lines and weights, coiled and ready for use.
- Score sheets and writing instruments.
- Watches with stop watch features (at least two)
- Two way radios on both boats that work.
- Depth sounder loud speaker functioning properly
- Code flags understood and ready for use.
 - Fleet flags will be needed if multi-fleet racing.
- Sufficient fuel.