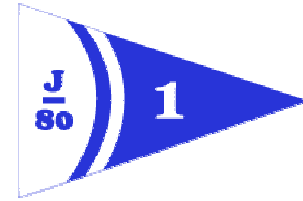


J/80 Fleet One
Thursday Night Races
Race Committee Guidelines
 Last Revised May 2008



1. **Purpose:** This document presents guidelines and specific procedures for race management of the Thursday Night Series.
2. **Rules:** the Racing Rules of Sailing, the J/80 Class Rules, and the Sailing Instructions govern the races. You should have copies of these available on your vessel.
3. **Schedule:** The race committee will be on station approximately 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of racing. Either the warning signal or delay pennant will be displayed at 1800, or the time specified for that day's racing.
4. **Time:** Whenever possible, the race committee will attempt to synchronize their watches with the time as reported by the GPS system.
5. **Equipment:** Racing is sponsored by the LWSA.

- **Boat:** The Sailing Instructions specify a course that is easily managed. The Committee Boat will be staffed by Scott Nolan.
- **Marks:** We try to use the four foot orange cylinders, as visibility is difficult in the twilight.
- **Flags and other signals:** The following 12 flags are used regularly:

Orange - Start/finish line	S - Shorten course
Yellow - Warning	X - Individual recall
P - Preparatory	First Sub - General recall
N - Abandon race	L - Come within hail
AP - Postponement	A - No more racing today
C - Change of course	J-80 Class Flag – Used at times as warning

6. **Starting a Race:** The procedure is a five-minute sequence.

<u>Time to Start</u>	<u>Action</u>
6 minutes	Sounds/lower AP with sound/lower 1 st Substitute (Gen Recall) with sound
5 minutes	Raise the yellow (warning) flag with one sound.
4 minutes	Raise the P (preparatory) flag with one sound
1 minute	Lower the P flag with one long sound
Start	Lower the yellow flag with one sound

If any part of a boat is over the starting line at the starting signal, the X flag will be raised with one sound to indicate individual recall. An effort will be made to hail the boat number(s), and to announce the numbers as being “OCS” on the radio. When all boats that were OCS have returned to the pre-start side of the line and restarted, the X flag will be lowered.

If multiple boats are OCS and it cannot be determined which boats they are, the Race Committee may elect to raise the first substitute with two blasts of the horn, indicating general recall. When all boats have returned, the flag will be lowered with one blast of the horn and the sequence will be restarted one minute later with the yellow (warning) flag.

Boats that were OCS that do not restart will be marked OCS on the scratch sheet.

7. **Finishing the boats:** A boat finishes when any part of her hull, or crew or equipment in normal position, crosses the finishing line in the direction of the course from the last mark either for the first time or, if she takes a penalty, after complying with rule 31.2 or rule 44.2 or, under rule 28.1, after correcting an error made at the finishing line.
8. **Shortening the Course:** If it becomes necessary to end a race after one windward/leeward lap, one of the following actions will occur.
 - An auxiliary RC boat flying the S flag will establish a new finish line by stationing itself beyond the pin/leeward mark such that boats may finish the race by leaving the pin/mark to port and by crossing a line between the pin/mark and the auxiliary RC boat; or
 - In the event there is no auxiliary RC boat available, the primary RC boat, flying the S flag, will leave its station at the original starting line and re-station itself beyond the pin/leeward mark such that boats may finish the race by leaving the pin/mark to port and by crossing a line between the pin/mark and the newly stationed primary RC boat; or
 - In the event the primary RC boat is unable to leave its station at the starting line it will fly the S flag and it will finish boats as they cross an imaginary line that is an extension of a sight line beyond the pin/leeward mark in line with the original starting line.

The Race Committee will make one or more announcements over the VHF radio to notify the fleet of the shortened course and it will make one or more sounds as boats approach the newly established finish line on the shortened course. There will be no redress available to a boat that does not finish a course that has been shortened properly by the Race Committee implementing one of the actions outlined above.

9. **Starting the next race:** If one boat remains that is well behind the fleet due to difficulty during the race, the Race Committee may elect to finish that boat as last and ask her via radio to motor back to the starting area. When all boats are near the starting area, the red flag will be lowered with a horn and the sequence will be started one minute later.
10. **Abandoning:** Should it become necessary to abandon a race due to severe weather, no wind, or an unmanageable wind shift, the N (abandon) flag will be raised with three blasts of the horn.
11. **End of Racing:** A maximum of three races per night will be counted toward the series score. However, more or less races may be conducted in a given night. The A “No more racing” flag will be raised when the Race Committee will not be starting any more races and it will be displayed at the finish of the last race to inform competitors. The A flag will be displayed with the N (Abandon) flag if the Race Committee is abandoning for the night.