

**2008 TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® Series**  
**Race 4: Oxnard to San Pedro**  
**Sailing Instructions**

1. **Description of Classes**

**Eligible Vessels:** All monohull sailing vessels with a minimum waterline length of 30 feet (9.14 meters).

**Divisions**

**YOUTH SAIL TRAINING DIVISION**

At least 50% of those onboard vessels in this division must be from 13-25 years of age on the day of the start of the race.

**CRUISING DIVISION**

For the cruising division, no minimum number of youth is required.

For BOTH divisions, no one under the age of 13 will be aboard without permission from the ASTA Race Committee.

2. **General**

The Race will be sailed under the 2008 Racing and Sailing Rules and Special Regulations of Sail Training International and the 2008/2009 International Sailing Federation Offshore Special Regulations. Except for the Offshore Regulations mentioned above, ISAF/US SAILING racing rules do NOT apply during the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® Races.

3. **ISAF Special Regulations Governing Offshore and Oceanic Racing**

This TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® Race will be designated a Category 2 race in the Offshore Special Regulations. For a description see the International Sailing Federation Offshore Special Regulations 2008/2009. Copies can be obtained from US SAILING @ 1-800-US-Sail1

4. **National Flags (R&SR 14)**

National Ensigns must be worn when crossing the starting and finish lines. The Tall Ships Challenge® 2008 Race Pennant must be flown when crossing the start line.

5. **Recalls (R&SR 19)**

Should any vessel be over the starting line when the signal to start is made, a gun will be fired or horn sounded and numeral pennant '0' (yellow and red) will be broken out. No recall numbers will be displayed. Any vessel over the starting line too soon shall return over the starting line or its extensions and then cross the line in accordance with the paragraph headed Starting Line. If she fails to do so to the satisfaction of the race committee, the standard time penalty as in paragraph 27 of the 2004 Racing and Sailing Rules shall be added to her elapsed time in the race unless she be disqualified by the race committee.

6. **Postponement (R&SR 18)**

In the event of postponement of the start being necessary, the following signals will be made from the vessel from which the starting signals are being made:

6.1 **30 Minute Postponement.** The Answering Pennant (AP) alone will be hoisted and two guns fired.

6.2 **Other Postponement.** The Answering Pennant will be hoisted over numeral pennants(s) and two guns fired. The pennant number(s) will indicate the number of hours by which the start is postponed.

6.3 **Notes**

6.3.1 The postponement signals given above will apply to all divisions which have not started at the time the signals are made.

6.3.2 These postponements may be repeated by dipping and re-hoisting the pennant(s).

6.3.3 One minute before the conclusion of any postponement period, the pennant(s) will be lowered. The conclusion of the postponement period will be marked by the hoisting of the class flag(s) of the next division to start.

6.3.4 In addition, postponement signals may be shown from the berthing area and announcements may be made by VHF radio. Details may be given at the Captains Briefing.

7. **Alterations**

If it is necessary to make last minute alterations to the Sailing Instructions, Code Flag 'L' will be hoisted from the vessel or shore station from which starting signals are being made at least one hour before the 10 minute gun. It is then the responsibility of Masters to acquaint themselves with the alteration before sailing.

8. **Timing (R&SR 33)**

The finishing time must be taken by the vessel's master when the finish line is crossed and this time must be recorded on the declaration form provided, immediately after the vessel has finished. The time should be taken to the nearest second and checked by another member of the crew. This time must be certified on the declaration form by the master and timekeeper. A time check should be obtained as close to the finish line as possible.

9. **Time Limit (R&SR 32)**

Elapsed times of vessels which have not crossed the finish line by the time limit will be calculated as in Paragraph 32 of the Racing & Sailing Rules.

10. **Declaration Forms (R&SR 34)**

The declaration form must be completed, signed by the master of the vessel, and deposited at the race office in the finishing port as soon as practicable after arrival. If no declaration form is received within a reasonable time after the vessel's arrival, the vessel may be treated as having failed to complete the course. Vessels leaving the race prior to the time limit may still be scored; all details should be provided to assist the race committee.

11. **Protests (R&SR 30)**

Protests arising out of the race must be in writing and handed to the race director at the race office as soon as practicable after the arrival of the protesting vessel.

12. **Radio Communications (R&SR 16)**

11.1 Race start information will be communicated on VHF channel 69 beginning at approximately 1300 PDT.

11.2 All competitors must conform with the instructions on the race communications schedule. Daily position reporting is essential to ensure that the race committee can be certain the fleet is safe.

13. **Vessels Retiring**

ANY VESSEL RETIRING MUST NOTIFY THE RACE OFFICE AT THE FINISH PORT IMMEDIATELY BY RADIO OR TELEPHONE, OR ALTERNATIVELY, THE RACE COMMUNICATIONS VESSEL.

14. **Standard Time Penalty (R&SR 27)**

The standard time penalty for the Oxnard to San Pedro race is 1 hour 47 minutes.

15. **Starting Line**

The starting line will be in the vicinity of 34° 09.5' N, 119° 18.0' W near Oxnard. If there are two starting line vessels, one will fly a GREEN flag and the other a RED flag; competitors cross the line leaving the vessel with the GREEN flag to starboard and the vessel with the RED flag to port. A buoy may be used as one end of the line; the signal boat will fly a RED or GREEN flag. The starting line will be approximately 0.50 – 0.75 nautical mile in length.

16. **Starting Signals and Times**

Starting times are given in local PDT.

Competitors in both divisions will start at the same time; there will only be one start.

**Race Start**

The Starting Gate for all vessels will be open 1400 hours and 1420 hours PDT on August 11, 2008.

**Local Time**

**1350**

The Class Flag (10 Minute Signal) '1st Substitute' will be raised and a gun fired or horn sounded.

- 1355** The Preparatory (5 Minute Signal) Flag ‘P’ will be raised and a gun fired or horn sounded. Note: This is the time from which the Racing & Sailing Rules must be obeyed. Rule 17.1 refers.
- 1400** START. The Preparatory and Class Flag will be lowered and a gun fired or horn sounded. This marks the opening of the starting gate.
- 1420** No sound signal. This marks the closing of the starting gate.

**Note:** The Elapsed Time for the race will be calculated using each vessel’s actual starting time between 1400 and 1420 PDT. Vessels starting after 1420 will be calculated as having started at 1420 PDT.

**17. Course** Cross the start line in the specified direction. Use all caution when crossing shipping lanes. Proceed to finish line and cross from W to E.

**17.1 Note** If the master of the vessel feels at any time that any aspect of the course endangers the crew or vessel, he/she may change course as needed and changes should be reported on the declaration form. The ASTA race committee will review the changes and will adjust the elapsed time accordingly.

**18. Finish Line** A 12 nautical mile line bearing 0° True from Long Point Light on Santa Catalina Island, approximately 33° 24.4’ N, 118° 21.9’ W, and 33° 36.4’ N, 118° 21.9’ W.

**19. Course Distance** Approximately 61 nautical miles.

**20. Time Limit** The time limit is 1200 PDT on August 14, 2008.

**VESSELS RETIRING DURING THE RACE**

ANY VESSELS RETIRING DURING THE RACE MUST CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN COMMUNICATIONS SCHEDULES UNTIL AUTHORIZED TO CLOSE DOWN BY THE COMMUNICATIONS VESSEL OR THE ASTA RACE OFFICE AT THE FINISHING PORT. Note: Race Committee Mobile Phone: 401-559-8671