

Stanley Main Beach Spring Regatta 2026
Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department
(9 & 10 May 2026)

Sailing Instructions

1) General

- 1.1 The Stanley Main Beach Spring Regatta is presented annually as a water sports centre event to promote the public's interest in sailing and windsurfing, boost up their skills and enhance the competition experiences.
- 1.2 The Organising Committee (OC) is the Stanley Main Beach Water Sports Centre (SMBWSC) under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department.
- 1.3 The OC will appoint a Race Officer(s) (RO) to officiate on each race day or for an event, unless stated otherwise in the Notice of Race (NoR). The RO will act on behalf of the OC whilst on the water before, during and after races. The RO may be supported by one or more assistants in the management of races.

2) Rules

The event will be governed by

- 2.1 The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2025-2028) (including Appendix A and B and any recently revised rules) and the prescriptions of the Sailing Federation of Hong Kong, China.
- 2.2 The Notice of Race (NoR), these Sailing Instructions (SIs) and Appendix.
- 2.3 If there is a conflict between NoR and SIs, the SIs will take precedence. This changes RRS 63.5 (c).
- 2.4 If there is a conflict between languages, the English version will take precedence.

3) Entries

- 3.1 Competitors shall meet the entry requirements of the OC;
- 3.2 Change of competitors shall not be entertained; and
- 3.3 No walk-in / on-the-spot enrolment will be entertained on the event day.

4) **Notice of Race**

4.1 The NoR will be posted on the race notice board at the Centre.

4.2 Competitors should pay attention to all the notices posted on the notice board.

5) **Racing Equipment**

5.1 Sailing dinghies or windsurfing boards and other equipment for the race will be provided by the OC. The sailing dinghy hull and mainsail or the windsurfing board and sail will be allocated by balloting. The ballot will take place when competitors register at the reporting counter on the first day of the competition. No balloting will be arranged on the second day of event.

5.2 Competitors shall not change or bring their own equipment without the approval of the Race Committee (RC); otherwise, they shall be disqualified. Competitors may use their own harness lines but the harness lines from the OC shall be removed and returned first.

5.3 The OC reserves the right to claim for compensation from the users for any damage to its equipment.

5.4 The RC may inspect and measure the competitors' sailing dinghies or windsurfing boards and other equipment for the races at any time during the competition. Competitors found to be in breach of the rules may be disqualified.

6) **Sign-in and Sign-out**

Sign-in Competitors are required to check-in via SmartPLAY **starting at 8:30 a.m. each day**. Please produce the original of the identity document used for enrolment and the original proof of relevant qualifications at reporting counter for verification. Competitors who fail to produce the above documents are not allowed to sign in at the counter and shall be disqualified.

Sign-out Competitors shall sign out at the reporting counter within the time limit which is 60 minutes after the last board has finished the last race of the day or the RC signals no more racing today, whichever is later after the end of the races each day. Those who fail to comply with the sign-in/sign-out requirements shall be disqualified.

7) **Skipper’s Meeting**

The RC will arrange Skipper’s Meeting **at 9:30 a.m. each day** as required for the announcement of race arrangements.

8) **Groups and Flags**

<u>Group</u>	<u>Flag (International Maritime Signal Flag)</u>
Pico	Flag “E” (blue and red)
Laser XD	Flag “F” (a red rhombus on white background)
Beach	Flag “V” (a red cross on white background)
Techno 293 OD	Flag “T” (red, white and blue)

9) **Sail Numbers**

All competitors shall display sail numbers clearly on the sails. The sail numbers shall not be changed.

10) **Schedule of Races**

- Starting from 8:30 a.m. - Registration
- 9:30 a.m. - Skipper’s Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. - The scheduled time for the first race to start

No race shall start after 3:10 p.m.

There shall be a maximum of 3 races per day, in a maximum 5 races over 2 racing days.

11) **Changes to the SIs**

Any changes to the SIs will be posted on the race notice board in the Centre at least half an hour before the race of the affected group starts. Flag “L” will be displayed ashore.

12) **Signals**

12.1 **Signals Made Ashore**

12.1.1 Signals ashore will be displayed by flags.

12.1.2 When flag “AP” (Answering Pennant) with 2 sounds signals means: Racing is postponed. Competitors shall not leave the shore. When lowered with 1 sound signal, competitors shall proceed to the starting area immediately. ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 30 minutes’ in the race signal AP.

12.1.3 The display of flag “D” means there is a rescue operation or strong wind. Competitors still afloat shall be at their own risk.

12.2 Signals Made Afloat

- 12.2.1 When flags “AP” over “H” displayed on a RC boat, with 2 sound signals mean: All races not started are postponed. Further signals will be made ashore as per the SIs 12.1 (Signals made ashore).
- 12.2.2 When flags “AP” over “A” displayed on a RC boat, with 2 sound signals mean: All races not started are postponed. No more racing today.
- 12.2.3 When flags “N” over “H” displayed on a RC Boat, with 3 sound signals mean: All races in progress are abandoned. All competitors should return to the shore at once. Further signals will be made ashore as per the SIs 12.1 (Signals made ashore).
- 12.2.4 After a long postponement, to alert competitors that a race or sequence of races will shortly begin, an orange starting line flag will be displayed with 1 sound at least 5 minutes before a warning signal is made.

13) **Courses**

The courses, as shown in the Appendix, are tentative and subject to change by the RC on the event day according to the prevailing weather conditions. The actual courses will be posted on the race notice board and explained at the skipper’s meeting.

14) **The Start**

14.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

<u>Warning signal</u> (5 minutes before the start)	- Class flag(s) displayed
<u>Preparatory signal</u> (4 minutes before the start)	- Flag “P”, “I”, “U”, “Z” or Black Flag displayed
<u>One-minute signal</u> (1 minute before the start)	- Flag “P”, “I”, “U”, “Z” or Black Flag removed
<u>Starting signal</u>	- Class flag(s) removed

14.2 The display of each of the above visual signals shall be accompanied by a sound signal.

14.3 The Starting Line

The starting line will be **a straight line between the mast of the RC Boat displaying an Orange Flag and the port-end starting mark.** Competitors starting later than **4 minutes** after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

14.4 When conditions are unfavorable, the RC Boat may hold its position by the use of engines. It will not be grounded for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).

14.5 If a competitor fails to start or breaks RRS 30.1 or 30.3, the RC will display her sail number on the whiteboard on the RC Boat before the first competitor has finished that race. Failure to display the sail number(s) will not be grounded for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).

14.6 The RC shall decide the intervals between races.

15) Recalls

15.1 Individual Recall

When a boat at starting signal, any part of her hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line or she must comply with RRS 30.1 (I Flag Rule), the RC shall promptly display flag “X” with 1 sound. The flag shall be displayed until all such boats have sailed completely to the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions and have complied with RRS 30.1 if it applies, but no later than 4 minutes after the starting signal or 1 minute before any later starting signal, whichever is earlier. If RRS 30.4 (Black Flag Rule) applies this rule does not.

15.2 General Recall

When at the starting signal the RC is unable to identify boats that are on the course side of the starting line or to which RRS 30 applies, or there has been an error in the starting procedure, the RC may signal a general recall (display the First Substitute with 2 sounds). The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made 1 minute after the First Substitute is removed (1 sound), and the starts for any succeeding classes shall follow the new start.

16) The Finishing Line

The finishing line will be a straight line between the mast of the RC Boat or another Official Boat displaying a Blue Flag and a designated finishing mark.

17) Shortening Courses

The RC may shorten the course during the race, official boat may locate its position near any marks. Flag “S” and Class flag will be displayed. The finishing line shall be the staff on the official boat and the mark. Official boat will display flag “S” and Class flag with 2 sounds when the first competitor is approaching, which represents the course will be shortened.

18) Time Limits

18.1 The time limit for each race in each class is 50 minutes. If the first boat/board cannot finish within the time limit, the Race Officer may shorten the course or abandon the race.

18.2 In each race, boat/board failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat/board in their class finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF).

19) Wind Speed Requirement

The RC may start, terminate, abandon the race or shorten the course, depends on the wind speed. Please pay attention to the RC’s announcement. Protests against these decisions are not accepted.

20) Alternative Penalty

20.1 The rule 44.1 & 44.2 (One-Turn and Two-Turns Penalties) of RRS (Part 4) shall apply to the Sailing Division.

20.2 The rule 44.1 & 44.2 (360°-Turn Penalty) of RRS (Appendix B) shall apply to the Windsurfing Division.

21) Protest

21.1 If, during the course of a race, a boat/board involved in an incident intends to protest, such boat/board should hail “Protest” immediately to inform the boat/board being protested. Under other circumstances, the protesting boat/board shall inform the protested boat/board at the first reasonable opportunity and the RC Boat of her intention to protest upon finishing the race.

21.2 The protesting boat/board shall inform the RC Boat and provide the sail number of the protestee immediately after finishing the race concerned.

21.3 Protest Time Limit

21.3.1 Protest forms are available at the office. Protests, requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

21.3.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last competitor has finished the last race of the day or the RC signals no more racing today, whichever is later. Official time limit will be posted on the race notice board.

21.4 Time for Hearings

21.4.1 The Protest Committee shall conduct a hearing as soon as practicable after receipt of a written protest.

21.4.2 Notices of protest will be posted within 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform the protestor, protestee and witnesses of the time and place of the hearing.

21.5 The decision of the jury shall be final. No appeal will be allowed against its decision.

22) Scoring

22.1 The Low Point System as specified in RRS Appendix A - A4 shall apply to the two-day regatta.

First place ----- 1 point

Second place ----- 2 points

Third place ----- 3 points

Fourth place ----- 4 points

Each place thereafter ----- Add 1 point (and thereafter)

22.2 Other competitors including those who retired (RET), were on the course side of the starting line (OCS), were disqualified (DSQ), did not start (DNS), did not finish (DNF) or did not come to the starting area (DNC) shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of competitors.

22.3 For the two-day regatta, if there are four to five races completed, the final score of competitors in each class will be the total of their race scores excluding their worst score. If there are one to three races completed, the scores of all races will be counted towards the final score. The competitor with the lowest final score shall be the winner and others shall be ranked accordingly.

22.4 Ties

If two competitors have equal scores, the one who finished ahead of the other on more occasions in the scored races shall be the winner. If the tie is still not broken, the one who finished the last race ahead of the other shall be the winner.

23) **Safety of Competitors**

23.1 Competitors should wear a suitable buoyancy aid and toe and heel-protected rubber shoes while in water. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.

23.2 Retirement

Any competitor retiring from a race before finishing shall inform the Official Boat(s) or the RC Boat as soon as possible.

24) **Responsibility**

24.1 It is the sole responsibility of competitors to decide whether to start or to continue racing.

24.2 The organising authority and any organisations, officials or representatives appointed by it understand that they accept no direct or indirect responsibility for any personal injury or loss of or damage to property caused wilfully or negligently by a third party.

25) **Cancellation**

25.1 If Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 3 or above or the Black Rainstorm Warning or “extreme conditions” issued by the Hong Kong Observatory is in force at 7 a.m. on the event day, the races on that day shall be cancelled and shall not be rescheduled. Competitors may call 2813 9117 from 8:30 a.m. onwards on that day for further information.

25.2 In case of safety and public health issue, the LCSD reserves the right to cancel the races without prior notice to the competitors.

26) **Insurance**

Competitors should take out insurance at their own expense.

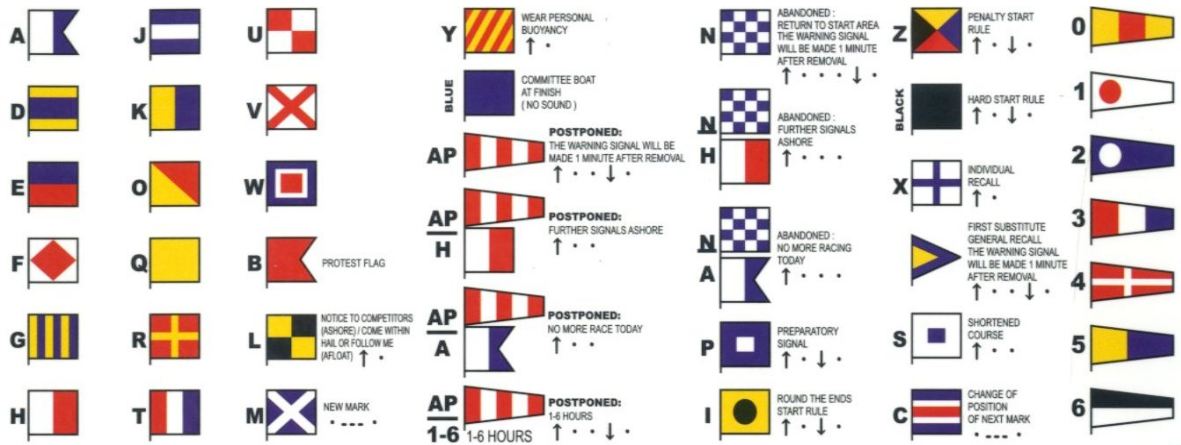
27) Food and Drink

Competitors should bring their own food and drink as none will be provided by the OC.

28) Tidal Information (Waglan Island)

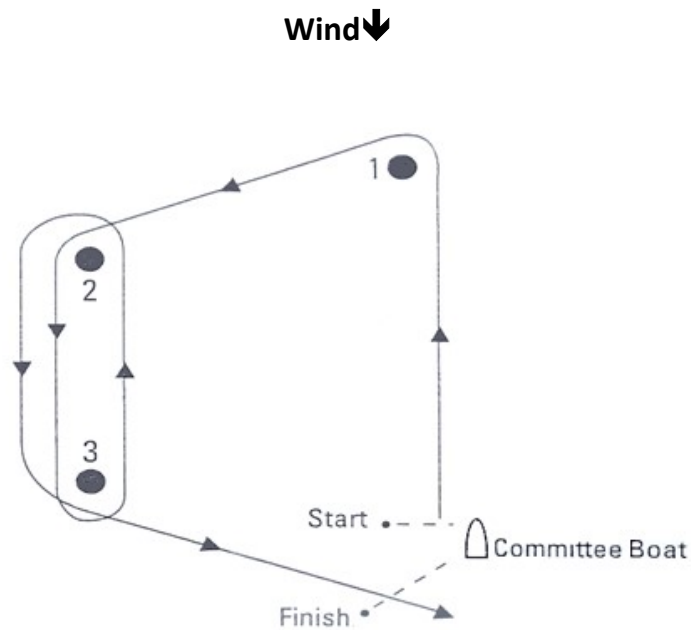
<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Height</u> <u>(M)</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Height</u> <u>(M)</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Height</u> <u>(M)</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Height</u> <u>(M)</u>
9/5	1317	2.0	2154	0.74				
10/5	1425	1.92	2245	0.75				

29) Flag Signals (International Maritime Signal Flag)



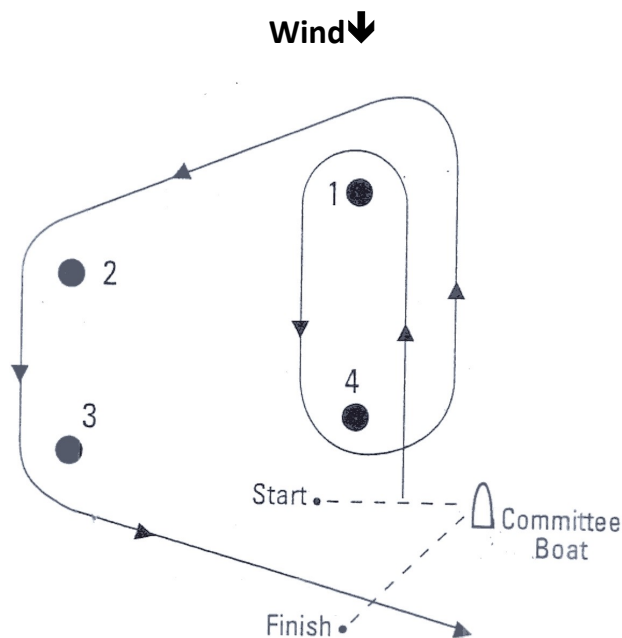
Course 1: Outer Trapezoid Course (International Maritime Signal Flag “1”)

Mark Rounding Order: Start → 1 → 2 → 3 → 2 → 3 → Finish



Course 2: Inner Trapezoid Course (International Maritime Signal Flag “2”)

Mark Rounding Order: Start → 1 → 4 → 1 → 2 → 3 → Finish



Remark:

The course locations, the order in which marks are to be passed and the directions as illustrated are for reference only.