

Win more races

How to win more races

Before you leave the dock

- Remove any items which are not going to help you perform better in the race. This can include cruising items, like dishes or silverware, personal items, or even sails that you are certain you won't need for that day's racing.
- Inspect running and standing rigging, blocks, cam cleats and any other deck hardware for signs of damage, and replace as required.

Before the start

- Be certain that ALL of your crew know what time your class starts.
- Check for current at the starting line, and if possible at the weather mark.
- Make note of changes in wind direction and strength, and try to determine if the wind is:
 - a. Oscillating
 - b. Moving persistently in one direction
 - c. Ratcheting (oscillating, but progressing in one direction)
- Based on your data, (current and wind) try to determine which end of the starting line will be favored at the gun.
- Decide whether you want to sail to one side of the course, or up the middle.
- Be aware of how long it takes to accelerate your boat in the wind and sea conditions you have.

On the beat

- Strive for clear air immediately
- Implement your plan unless new information gives you a reason to change it
- Look ahead for clear traffic lanes in which to implement your plan
- Use all of your information to avoid overstanding the layline
- Decide which side of the course you want to sail toward initially after rounding the mark

On the Run

- Strive for clear air immediately
- Implement your plan unless new information gives you a reason to change it
- Look ahead for clear traffic lanes in which to implement your plan
- Use all of your information to avoid overstanding the layline
- Decide which side of the course you want to sail toward after rounding the mark

For the finish

- Based on your data, (current and wind) try to determine which end of the finish line will be favored at the gun, and, as traffic allows, sail for that end.