

Here is the usual **start sequence** in Mission Bay. The start line is between the committee boat and an orange flag. The finish line may also be between the committee boat and an orange flag, or may be between 2 orange flags. The Race Instructions will explain this in some detail.

The **Start Sequence** uses flags and horn signals.

For a 5-minute start:

5 minutes: Class Flag up, 1 short horn signal

4 minutes: Prep Flag up, 1 short horn signal. The Prep Flag has a blue border surrounding a central white square.

1 minute: Prep Flag down, 1 long horn signal.

Start: Class Flag down, 1 short horn signal.

For a 3-minute start:

3 minutes: Class Flag up, 1 short horn signal

2 minutes: Prep Flag up, 1 short horn signal

1 minute: Prep Flag down, 1 long horn signal

Start: Class Flag down, 1 short horn signal.

If running starts are used, then the class flag of the next fleet to start will be raised when the starting class flag is lowered. There should be an order of starts posted before racing begins.

Over Early: If the race committee can identify a boat or boats over early, they will signal an **Individual Recall** with the X Flag (white with a blue cross) and 1 horn signal. They may or may not call out the sail numbers of the guilty parties. When all who are OCS have returned to restart, the X Flag is lowered. If the race committee cannot identify the boats over early, they may signal a **General Recall** with the First Substitute Flag (yellow triangle with a blue border) and 2 horn signals. All boats must return. The First Substitute Flag is lowered with 1 horn signal, and 1 minute later the 3-minute or 5-minute start sequence will begin again.

Courses: You will be given a course chart. Each course is numbered, and the course number will be displayed on the committee boat. Be sure to check your course number a minute or so before your start! Triangle and Windward/Leeward courses will use orange balls for all marks to be rounded. Flag and Buoy courses will use the permanent numbered buoys and temporary flag marks. The flag marks may include any of the following:

F Flag: white flag with red diamond, always windward of the start line. An orange ball may be substituted

D Flag: blue and yellow horizontal stripes, always along East shore of El Carmel Point.

E Flag: Blue and red horizontal stripes, always along East shore of Santa Clara Point.

T Flag: Blue, red and white vertical stripes, always leeward of the finish line and always rounded to starboard. An orange ball may be substituted.

G Flag (rarely used): Blue and yellow vertical stripes, always along West shore of Vacation Isle.