SETTING A RACE COURSE AND RUNNING THE RACE 3/4/2009

LEAVE ENOUGH TIME TO SET A COURSE AND GET RACES STARTED.

KNOW THE WIND DIRECTION

- **Get out in the middle of the lake** (beyond PYC mark) at least 30 minutes before the start time
- Watch a cotton telltale until you know the average wind direction. Be aware the wind on Lake Chickamauga oscillates continually. The hard task is to pick the average,
- It is better to start a slightly skewed course then to wait for the wind to become perfectly steady.

CHOOSING A COURSE

- If you can get in 3 - 45 minute Dinghy Races or 2 - 1 hour Cruising Races in an afternoon that is a perfect day. Any more is "icing on the cake."
- The first and last leg of each race should be to windward if at all possible
- Normally the Dinghy Races will use temporary marks while the Cruising Fleet uses the permanent marks

PUTTING OUT THE MARKS

- The mark anchor line should be as short as possible. Once the anchor hits bottom tie off the excess line on the take up reels. This will prevent keels from dragging the mark.
- If possible start the races somewhere in the vicinity of PYC to Booker T State Park so the travel time to the starting line is minimal.
- Using permanent Coast Guard buoys saves time but don't use them if it means setting a bad course. See the attached map of the lake for names and distances between permanent marks.
- Avoid setting marks or staring lines in the channel. It is deeper than our anchor lines allow and you could have a barge show up.

SETTING THE STARTING LINE

- The committee boat should be on the starboard end of the line.
- The length of the line is determined by the number of boats times their average length. 10 - J 24's need a 240 foot line. 5 flying Scot's need about a 90 foot line. This is relative; in lighter winds the line can be shorter and in strong winds a longer line helps prevent collisions.
- The committee boat is very heavy and the anchor line should have plenty of scope or it will drag.
- The port end of the line should be favored (Up wind by 3 to 5 degrees) to spread the fleet.

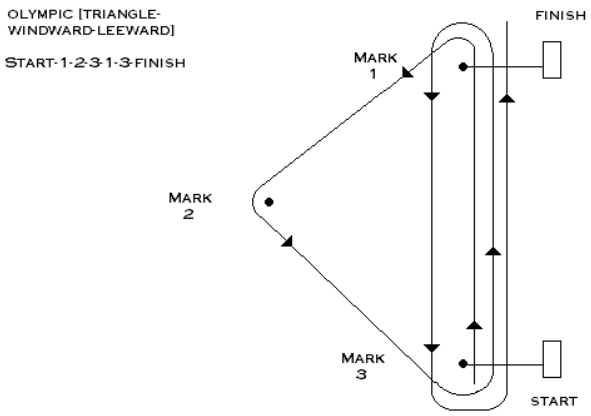
RECORDING THE RACE

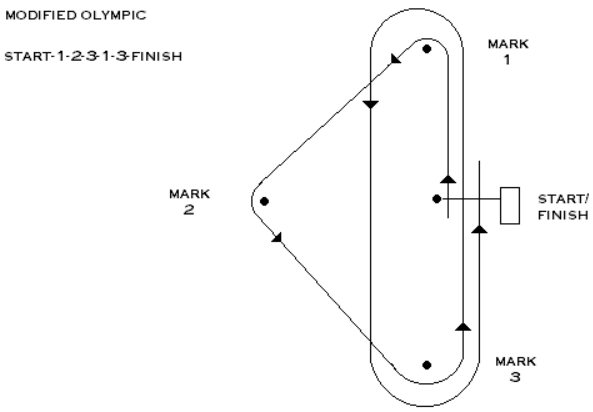
- As you set the line and proceed with the start, record all the boat numbers and type in the vicinity that plan to start. Example **867 J-24**, **15332 Catalina 22, 20800 Snipe, etc**.
- If **other then the owner** is skipper it is their responsibility to tell you. Record that information
- You need to note if the skipper plans to or does **fly a spinnaker**.
- If more then one type of boat is starting this will be scored a **handicap race** and you will need to record the **starting gun time of the race** and **the finish time of each competitor**
- **The race results should be place inside the appropriate mailbox in the clubhouse. For 2009 this is the Vice Commodores box by the phone**

RACE COURSE DIAGRAMS AND THE COURSE BOARD

- **WATCH OUT:** The design of the course board allows **the plaques to drop into the lake**
- Remember that the course board reads from port to starboard. It is easy to get this backwards
- A **Red** background means marks to **Port (This is normal). Green** means marks to **Starboard**

The following course diagrams are primarily used for Dinghy Fleet racing.





COURSE BOARD O Olympic

COURSE BOARD M O Modified Olympic

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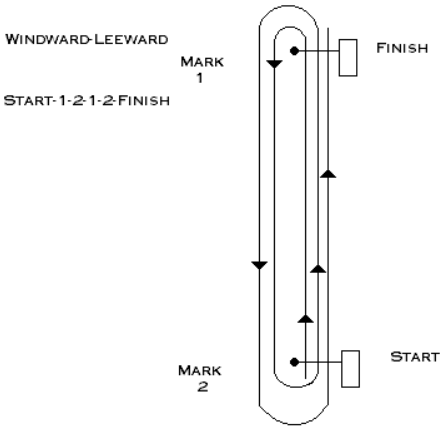
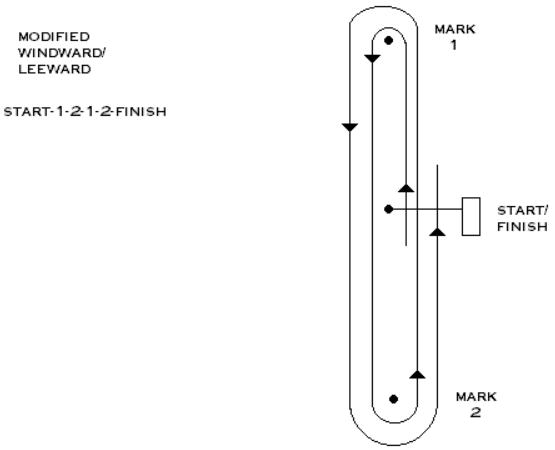
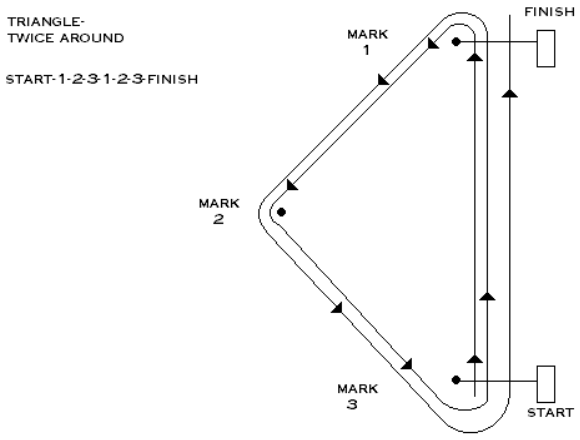


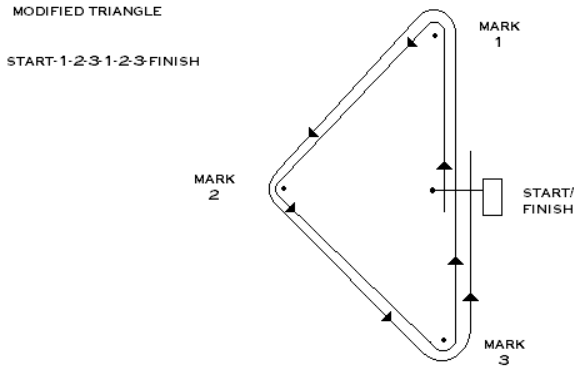


COURSE BOARD W 1 or W 2
Windward/Leeward

COURSE BOARD M W 1 or M W 2
Modified Windward/Leeward

- When using the **"O" Olympic** (Triangle followed by windward leeward), **"T" Triangle**, **"W" Windward Leeward** and **"M" Modified - mid course start/finish line** the course board will show the letter O, T or W followed by the number of laps, 1 or 2. You do not need to number the marks on the course board or show PYC if it is used as a mark. The letter says it all.





COURSE BOARD T 1 or T 2
Triangle

COURSE BOARD M T 1 or M T 2
Modified Triangle

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THE CRUISING FLEET usually uses the fixed marks of the lake. See the lake map for their location and abbreviations. Here are a few typical race courses and how they would appear on the course board.

From PYC to Gold Point to PYC Finish at: Gold Point once around **GP PY GP**

Or Mid Course start/finish **GP PY X**

From PYC to Gold Point to Pumping Station to PYC finish at: Gold Point **GP PS PY GP**

Or Mid Course start/finish **GP PS PY X**

From PYC to Temporary Mark X to PYC finish at: Temporary Mark: **X PY X**

Or Mid Course **X PY X1** (This could also be indicated by **MW1**)

From PYC to Fairview to PYC finish at: Fairview **FV PY FV**

Or Mid Course start/finish **FV PY X**

USE GREEN IF LEAVING MARKS TO STARBOARD