



## Hints for a successful 2008 SSS racing season

### **READ THIS FIRST!**

1. Read the Sailing Instructions! Every year they are modified. Skippers are responsible for knowing the Sailing Instructions and any changes to the Instructions that may be presented at the skippers meeting prior to each race.
2. Completing a Membership Application and joining the SSS for the year is cheaper than paying individual race entry fees, since the race fees for the whole season are covered by your annual membership fee. However, **you still need to complete a Race Entry Form for each race you enter.**
3. Remember that **the entry deadline for each race (except the TBF) is the Wednesday evening** before the race. If you can't get to the skippers meeting, **mail your entry early.** U.S. mail must be received by 6:00pm Wednesday before the race. **Check the website for your entry status** ([www.sfbaysss.org](http://www.sfbaysss.org)) **on or before** the deadline to be sure it arrived! Email or phone the Race Information Officer **by Thursday Noon** before the race if there is a problem with your posted entry. If you try to check in Saturday morning and you're not on the Race Committee's list, there's nothing they can do about it – you will not be entered.
4. **Get your 2008 PHRF (or MPHRF) certificate!** To enter an SSS race, you must present a current certificate, even if you generally sail with a one-design fleet. Contact the YRA or BAMA to apply for a certificate. **Make sure the SSS actually has your valid and current PHRF certificate** – SSS does not have access to the YRA files, so having one "on file" with YRA does not meet SSS requirements. Failure to compete with your correct rating is grounds for disqualification - so make sure you send the most current rating certification. Support sailing in San Francisco Bay!
5. Review the Race Entry Form and verify you've selected the correct class for your boat.
6. Be sure you know whether your boat is a SPORTBOAT or not, using the formula shown in the Standing Sailing Instructions. **If your boat is a SPORTBOAT you must sail in the SPORTBOAT class.** SPORTBOAT includes, but is not limited to, the Moore 24, Melges 24, Antrim 27, Santa Cruz 27, Express 27, Olson 30 and Hobie 33. There is an easy to use SPORTBOAT calculator available on the SSS website.
7. Be sure to **sign and date** the Race Entry Form. And check that you've filled in or circled every applicable item.
8. Remember that if you do not finish within the time limit or withdraw from a race for any reason **you must contact the race committee as soon as possible** by VHF radio or by telephone. Refer to the additional sailing instructions for each race for the radio channel or phone number.
9. **Come out and volunteer on Race Committee.** For those who are competing for the season perpetual trophy, volunteering for Race Committee will still count toward your season score. Refer to the Standing Sailing Instructions for more details on scoring.