



Vallarta Cup

January 10-11
January 17-18
Vallarta Yacht Club
Nuevo Nayarit, Nayarit
Banderas Bay, Mexico



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Vallarta Cup 2026

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028*
- 1.2. VYC Standing Sailing Instructions for Ocean Class Events will apply. A copy of those instructions is in Attachment A.

2. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE: All signals will be made on VHF 72

3. SCHEDULE OF RACES:

- 3.1. Dates of racing and after-party all divisions:

Date	Race	Capri 37 Class*
January 10	Race 1	
January 11	Race 2	
January 17	Race 3	Races 1,2,3
January 18	Race 4	Races 4,5,6

(*Participation of the Capri 37 class is unconfirmed)

- 3.2. One Race is scheduled each day for the VC Cruising Classes. The Capri 37 class may sail 3 or 4 races each day. The RC may announce a time check before the first warning. The starting order will be announced not less than 15 minutes before the first warning.

4. SKIPPERS MEETING:

- 4.1. Skippers meeting will be held by radio after the Saturday Morning VHF Radio Net. Announcement of the meeting will be made on the net (VHF 22A 0830) and participants will be asked to move to channel 72 after the net.

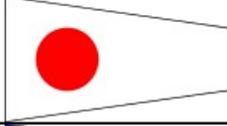
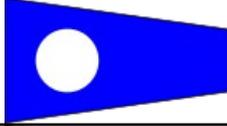
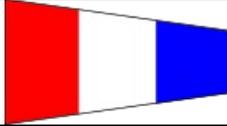
5. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Vallarta Yacht Club and on the Vallarta Yacht Club website:

<https://www.vallartayachtclub.org/vcup>

6. CLASS FLAGS:

6.1. Number flags may be used to designate classes as follows:

Class	Flag	First Warning
Cruising Class	1 	12:30 (see note)
Multihull Class	2 	12:40
Performance Class	3 	12:45
Capri 37*	Capri Class Flag	13:30 – Jan 17 13:00 – Jan 18

* Capri 37 will race only January 17-18

* Cruising Class will use a “*Start Window*”. Competitors will be notified that their start window is open, and they will have 10 minutes to cross the start line.

6.2. If VHF radio starts are used, there may be no class flags.

7. **COURSES and MARKS:** As shown in Attachment C “2026 VYC Courses”

8. **THE START:** The RC may use VHF 72 to announce the sequence.

8.1. **Cruising Class** will start using a “*Start Window*”. Competitors will be notified that their start window is open *when their class flag is raised*, and will have 10 minutes to cross the start line. Each boat’s actual time across the start line will be recorded and used to calculate overall course time.

Cruising Class boats that cross the start line after the 10 minute window will be given a start time corresponding to the time of the end of the start window.

The end of the start window will be signified by the lowering of the cruising class flag.

8.2. **Performance and Multihull Classes** will start using a traditional 5-4-1 starting sequence.

9. **THE FINISH:** Vallarta Cup downwind finishes are through the start line.

10. HANDICAPS:

- 10.1.** Cruising, Multihull, and Performance Class races will be scored using time on time (TOT).
Corrected time = Elapsed time X 650/(550 + PHRF) or Texel (Multihulls)
- 10.2.** Capri 37 Class will be scored as separate classes, with no time correction.
- 10.3.** Skippers of boats that are rated should check ratings on the posted Current list of Ratings for Banderas Bay Fleet to ensure proper credit for Dacron sails, fixed Prop, roller furling, etc.
(<https://www.vallartayachtclub.org/index.php/en/cb-registration/handicap-rules-and-valid-list>)

11. Trophies

- 11.1.** Class winners (First Place) for all classes will be named on the Vallarta Cup perpetual trophy.
- 11.2.** Depending on the number of boats registered for a class, trophies for first, second, and third will be awarded.
 - 11.2.1.** 5 or more registered – first, second, third
 - 11.2.2.** 3-4 registered – first, second
 - 11.2.3.** less than 3 - first

Race Chairperson: David Gould

Handicapping: Banderas Bay Handicap Committee

Questions email sss@vallartayachtclub.org

Attachment C – Approximate Mark Locations & Descriptions

Approximate Mark Positions, Colors, Shapes:

	Latitude	Longitude	Mark Color and Shape
L (Gate)	Approximately 0.1nm Upwind from Start Line		Yellow Tetras
RC Boat	20° 42.800'N	105° 18.800'W	Orange Flag
Start			Red Tetra to Port
Mark W2	Approx. 1.8nm Upwind from RC		Anderson(Orange 8 ft tetra)
Mark W1	Approx. 1.0nm Upwind from RC		Yellow Tetra (ODs)
Mark LC	20° 43.809'N	105° 21.851'W	Orange Tetra
Mark M	Approx. 1.0nm Upwind from LC		Yellow Tetra
Mark S	20°40.110'N	105°18.310'W	Orange Tetra
Mark C	20°39.000'N	105°15.710'W	PV Sea Buoy (fixed)
Finish			Red Tetra to STB

Mark Layout Notes:

Marks W1 & W2 will be placed based on wind direction, and will be approximately to weather of the committee boat.

These mark positions depend on the wind direction on race day.

Mark W1 is the One Design Fleet Windward, it is NOT a mark for other courses.

Mark LC is approximately 1.25nm bearing 125°M from the La Cruz breakwater.

Mark M is approximately 1.0nm Upwind from Mark LC.

Attachment C (cont.) – 2025 VYC Courses

Mark S is in safe water (~ 45ft) approximately 1 NM off the Ameca River, Mark S also serves as a limit mark for safe water on the distance courses. Mark S and the shore is an OBSTRUCTION under the rules. Boats may not sail between Mark S and the shore unless it is a turning mark. ***There is a shoal off the river that will ruin your day ... don't go there.***

NOTE: Mark Shapes and Colors (if changed) will be announced at the radio 15 minutes before the first warning on VHF 72. The locations shown are approximate. If there is a difference between the actual mark position and the coordinates above, ACTUAL MARK POSITION AND COLOR WILL ALWAYS PREVAIL. Please hail the RC if a mark is missing. The RC may ask the fleet to continue to race rounding stated GPS coordinates.

Redress will *not* be granted for mark positions different from published Lat/Lon.

Attachment C (cont.) – 2025 VYC Courses

<p>Course 1 Start W2 – Starboard LC – Port S – Port Finish Approx 12.2nm</p>	<p>Course 4 Start W2 – Port S – Port LC – Port W2 – Port Finish Approx 14.2nm</p>
<p>Course 2 Start W2– Starboard LC – Port S – Port C – Port S – Starboard Finish Approx 17.9nm</p>	<p>Course 5 Start W2 – Port S – Port C – Port S – Starboard LC – Port W2 – Port Finish Approx 19.8nm</p>
<p>Course 3 Start W2 – Port S – Port C – Port S – Starboard Finish Approx 12.8nm</p>	<p>Course 6 See Note Start LC – P M - P Finish Approx 15nm</p>
<p>One Design Course Start W1 L W1 Finish Approx 4.0nm</p>	<p>Course 7 (2 – 3) See Note Start W2 – P L – Gate (P or S) W2 – Port Finish 6-2 Approx 7.2nm 6-3 Approx 10.8nm</p>

Note: The W/L Courses (Course 7) are 2 or 3 laps. The number of laps will be announced before the Preparatory Signal for the class.

THE FINISH: Downwind finishes (Courses 4,5,6 &7) are between a Red Tetra on the PORT End and a BLUE flag on the RC Boat on the STARBOARD End. Do not sail through the Start Line when you finish.

NOTE: For BBR. Pursuit race Course and Start times will be posted on the ONB not later than 90 minutes before the first starting time. The RC may announce the Course on VHF 72 the morning of the race. The starting times may be posted on the BBR Website for reference.

Attachment C (cont.) – 2025 VYC Courses

Racing Area



Marks shown in Approximate Locations
“W2” is shown for a Wind direction of 235° M