

Starting Sequence and Signals

Port Townsend Sailing Association races will be started using a *five minute starting sequence* as outlined below. A waiting period may be imposed between starts (using the Postponement flag) as conditions warrant. Start sequences will begin on GPS 5-minute time intervals (12:00, 12:05, etc). Classes will start in the following order: Class A, Class B, Class C, Inshore. The Start signal for Class A will begin the start sequence for Class B, and so on. Depending on entries, classes may be combined. Please note that exact timing is indicated by visual signals (flags), not horns. It is the skipper's responsibility to be aware of all signals (class flags, postponements, recalls, short course, etc.) flown by the committee.

Starting sequence signals are as follows:

PTSA
flag
displayed

ALERT: 1 minute before Class A start sequence begins.
Alert horn signal (multiple horn blasts) will sound.

CLASS
FLAG
UP

WARNING: 5 minutes before start.
Class Flag raised (1 horn blast) -- stays up until start.

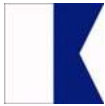


PREPARATORY: 4 minutes before start.
Preparatory flag raised (1 horn blast)

ONE MINUTE: 1 minute before start.
Preparatory flag lowered (1 horn blast)

CLASS
FLAG
DOWN

START: *Class Flag* lowered (1 horn blast)
Boats from the next class may enter the starting area and begin their sequence.



Class A (Racing) flag



Short Course flag: Course is shortened to a single lap.



Class B (Cruising I) flag



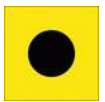
Postponement flag: New alert signal made 1 minute after flag is lowered (multiple horn blasts)



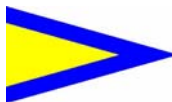
Class C (Cruising II) flag



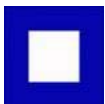
Individual Recall flag: Boats over the line early must re-start. (one horn blast)



Inshore Class flag



General Recall flag: The entire class must re-start. (two horn blasts) Alert signal made 1 minute after flag is lowered.



Preparatory flag: Used in starting sequence.



Mark Boat flag: A chase boat flying this flag is the new mark.



Racing Abandoned flag: All racing cancelled for the day.