

SSS 2004 TransPac Communications Plan [proposed]

April 4, 2004 – Revised June 25, 2004

The following describes the communications / check-in procedure for the 2004 SSS TransPac.

Start Line Procedure

All yachts shall check-in with the Race Committee on VHF 69 prior to their start. Yachts starting late must work with Race Committee to determine appropriate starting line communications.

Finish Line Procedure

As per NOR 19.2, all yachts shall radio the Race Committee on VHF channel 69 when they are within radio range of the finish line. Once communication with the Race Committee has been established, the Race Committee will instruct yachts regarding further communication when approaching the finish line.

Daily Roll Call Procedure

There are two roll calls per day, each yacht is required to check-in at least once per day during either the morning or evening roll call. A yacht failing to check-in during a day's morning or evening roll call shall incur a one hour time penalty as per NOR 25.2. It is preferred (but not required) that each yacht shall check-in at each roll call.

The following information is to be provided at the check-in:

- boat name
- time of recording (PDT)
- latitude and longitude in degrees and minutes (no decimal points)
- distance to finish in nautical miles (no decimal points)
- course (true)
- speed in knots (one decimal point).

Example: 'Alchera at zero nine hundred was at latitude three-one two-two longitude one-three-four four-three, DTF one-five-three-four miles, course two-zero-zero, speed seven-point-five.'

To determine distance to finish, enter the following waypoint into your GPS and have the GPS calculate DTF: 22° 13'22" N x 159° 29'50" W.

Only satellite phones or SSB radios may be used to check-in, and must be done with the communications boat according to a schedule.

Initially SSB communications will be on the 4MHz band. It is anticipated that approximately 1100 miles into the race communications will shift up to the 8MHz band as the fleet spreads out. The communications boat shall announce such a change during the prior day's check-in.

A primary and backup frequency is specified for both bands. If a skipper cannot raise the communications boat or any of the other fleet members on the primary frequency, the backup frequency should be attempted. Yachts are required to relay SSB communications when it is apparent a skipper cannot communicate directly with the communications boat.

Roll Call Schedule

Yachts with Sat Phone communications only:

0830 & 2030 PDT Record yacht position (lat/lon), distance to finish, course and speed.

0830-0900 & 2030-2100 PDT Telephone the communications boat and check-in at the assigned time specified on the roll-call sheet to be distributed at the Skipper’s meeting (see NOR 15).

0900 & 2100 PDT Sat Phone check-in concludes.

Yachts with SSB communications:

0900 & 2100 PDT Record yacht position (lat/lon), distance to finish, course and speed.

0900-0930 & 2100-2130 PDT Communications boat will conduct check-ins. Each yacht shall check-in in sequence as per the roll-call sheet to be distributed at the Skipper's meeting. .

At the end of roll call the Sat Phone boat positions will be relayed to the fleet by the communications boat. Any request for repeating of information will be honored at this time. Once check-in is complete the frequency is open for general discussion.

Channels

Description	Frequency (MHz)
Primary Check-in (close range)	4.021.0
Backup Frequency (close range)	4.027.0
Secondary Check-in (long range)	8.185.0
Backup Frequency (long range)	8.191.0

Designated Communications Boats

Primary: **Tiger Beetle**

Callsign: WCY6217

Satphone#: _____

Backup: **Alchera**

Callsign: WDA6271

Satphone#: 8816 3153 3047

Email: (Removed for privacy)

Contributions for SSS TransPac Website:

Those yachts having contributions to make to the SSS TransPac Website during the race may send to the following email address: **sailsss@sfbaysss.org**

Communication with Race Committee:

The Race committee may be reached at the following telephone numbers and email. However, the race committee may not be used as a check-in alternative to avoid the penalty in NOR 25.2.

RC Phone Number in California: _____

RC Phone Number in Kauai: _____

RC Email Address: _____