

2006 Singlehanded TransPacific Race

Communications Plan

The following describes the communications / check-in procedure for the 2006 SSS TransPac and is a part of the Sailing Instructions.

Start Line Procedure

All yachts shall check-in with the Race Committee on VHF Channel 69 prior to the warning for their division's start. Yachts starting later than their division start must work with the 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. If possible, all yachts shall establish VHF communications no sooner than 25 miles nor later than a 10 miles from the Finish Line. Once communication with the Race Committee has been established, the Race Committee will instruct yachts regarding further communication while approaching the finish line.

Daily Roll Call Procedure

There are two rolls per day, one roll call in the morning and a second roll call in the evening. Each yacht is required to check-in at least once each day, at either the morning or evening roll call. A yacht failing to check-in at least once each day 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 (magnetic)
- 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. This point is not on the finish line.

GPS Distance to Finish Waypoint for SSB Check in: 22° 14'09" N x 159° 30'04" W.

Check-in SSB Channels

Check-in shall be done via SSB radio, and shall be done with the Communications boat according to the schedule to be distributed at the skipper's meeting.

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 6MHz and 8MHz bands 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 the three (3) 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.

Description	Frequency (MHz)
Primary Check-in (short range)	4.021.0
Backup Frequency (short-range)	4.027.0
Primary Check-in (mid range)	6.224.0 (6A)
Backup Frequency (mid range)	6.227.0 (6B)
Primary Check-in (long range)	8.185.0
Backup Frequency (long range)	8.191.0

Designated Communication Boats

Primary: **Seabird** Call sign WCY 9251

Backup: **Tiger Beetle** Call sign WCY 6217

Roll Call Schedule

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, beginning with any communications of an emergency nature.

The Communications boat will then ask for position reports from each yacht in sequence. At the end of roll call, any request for repeating of information will be honored. Once check-in is complete the frequency is open for general discussion.