

**SEVENTEENTH BIENNIAL
SINGLEHANDED TRANSPACIFIC YACHT RACE
June 19 to July 10, 2010**

COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

The following describes the communications procedures for the 2010 Singlehanded TransPac. This Communications Plan is hereby incorporated into the Sailing Instructions.

Starting Line Procedure

Each yacht shall check-in with the Race Committee on VHF Channel 69 prior to the warning signal for its division's start. A yacht starting later than its division's start must contact the Race Committee to determine appropriate starting line communications. Yachts shall monitor VHF Channel 69 while in the starting line area and until they have passed Pt. Bonita. Yachts are also encouraged to monitor VHF Channel 16 throughout the race.

Finish Line Procedure

Each yacht shall radio the Race Committee on VHF Channel 69 when it is within radio range of the finish line. If possible, each yacht shall establish VHF communications no farther than 25 miles or closer than 10 miles from the finish line. Once communications with the Race Committee have been established, the Race Committee will instruct the skipper regarding further communication while approaching the finish line and entering Hanalei Bay.

Daily Roll Calls

There are two roll calls to receive Position Reports each day, one in the morning and one in the evening. Each yacht is required to make a Position Report at least once each calendar day and if it fails to do so, it shall incur a penalty for each calendar day it fails to make a report. The Race Committee prefers that yachts make a Position Report at **every** roll call.

There are two ways a yacht may make its Position Report available at roll call:

1. Sending it, or causing it to be sent, by e-mail to the Race Committee.
2. Responding by SSB radio to the Communications Boat during voice roll call.

A yacht may make its report by either of these methods, but SSB radio is preferred. If a yacht is successfully making Position Reports by SSB radio, it should not also send e-mail reports as this creates duplicative work for the Race Committee and shore side volunteers.

The following information is to be provided in each Position Report:

- Yacht name
- Time of position (PDT)
- Latitude and longitude in degrees and minutes (no seconds or decimal points)
- Distance to finish* (DTF) in nautical miles, great circle route (no decimal points)
- Course (True)
- Speed in knots (one decimal point)

*To determine distance to finish, enter the following waypoint into your GPS and have the GPS calculate DTF: 22° 14' N, 159° 30' W

E-mail Position Reporting Procedure

E-mail position reporting is accomplished by arranging for an e-mail to be received by the Race Committee, either by sending an e-mail directly to them from the yacht, or by communicating with a shore side contact who sends the e-mail to the Race Committee.

E-mail Addresses (send e-mail to both): **SHTransPac@yahoo.com SHTransPac@gmail.com**

E-mail Position Reporting Format

The minimum e-mail report must contain the following information: Yacht name, date-time stamp (MMDDHHMM), latitude degrees, latitude minutes, longitude degrees, longitude minutes, distance to finish, course over ground (True), and speed over ground.

Example: ALCHERA 06241000 31 14N 134 43W 1534 200T 7.5

E-mail Position Reporting Schedule

0800 & 2000 PDT (i.e. one hour before SSB radio roll call): Record the yacht's Position Report information and send it, or cause it to be sent to the Race Committee's e-mail above.

0820 and 2020 PDT: The Race Committee will open its e-mail and collect the Position Reports, and a confirming Reply will be e-mailed to the sender of each Position Report. An e-mail containing the Position Reports will then be prepared and sent to the Communications Boat in time for the SSB radio roll call, if possible.

0845 and 2045 PDT (Approx.): The Communications Boat will open incoming e-mail from the Race Committee and prepare the e-mailed information for broadcasting at the SSB roll call.

0930 and 2130 PDT (Approx.): The Communications Boat will prepare a summary of all Position Reports and e-mail it to the Race Committee for posting on the Race website.

Yachts may send postings for the web site Skipper Logs to the Race Committee at any time.

SSB Radio Position Reporting Procedure

SSB position reporting is accomplished by responding by SSB radio to the Communications Boat during voice roll call. The role of Communications Boat may be passed to another boat as necessary and with mutual agreement. The designated Communications Boats are:

Name	Call Sign	E-Mail	SMS Text (not for Position Reports)
HECLA	WDD 7632	jlebesch@ocens.net	881632510172@msg.iridium.com
CULEBRA	WDE 9089	WDE9089@sailmail.com	881622439496@msg.iridium.com
DREAM CHASER	WDD 3694	km6le@winlink.org	881631624158@msg.iridium.com

Initially, SSB communications will be on the 4MHz band. Race communications may shift to the 6 MHz or 8MHz band as the fleet spreads out. The Communications Boat shall announce such a change during the prior roll call.

A primary and backup frequency is specified for the three 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), Upper Sideband
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

SSB Radio Position Reporting Format (Example)

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

Note: With the exception of the time, all numbers are individually spoken - e.g., 'three one', **not** 'thirty one', and 'one four', **not** 'fourteen'.

SSB Radio Position Reporting Schedule

0855 & 2055 PDT: The Communication Boat will come up on the agreed frequency and may request a radio check from one or more yachts in the fleet.

0900 & 2100 PDT: Record your yacht's Position Report information.

0900-0930 & 2100-2130 PDT: The Communications Boat shall conduct roll call, beginning with communications of an emergency nature. E-mailed position reports received from the Race Committee will be broadcast at this time if the Communications Boat received them in sufficient time prior to the start of SSB roll call.

The Communications Boat will then ask for a Position Report from each yacht in sequence by calling out the yacht's name. At the end of roll call, requests for repeating of information will be honored. Once roll call is completed, the frequency is open for general discussion.

At the conclusion of roll call, all position reports will be e-mailed to the Race Committee by the Communications Boat.

Reminder regarding Outside Assistance

Skippers are reminded that no weather routing information or other outside assistance may be solicited or accepted from shore side contacts or other sources during the race. Please familiarize yourself and your shore side contacts with the specific items that may be communicated, per Rule 11.02 of the Race Rules and Conditions.

Importance of Making Position Reports

Skippers shall communicate their positions to the Race Committee or Communications Boats throughout the race. Skippers who fail to do so will not only incur time penalties, but may be excluded from participation in future Singlehanded TransPacs. Therefore, please test your communications, electrical system and related equipment thoroughly before the race.

END OF COMMUNICATIONS PLAN