

**SIXTEENTH BIENNIAL SINGLEHANDED TRANSPACIFIC YACHT RACE**  
**July 12 to August 2, 2008**  
**SINGLEHANDED SAILING SOCIETY**  
**San Francisco Bay, California to Hanalei Bay, Hawaii**  
**COMMUNICATIONS PLAN**  
**July 7, 2008**

The following describes the communications and check-in procedures for the 2008 SSS TransPac, and is part of the Sailing Instructions.

**Start Line Procedure**

All Yachts shall check-in with the Race Committee as per the Sailing Instructions 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**

All yachts shall radio the Race Committee on VHF Channel 69 when they are within radio range of the finish line. [Ref: RRC 14.3] If possible, all yachts shall establish VHF communications no sooner than 25 miles nor later than 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**

There are two roll calls 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 penalty each day they fail to check-in. [Ref: RRC 18.2] It is preferred (but not required) that each yacht shall check-in at each roll call.

There are two mechanisms a yacht may use to meet the daily roll call requirement:

1. written communications via email with the Race Committee
2. direct voice communications via SSB with the Communications Boat

A yacht may check-in via SSB, email, or both.

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

- 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)
- date of position (for email check-in only)

To determine distance to finish, enter the following waypoint into your GPS and have the GPS calculate DTF: N 22 13' 34.50" W 159 29' 49.00"

**Email Check-in Procedure**

Email check-in is accomplished by arranging for an email to be received by the Race Committee. The mechanism may include:

1. sending an email directly to Race Committee from the yacht
2. telephoning a shore side contact and the contact sends an email to Race Committee
3. any other means necessary to have an email received by Race Committee

**Email Roll Call Schedule**

0700 & 1900 PDT Record yacht position, distance to finish, course, and speed and arrange for this information to be sent to Race Committee via email.

Race Committee check-in email address: [private]

0800 and 2000 PDT Race Committee will open the email inbox and collect reported positions. A confirmation of email receipt will be sent back to the sender of each email position report. A single email will be prepared which contains all email-received positions and forwarded to the Communications Boat.

**Example email check-in:**

Alchera 0700 position  
 31 14 N 134 43 W  
 DTF 1534  
 course 200  
 speed 7.5  
 July 14

**SSB Check-in Procedure**

SSB check-in is accomplished by communicating via radio with the Communications Boat. (The role of Communications Boat or Backup may be passed to another boat as necessary and with mutual agreement.) The initial primary and backup Communications Boats are as follows:

Boat Name	Call Sign	Email
Primary: Hecla	WDD 7632	
Secondary: Dream Chaser	WDD 3694	
Tertiary: Carroll E	WDC 8057	

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 the two 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 (long range)	8.185.0
Backup frequency (long range)	8.191.0

**SSB Roll Call Schedule**

0900 & 2100 PDT Record yacht position, distance to finish, course, and speed.  
 0900-0930 & 2100-2130 PDT Communications boat shall conduct check-in, beginning with communications of an emergency nature. Email positions received by Race Committee will be relayed during SSB check-in, provided the email positions have been received on the water by the Communications Boat.

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.

At the conclusion of roll call SSB positions will be relayed to the Race Committee by the Communications Boat, provided this is possible given atmospheric conditions and the email/radio equipment is operational. The Race Committee will send a confirmation of email receipt back to the comm. boat after each email position report.

**Example SSB voice check-in:**

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

**Contributions to the SSS TransPac Website**

Those yachts having contributions to make to the SSS TransPac website during the race may send emails to the following address: [shtp08@gmail.com](mailto:shtp08@gmail.com)

**Communications with Race Committee**

The Race Committee may be reached at the following telephone numbers and email addresses. However, the Race Committee may not be used as a check-in alternative to avoid penalty as described in SI 22.5.

Contact	Cell Phone	Email
Synthia Petroka	510-205-9412	<a href="mailto:synpetroka@earthlink.net">synpetroka@earthlink.net</a>
Sylvia Seaberg	408-221-7279	<a href="mailto:sseaberg@gmail.com">sseaberg@gmail.com</a>
Rich Hudnut	408-334-1094	

**END OF COMMUNICATIONS PLAN**