Recording Finishes

Recording finishes is all about not making mistakes and not trying to do more than is necessary. Make sure that all boats that have checked-in are listed on the check-in sheet. (Be sure to add any late comers that check-in on the water). There should be a score recorded each race for every boat that checks-in.

The most important task is to record in a list the sail # of each boat as it approaches and crosses the line, regardless of class and even if they were OCS, missed a mark, or for some other reason you feel the boat will be disqualified (those are issues to be settled later). Do not try to make separate lists by class. And never never write down finish positions next to sail numbers--always just sail numbers in a list as they cross. Make sure to use a PRSA Order of Finish sheet to record finishes, no need to record the time of each finish.

Record the time only of the **first boat** in a class finishes so that you can determine whether the remaining boats finish within the time allowed. If the time limit comes into play, score all boats that do not finish within the time limit as TLE. The scorer will assign the appropriate scores (see RRS Rule 35 and Appendix A).

If no boat finishes within the time limit, the race is abandoned (RRS Rule 35).

If a boat crosses more than once you probably should write its number down more than once, because it may have touched a finish mark and it is the second finish that counts. Again, which is the correct finish can be settled later.

Writing down the last three (possibly four) digits of the sail # is almost always enough to uniquely identify the boat. Trying to write down 5 or 6 digit sail numbers leads to mistakes. It is fine to fill in the rest of the number but only when there is a pause in the finishes.

When there are close finishes, the line sighter should say something like inside, outside and the recorder should write that down I then O. Then determine the sail #s of the inside and outside boats.

Sail #s of DNS and DNF boats can be recorded at the beginning or end of the list for each race. It doesn't matter. Just indicate DNS or DNF next to them. After all boats have finished a race, double check against the check-in sheet and your other notes to make sure that you note OCS, DNS, or DNF boats.

For larger regattas or important regattas (e.g. qualifier or championship regattas), it is recommended that two people record finishes so that they can compare their results and resolve discrepancies among each other.