

# VICTORIA-MAUI INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE

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## RACE BULLETIN # 2

### THE VICTORIA - MAUI INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE

#### COMMUNICATIONS PLAN 1986

##### GENERAL

Radio communications plays an important part in this long distance ocean race and it is used to provide daily position reports from each yacht along with basic weather information. In addition, any other messages related to race operations may be exchanged between the fleet or individual yachts and shore stations at Lahaina or Vancouver.

To make this daily operation possible, one yacht is designated to act as the control station at sea. This yacht may or may not be a participant in the race. The radio operator on this yacht will conduct the daily roll call and receive position and weather data for retransmission to the committee stations on shore. This procedure enables a common channel to be used which will enable each participating yacht to hear directly the reports being given by the others. Radio propagation conditions will prevent the shore stations from collecting the data directly for many days once the fleet is on the high seas.

To overcome this problem, the control yacht will relay the daily reports on one of the prearranged higher frequency HF-SSB channels depending on fleet location and radio conditions.

Our control and communication yacht this year has not yet been determined, but as soon as this matter has been resolved we will advise in another bulletin.

Each yacht is required to equip a minimum of 5 of the radio frequencies listed in Table 1. under the heading "YACHTS". If you wish to have the ability to reach Lahaina or Vancouver race committee at roll call or increase your general communications effectiveness all the way across, equip your radios with at least one of the channels in each of the other frequency groups.

HF - SSB RADIO FREQUENCIES FOR RACE COMMUNICATIONS

FREQUENCY	CHAN	YACHTS	CONTROL YACHT	SHORE STATION
2182.0 KHz. (1)		*	*	
4125.0 KHz. (1)	4A	*	*	*
4143.6 KHz. (3)	4B	*	*	*
6221.6 KHz. (2)	6B		*	*
8291.1 KHz. (1)	8A	*	*	*
8294.2 KHz. (1)	8B	*	*	*
12429.2 KHz. (3)	12A	*	*	*
12432.3 KHz. (2)	12B	*	*	*
12435.4 KHz. (3)	12C	*	*	*
16587.1 KHz. (3)	16A	*	*	*
16590.2 KHz. (2)	16B	*	*	*
16593.3 KHz. (3)	16C	*	*	*

- Notes -
- (1) - Mandatory frequencies for each yacht.
  - (2) - Primary contact frequencies for relay purposes between the control yacht and shore stations.
  - (3) - These frequencies are to be used as backup in the event of interference and channel congestion and can be used for greater general communications effectiveness at different times of the day.

IN THE INTERESTS OF BREVITY IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE CHANNEL NUMBER DESIGNATIONS GIVEN IN THE ABOVE TABLE BE USED INSTEAD OF THE ACTUAL CARRIER FREQUENCIES.

### VHF RADIO FREQUENCIES FOR START / FINISH LINE COMMUNICATIONS

FREQUENCY	CHAN.	YACHTS	CONTROL YACHT	SHORE STATION (Lahaina)
156.800 MHz.	(16)	*	*	
156.300 MHz.	(06)	*	*	*
156.700 MHz.	(14)	*	*	
157.100 MHz.	(22A)	*	*	
156.425 MHz.	(68)	*	*	*

Note - Channel 14 is SEATTLE TRAFFIC, for all contact and information regarding vessel movement in Juan de Fuca Strait.

- If any radio communications are required at the start, VHF channels <sup>73</sup>(68) will be used.
- At the finish line, LAHAINA will monitor channel 16 and 4125.0 KHz. (4A) for calls as outlined in FINISH LINE procedures - section H. of the sailing instructions. If calling on 16 - announce that you will make contact on channel 68.

### LAND STATION CALL SIGNS

LAHAINA - KZN 521

VANCOUVER - VGI 59

### CONTROL YACHT

to be determined

### RACE COMMUNICATION OPERATIONS

The race committee shore stations will be in operation for a minimum period each day from 1630 PDT (2330 GMT) until 1900 PDT (0200 GMT) or later as required or requested by the fleet. The control yacht will maintain a 24 hour continuous listening watch on the primary frequency 4125.0 KHz. (4A) when not involved with the roll call or other ship communications.

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All participants in the race are requested to monitor 4125, 2182 KHz. or VHF channel 16 as much as possible in case information or assistance is required by any other yacht.

It is suggested that battery charging done prior to the roll call period to ensure that a good charge condition exists in the batteries used with the radio equipment. If you experience noise from your engine or alternator, it may be best to stop charging during the radio schedules.

#### **ROLL CALL - POSITION REPORTING**

Start time daily - 1715 PDT (0015 GMT)

Prior to the roll call, in the time period from 1645 to 1655 PDT (2345 - 2355 GMT), Vancouver and Lahaina will check radio propagation and determine optimum channel selection for relay purposes after the roll call as necessary. They will also verify the optimum channel for contact with the control yacht.

The control yacht will announce the commencement of roll call on 4125 KHz. (4A) at exactly 1715 PDT (0015 GMT) and then proceed.

The roll call list will be based on descending order of IOR rating. Roll call pads will be furnished. To avoid confusion and to avoid missing any contact the first time around, each yacht will be called a second time if there is no initial response. Each report will be acknowledged or clarification will be requested as necessary. Positions will not be read back unless there are requests for the information. Please be ready to answer when called the first time. Any latecomers will be given a chance to report at the end of the sequence.

Yachts not heard on 4125 KHz. will be called on the other working channels including VHF 16 in case of problems. The control yacht will announce which channel he will switch to each time.

As the fleet gets nearer to the Hawaiian Islands, roll call control may be taken over by the Lahaina station to relieve the control yacht crew. This will occur when it is determined that good contact can be held with the fleet from Lahaina on 8 MHz. primarily or on 4 MHz. If contact is established on 8 MHz., Lahaina may read back the position reports if some vessels cannot hear each other.

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## ARRIVAL AT VICTORIA

A committee yacht will be located in the Victoria Harbour for several days prior to the race start. If you need any information prior to arrival, call "ROYAL VAN RACE COMMITTEE" on VHF channel 16. One of our committee boats will respond.

## WEATHER BROADCASTS

A great deal of weather information is available through Coast Station broadcasts. The following representative frequency and time schedules are passed on for your guidance:

### HIGH SEAS RADIO TELEPHONE

#### WEATHER BROADCASTS FOR THE NORTH PACIFIC

STATION	CHANNEL	FREQUENCY	TIMES (GMT)
KMI	401	4357.4 KHz.	0000, 0600, 1500
	804	8728.2	" " "
	822	8784.0	" " "
	1201	13100.8	" " "
	1229	13187.6	" " "
	1602	17236.0	" " "

Note - Regular traffic will not commence on a frequency just before a scheduled weather broadcast, and a weather bulletin will not be transmitted on a frequency where traffic is in progress.

NMC (USCG SFO)	424	4428.7	0430, 1030
	816	8765.4	" "
	1205	13113.2	" "
	816	8765.4	1630, 2230
	1205	13113.2	" "
	1625	17307.2	" "
** NMO (USCG HNL)		2670.0	0545, 1145
	601	6506.4	" "
	816	8765.4	" "
		2670.0	1745, 2345
	816	8765.4	" "
	1205	13113.2	" "

\*\* note - CENTRAL PACIFIC HIGH SEAS FORECASTS

ALL FREQUENCIES ARE SHIP RECEIVE

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### **PACIFIC HIGH CENTER POSITION AND SPOT WIND READINGS**

For each race standing arrangements are set up at the National Weather Service Forecasting Office in Honolulu to have this meteorological information broadcast on time signal station WWVH located at Kekaha, Kauai, Hawaii. These broadcasts are made on 5 10 or 15 MHz at specified times as follows:

### **PACIFIC HIGH CENTRE AND 1020 ISOBAR COORDINATES**

At 0000 and 1200 GMT daily, this information is UPDATED by the National Weather Service and broadcast hourly, 24 hours a day, during the 52nd minute of each hour. In practical terms, the first updated information for each half day period is broadcast at 2352 and 1152 GMT.

### **SPOT WIND READINGS**

Predictions of spot winds along the race course at specified co-ordinates are given, based on the known reported positions and progress of the race. Updates are given at 0600 and 1800 GMT. The Victoria - Maui Race readings are given in the first two or three hourly intervals depending on whether there are two or three races taking place. This means that the first new update is broadcast at 0552 and 1752 GMT daily.

If two races are taking place, two more Victoria - Maui reports will be given in hourly sequence before giving way to the other race. If three races are under way, there will only be one more report after the update.

### **CODED WEATHER BROADCASTS**

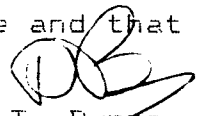
Again this year the U.S. Coast Guard will broadcast coded weather information to enable those interested to make surface weather charts. Details giving the method of decoding these numerical sequences are attached for your assistance.

The daily broadcasts will be at 1630 and 2230 GMT on **NMC**, at 1745 GMT on **NMO**, in both cases immediately following the High Seas weather broadcasts that begin at the times shown.

Don't forget to take along a good tape recorder to record these and other broadcasts so you can replay the information as often as needed to make an accurate chart.

Lets hope the high is where it should be and that the general patterns are favourable all the way!

Have a good race.

  
Don T. Byrne - Communications