

# How to Setup your Course and Use the GPS & Wind Instruments

## Step by Step:

1. **Anchor the Lindsay Lord in a space that is near or at the leeward end of your course area.** Make sure there is enough space to the right and left of your location that land won't affect the racing area and the boats.
2. **Now use the B&G Instrument on the steering station. Look at wind speed and direction** – you should see TWS (true wind speed) & DIR (Direction) Only use direction and speed for relative numbers e.g. once you are anchored take a direction reading and wait a few minutes and take another look – has it moved right or left? If so you might have some shifting conditions and this may help you predict and see what is going on out on the course.
3. **Now decide your course you want to run. You have a bunch of options. Government marks, WL (windward leeward), WX (Windward Finish) or HA (Harry Anderson).** There are also the variable of how many legs per course you want to do. Reference the Sis for the full details. Find the letters in the letter box and put the course designation on the boat in the back of the Lindsay Lord on both sides.
4. **Set the Windward mark (do this first). Use an orange TET for this mark**
  - a. Turn on the GPS and press and hold the FIND (MOB) button. The screen will say "MAN OVERBOARD"
  - b. Then press the ENTER button. You will now show the chart screen with your location.
  - c. Now press PAGE - until you come to the Trip Computer page. This page will show the distance to the Lindsay Lord.
  - d. Give the GPS to your Mark boat. Instruct them to go in the direction where you want the Windward mark
  - e. Distance: You will want the mark set between .7 Nautical Miles and .9 Nautical Miles from the Race Committee boat. Note that the GPS takes a bit for itself to catch up with the numbers so make sure the Mark Boat is going slow in that area before it takes its final distance reading.
5. **Set the Pin end of Starting Line – Use the Yellow Cylinder for this mark**
  - a. We will typically have between 9 and 11 boats and therefore the length of the line should be between 288' and 400' - Shorter line for moderate wind (8 to 15kts) and longer line for very light wind and heavy wind (less than 8knts and over 15kts)
  - b. The GPS will still be set for distance to the RC boat but may switch from feet to nautical miles at this short distance so ask the Mark boat to go to your desired length using these conversions:

288' = .047 NM

400' = .065 NM

- c. Your Pin end will want to be 90 degrees to the wind. Often times its best to set the pin a little favored as this makes calling the line easier and boat over early less often

## **6. Set a Leeward Mark if you decide to use one – Use an Orange TET for this mark**

- a. Your overall course length should not exceed 1.5 miles so if you set a windward mark at .9 NM then you won't want your leeward mark to be more than .6 NM away from your starting line in a WL course. Use the same process for finding the distance for the leeward mark as you did for the windward mark.

## **7. Run your practice start –**

- a. This is for you and your team to get comfortable with the start and to see if you have any issues with the course setup.
- b. The starting sequence can start on or before 6pm.
- c. Please announce on VHF 69 that you are running the practice start
- d. Use the Auto Start and a countdown watch to do the sequence. The Auto Start will make beeps to let you know where in the sequence it is but a watch is very helpful to keep track.

## **8. Adjust your course**

- a. If the line or course looked skewed or you had a lot of boats over early or near one end of the line you may want to adjust your marks to make it easier on you and more fair for the competitors.

## **9. Run the race**