



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
MARINA DEL REY STATION  
13851 FIJI WAY, MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292  
310 482-6000



## **OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT ROWING SHELL RULES AND EXEMPTIONS**

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Collegiate, and private organization, rowing shells and chase-boats have for many years used the waters of Marina del Rey Harbor. Guidelines were originally established in 1969, revised in 1975, and again in 1987. These guidelines provided exceptions to authorized entities for certain sections of Los Angeles County codes. In establishing these guidelines the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department recognizes its obligation to preserve the peace and protect the public's safety.

The purpose of this operational agreement is to re-establish current and formal guidelines. This operational agreement shall be adhered to by all authorized persons using rowing shells and/or chase-boats involved in training, workouts or special events on the waters of Marina del Rey Harbor.

### **I. Exempt rowing shells and chase-boats**

Only authorized organizational rowing shells and chase-boats that have entered into an operational agreement with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Marina del Rey Station, shall be considered exempt under the provisions of these guidelines. Those entities exempt, herein referred to as "authorized organizations", shall have on file a signed operational agreement from this Department indicating such exemption. For the purpose of this agreement, "exempt rowing shells and chase-boats" shall be referred to as "authorized rowing shells and chase-boats".

### **II. Exempt Status**

Subject to the provisions of section III, entitled "Operation" of this operational agreement, special exemption is granted herein to authorized organizations from speed restrictions (L.A.C.C. 19.12.1250 (A)&(B)), which govern the Main Channel and Entrance Channel during workouts, practices and races. The Sheriff's Department, in obligation to preserve the peace and protect the public's safety, may immediately and without further notice rescind this special exemption of any violation of law, ordinance or regulation by any authorized organization.

### **III. Operation**

#### **A. Area of Operation**

Only the area designated on the attached map (Attachment "A") shall be used for workouts, practices and special events, in excess of 5 knots. This area is established to keep all rowing shells more than 200 feet from moored vessels.

#### **B. Chase-Boat Corridor**

Authorized organizational shell chase-boats are required to maintain 5 knots throughout the entire main channel except in the following area described specifically for their use (Attachment "B"). Failure to maintain speed limits outside this corridor, or when not accompanying their respective rowing shells constitutes

a violation of LACC 19.12.1250 (A) and/or (B). No authorized organization, collegiate or private, are exempt from excessive wake violation ordinance (LACC 19.12.620 (C)).

*Main Channel exemption*

- (1) The center of the main channel in a north/south direction, in an area not to exceed 100 feet east or west from the center channel marker buoys.
- (2) Northern limit of this exempt area shall not extend north of a delineated line extending due east from the most southern sea wall in Basin "D".
- (3) Southern limit of this exempt area shall be delineated by a line extending due west from the U.S.C.G. pier light.

*Entrance Channel exemption*

- (1) Chase-Boats are exempt from 8 knots speed restriction throughout the Entrance Channel only when accompanying their respective rowing shells.

**C. Hours of Operation**

- (1) Monday through Friday: One-half hour before sunrise, to one-half hour after sunset. All chase-boats must display the lights applicable for vessels of their class as prescribed by State and Federal law. All race shells must have at minimum one all-around white light during periods of darkness or restricted visibility. White strobe light(s) are acceptable, and recommended.
- (2) Weekends and Holidays: All rowing practice must cease at 10:00am. Extensions may be granted by contacting Marina del Rey Sheriff's Station, Harbor Patrol. The decision to grant the extension will be based on boating traffic, and may be discontinued anytime Sheriff's Harbor Patrol deems a public safety issue exists.

**IV. Silent Workouts**

- A. Workouts or practices prior to 7:30 a.m. during weekdays, and 8:30 a.m. on weekends and holidays must be conducted in silence.
- B. Noise during the above time periods shall be limited to the level of normal conversation only. Cadence shall be maintained only by visual signals prior to the above hours.
- C. No electronic "bullhorns".
- D. During silent workouts, coxswains shall remain mute while boats are underway. Knocking devices to strike cadence on gunwales are prohibited. Oarsmen are to remain silent in the boats and coaches are to withhold comments while boats are moving.

**V. Equipment**

- A. Chase-boats shall carry all equipment as required by State and Federal law.
- B. Chase-boats shall carry a VHF radio and monitor VHF-16 at all times.
- C. Chase-boats shall have the name of their organization or collegiate affiliation legibly displayed on both sides of their vessel.
- D. Chase-boats shall be currently registered and properly numbered.

**VI. Rules of the Road**

- A. Shell boat coxswains and chase-boat operators must comply with all Rules of the Road.
- B. Chase-boat operators shall never exceed 5 knots when not directly involved in coaching crews.

**VII. Continuity**

Head coaches and/or program directors shall be responsible for giving all coaches and coxswains a copy of this operational agreement, and ensure they understand its contents. Every authorized organization will also be responsible for any violations of these guidelines by other groups who use their facilities to launch or recover rowing shells. It is the responsibility of any authorized organization to notify the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Marina del Rey Station, Harbor Masters office of any change of head coach and/or program director.

Any special event, including race events, will also require a "Marine Event Permit" issued by the Marina del Rey Sheriff's Station, Harbor Masters office.

This operational agreement governs activities conducted on the waters of Marina del Rey Harbor only. Any land use activities, authorizations, and/or permits, require the approval of Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors.

FOR:

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
Marina del Rey Station

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
City                      State                      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

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Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

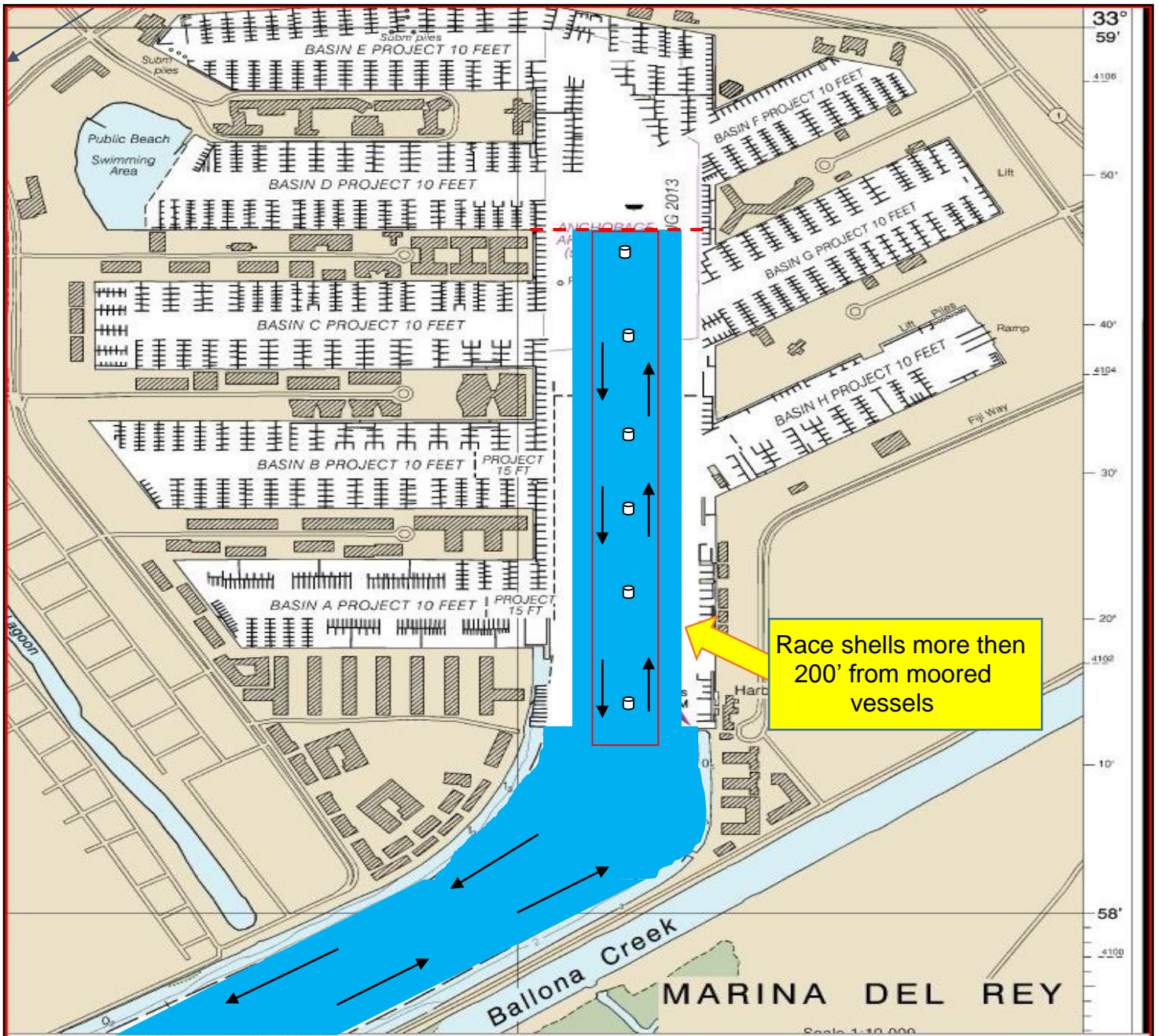
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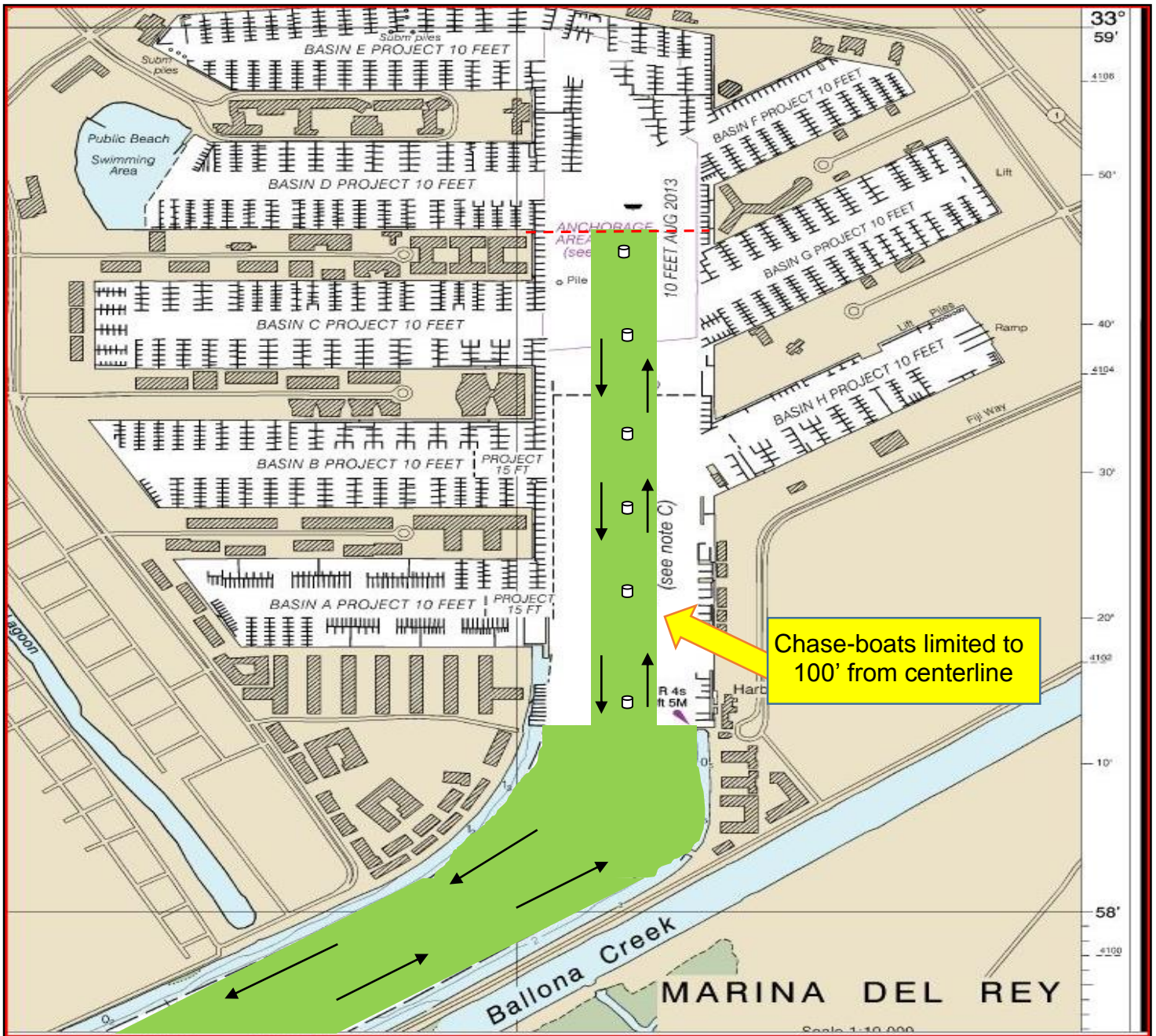
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**Attachment A - Race Shell Area of Operation**



Race shells are exempt from speed restrictions in area (Blue) depicted above.

# Attachment B - Chase-boat Corridor



Chase-Boats are exempt from speed restrictions in area (GREEN) depicted above.