



F-TCF for 2026 Pacific Cup Race

Pacific Cup will use the ORR Forecast-Time Correction Factor (F-TCF) scoring system for the ORR Divisions in the 2026 race. The reasons for this selection are available on the Pacific Cup website. This document will outline the specifics of how the F-TCF scoring is to be implemented.

F-TCF Big Picture: Each start day morning, US Sailing will run an optimized route using the Expedition Navigation software for each of the ORR Pacific Cup boats. The routing will use each boat's 2026 Pacific Cup ORR polars with NOAA's HRRRx and GFS gibs. The Pacific Cup ORR polars are slightly different from the published values on an ORR certificate. Like TransPac, these polars add a modest "Pacific Swell Factor" adjustment in certain conditions using a proprietary algorithm. The numbers you generate at home, therefore, will be a bit slower for some boats.

The polars and gibs will be run through Expedition to provide an optimum or "best" forecast elapsed time for each boat given their specific start day weather forecast. To provide the actual F-TCF to be used for scoring, each boat's forecast elapsed time will be divided into the 12-day "scratch" time. We intend to release the F-TCFs for each start day's boats by at least an hour before each start, likely two hours.

We are aware of the situation at the Newport Bermuda Race and are working with US Sailing to prevent a recurrence. In addition, we will be reviewing the provisional outputs for errors or anomalies before pronouncing the results final.

GRIB SELECTION: The F-TCF process will use two different gibs (HRRRx and GFS) to provide both the coastal forecast (NOAA HRRRx) and long-range ocean forecast (NOAA GFS). The gibs are based on geographical selection. The HRRRx values will be used from the start out to about 50 miles west of shore for as long as they are valid. We will use the line of longitude of 123.5W for that. For the rest of the course, we will rely on GFS

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The following Grib selection statements for selecting grib files from the SailDoc servers.

send HRRRX:39N,35N,123.5W,121W|0.03|0,1..48|WIND

send GFS:39N,18N,161W,121W|0.25|0,1..384|WIND

Information on SailDocs can be accessed by sending an email:

To: query@saildocs.com
Subject: (anything)
Body: send info

Both the GFS and HRRRX grib files will be the 1200 UTC files available from NOAA. This corresponds to 0800 EDT or 0500 PDT.

Expedition Routing Configuration: For the optimal routing process, we will utilize a set of Expedition configuration selections as follows:

Expedition Setup: (as of Ver 12.4.1 or later)

- 1) Under primary OPTIMAL tab, under SETTINGS select ISO only
- 2) Select SETTINGS for:

Weather Settings:

Scale 10m wind %	100
Rotate 10m winds	0
Scale currents %	100
Extend wind forecasts in time	Yes

Weather Data: no setup elements

Tides:

US Models	Selection:	San Francisco
Display	-Tidal stations	selected
	- Secondary tidal stations	selected
	-Tidal streams	selected
	- Stream Label	not selected
	- Offset Stream	0
	- Scale stream %	100

Opt Routing:

Configuration/Land/Misc/Data Options no selection

Note: While we believe this to be final, PCYC and USSailing reserve the right to change these parameters in the event a correction is deemed required.

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Start Time		As per sailing instructions
Resolution:	- Resolution	Custom
	- Initial Scan Angle	200
	-Min iso resolution	2
Custom	Isochrone Resolution	60
	Grid resolution	not applicable
<u>Opt Drawing</u>		no setup elements
<u>Opt Advanced -</u>		
Avoid	Max gust	100
	Max upwind tws	100
	Min upwind tws	0
	Max downwind tws	100
	Min downwind tws	0
Penalties	Tacking	0
	Gybing	0
Wind	Time shift	0
Scale	Wind	100
	Rotate wind	0
	Reduce scaling/rotation	0
Motoring	Motoring speed	2
	Min Sailing Speed	2
	Fuel rate	5
<u>Opt Waves</u>		no required setup elements

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