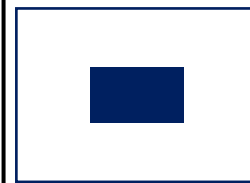
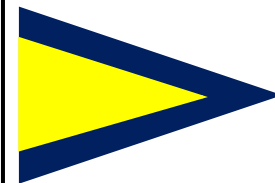
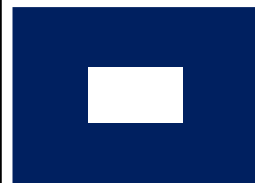
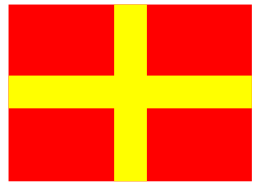


# Handicap Race Start Sequence and Signals

---

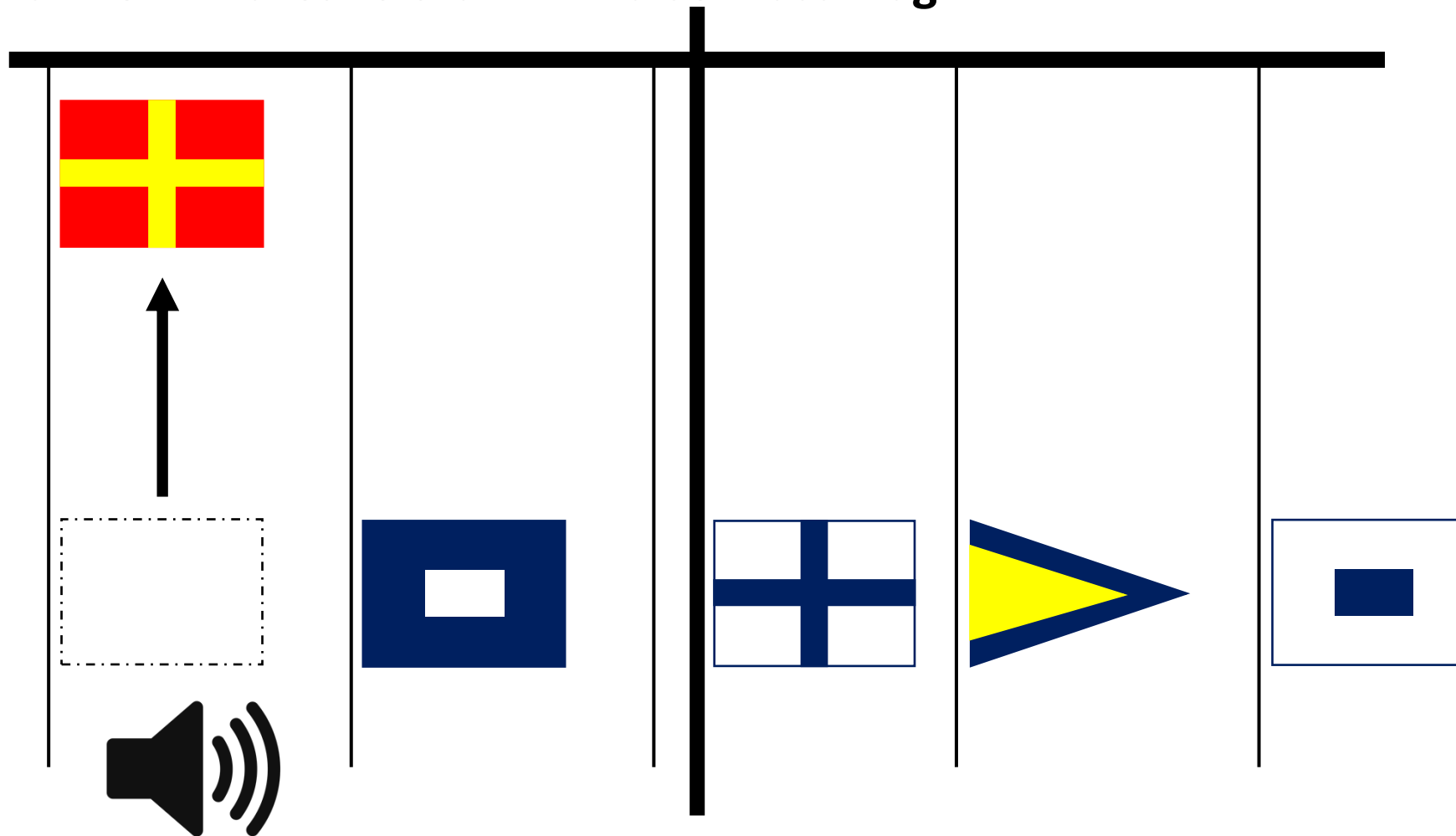
Guidance for a 5, 4, 1, Go Start

## Start Sequence Commencing – Ring Bell



Ring the bell to let all competitors know the start sequence will be commencing soon. Competitors should be ready to sail.

## Warning Signal – 5 Minutes to Start — Raise Class Flag

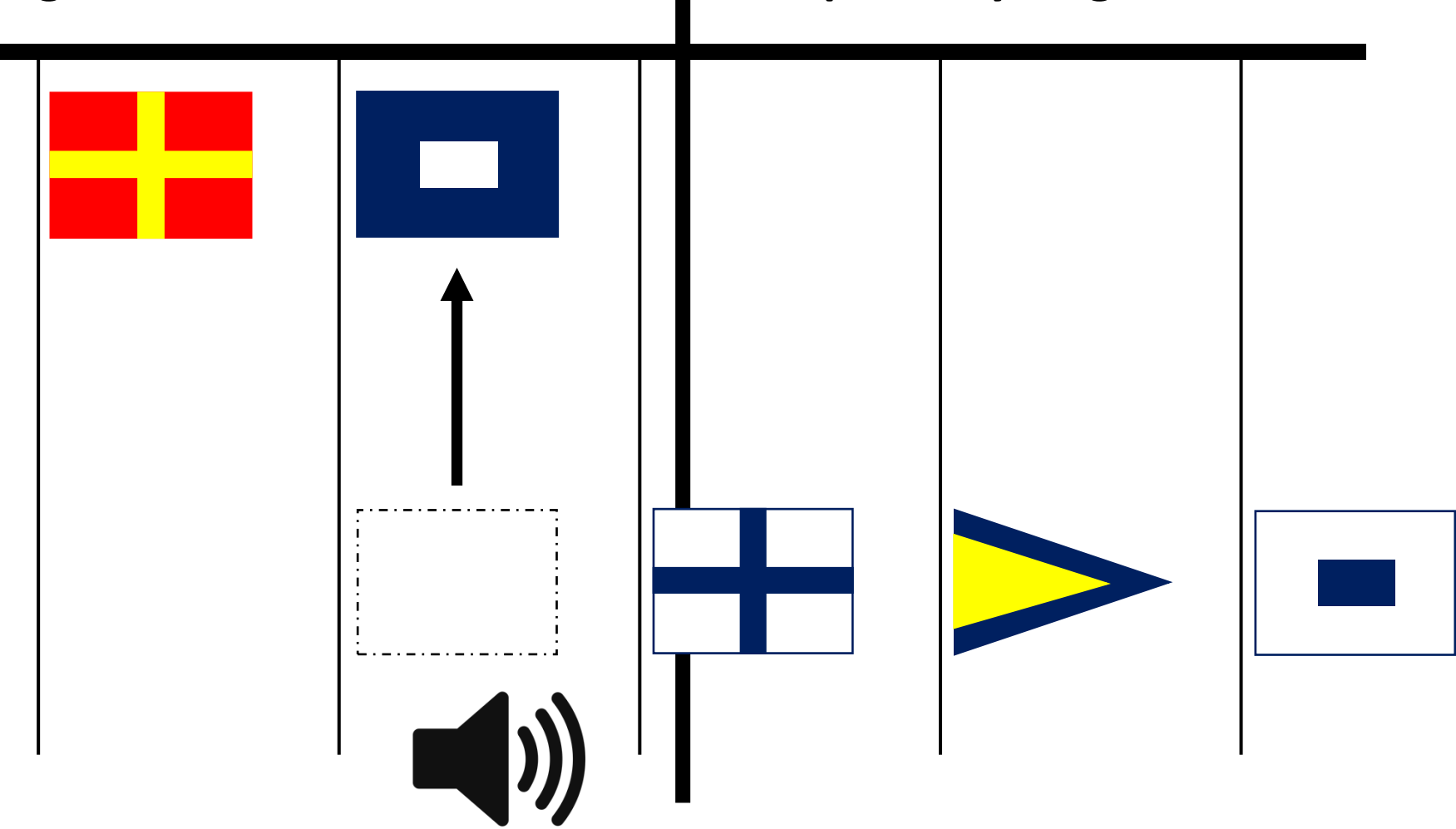


Commence the start sequence from the timing system.

The system will automatically sound the horn with 5 minutes to go.

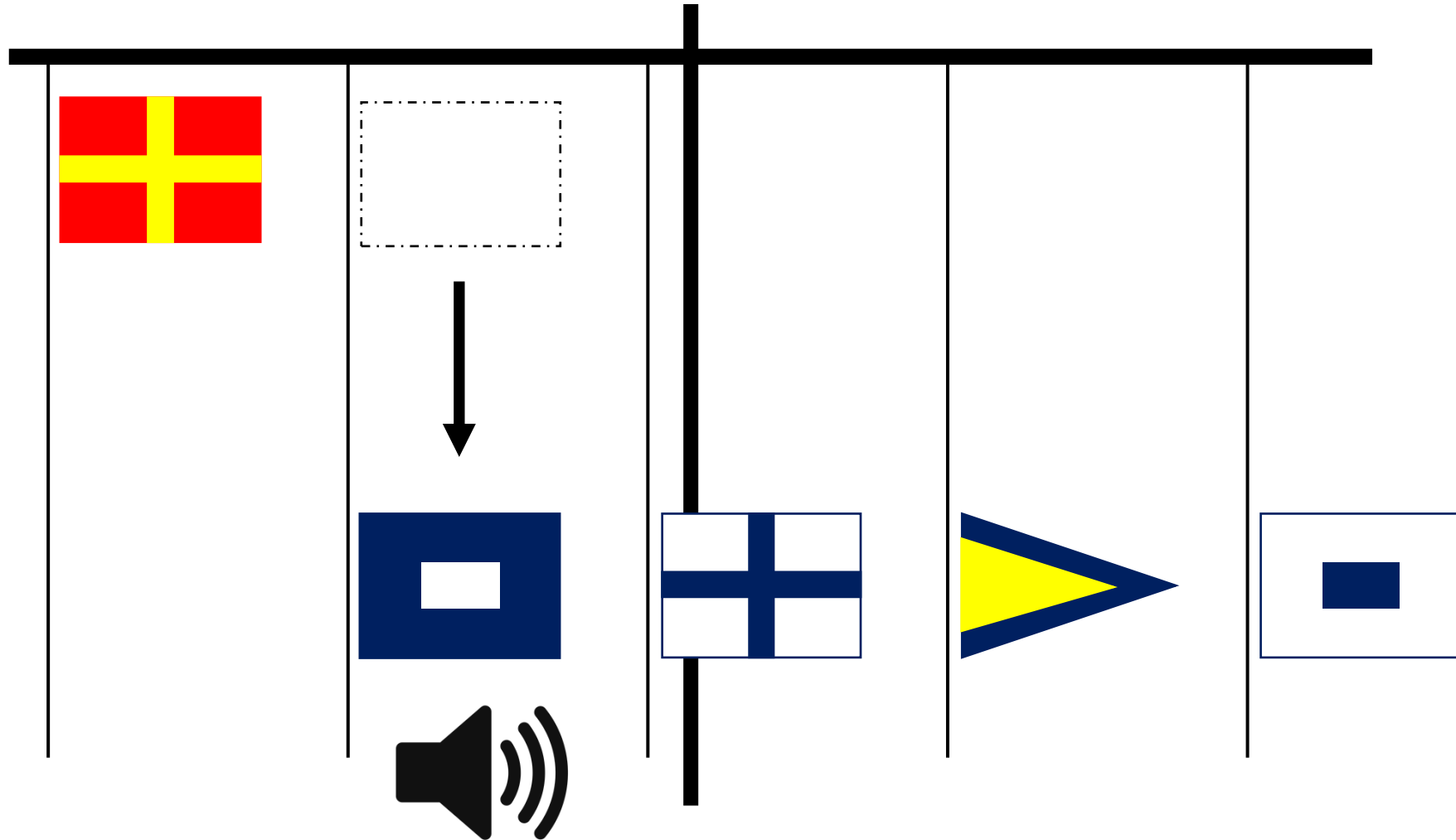
Raise the Class Flag, the illustration shows the “All Classes Flag” used for mixed handicap races.

# Preparatory Signal - 4 Minutes to Start – Raise Preparatory Flag



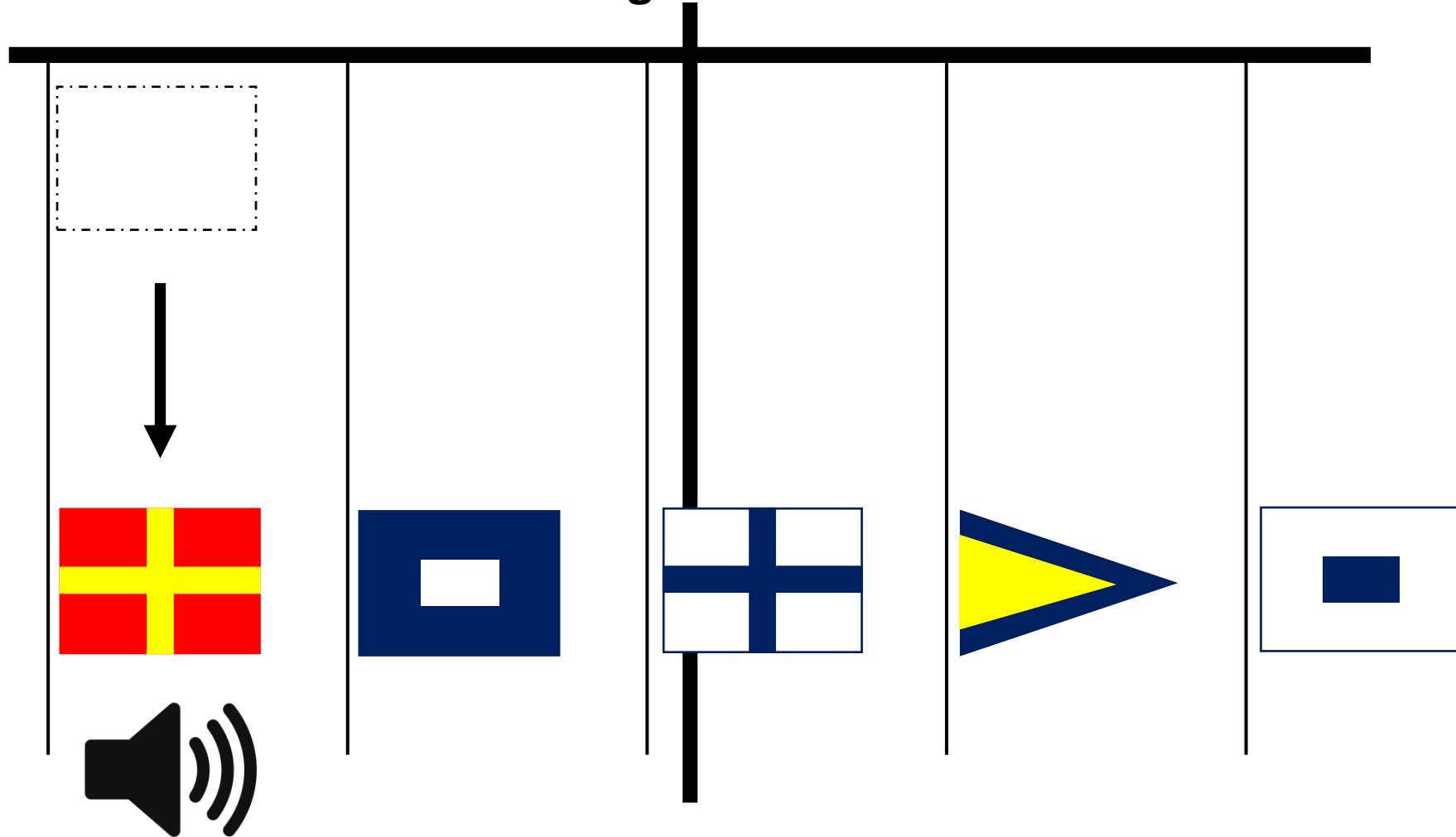
The timing system will automatically sound the 4 minute Preparatory horn.  
Raise the Preparatory flag.

## 1 Minute to Start – Lower Preparatory Flag



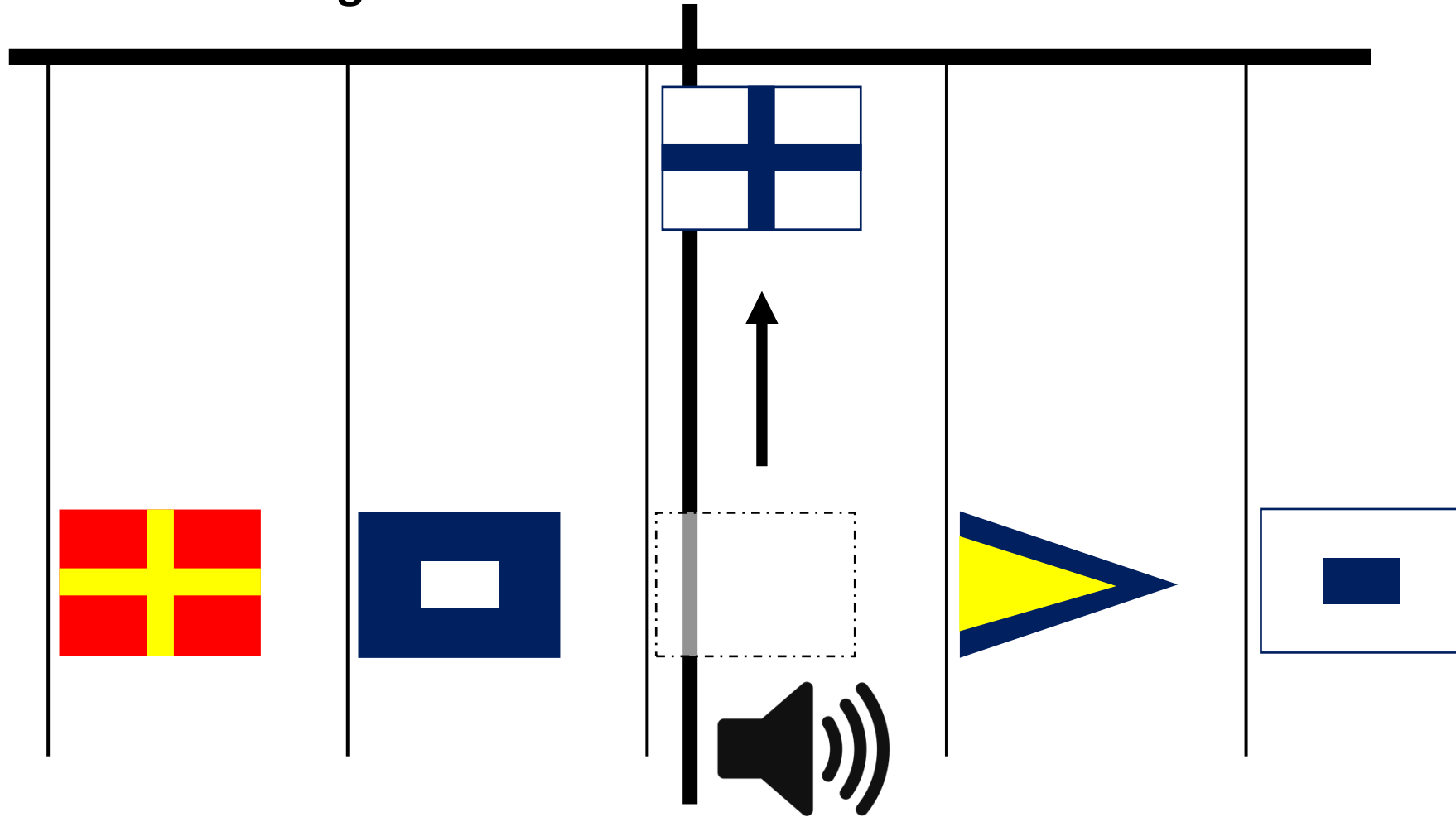
The timing system will automatically sound the 1 minute Preparatory horn.  
Lower the Preparatory flag.

## Go – 0 Minutes to Start – Lower Class Flag



The timing system will automatically sound the “Go” horn.  
Lower the “All Classes” flag.

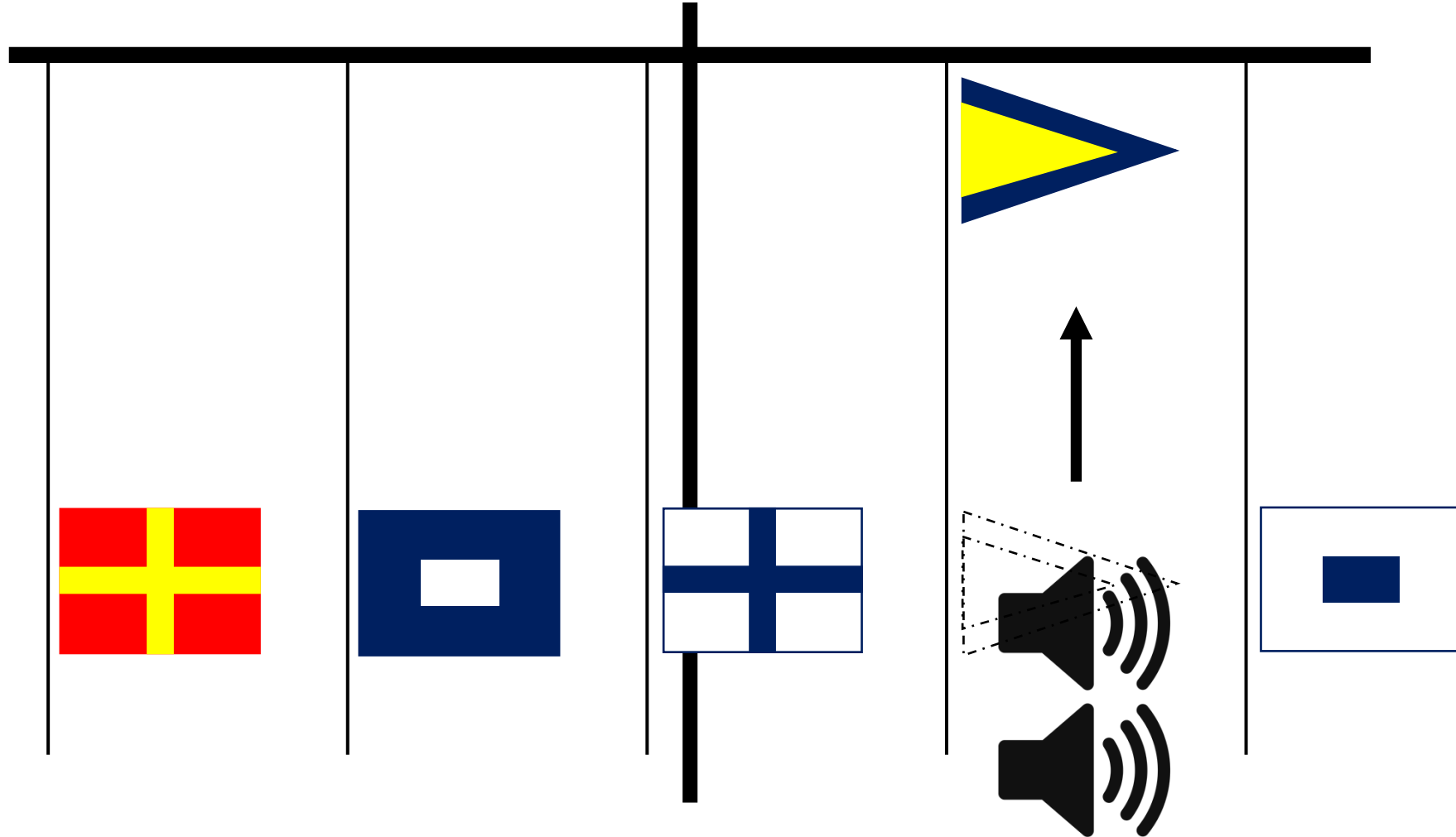
## Individual Recall – Raise Flag X



Raise the X Flag and manually sound the horn once when one (or more) competitors are over the start line before the race starts.

The X flag shall be displayed until all such boats have sailed completely to the pre-start side of the of the starting line.

## General Recall – Raise First Substitute Pennant



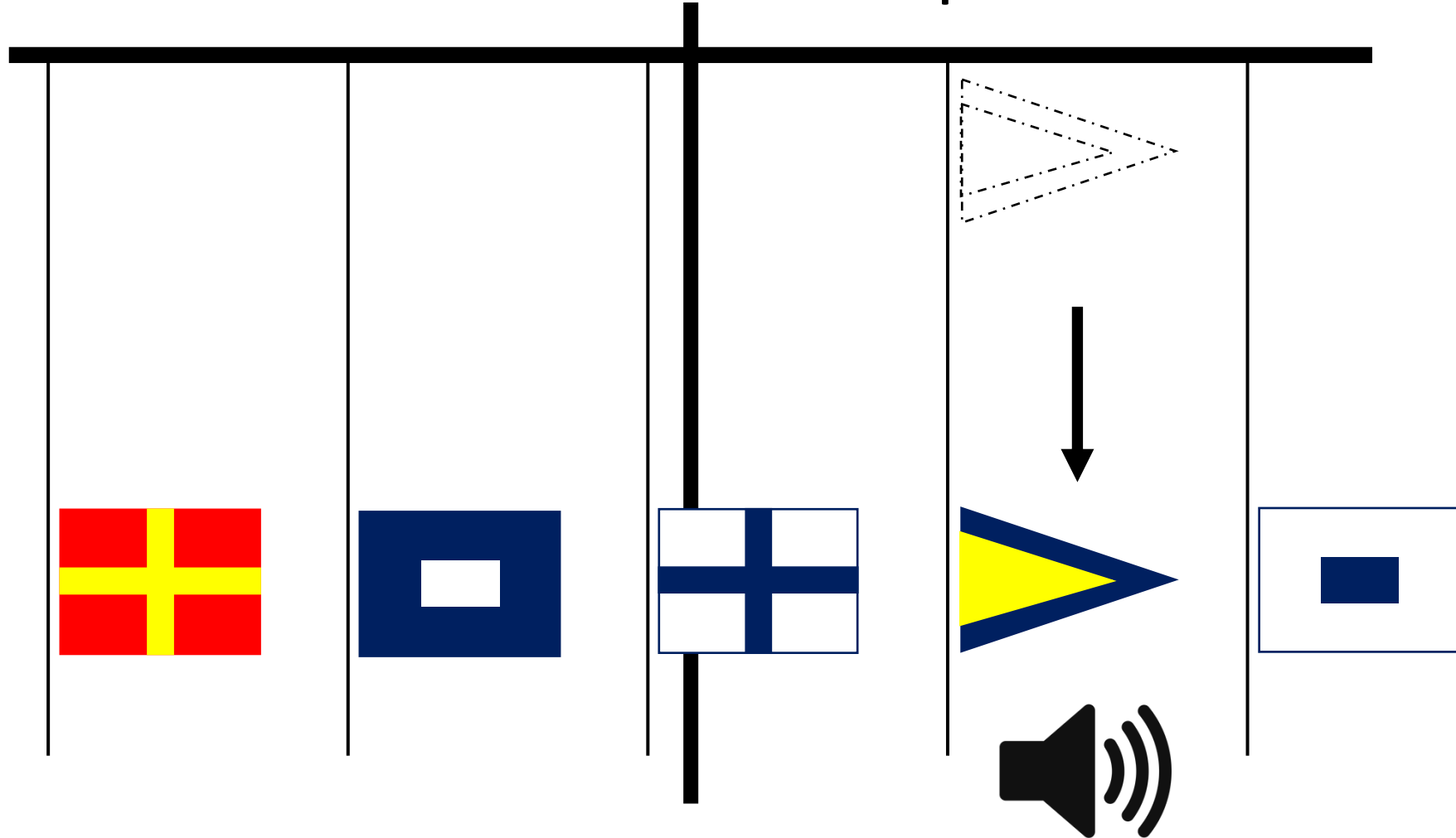
A general recall may occur when at the starting signal the race committee is unable to identify boats that are on the course side over the start line.

The First Substitute Pennant is raised and manually sound the horn twice.

All competitors must return behind the start line and the race will be restarted.



## General Recall Restart – 1 Minute Before New Start Sequence

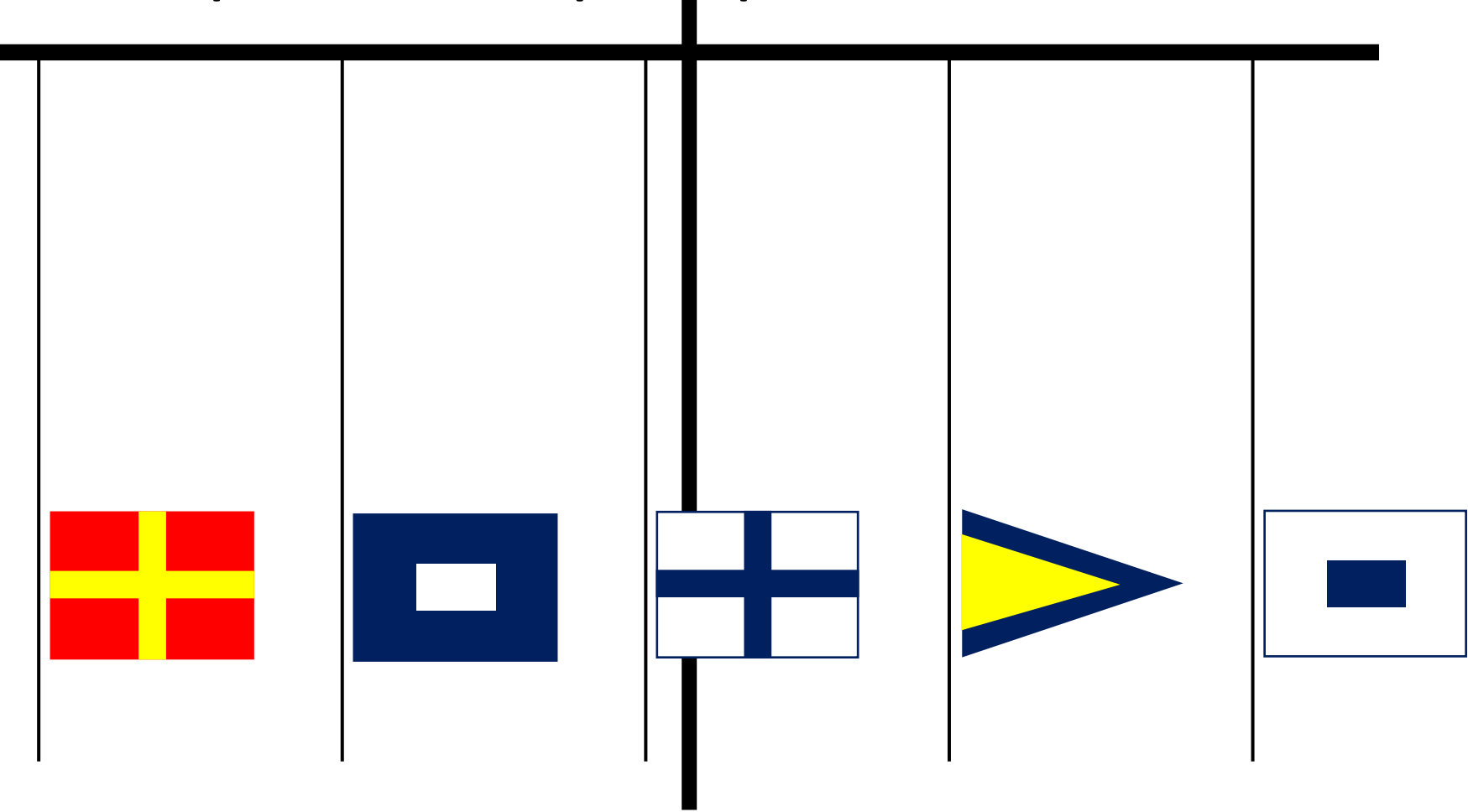


Following a general recall the 5, 4, 1, Go sequence will be repeated for a new start.

1 minute before the new start sequence the First Substitute pennant is lowered and manually sound the horn once.

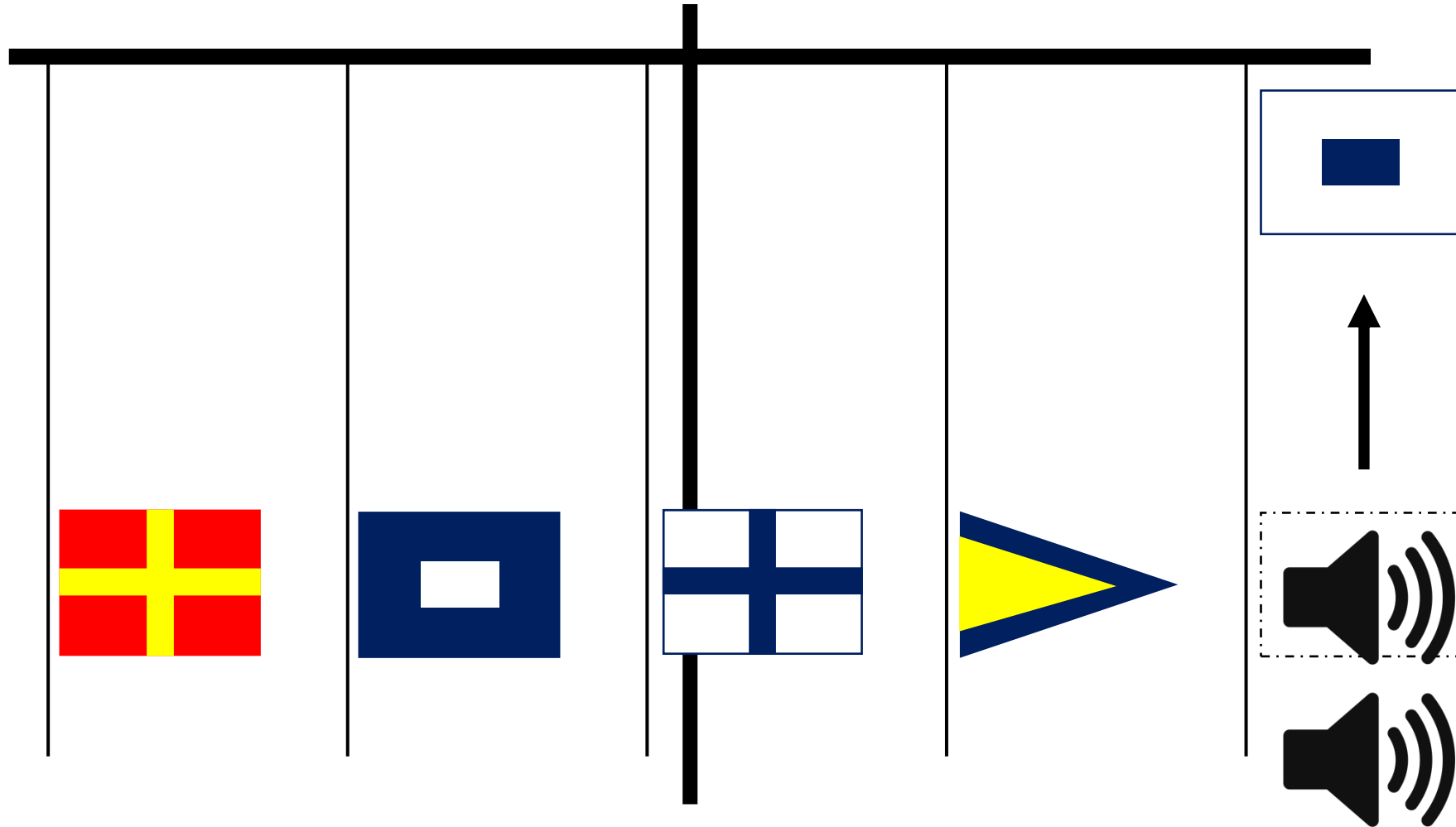
Restart the 5, 4, 1, Go sequence.

**During the Race – Keep Track of the Laps Completed**



As each competitor completes a lap record their position in the race.

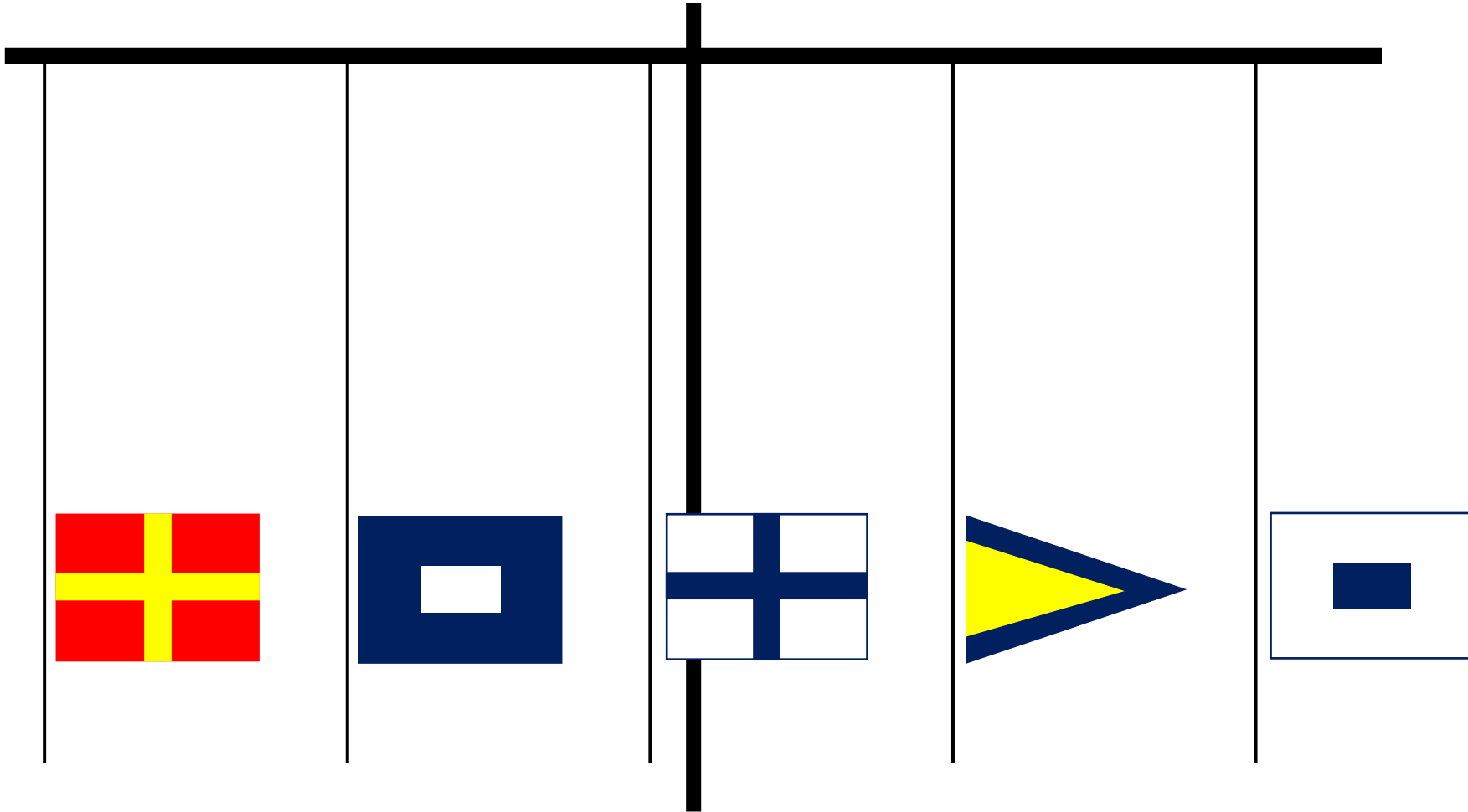
## Shortened Course



If the conditions are causing the race to take longer than expected (typically 45 mins) then the OOD can choose to shorten the course.

As the lead boat rounds the penultimate mark before the finish line raise the “S” flag and sound the horn twice.

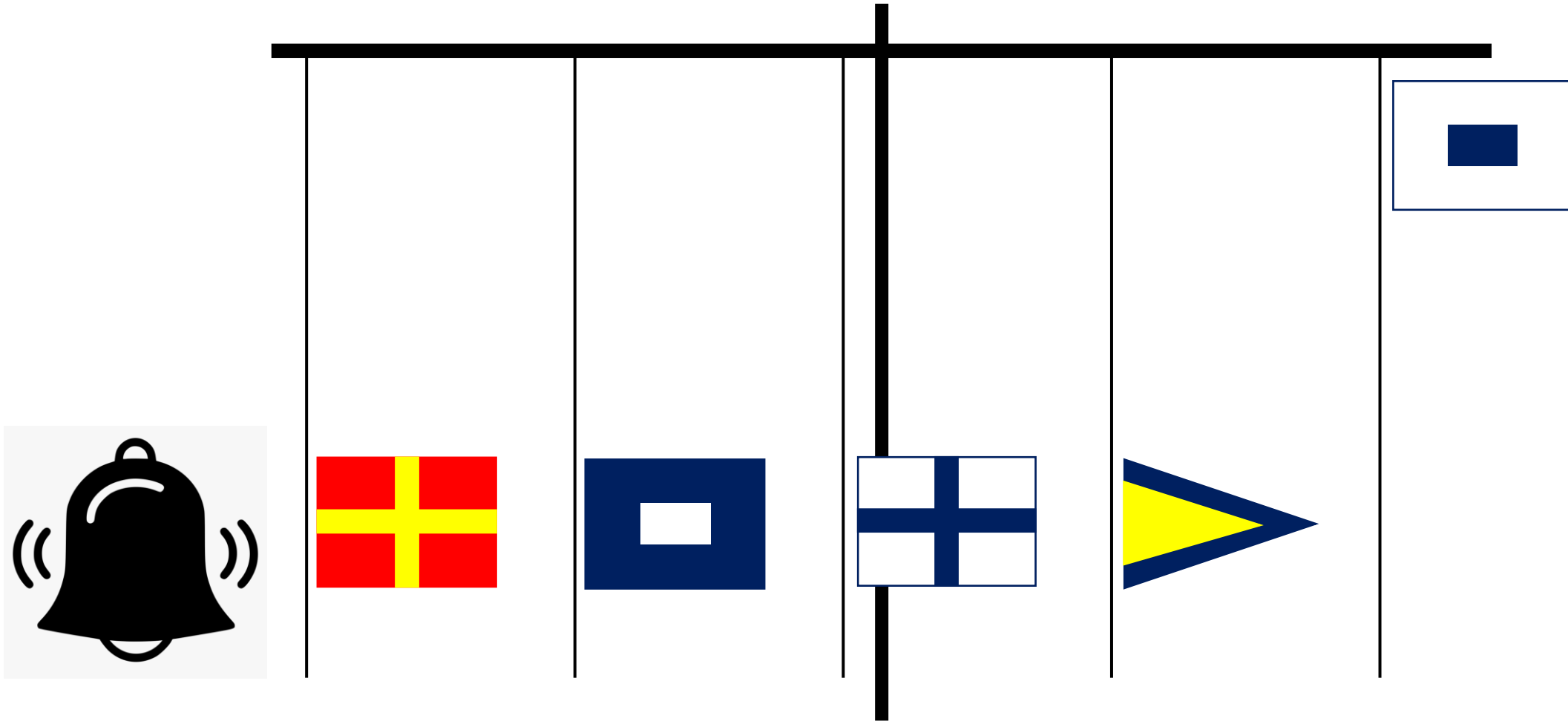
## Finish



As each competitor's bows cross the finish line ring the bell and press "Store" on the race timing software.

Ensure that the order in which competitors crossed the line is recorded so that their time is correctly attributed for the handicap calculation.

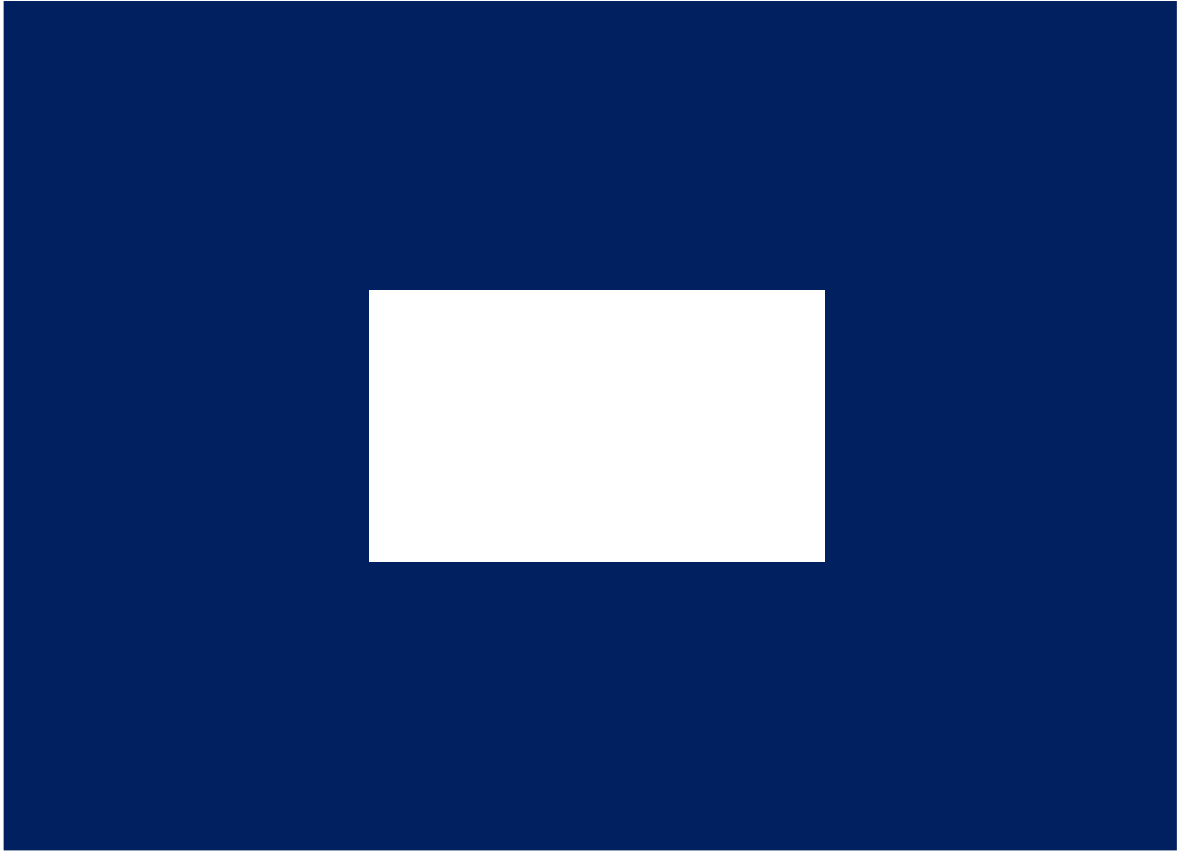
## Finish – Shortened Course



As each competitor's bows cross the finish line ring the bell and press "Store" on the race timing software.

Ensure that order in which competitors crossed the line is recorded so that their time is correctly attributed for the handicap calculation.

Ensure that the number of laps completed by each competitor is recorded. Any competitor who completed fewer laps than the lead boat will have their time adjusted on a pro-rata basis.



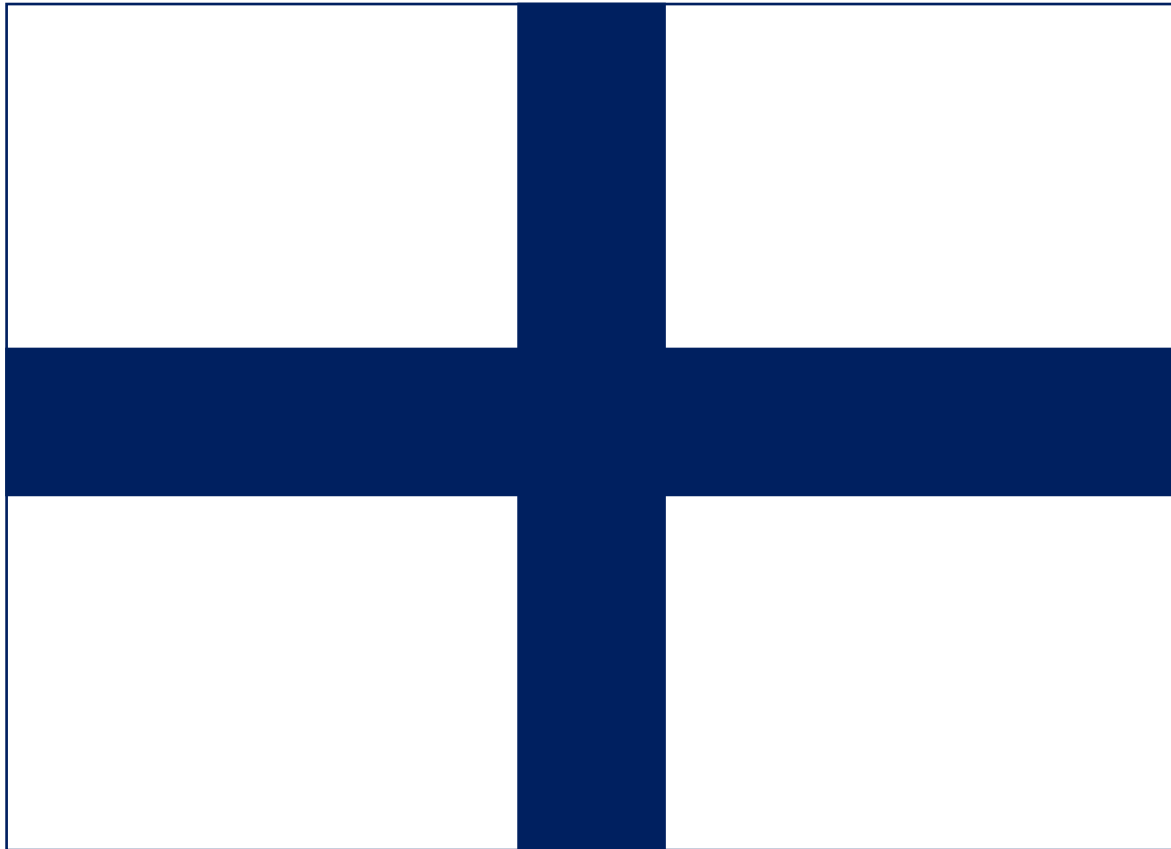
**Preparatory Flag**

Minutes Before Start	Flag	Sound Signal
4 mins	↑	
1 min	↓	



**Mixed Fleet – Class Flag**

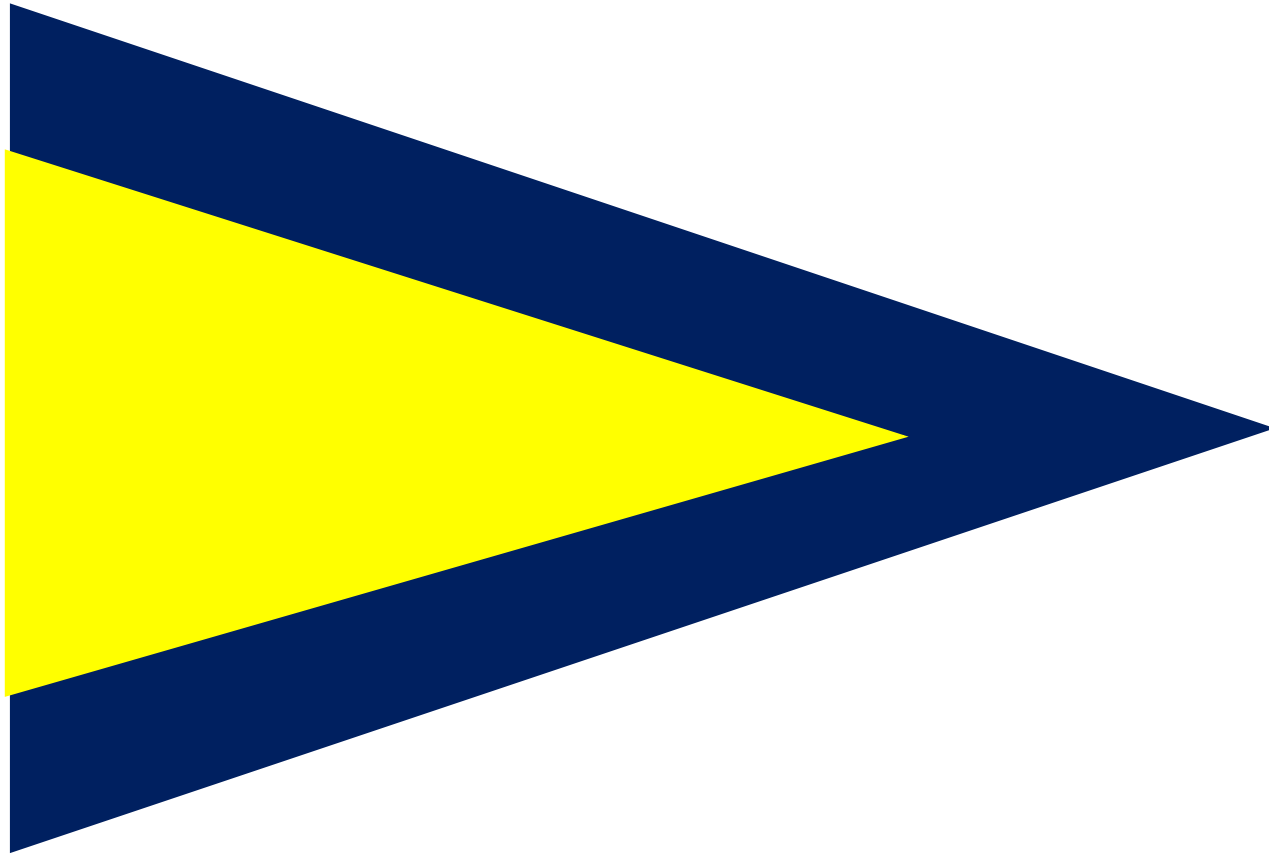
Minutes Before Start	Flag	Sound Signal
5 mins	↑	
0 mins	↓	



## **X Flag – Individual Recall**

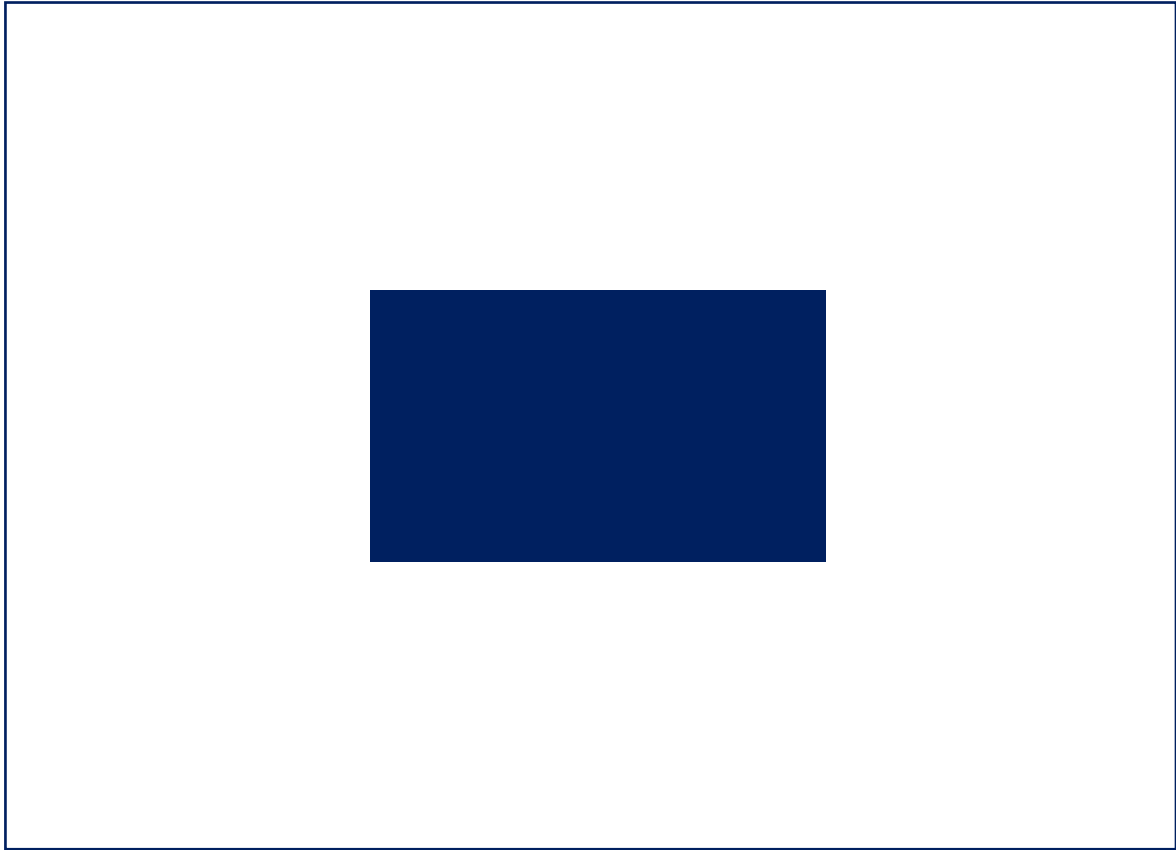
If at the start signal a boat is over the line (on course side) they must go back and re-cross the line before continuing. To signal to them that they were over you, the race committee shall promptly display flag X, the Individual Recall flag, with one sound. This flag shall be displayed until all such boats have sailed completely to the pre-start side of the starting line.





### **Substitute Pennant – General Recall**

When at the starting signal, you, the race committee is unable to identify boats that are over the line (on the course side) or if there has been an error in the starting procedure, you may signal a general recall (display the First Substitute with two sounds). The warning signal for a new start for the recalled race shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed (one sound).



### **Shortened Course Flag**

If the wind drops or the boats take longer to complete a lap than anticipated the race could be shortened. The length of a race at Ely is typically 45 minute. To shorten the course and ultimately finish the race, display flag S with two sounds. This must be signalled before the first boat crosses the finish line. At Ely this is usually at the penultimate mark of the course.