

WINTER CLASSIC

Sponsored by Orcas Hotel, West Sound Marina, and Orcas Island Yacht Club
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS – February 17, 2008

1. **RULES:** Races will be sailed under the current U.S. Sailing Yacht Racing Rules as modified by these instructions.
2. **ELIGIBILITY:** All owners/skippers are eligible to race provided registration requirements are met.
3. **REGISTRATION:** All skippers must pre-register for this race.
4. **DIVISIONS:** See the boat list for divisions. All divisions will start at the same time.
5. **COURSE:** Racers shall circumnavigate Shaw Island, keeping it to starboard (clockwise). The start/finish line will be the line formed by the Race Committee flag on the upper balcony of the Orcas Hotel to port and the flagpole located on Shaw Island at 150° Mag. to starboard. The start/finish line extends all the way across Harney Channel. To finish, racers must cross the finish line going the same direction they started.
6. **RESULTS AND SCORING:** Only eligible yachts will be scored in official race results. Time-On-Distance scoring will be used. The course length is 12nm. The yacht finishing in the least corrected time places first. Points are awarded based on standing as follows: First = 1, Second = 2, Third = 3, etc.

OCS = N + 1 where N equals the number of yachts that finish. (On Course Side or Over Early)

DNF = N + 1 (Did Not Finish)

DSQ = N + 2 (Disqualified)

DNS = X + 1 where X is the number of yachts that started the race. (Did Not Start)

In the event of a tie, yachts will share the same standing.

7. **TROPHIES AND AWARDS:** Orcas Hotel provides the trophies and awards. Only boats properly registered are eligible. Trophies are given for first, second and third. There is a perpetual trophy for the Overall Winner based on corrected time.
8. **COMMUNICATIONS:** The Race Committee will monitor VHF channel 68.
9. **CHECK-IN:** All racers **MUST** check in with the race committee after 0930 but at least 10 minutes prior to the start. Check-in is via VHF Channel 68 (use low power). Racers who do not check in prior to the starting sequence will score DNS. It is helpful to the committee, but not required, that racers check in shortly before finishing as sight lines from the hotel to the west are limited.
10. **STARTING SEQUENCE:** All signals are made from the balcony of the Orcas Hotel. *A series of short sound signals will be given to indicate one minute to the start sequence.* The start sequence begins at 0955. The race begins at 1000 unless delayed. The Race Committee will use GPS time.

Sound signals will be provided but are only a courtesy. The start sequence is as follows:

Yellow Flag - up	Warning Signal	5 minutes to start	1 Sound Signal
Blue Flag - up	Preparatory Signal	4 Minutes to start	1 Sound Signal
Blue Flag - down		1 Minute to start	1 Sound Signal
Yellow Flag - down	Start Signal	Start	1 Sound Signal

If a Washington State ferry is in the vicinity of the start line at Orcas, the start time may be delayed. Each yacht is responsible for determining whether it is over early. The Race Committee will attempt to make recall announcements via VHF Channel 68. If several boats are over early, those boats may be recalled individually by sail number and/or name. They must return to the starting area and re-cross the start line to exonerate themselves or receive a score of OCS. In the event of a general recall, the sequence will return to the warning signal (yellow flag).

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11. PENALTY SYSTEM: The “Two-Turns Penalty” (Rule 44.2) is in effect. A yacht may exonerate herself from a protest by doing a Two-Turns Penalty. However, other than the start/finish mark, Shaw Island is the only mark of the course. Do not hit it.
12. PROTESTS: Protests shall be in accordance with U.S. Sailing rules. As soon as possible after finishing, a yacht intending to protest must notify the Race Committee via VHF Channel 68 of an intent to protest and the sail number of the protested yacht. Written protests must be submitted within one hour after the last boat finishes or by 1730, whichever is later. Forms are available from the Race Committee. Protests will be forwarded to the OIYC Protest Committee for judgment. The committee will be composed of the OIYC Fleet Captain Sail (or a designee) and a minimum of 2 other sailors not involved in the protest.
13. MID-POINT TIMES: The mid-point of the race will be when the yacht crosses a north-south line centered on Reid Rock Buoy (off Friday Harbor’s west entrance). Racers shall record their mid-point time when their compass bearing to the buoy is either 180° Mag. (buoy is due south) or 000° Mag. (buoy is due north). Racers can pass the buoy on either side.
14. TIME LIMIT: Racers finishing after 1700 will receive a score of DNF. In the event that no yacht in a division finishes by the time limit, the Race Committee will use the mid-point times to score the race. If any boat finishes in a division, all boats in that division must finish in order to score. Racers are responsible for reporting mid-point times to the Race Committee if it appears that these times will be used to score the race.
15. DROPPING OUT: It is the racers’ responsibility to call the Race Committee on VHF Channel 68 if they drop out of the race after passing the mid-point. Anyone we don’t see finish and don’t hear from will receive a DNF.
16. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Washington State ferries are commercial vessels engaged in commercial activity and therefore have the right of way. **Any yacht that interferes with the operation of a ferry will be scored DSQ with no redress.**