

Sail Orcas Member Handbook Outline

Revised 4/27/07 PJK

Welcome to Sail Orcas

What is Sail Orcas?

Sail Orcas is a not-for-profit organization founded and lead by a dedicated group of volunteers. Sail Orcas employs no staff. Since its inception in 1970 Sail Orcas has provided facilities, equipment and volunteer leadership to a variety of teen program.

Through the efforts of Sail Orcas local teens have had the opportunity to discover the joys of sailing. Sail Orcas has funded the local teen's fleet of sailboats, and provided the team's coaching and direction. Years of hard work on the part of our teen sailors have helped them developed the skills, experience and confidence to be competitive on a local, regional and national level.

Over 250 islanders have also been introduced to sailing through our adult lessons. Sail Orcas instructors are certified to teach US Sailing's pre-eminent introductory sailing program. After participating in this hands on training members of Sail Orcas are ready to confidently and safely skipper one of our day sailing keel boats.

Privileges of Membership

Sail Orcas is a membership organization. Current annual dues are \$50.

Sail Orcas has been kindly gifted a small fleet of keel boats. We provide current members free access to our two Cal 20 sloops. The boats are moored at West Sound Marina at the end of the fuel dock. Boats are available in the water from early May through mid October. Boats are available on a first call/first serve basis. Reservations can be made through on board calendars. Stop by the marina to reserve a boat for a special occasion, or just come on by and sign a boat out for an afternoon. Boats are for day sailing use only, and are limited to sailing in the West Sound area.

New in 2006 and continuing for 2007 Sail Orcas has also arranged for member access to boats moored in Eastsound at Rosario's docks. Orcas Island Sailing has agreed to allow Sail Orcas members access to their keel-boats for a nominal fee of \$5 per use. Members must present their membership card, demonstrate their competency, and sign a standard bareboat rental contract. Sailing under this arrangement is a private agreement between sailor and Orcas Island Sailing, and is completely independent of Sail Orcas.

Prerequisites

Sail Orcas' adult program is limited to members 18 years and older. Access to the boats is provided to new sailors who have completed our training program, and experienced sailors who have been "checked out" by one of our adult program instructors. All members are asked to read and sign a waiver of liability and understanding when they join. A copy of this document can be found at the end of this handbook. Members of Sail Orcas are welcome to have guest on board with them. Members are expected to have guest sign our waiver of liability, copies of which are conveniently located on board the boats. Members may not "loan" their membership privileges to others. A Sail Orcas member must be on board and in the skipper role at all times. Adult Membership does not include access to the teen's racing fleet of Vanguard 15's, or power boats used for race support.

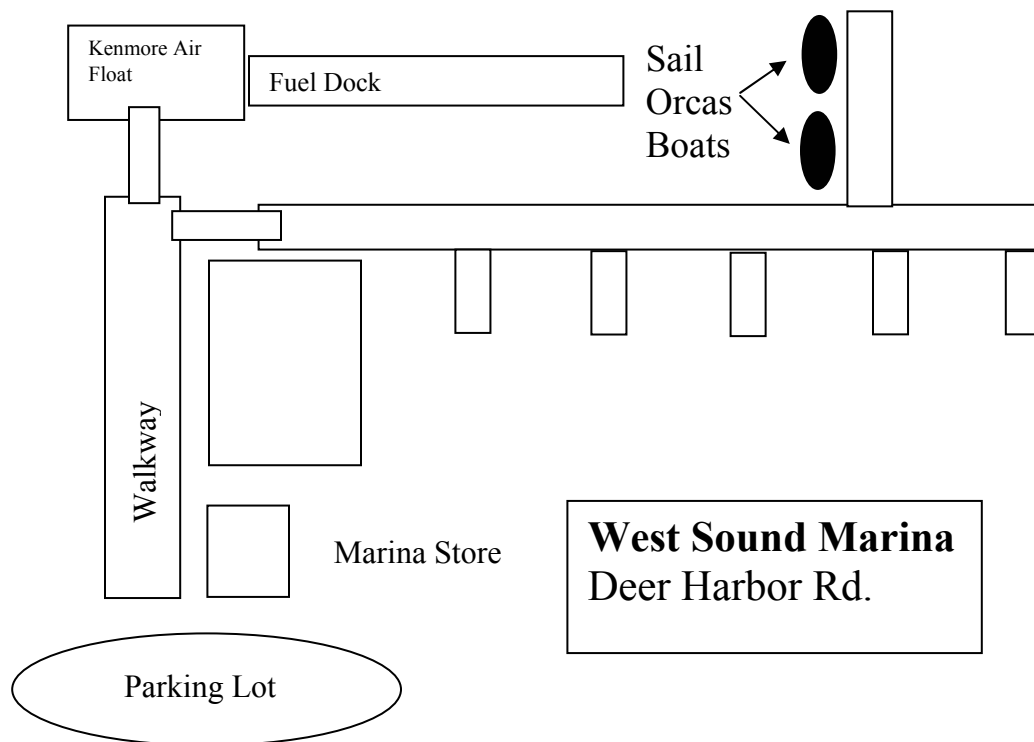
Reservations

To secure access to a Sail Orcas boat, members can make advanced reservations. For 2007 reservations are made via calendars stored on each boat. Members can stop by the dock and reserves times during daylight hours throughout the week. The former reservation number, 376-SAIL, is no longer in service, and member need not provide advanced notice of their interest in taking out a boat. If the winds right, the sun out – follow your impulse and head to the dock. Seldom throughout the summer are both boats in use at the same time. Before rigging the boat please check the calendar to make sure the boat is not reserved for the period you intend to be out. Please always “sign out” your boat use on the calendar so that we can track boat usage.

Our adult sailing classes which are offered throughout June and July do have priority scheduling, but typically use only one of the boats, and their time will be scheduled in the calendars.

Location of Boats

The owners and staff of Westsound Marina have been wonderful supporters of Sail Orcas. Our boats are moored on their docks. A map to the marina and a diagram of the boats moorage is below.



Safety

Safe sailing is the top priority of Sail Orcas. We teach safe sailing and expect our members to demonstrate sound and safe sailing judgment while on our boats. The following safety guidelines apply to all Sail Orcas members, their guests, and our boats.

- If for any reason you are not fully comfortable and confident after your instruction course, please ask for additional training time with an instructor. We will happily provide it.
- All sailors, instructors and guests must wear an appropriately fitted Coast Guard approved life jackets whenever on board a Sail Orcas boat. Some life jackets and some life vest are

available on board the boats, but Sail Orcas recommends that members provide their own life vests.

- Respect the capacity of your boat. The Cal 20 is approved for a maximum load of 4 sailors. Members are discouraged from solo sailing; those interested in single handing a boat must be approved for such by the Lead Sailing Instructor.
- It is wise to let someone know your sailing plans prior to heading to the marina. Be sure to let them know when you expect to be back and check in with them after your return.
- Cell phone service in the Westsound area is typically spotty. Sail Orcas boats are not equipped with VHF radio.
- Summer sailing conditions in Westsound are typically good, however conditions can vary, and members should check conditions and forecasts prior to beginning their sail. You should know check forecast for winds, tides, and weather. A good source for checking local conditions online is via a link on the Orcas Island Yacht Club website. (http://www.oiyyc.org/oiyyc_links.htm)
- Westsound can be a busy boating environment during the summer season, especially on weekends. Please be a respectful boater by knowing and obeying “the rules of the road”.
- Sail Orcas boats are not equipped for night time sailing, and sailing after dusk is dangerous, illegal and prohibited. Please plan your sail to make sure the boats are secured to the dock before dusk. Keep in mind Westsound evening winds can drop quickly right before dusk.
- Sail Orcas boats can not be safely beached anywhere in our sailing area. Legal shore access is very limited in Westsound. Beaching, docking, anchoring boats is not allowed unless it is an emergency.
- Sail Orcas prohibits smoking, alcohol, illegal drugs, pets, fire arms, and fireworks from its programs, boats and facilities.

Breakdown or Damage to Boats

Sail Orcas operates on an honor system. We understand that a wide variety of things can and do go wrong on a boat. Members are encouraged to notify Sail Orcas of any mechanical problems they discover or that happen while sailing. All our boat maintenance is provided by volunteers. Prior to sailing, members should closely inspect the boat for damage or an unsafe condition. Use good judgment and don't sail a damaged boat or one that is missing an important part or a portion of its safety gear inventory. Please make a note of problems in the boats log book, and call it in to board member Bruce Bracket, 376-4587. With the log book is a role of 2” tape that can used to identify the problem area for those making repairs. Any failed parts should be left on board. It is wise to check the boat log as well as check the boat carefully before beginning your sail. Members reporting problems will not be liable or chastised for a boat failure. Promptly and responsibly reporting problems is both respectful of your fellow member and a vital part of maintaining a safe sailing fleet. Although members are not held responsible for normal wear and tear on the boats, damage that is clearly attributable to negligence will be the responsibility of the Sail Orcas member who reserved the boat.

Equipment you should find on board

Sail Orcas provides the following equipment on board on boats. If any of the below equipment is missing or not functioning properly, you should likely not sail. Failed, damaged, used or missing gear should be report to Bruce Brackett, at 376-4587 as quickly as possible.

- Flares
- Emergency Flags
- First Aid Kit
- Paddle(s)
- Throw Rope
- Bumpers
- Mooring Lines
- Sails
- Bilge Pump
- Air horn
- Small tool kit
- Life jackets
- Chart of Westsound

Sail Orcas *does not* provide the following equipment

- Radio
- Phone
- Anchors
- Motor

Sail Orcas Volunteer Opportunities

As a completely volunteer run organization Sail Orcas is dependant on members participating in a wide variety of tasks in order to provide it services. Members are encouraged to contribute in any of the following areas:

- Service as a Board Member
- Adult Lesson Instructor
- Teen Racing and Lessons Support
- Fundraising Efforts
- Special Events Support
- Boat Maintenance
- Website Management

Sail Orcas Board of Directors

Howard Barbour

Barry Neville- President

Jeanne Skott-Secretary

Bruce Brackett

Wally Lum

Tom Temple - Lead Adult Instructor

Chris White

Burke Thomas - Director Teen Sailing

Paul Kamin -Vice President

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brackett_bruce@yahoo.com

wallylumorcas@hotmail.com

ttemple@penryn.com

cweyes@aol.com

woodsong7@centurytel.net

pkamin@orcasonline.com

You can contact Sail Orcas via the following:

www. sailorcas.org

P.O. Box 1226, Eastsound, WA., 98245

List of Sail Orcas Sponsors and Contributors

Sail Orcas appreciates the generous support it receives from the following sponsors:

- Westsound Marina
- Orcas Island Sailing
- Orcas Island Yacht Club
- Deer Harbor Boatworks

Hold Harmless Agreement

In consideration of Sail Orcas agreeing to allow the undersigned (and family members) to participate in on of its programs, I hereby agree that I will waive and release any claim for personal injury or death against Sail Orcas, its Board Members, and Instructors.

Signature _____ Date _____