



ROUND ORCAS

Notice of Race

A race around Orcas Island on Saturday, June 21st, 2025

[Orcas Island Yacht Club](#) is pleased to invite you to the annual race around Orcas Island on Saturday, June 21st, 2025. Held on the longest Saturday of the year, the race presents intriguing navigational challenges set against the splendid scenic beauty of the largest island in the San Juans.

1. Rules

1.1 The regatta will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-2028), the prescriptions of the U.S. Sailing Association, and the Class Rules of One-Design classes, except as changed by this Notice of Race and by the Sailing Instructions.

1.2 All boats must have a valid 2025 PHRF certificate or be listed on the current PHRF-NW roster. RRS Appendix T and Rule V1 in Appendix V will apply.

1.3 RRS 52, Manual Power, is amended to include: Boats registered as shorthanded (single-or double-handed) are allowed to use autopilot mechanisms for sail changes and other situations where having one crew member assigned to steering the yacht may compromise the safety of crew and craft.

1.4 A boat rated by her handicap class in consideration of water ballast may use water ballast as rated. This changes RRS 51.

1.5 All entrants shall be members of clubs in good standing with their respective national authorities.

2. Fleets

2.1 We are planning on at least two fleets, including a PHRF shorthanded (single/double-handed) class and a PHRF crewed class. A one design class will be offered if 5 or more one design boats register.

3. Course

3.1 One vote by email/survey per boat will be counted for counterclockwise (CCW) or clockwise (CW). Each registered skipper will be sent an email on the evening of Monday, June 16th and the voting window will close on Thursday, June 19th at 1800. The popular vote will decide the course and the decision will be posted to the event site and an email sent to each registered skipper by 2000 on Friday.

3.2 If CCW, then the start is between a red flag on Orcas Landing and the flagpole on Shaw Island at 48° 35.169'N by 122° 56.549'W. Heading east, keep Orcas Island to port. Record your halfway time when crossing longitude 122° 53.6W (Parker Reef). Continue to keep Orcas Island to port.

3.3 If CW, the reverse of the above.

Both courses will finish by sailing into West Sound through the finish line between the OIYC dock and a race mark set to the south of the dock, keeping the race mark to port.

4. Schedule

4.1 The starting sequence will commence no earlier than 0730 and when the starting area is clear of ferry traffic. Note that a ferry is scheduled to arrive at Orcas at 0710 and depart at 0735.

4.1 The time limit will be 1930 to complete the halfway or full course.

5. Social/moorage

5.1 After the finish there will be a gathering at the OIYC picnic shelter at the north end of West Sound to eat, drink, and tell stories, at the end of the day. Barbeque will be provided for competitors after the race.

6. Registration

6.1 The entry fee is \$49.99 and **advance registration is required**. Only those skippers registered by Sunday, June 15th at 1800 will be invited to vote on the course direction. Registration will close Friday June 20th at 10:00pm.

7. Scoring

7.1 The race will be scored time-on-distance with a total distance of 31.5nm for the CCW course and 34nm for CW course. The shortened course will be scored using a distance of 17.5nm for the CCW course or 13.2nm for the CW course. Full course finishers will be scored in the order of their corrected time, followed by those who finished and reported their halfway time by the race time limit. Awards will be provided by division and for the fastest overall finisher.

8. Awards

8.1 Awards will be provided for first, second and third in each class and for fastest overall finisher. The awards ceremony will be held at the picnic shelter following the race.

9. Safety

9.1 Boats shall sail with US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) "Nearshore" safety equipment. Each boat must have a VHF and charts of the area around Orcas Island.

10. Liability

10.1 Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The race organizers (Orcas Island Yacht Club, organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, sponsors, OIYC Board member, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the

injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

11. Insurance

11.1 The owner must have third-party liability insurance for their boat, applicable for sailboat racing, having a minimum coverage of \$500,000.

11.2 If the owner is not on board, the policy must be valid for a non-owner person in charge or the competitor must secure event insurance.

12. Clean Regatta Our clean regatta goals are:

- **Less waste:** Reducing our reliance on landfill is one of our primary goals. We'll reject unnecessary waste, replace disposable options with eco-friendly alternatives, reuse items instead of creating new ones each year, and recycle or compost much of what would otherwise end up in a landfill.
- **No discharge:** None of us want to see rubbish floating in our oceans or washed up on our shores. Nor do we want the health of our marine ecosystems to suffer the effects of waste discharge from vessels. We have a no-discharge rule for all competitors to ensure we do not contribute to pollution in the San Juan Islands.
- **Emissions reduction:** We're exploring ways we can reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, by minimizing vehicular travel and utilizing more efficient and less polluting options where possible.
- **Locally sourced:** Not only will we minimize our carbon footprint, but we'll also support our local community by prioritizing local suppliers of the products and services we need.
- **Education & engagement:** The more people on board with our sustainability goals, the better. We aim to spread the word about our sustainability efforts, educate people about how they can help, and facilitate positive environmental change from everyone involved with our events, so we can all work together towards a sustainable future.

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