



Notice of Race

2026 Club Racing Series

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Date and location:** Friday evenings from May to August and Sundays in September
Orcas Island, Washington
- Organizing Authority:** Orcas Island Yacht Club | oiyc.org
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The Orcas Island Yacht Club invites you to participate in our 2026 club sailboat racing series. Our racing is held on West Sound with a focus on fun, safety and inclusiveness. New for 2026 will be a special "Casual" series for classic boats, people who may be new to racing, or simply those looking for a more casual racing environment.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The Club Racing Series is governed by the following:
 - a) Rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*
 - b) PHRF-NW rules
 - c) Class Rules for any one-design boat
- 1.2 [DP] RRS 40.1 applies. Each competitor shall wear a personal flotation device except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment.
- 1.3 The race committee may provide unofficial communication, which is communication not governed by the rules, at any time by hail or over radio on VHF channel 68. A request for redress may not be based on any aspect of unofficial communication, including content, timeliness, or failure to hear. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 1.4 Appendix T (Arbitration) is in effect.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available by April 25, 2026 on the sailing page at oiyc.org.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 16, 68 and 69.
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SIs.
- 3.3 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to all boats that meet PHRF-NW eligibility requirements as stated in the 2026 PHRF-NW class rules. A 2026 PHRF-NW certificate is required to sail in the PHRF class.

4.2 Classes are defined as follows:

- PHRF: This class includes all boats participating for the full season
- Casual: This class includes classic boats, skippers/crews that are new to racing, or anyone simply looking for a casual racing experience. A PHRF rating is not required. Race score will be in the order of a boat's finish.

4.3 Boats may enter the Club Racing Series by registering online on the Sailing page at oiyc.org.

4.4 To be considered an entry in the Club Racing Series, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.

5 FEES

5.1 Entry fees are as follows:

- PHRF: early season entry fee of \$60 before June 1; standard fee of \$80
- Casual: Free! No fees collected

6 SCHEDULE

6.1 Registration will open April 20, 2026 and remain open throughout the racing season. Racers shall be pre-registered in order to start, race, and be scored.

6.2 Racing will occur each Friday from May through August with the first start scheduled for 1730 and Sundays in September with the first start scheduled for 1400.

6.3 No warning signal will be made after 1930.

6.4 Coaching, training, and practice nights will also be available on the following Wednesdays: May 20th, June 17th, July 15th, and August 19th.

7 VENUE AND COURSES

7.1 The venue for racing shall be West Sound, Massacre Bay and adjacent bodies of water.

7.2 Courses are typically once-around with a target time of 45 minutes per race.

7.3 NOR Addendum 1 illustrates several standard courses. Race Committee may designate alternate courses depending on conditions.

8 PENALTY SYSTEM

8.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

9 SCORING

9.1 The time-on-time system of scoring PHRF races will be used. The number used in the denominator will be according to the US Sailing PHRF guidelines:

- 600 for light wind. Boats are sailing at less than half of their hull speed, are slow around the course, or there are dead spots.
- 550 for moderate wind and average conditions. Boats can get around the course without significant slow spots and there are no whitecaps.
- 480 for heavy air (whitecaps).

9.2 The Casual class will not be handicapped and will be scored in the order of finishers.

- 9.3 All boats for the PHRF class will be scored together. Secondary scoring will be provided for any one-design boats with at least five registered boats at the beginning of the racing month.
- 9.4 Each monthly series' results will be the total of all individual race results with one throw-out for each of five races in a series. For example, if there are 12 races, then two throw outs will be applied. Low point scoring will apply.
- 9.5 Boats not registered will not be scored.
- 9.6 Boats volunteering as Race Committee will receive an average of their scores for the monthly series for up to two races per series. The total series score will be rounded to the nearest full score at the end of the series.
- 9.7 One race is required to be scored to constitute a series.
- 9.8 Online results will be posted in a timely fashion to the Sailing page on oiyc.org.

10 RISK STATEMENT

- 10.1 RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone." By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

11 INSURANCE

- 11.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$500,000 per incident or the equivalent.
- 11.2 Insurance policies must specifically cover sailboat racing and if a skipper other than the owner is the person in charge, the policy must include coverage for "permissive use."

12 AWARDS

- 12.1 End-of-season awards will be given at the OIYC *Change of Watch* meeting in November.
- 12.2 A **Sailor of the Year** award will be presented to the person who best supports our focus on having fun and growing the fleet. To be considered, skippers or crew must self-report each week using the board posted at the OIYC picnic shelter. Criteria will include:
 - Participate in club racing: 1 point per official club racing day.
 - Bringing a new person to sail: 1 point per person (a person only counts as "new" once).
 - Sailing on a boat other than your normal one: 1 point each time.
 - Sailing in a different position on any boat: 1 point each time.
 - Attending and racing in regional events in Anacortes, Bellingham, Friday Harbor, Lopez Island, Oak Harbor, or Victoria: 1 point each time.
 - Attending the BBQ/social at the OIYC picnic shelter after racing: 1 point each time.
 - Bringing new individuals or families to the BBQ/social: Max 1 point for season.
 - Take additional participants sailing on Opening Day after the BBQ: 1 point each time.
- 12.3 Performance awards will be given to boats in the following categories. The top three boats overall for each monthly series or club event will receive 3 points for 1st place, 2 points for

2nd, and 1 point for 3rd. For events where overall scoring is not available, points will be awarded by class. High point scoring will apply.

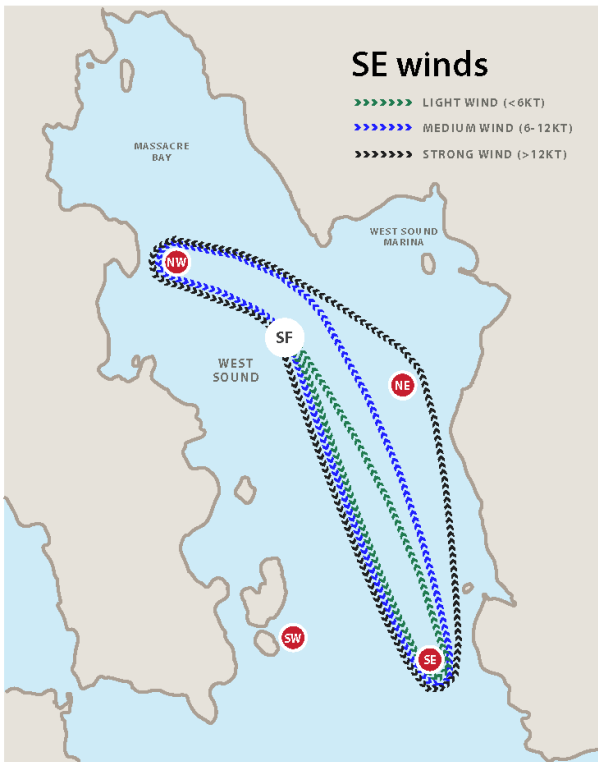
- **Boat of the Year** will be given to the highest scoring PHRF boat with results across each of five monthly series, and our club regattas, including Winter Shaw, Spring Regatta, Round Orcas, and Benson Cup (total of 9 events).
- **PHRF Class:** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places for the season (total of overall results from each of five monthly series).
 - Recognition may also be provided for performance in one-design divisions with at least five registered boats.
- **Casual Class:** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places for the season (total of overall results from each of five monthly series).

13 FURTHER INFORMATION

13.1 For further information about how to get involved in our club racing series, please contact Ryan Forbes, OIYC Fleet Captain Sail, at rjfski76@gmail.com or 206.914.6495.

13.2 [DP] All racers are expected to be familiar with the OIYC racing Emergency Action Plan (EAP) posted on the sailing page at oiyc.org.

ADDENDUM 1



West Sound sailing courses

FLAG	WIND CONDITIONS	COURSE
1	Strong SE	Start—SE—NE—NW—Finish
2	Medium SE	Start—SE—NW—Finish
3	Light SE	Start—SE—Finish
4	Strong/medium SW	Start—SW—NE—Finish
5	Light SW	Start—SW—Finish
6	Strong/medium NW	Start—NW—SE—Finish
7	Light NW	Start—NW—Finish
--	Custom course to be set by RC.	

Contact Race Committee on VHF 68 for course questions.

