



Sailing Instructions

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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1 RULES

- 1.1 The Club Racing Series is governed by the following:
- Rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*
 - PHRF-NW rules
 - 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 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1200 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.2 Changes to a sailing instruction may be made on the water by the Race Committee or Fleet Captain Sail up until the warning signal of the race. Changes shall be made by hailing competitors on VHF and/or flying the L flag from the Race Committee vessel and communicating changes to competitors directly.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board on the Sailing page at oiyc.org.
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 68.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1730 from May through August and 1400 in September.
- 5.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.3 The Casual class will start first if at least one boat registered in that class is present.

6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 Class flags are as follows:
 - PHRF: solid yellow
 - Casual: code flag 1

7 RACING AREA AND COURSES

- 7.1 The racing area is in West Sound, Massacre Bay and adjacent bodies of water.
- 7.2 NoR Addendum 1 illustrates several standard courses. Race Committee may designate alternate courses depending on conditions.
- 7.3 Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 33.

8 MARKS

- 8.1 Four permanent marks are located in West Sound as indicated in NoR Addendum 1.
- 8.2 Additional temporary marks may be utilized from time to time. The description and approximate position of these marks will be communicated by Race Committee before racing.

9 THE START

- 9.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.
- 9.2 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 9.3 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 9.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. A boat may not request redress based on failure of the race committee to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 9.5 A boat that does not start within 5 (five) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

10 THE FINISH

- 10.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat at the port end and the course side of the starboard end finishing mark
- 10.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

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

12 HEARING REQUESTS

- 12.1 For each class, the Protest Time Limit is one hour after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 12.2 Hearing request forms are available through US Sailing. A hearing request must be received by a member of the race committee or the Fleet Captain Sail by hand delivery, email, or text message.

13 RISK STATEMENT

- 13.1 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.

14 INSURANCE

- 14.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$500,000 per incident or the equivalent.
- 14.2 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."

15 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 [DP] All racers are expected to be familiar with the OIYC racing Emergency Action Plan (EAP) posted on the sailing page at oiyc.org.