



# Sailing Instructions

## 2023 Round the County

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Date and location:** Friday to Sunday, November 10-12, 2023  
Orcas Island, Washington

**Organizing Authorities:** Orcas Island Yacht Club | [oiyc.org](http://oiyc.org)  
Friday Harbor Sailing Club | [fridayhARBORSAILING.COM](http://fridayhARBORSAILING.COM)

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## 1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in:
  - 1.1.1 The current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the US Sailing Prescriptions.
  - 1.1.2 RRS 44.3 (Scoring Penalty) will not be in effect.
  - 1.1.3 Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) as defined in NOR 3.6.
  - 1.1.4 A boat rated by her handicap class in consideration of water ballast may use water ballast as rated. This changes RRS 51.
  - 1.1.5 Vessels with an Automated Identification System shall broadcast their position.
  - 1.1.6 [Appendix TS](#), Version 1 (November 2019), Section A (TS1) applies to the traffic separation schemes managed by Seattle Traffic and Victoria Traffic, including Rosario Strait, Strait of Juan de Fuca and approaches, Haro Strait, and Boundary Pass.
  - 1.1.7 Competitors may not have open alcohol containers in public areas (not including the docks at Roche Harbor). Boats with crew members or guests who are disorderly or have open alcohol containers in public areas (not including the docks at Roche Harbor) during the event may be protested by the race committee or organizing authority and are subject to disqualification from the regatta. Further action may be pursued under RRS 69 if appropriate.
- 1.2 In any conflict between the Notice of Race (NOR) and these Sailing Instructions (SIs), these SIs will take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3 No boats may be removed from the water between the start of racing on Saturday and finishing on Sunday, except to make necessary repairs with race committee approval.
- 1.4 Where the NOR or the SIs requirements exceed those of the US Sailing SER then the NOR and SIs requirements shall apply.
- 1.5 The boat will have a chart plotter with appropriate charts for the area, which shows boat position data provided by a GPS receiver, and can display a range bearing line using the coordinates of the halfway finish lines as given in the SIs. There must be a crew member aboard who is skilled and practiced at operating that chart plotter.

## 2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 On Friday, notices to competitors will be posted on the official OIYC notice board inside the OIYC clubhouse (West Sound Community Center) and on the News section of the race website at [roundthecounty.com](http://roundthecounty.com).
- 2.2 On Saturday, notices to competitors will be posted inside the tent on the party barge on the main dock at Roche Harbor and on the News section of the race website at [roundthecounty.com](http://roundthecounty.com).

## 3 CHANGES TO SIs

Any change to the SIs will be posted before 2000 on the day before they take effect on the OIYC notice board and on the News section of the race website at [roundthecounty.com](http://roundthecounty.com).

## 4 COMMUNICATIONS

- 4.1 The race committee will monitor and broadcast on VHF channel 67.
- 4.2 All boats should monitor channel 16 and 67 during the race.
- 4.3 Boats should also scan Seattle Traffic on channel 5a, Victoria Traffic on channel 11, and bridge-to-bridge on channel 13, especially if she is in vessel traffic lanes.
- 4.4 The race committee will not answer radio communications from contestants except for check-in, emergencies, or retirement.
- 4.5 The race committee's cell phone number is **801.784.3872** (801.PUGET-RC). If you are unable to reach the race committee on channel 67, you may attempt to call and/or text message. Please leave a message if you reach voicemail. Include your boat name and sail number in any voicemail or text message.
- 4.6 The race committee's email address is [rc@roundthecounty.com](mailto:rc@roundthecounty.com). Include your boat name and sail number in any emails.
- 4.7 Boats that retire or do not finish by the time limit MUST contact the race committee by VHF channel 67 (and receive a reply), by phone (and leave a voicemail), or by email by 1815 on each day of racing. Boats that fail to do this will be scored DSQ without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

## 5 CHECK-IN

- 5.1 All boats MUST check in with the race committee between 0745 and 0820 hours before the start of each day's racing.
- 5.2 Boats may check-in by hailing the race committee on VHF channel 67 with her name, division, and sail number. **After the race committee boat is anchored and displaying the Orange End of Starting Line flag**, boats may check-in by sailing past the stern of the race committee starting boat and hailing her name, division and sail number.
- 5.3 The race committee will acknowledge a check-in with the boat's name and/or sail number. It is the responsibility of each boat to ensure that the race committee acknowledges her check-in.

## 6 SAIL NUMBERS

- 6.1 If a boat races with sail numbers other than those with which she registered, she must request the approval of the race committee IN WRITING (email, with an email reply from race committee is acceptable—see SI 4.6), stating her class, boat name, registered sail

number, and alternate sail number prior to 0800 on Saturday. The race committee may reject any requested alternate sail number that is a duplicate of another registered boat. A boat that fails to comply with this instruction or is denied approval by the race committee may be scored DNC without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.

- 6.2 In addition to the requirements of the RRS Appendix G, all yachts shall display their official sail number on the lifelines or freeboard facing the race committee boat while approaching and crossing a finish line. Size of letters and numerals shall be the same as required in RRS Appendix G1.2 for sail numbers.

## 7 DIVISIONS

The divisions will be based on boat type and ratings. These divisions may be adjusted based on actual entries with planned divisions as:

DIVISION ORC A	ORC all-purpose rating 1.25 and greater
DIVISION ORC B	ORC all-purpose rating less than 1.25
DIVISION M	All Multihulls
DIVISION 1	PHRF 39 to 59
DIVISION 2	PHRF 60 to 76
DIVISION 3	PHRF 77 to 93
DIVISION 4 (J/105)	J/105 OD
DIVISION 5	PHRF 94 to 126
DIVISION 6	PHRF 127 to 180

## 8 COURSE

### 8.1 Saturday, leg #1

- 8.1.1 Start off Lydia Shoal. The start line is between the Lydia Shoal buoy and the orange flag on the race committee boat. Leave Lydia Shoal to port.
- 8.1.2 Leave Orcas Island, Sisters, Clark Island, Matia Island, Clements Reef, Clements Reef Buoy, and Patos Island to port.
- 8.1.3 Short course finish line is from Patos Lighthouse at [48° 47.340` N, 122° 58.280 W](#) (aka [48° 47' 20" N, 122° 58' 17" W](#)) on a bearing line pointing true north on longitude [122° 58.280 W](#) (aka [122° 58' 17" W](#)). Record your halfway finish time to the second when your GPS longitude becomes greater than [122° 58.280 W](#) (aka [122° 58' 17" W](#)). See SI 10.2 for recording and reporting requirements.
- 8.1.4 Leave Waldron Island, Skipjack Island, Stuart Island, and Danger Shoal buoy to port.
- 8.1.5 The finish will be either off the northwest corner of Pearl Island or north of McCracken Point on Henry Island and east of Battleship Island, between the race committee boat and a temporary orange pyramid buoy. The location to be used will be chosen based on wind and anchoring conditions and will be regularly broadcast by the race committee on VHF channel 67. Leave the committee boat to port.
- 8.1.6 The distance of this leg used in scoring is 34.3nm for the full course and 17.16nm for the shortened course. The full course distance may be adjusted by the race committee to account for the finish boat anchoring location.

### 8.2 Sunday, leg #2

- 8.2.1 Start off the south end of Mosquito Pass.
- 8.2.2 The start line is between the orange flag on the race committee boat and an orange pyramid buoy. Note several shoal areas to the west end of the starting area.
- 8.2.3 Leave San Juan Island to port.
- 8.2.4 Short course finish line is from Iceberg Point on Lopez Island at [48° 25.322N, 122° 53.656 W](#) (aka [48° 25' 19" N, 122° 53' 39" W](#)) on a bearing line pointing true south on longitude [122° 53.656 W](#) (aka [122° 53' 39" W](#)). Record your halfway finish time to the second when your GPS longitude becomes less than [122° 53.656 W](#) (aka [122° 53' 39" W](#)). See SI 10.2 for recording and reporting requirements.
- 8.2.5 Leave Lopez Island, Davidson Rock, Kellett Ledge, James Island, Blakely Island to port.
- 8.2.6 Finish between the Lydia Shoal buoy and the race committee boat, leaving the race committee boat to port.
- 8.2.7 The distance of this leg used in scoring is 31.4nm for the full course and 16.37 nm for the shortened course.

## 9 STARTING PROCEDURES

- 9.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.
- 9.2 There may be a delay between one starting signal and the warning for the next start. This delay will be 5 minutes if possible but may be more or less as conditions require.
- 9.3 The first warning is scheduled for 0835.
- 9.4 Slower boats will start first. The starting order and division flags will be:
 

<b>Code Flag ONE</b>	Divisions 4 (J/105), 5, and 6
<b>Code Flag TWO</b>	Divisions 1, 2, and 3
<b>Code Flag THREE</b>	Divisions ORC A, ORC B, and M
- 9.5 The race committee may hail on VHF channel 67 and/or may signal with a series of short horn blasts before each warning signal.
- 9.6 If a boat is subject to RRS 29.1 (Individual Recall) or RRS 30 (Starting Penalties), the race committee may attempt to hail her sail number directly and/or on VHF channel 67. No aspect of the hail, including content, timeliness, existence, or failure to hear, will be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 9.7 A boat starting later than 30 minutes after the third (last) start will be scored DNS. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 9.8 Boats that are not intending to start should hail and inform the race committee of their intentions so the race committee can proceed to the finishing area.
- 9.9 The race committee starting or finishing boat may maneuver to maintain position on the starting or finishing line with her engine, including while anchored.

## 10 FINISHING PROCEDURES

- 10.1 When approaching a full-course finish line, please hail the race committee on VHF channel 67 as you approach and you believe you will be the next boat to cross the finish line. Include your boat's name, sail number, and identifying features in your hail. The race committee may or may not answer your hails or confirm your finish time depending on conditions and activity level, but they will be depending on your radio reports to correctly identify your finish. The race committee may alter this SI on the water over the

radio during the finish. Please listen for such a broadcast. Failure to follow this SI, if modified, will not be grounds for protest.

- 10.2 Recording your own GPS finish time, position, and the names of the boats in front and behind you **at the both the short course and full course finish lines** is **MANDATORY**.
- 10.2.1 A photograph of the boat's GPS chart plotter or position reporting app showing time to the second along with latitude and longitude must be submitted along with the names of the nearest boat ahead and behind. If the reported time does not include seconds, it shall be assumed to be 59.
- 10.2.2 Reporting should be submitted to race committee as soon as possible after crossing the short course and full course finish lines each day, but no later than the time limit. Submit your reports to [finish@roundthecounty.com](mailto:finish@roundthecounty.com). Failure to comply with this SI may result in a boat being scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS Rules 63.1 and A5.
- 10.3 If it is dark when you finish, please use a high-powered lamp to illuminate your sail numbers for at least 30 seconds before and after you finish. The race committee may request further illumination over the radio. Failure to comply with this SI may result in a boat being scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS Rules 63.1 and A5.

## 11 TIME LIMIT

- 11.1 For the full course, boats must finish by 1800.
- 11.2 For the shortened course, boats must finish by 1600.

## 12 USE OF MOTORS

- 12.1 Motors may be used to get a boat to and from the racecourse.
- 12.2 Motors shall not be used for propulsion while a boat is racing (as defined in the RRS) unless for one of the exceptions listed below. Allowable exceptions where motor use is allowed include:
- 12.2.1 When following RRS 1 (Helping Those in Danger).
- 12.2.2 To move out of the way of commercial vessel traffic.
- 12.2.3 To move another boat or herself off of a grounding.
- 12.2.4 To gain steerage to prevent a boat from being pushed by the wind or currents into an otherwise certain and immediate grounding
- 12.2.5 To prevent a boat from being pushed by the wind or the currents into the Race Committee boat at the start. In this case, the boat shall not start until four minutes after her motor has been turned off.
- 12.2.6 To prevent a boat from being pushed by the wind or the currents into the Race Committee boat at the finish. In this case, the boat shall be moved in the opposite direction from proper course with the motor and it shall be considered that the boat broke RRS 31 (Touching A Mark) and shall take an appropriate penalty as described in rule 44.1.
- 12.2.7 To charge batteries or for other electrical uses or heat, as long as the engine is not placed in gear.
- 12.3 In no case should the use of the motor have reduced the distance a boat will need to sail to finish the course, nor should the use of the motor place the boat in a more favorable position relative to the prevailing wind or current conditions or her competitors.
- 12.4 In the event of any use of the motor for propulsion while racing, the boat's skipper shall report by radio to the race committee the fact that the motor was run while she was

racing. The boat's skipper shall also file a written report with the race committee promptly after they have finished the race (within the protest time limit). This report shall include the GPS coordinates and the time when the motor was started and when the motor was turned off with a full description of the circumstances and other relevant information (such as, but not limited to, water depth, boat speed and heading, current and wind conditions). Send this report to [rc@roundthecounty.com](mailto:rc@roundthecounty.com).

- 12.5 If a report is not filed as described above, showing that fair racing was preserved as judged by the exclusive opinion of the race committee, the boat may be protested and disqualified.

## 13 SCORING

- 13.1 Scoring will be based on the combined times over the two days, either corrected or elapsed as applicable. The yacht with the fastest time wins. Handicapping will be scored on a time-on-distance basis for PHRF boats and the all-purpose time-on-time handicap for ORC boats.
- 13.2 There will be overall scoring for PHRF monohulls, overall scoring for ORC monohulls, and divisional scoring for all boats.
- 13.3 Boats that do not finish the course by the time limits in SI 11 will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.
- 13.4 DIVISION SCORING: Per division and per leg, if no boat finishes the full course within the time limit, then that division for that leg will be scored on the shortened course times. If one boat or more per division and per leg finishes then that leg will be scored on the full course time and those not finishing the full course will be scored DNF.
- 13.5 OVERALL SCORING: There will be separate overall scoring groups for the ORC and the PHRF monohull divisions. Counting separately for each of the two overall scoring groups, the full course scores will be used if at least five boats from the group finishes the leg's full course. If fewer than five boats from a group finish the full course, then all boats in this group will be scored on the shortened course times when calculating the first overall for the group.
- 13.6 Per division and per leg, OCS and DNF will be scored with a time equal to the slowest corrected finish time for the division plus one hour and DNS and DSQ will be scored with a time equal to the slowest corrected finish time for the division plus two hours. For the overall time calculation, OCS and DNF will be scored with a time equal to the slowest corrected finish time for all boats included in the overall calculation plus one hour and DNS and DSQ will be scored with a time equal to the slowest corrected finish time for all boats included in the overall calculation plus two hours. Retired (RET) will be scored as DNF.

## 14 PROTESTS AND REDRESS

- 14.1 The protest committee will hear protests at the conclusion of each leg of the race.
- 14.2 A boat intending to protest must inform the race committee by VHF, email, or text, or in person when finishing or by the protest time limit.
- 14.3 The protest time limit will be 1.5 hours from the time of the last boat to finish or 1930 hours, whichever is earlier, unless boats are scored DNF because of the time limit or retiring (see SI 11), in which case it will be 1930.

- 14.4 On Saturday, deliver protests to the race committee at the party barge on the main dock at Roche Harbor prior to the time limit and as soon as possible.
- 14.5 On Sunday, deliver protests to the race committee at the OIYC clubhouse on Orcas Island prior to the time limit and as soon as possible.
- 14.6 All protests filed will be posted on the official bulletin board and on the News page on the race website at [roundthecounty.com](http://roundthecounty.com) within 30 minutes of the protest time limit. This constitutes notice per RRS 63.2, in conjunction with SI 14.7.
- 14.7 Hearings will be scheduled for the evening after racing concludes for the day. The hearing schedule will be posted on the Official Notice Board and on the News page at [roundthecounty.com](http://roundthecounty.com) within 30 minutes of the protest time limit. Hearings may begin earlier if all parties are present.

## 15 SAFETY

- 15.1 Be aware that at times you may be sailing in the Vessel Traffic Lanes. Watch out for commercial traffic! Seattle Traffic is on VHF channel 5A and covers Rosario Strait. Traffic in Boundary Pass and the west side of San Juan Island is handled by Victoria Traffic on VHF channel 11. You should monitor these channels. Interference with commercial traffic may result in a boat being disqualified.
- 15.2 The race committee reserves the right to cancel or postpone racing due to unsafe conditions. However, the fact that the race committee has not canceled a race, nor the fact that other boats are still racing, should not be interpreted to mean that conditions are necessarily safe for all vessels. It is the responsibility of the individual yacht to decide when conditions are unsafe for their vessel and to take appropriate safety measures.
- 15.3 Vessels may not approach within 200 yards of a southern resident killer whale. Boaters may not position a vessel to be in the path of a southern resident whale at any point located within 400 yards of the whale. This includes positioning a vessel so that the prevailing wind or water current carries the vessel into the path of the whale at any point located within 400 yards of the whale. Boaters are obligated to disengage the transmission [Move away] of a vessel that is within 200 yards of a southern resident whale and boaters may not feed a southern resident whale.

## 16 INSPECTIONS

The race committee reserves the right to inspect a boat without prior notification for safety regulations stipulated in these SIs or the NOR at any time during the regatta.

## 17 AWARDS

Trophies will be presented at the Sunday awards dinner and can also be delivered to winners following the race.