



Notice of Race r4

2024 Round the County

GENERAL INFORMATION

Date and location: Friday to Sunday, November 8-10, 2024
Orcas Island, Washington

Organizing Authorities: Orcas Island Yacht Club | oiyc.org
Friday Harbor Sailing Club | fridayharborsailing.com

The Orcas Island Yacht Club and the Friday Harbor Sailing Club invite you to participate in the 36th annual Round the County sailboat race. The event will be held in the beautiful and challenging waters of San Juan County, Washington. The race is approximately 76 miles with an overnight stop in Roche Harbor on San Juan Island. Due to the great venue, the better winds of November, and the overnight stop in Roche Harbor, the race has become one of the more popular sailing events in the Pacific Northwest.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the following rules:
 - 1.1.1 The current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the US Sailing Prescriptions.
 - 1.1.2 A boat rated by her handicap class in consideration of water ballast may use water ballast as rated which changes RRS 51.
 - 1.1.3 RRS 44.3 (Scoring Penalty) will not be in effect.
- 1.2 In any conflict between the Notice of Race (NOR) and the Sailing Instructions (SIs), the 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 Competitors may not have open alcohol containers in public areas (excluding the docks at Roche Harbor). Boats with crew members or guests who are disorderly or have open alcohol containers in public areas (excluding 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.

- 1.6 [Appendix TS](#), Version 1 (January 2021), 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. See: <https://bit.ly/4dEnZhu>
- 1.7 Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) as defined in NOR 5.6.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available no later than November 4, 2024 on the <https://roundthecounty.com> website.

3 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 3.1 Online registration opens on **September 2, 2024**. Boats registering for one of the ORC fleets must have sent their ORC certificate in to racedirector@roundthecounty.com at least 24 hours prior to registering.
- 3.2 On Friday, Skippers' Meeting at 1900 at the OIYC club house. Look for virtual connection instructions.
- 3.3 Mandatory check in with the race committee both days between 0745 and 0825 via VHF Channel 67.
- 3.4 The first warning signal is at 0835 unless delayed.

4 COURSE

- 4.1 **Saturday:** Start off Lydia Shoal between the Lydia Shoal buoy and the race committee boat. Leave Blakely Island, James Island, Kellet Ledge, Davidson Rock, Colville Island, and Lopez Island to starboard. Short course finish line is from Iceberg Point on Lopez Island at [48° 25.322 N, 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](#)). Leave Long Island and San Juan Island to starboard. Finish off the south end of Mosquito Pass between the race committee boat and a temporary orange pyramid buoy. The distance of this leg used for Time on Distance scoring is 31.4nm for the full course and 15.03nm for the shortened course.
- 4.2 **Sunday:** Start off the east side of Battleship Island between the race committee boat and a temporary orange pyramid buoy. Leave Danger Shoal buoy, Stuart Island, Waldron Island, Skipjack Island and Patos Island to starboard. 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](#)). Leave Clements Reef Buoy, Clements Reef, Matia Island, Clark Island, Sisters and Orcas Island to starboard. Finish between the race committee boat and Lydia Shoal buoy. The distance of this leg used for Time on Distance scoring is 34.3nm for the full course and 17.14nm for the shortened course.

5 REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

- 5.1 The boat must have a speed equivalent to a PHRF rating of 180 or faster.
- 5.2 Boats having a PHRF-NW rating of 39 or slower (a bigger number) must enter one of the PHRF divisions. Boats having an ORC all-purpose handicap (APH) time-on-time rating of 1.165 or faster (a bigger number) must enter one of the ORC divisions. A boat meeting both conditions may enter either division (PHRF or ORC).
- 5.3 Boats entering the PHRF divisions must have a current [PHRF-NW](#) certificate or PHRF-BC. PHRF-BC boats must submit their current certificate to racedirector@roundthecounty.com for possible rating adjustment (to harmonize base rating with PHRF-NW) before being able to register. Please allow a minimum of five days for review. The decision by the RTC race director on PHRF-BC ratings is final and not subject to redress.
- 5.4 Monohull boats entering the ORC division must have a 2024 [ORC](#) certificate or 2024 ORC test certificate. ORC boats must submit their current certificate in PDF format to racedirector@roundthecounty.com before being able to register. Please expect a minimum of 24 hours for processing before your ORC entry form will function.
- 5.4.1 ORC test certificates must be replaced with a valid official ORC certificate by the end of the day on October 22nd 2024. If not, the boat in question will be placed on the waiting list.
- 5.5 The owner must have third-party liability insurance for their boat, applicable for sailboat racing, having a minimum coverage of \$500,000.
- 5.6 Boats must meet the 2023-2024 US Sailing [Monohull SER Nearshore](#) or [Multihull SER Nearshore](#) requirements. See: <https://bit.ly/3YEiqLN>

In addition the following requirements from the Coastal SERs for the following sections must be met.

- 5.6.1 SER 2.4.2 Lifeline Stanchions--A boat's stanchion and pulpit bases shall be within the working deck.
 - 5.6.2 SER 2.4.4 Lifelines--Lifelines shall be uncoated stainless steel wire. A multipart-lashing segment not to exceed 4" per end termination for the purpose of attaching lifelines to pulpits is allowed. Lifelines shall be taut.
 - 5.6.3 SER 2.4.4 is modified to allow uncoated stainless steel or dyneema lifelines.
 - 5.6.4 SER 2.7.2 a mechanical means of propulsion is in effect.
 - 5.6.5 SER 3.1.2 requiring all crew to wear life jackets having lights, whistles, and tethers is in effect after dusk.
 - 5.6.6 SER 3.2.1 requiring jacklines to be installed is in effect after dusk.
 - 5.6.7 SER 3.7.1 requiring a Life-Sling or equivalent is in effect.
 - 5.6.8 SER 3.8.2 regarding GPS and MMSI be included in handheld VHF radios is recommended, but not required.
- 5.7 The owner/skipper must agree to the terms and conditions presented while registering online. The owner/skipper and each crew sailing on the boat must also electronically sign the liability waiver before racing. A preview of the liability waiver is available for review at roundthecounty.com/waiver.
 - 5.8 The boat will display a large sail number on either a banner or their freeboard on the side facing the finish committee when crossing finish lines.

- 5.9 The boat will have two marine VHF radios aboard, including one fixed-mount and the other a handheld kept above decks and kept on during the race.
- 5.10 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 short course finish lines as provided in the sailing instructions. There must be a crew member aboard who is skilled and practiced at operating that chart plotter.
- 5.11 The skipper and at least one other crew member (your radio operator) will have read the sailing instructions prior to the start of the race.
- 5.12 No more than 120 boats will be allowed to race. Boats that register after 120 boats have already registered will be placed on the "waiting list". Boats that don't make it off the waiting list will have their entry fee refunded.
- 5.13 No changes to a boat's rating will be allowed after October 22nd, 2024 unless approved by the Race Director. Optimizing ratings for the conditions will not be allowed.

6 REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERING

Failure to comply with the following three rules will result in your registration being rejected.

- 6.1 The person registering must be the owner or skipper of the boat or a designated boat manager.
- 6.2 You must have a currently valid rating certificate in hand at the time of registration. For the ORC fleets a copy of the official rating certificate or a test certificate in pdf format must have been emailed to racedirector@roundthecounty.com prior to registration. ORC test certificates will be accepted for registration but must be replaced by a valid official ORC certificate by October 22, 2024. After that date ORC test certificate boats will be moved to end of the waiting list. ORC rating certificate issue dates must be no later than October 22nd, 2024.
- 6.3 You must have a working credit card and pay online immediately when you register.

7 ENTRY FEE

The entry fee is \$120 for boats under 30', \$150 for boats 30-39' and \$180 for boats 40' and over. The first 110 *completed* (meaning paid and having a valid PHRF/ORC certificate) entries will be assured a spot in the race. Additional entries or boat substitutions after registration is filled will be placed on a waiting list and may be added, at the discretion of the Race Committee, to balance divisions where needed. No entries or changes will be accepted after November 3rd. No refunds will be provided for cancellations after October 27th unless the event is cancelled by race organizers.

8 SCORING

- 8.1 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.

- 8.2 There will be overall scoring for PHRF monohulls, overall scoring for ORC monohulls, and divisional scoring for all boats.
- 8.3 Boats that do not finish the course by the time limits stated in the Sailing Instructions will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.
- 8.4 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.
- 8.5 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.
- 8.6 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.

9 AWARDS

- 9.1 Trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each division and for overall monohull in the PHRF and the overall in the ORC fleets will be presented at the Sunday awards dinner and can also be delivered to winners following the race.

10 FURTHER INFORMATION AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

Please see the Round the County website at roundthecounty.com for more information and to register. You may also email the race director at racedirector@roundthecounty.com.