



Gig Harbor Yacht Club – Islands Race

Saturday, March 18, 2023

NOR - Notice of Race & Sailing Instructions

This event will take the fleet from Gig Harbor to a temporary mark north of Blake Island before returning to Gig Harbor (See optional short course) as the final race of the Southern Sound Series.

SSS Instructions: Refer to Series Race Instructions at <http://www.ssseries.org/>

Rules, Class Breaks, Race Schedule: See Series Instructions at the Southern Sound Series Website at: <http://www.ssseries.org/>.

Registration/Race fee: Pre-registration is required for all entrants. Register online using the series link above. Registrations must be received no later than 2359 PST Wednesday March 15 to avoid a \$5 late fee. Please use the same sail number or assigned sail number if you registered for previous races in this series and register in the same class. Race fee: \$45 and \$50 for late registrations.

Starting Line: Start in northeasterly direction between the race committee boat and an orange buoy anchored about ¼ mile northeast of the entrance to Gig Harbor.

Start times & Sequence: The start time and sequence is specified in the Series Sailing instructions as noted above. As specified at 0925 the first warning signal is raised.

The course time limit for the Islands Race is 13 hours after each start. The time limit for a shortened course is 8 Hours

The Course: From the starting line, proceed in a northeasterly direction through Colvos Passage around the EAST side of Blake Island to an orange turn buoy anchored approximately 1000 yards north of Blake Island, near 47°33'2"N 122°29'9 W. Leave the Buoy to PORT and proceed back EAST of Blake Island, south through Colvos Passage and finish in a southwesterly direction across the (starting) finish line. The approximate course distance is 29.5 Miles. **Shorten Course:** The race committee may elect to shorten the course at the turn buoy located north of Blake Island with a finish line between the

buoy and a race committee boat. The decision to shorten will be made prior to the first boat arriving at the turn buoy.

Optional Course Fern Cove: In light wind the race committee **may elect prior to the race start** to use a shorter course as follows and will fly a change of course flag at the start of the race and will announce on Channel 72.

From the starting line, proceed in a northeasterly direction through Colvos to an orange turn buoy in Fern Cove off the west shore of Vashon Island approximately 2 miles South of Point Vashon and ½ mile NE of Point Peter. (Approximately 46° 29'.95" N and 121° 29'.30" W) Leave the buoy to Port and proceed south through Colvos Passage and finish in a southwesterly direction across the (starting) finish line. The approximate course distance is 20 Miles.

Shorten Course: The race committee may elect to shorten this course at the turn buoy located in Fern Cove with a finish line between the buoy and a race committee boat. The decision to shorten will be made prior to the first boat arriving at the turn buoy

Course Safety Notes: All Communication with the Race Committee will be on VHF Ch. 72 or call at 253-224-1513

- Safety requirements for US sailing Nearshore shall be followed, except any single or double- handed crew must wear a PFD at all times.
- **Vessels equipped with AIS -MUST- broadcast their position.** – **USCG requirement**
- The course will take all boats through the ferry traffic/lanes from Vashon to Southworth.

Washington State Ferries and Commercial Shipping Traffic have the right of way.

- Racers must obey all right of way, distance clearance requirements, **USCG regulations and vessel traffic control rules.**
- Vessels **may not approach within 200 yards of a southern resident killer whales** and are obliged to disengage (move away from) a whale that may approach within 200 yards. **USCG requirement**

Withdrawals: Please contact Race Committee on Ch. 72 or call (253) 224-1512

Protests: Refer to the SSS instructions regarding protests. Also notify the race committee of your intent to protest upon crossing the finish line. E-mail protests to ecarlsongh@outlook.com

Awards: GHYC will present awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places, for each class

Post Race Party: There will be a post-race party! When registering please indicate the number of crew likely to attend so food and beverage can be planned accordingly.

Moorage: Moorage is generally available at the public dock at Jerisich Park (below the large U.S. Flag). A limited number of berths may be available at Peninsula Yacht Basin, Arabella's Landing, and other marinas in Gig Harbor. Please note the Jerisich Park dock now has water and power and charges an overnight fee.

Information: For more information check the club website <http://www.gigharboryc.com> . If you have more questions Erik Carlson at (253) 224-1513 / ecarlsongh@outlook.com

Race results will be posted on the Southern Sound Series web site and GHYC website as quickly as possible.