

OAK HARBOR YACHT CLUB

N48° 17.4' W122° 38.5'

OHYC 2026 Sailing Instructions

1 Rules

1.1 Races will be governed by the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing ('RRS'), the Prescriptions of US SAILING, the rules of PHRF Northwest, Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) *Nearshore* Requirements, these Sailing Instructions, and the Notice of Race (NOR) for each series. In case of conflict between these Sailing Instructions and the NOR for a specific series, that NOR will govern.

1.2 Races are open to all mono-hull yachts. Entrants need not be members of a recognized yacht club. The committee for each series reserves the right to accept any or all entries.

1.3 Entrants are encouraged to be members of PHRF-NW and have a current rating certificate; however, entrants may be assigned a rating by the club handicapper for the series or race governed by this racing packet.

2 Entries

2.1 Registration and entry fee shall be submitted to the Race Committee prior to the start of the series or race in accordance with the NOR for that event.

2.2 There may be two or more PHRF classes; class breaks to be determined at the start of each series. At Race committee

discretion, if less than 3 yachts register for one class, all competitors in that class will be combined with another class and scored with that class.

2.3 Four or more yachts registering as a one-design class may get their own start and will be scored separately.

3 Notice to competitors

3.1 Changes to the Sailing Instructions of this packet, or the NOR for a particular series will be posted on a bulletin board outside of the the Oak Harbor Yacht Club office. Changes may also be posted on the sail fleet page at www.ohyc.org prior to one hour before the start of the first race of that series.

4 Cancellation

4.1 In the event of high wind conditions, postponement will be announced on VHF channel 72. The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.

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4.2 In the event of light winds (less than 3 mph, with no signs of improving) as measured on the course by the race committee, the race may be abandoned not less than 30 minutes following the scheduled start time, and an announcement made on VHF channel 72.

4.3 It shall take a minimum of 4 boats (not including the race committee) to constitute a race.

5 Courses

5.1 Courses will be set within the areas of Oak Harbor, Saratoga Passage, Penn Cove and/or Crescent Harbor.

5.2 All marks to be used will be as described in section 14 of this packet.

5.3 The sequence of marks for each course will be posted on the reader board of the committee boat and/or hailed on VHF channel 72 prior to the starting sequence for each race.

5.4 Race Committee may shorten course after the start in accordance with **6.5 C** of these instructions. This changes RRS 32.2.

5.5 All marks will be rounded to port with the exception of a leeward gate, which allows the option of port or starboard rounding after entering the gate (as described in section 14.1).

5.6 All boats must remain on the channel side of navigational marks, unless such objects are a mark of the sailing course.

6 Starting and Finishing

6.1 Races starting on time as scheduled in the NOR for that series shall not be required to be preceded by a postponement "AP" flag or any other warning signals. They may be started with the hoisting of the class flag and appropriate sound signals as described in section 6.6 and 6.7 of this packet.

6.2 At the discretion of the race committee, an auditory signal of several short blasts may be given no more than one minute prior to the beginning of the starting sequence to alert competitors of the upcoming sequence.

6.3 All subsequent races that day may be started after all competitors in a class have completed the race or retired from the race, and one minute of the removal of the postponement "AP" flag, or one minute of an auditory signal of several short blasts to alert competitors of the upcoming sequence.

6.4 Starting and finishing lines shall be between the designated start and finish pin (as described in section 14.1) and the orange flag located on the committee boat.

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6.5 After starting, there will be no requirements or restrictions of the start/finish line, with the following exceptions:

A) When the start/finish line is used as a leeward gate, the boats are required to pass through the start/finish line (as described in section 14.1).

B) When finishing, the boats must cross through the finish line in the direction of the last mark on the course.

C) On multi-lap courses, the course may be shortened at the start/finish line by flying code flag S from the RC boat with a sound signal and announcement on Ch 72. This changes RRS 32.2

6.6 Starting Signal sequence is as follows:

TIME	FLAG COLOR/POSITION	SIGNAL	(FOR MORE THAN ONE START)
	5 minutes	Class Flag 1 Horn	Up
	4 minutes	P Flag 1 Horn	Up
	1 minutes	P Flag 1 Horn	Down
Start	Class Flag	Down 1 Horn	next class flag Up

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7 Recalls

7.1 Individual recalls will be handled according to *RRS Rule 29.1*. **7.2** The race committee may attempt to hail the sail numbers of recalled boats. Failure to do so, the timing of the hails, the order of the hails, the failure to hear the hail, or any other issues associated with the hail will not constitute grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 61.4(b)(1).

7.3 General recalls will be handled according to *RRS Rule 29.2* if the race committee cannot determine which boat was OCS.

8 Penalties

8.1 In exception to *RRS 44.1*, a one-turn penalty (360) will exonerate a yacht from fouling another boat. In accordance with RRS 44.1, a one-turn penalty (360) will exonerate a yacht from touching a mark.

8.2 *RRS 44.3* will not apply.

9 Time limits

9.1 Time limits will be 2 hours per race, or as described in the NOR for each series.

9.2 All yachts not finishing within 30 minutes of the first yacht in her class shall be scored DNF.

10 Scoring

10.1 The Low-point scoring system (will apply for all races unless specifically noted in the NOR for a series in accordance with *RRS 90.3(a)* and *Appendix A of the RRS section A4*.

10.2 Throw-outs will be determined by the NOR for each series. In the event that the NOR does not address throw-outs, *RRS A2.1* will apply, providing 1 throw-out for the series.

10.3 If throw outs are allowed in the NOR for a series, *RRS 90.3(b)* applies. This excludes a boat from throwing out a score of DSQ for certain violations.

10.4 In the event of a tie, they will be decided according to *Appendix A of the RRS sections A1 and AB*.

10.5 A boat scored as DNC, DNS, OCS, NSC, RET, DSQ, or DNE in a race will be given points equal to the number of boats that competed in that race plus one. This changes RRS A 5.2.

10.6 A boat that has scored DNF (Did Not Finish) due to time limit expiring (TLE) will be scored one plus the number of finishing boats for that race.

10.7 To assist R/C for multiple starts, R/C may elect to finish a boat “in place” in order to expedite the subsequent race

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11 Communications

11.1 All race communications to competitors on the water will be made on VHF channel 72.

11.2 Courses may be hailed by committee prior to the beginning of the starting sequence of that race, recalls may be hailed by committee as soon as possible after the start of a race, and course changes or abandonment may be hailed by the committee. If the Race Committee fails to hail courses, recalls or course changes, it shall not be grounds for redress.

12 Protests

12.1 Protests must be filed with the race committee within one hour of the race committee returning to the dock, in accordance with RRS 61.2 (b)

(1) **12.2** If a rule is broken and you are protested, we hope you will exonerate yourself with 8.1 of this packet.

13 Results

13.1 Results will be posted on the sail fleet results page at www.ohyc.org as soon as possible following races, emailed to participants or as described in the NOR for each series.

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14 Marks

14.1 Temporary Race Marks are as Follows:

Reader board Code

Start/Finish Mark - Orange Inflatable

S/F

-within 150 yards of R/C Boat, start/finish line is between the orange inflatable and the orange flag on R/C Boat.

Windward Mark - Yellow Inflatable

W

-Mark placed to weather side of R/C Boat, always round to port

Leeward Mark - Yellow Inflatable

L

-Mark placed to leeward side of R/C Boat, always round to port

Jibe Mark -- Yellow Inflatable

Y

-Mark placed between the windward and leeward marks, and not in line with these marks; always round to port.

Leeward Gate - Orange Inflatable

G

-Same mark as S/F, within 150 yards of R/C Boat. You must enter between S/F mark and R/C boat headed downwind, then you may either round the R/C boat to port OR the S/F mark to starboard. **Semi-permanent weather mark - buoy M**

-This will be an white buoy.

The approximate coordinates are N 48° 14.013', W 122° 41.757.

Semi-permanent weather mark - buoy K

-This will be a second white buoy, anchored in Penn Cove, south of the Rolling Hills Pier. The approximate coordinates are N 48° 14.056' , W 122° 42.457' .

Permanent "Eco Buoy" -- buoy N

A yellow weather buoy located between Blower's Bluff and Long Point. At N 48° 14.227' , W122° 39.298

14.2 Permanent Navigational Aides as follows:

G "11"	A
G "5"	B
R "2"	C
G "1" (Snatelum Point)	D

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