

2026 Round Whidbey Race

May 30, 2026

Notice of Race

In accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028, the Oak Harbor Yacht Club is publishing a Notice of Race for the 2026 Round Whidbey Race. Competitors will circumnavigate Whidbey Island counterclockwise.

INVITATION: The Oak Harbor Yacht Club invites all yacht owners/charters who meet eligibility requirements to enter the 2026 Round Whidbey Race. Pre-race activities include dinner at Cornet Bay State Park, Friday, May 29 at 6:00 pm. The Skippers' Meeting will follow at 7:00 pm. The race will start at 9:00 am on Saturday, May 30.

RULES: The Race will be governed by:

1. *The Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-2028)*
2. This Notice of Race
3. Sailing Instructions
4. Current Pacific Handicap Racing Fleet of the Northwest Class Rules

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Entrants must have a current, valid PHRF/NW rating or "Windseeker" rating assigned by the OHYC for handicap rated classes. An "Adventure" class will also be open to sailboats using human auxiliary power (Paddles, Oars, Pedal Drive)
2. Boats must meet the Round Whidbey Safety Equipment Requirements. These requirements can be found on the OHYC.org website under Round Whidbey (Sail Fleet).
3. Yachts will have a minimum of two persons onboard (no single-handing).

Round Whidbey is a challenging event where a boat can be subjected to heavy weather, strong currents, and harsh sea states that frequent the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Admiralty Inlet, and Puget Sound. Competitors will be expected to have prepared their boat accordingly and possess the skills necessary to successfully navigate their boat in such heavy weather and conditions.

CLASSES: Classes will be established at the discretion of the race committee based upon the number of entries, the PHRF ratings, and other factors. If five or more like boats register, they may be scored separately as a one-design class.

COURSE: The race will start Saturday morning between a committee boat and an orange mark approximately 0.5 nm South of Deception Island. Competitors will sail counterclockwise, keeping Whidbey Island to port, finishing abeam the Oak Harbor Coast Guard Buoy R-2. Times will also be recorded near Scatchet Head to constitute a race in the event that no yacht in a class reaches the finish. This time will also be used to

determine the winners of the "Whidbey Island Sprint".

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ENTRY FEES: Entries before May 22, 2026: The fee is \$100. On or after May 22, 2026, the fee is \$130. Entry fee includes BBQ dinner for the skipper and 1 crew member: dinner for additional crew/guests is \$10. Entry fee also includes one hat. Additional hats or T-shirts may be ordered with registration. (Order early to guarantee apparel delivery by the Friday night party)

ENTRY FORMS AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Entry Form and Sailing Instructions will be made available on the Round Whidbey Race page at www.ohyc.org. Official Sailing Instructions will also be distributed in the race packet at the Skippers' Meeting.

SCORING: The race will be scored using the Low Point System. Finishing times for PHRF classes will be calculated using time on distance. Calculated distance is 65nm.

AWARDS: The Round Whidbey Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the yacht with the best corrected finish time. The boat with the fastest time (uncorrected) will be added to the Dave French "fast is fun" plaque. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-place boats in each class. The boat in each class with the fastest corrected time to the Scatchet Head Checkpoint will be awarded a prize for the Whidbey Island Sprint.

MOORAGE: Moorage can be arranged at the Cornet Bay State Park Docks, Skyline Marina (Anacortes) and the Oak Harbor Marina.

Thank you for your participation, and safe sailing.

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