



Sharing the Sailing Community

CYC Puget Sound Sailing Championship – Big Boats International Star Class District 6 Championship

October 10th – 11th, 2026 | Shilshole Bay – Seattle, Washington

UNIFIED SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1** This regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), PHRF-NW Class Rules, ORC Rating System Rules, and, /the International Star Class Rules (StCR).
- 1.2** US Sailing prescriptions apply. US Sailing prescriptions are available at www.ussailing.org.
- 1.3** Changes to the rules are noted in the Notice of Race or in these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4** Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: “(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or...”
- 1.5** RRS Appendix TS, Traffic Separation Schemes, Version 2, Section A and TS1 apply to the Puget Sound Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS). This changes RRS 56.2. Link to Appendix TS: <https://bit.ly/2025AppTS>

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS & COMMUNICATIONS

- 2.1** Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board online at: <https://cycseattle.org/regatta/Qly201TMqZ/#notice-board>
- 2.2** The Race Office is located at the CYC Seattle Clubhouse (upper floor). Principal Race Officer (PRO) Charley Rathkopf may be contacted via telephone at 801-PUGET-RC (801-784-3872) or email at charley@rathkopf.org.
- 2.3** The Race Committee may provide unofficial communication, which is communication not governed by the rules, at any time by hail or over VHF radio.
- 2.4** Marine VHF Channel 69 will be used for unofficial communications by the Race Committee. A request for redress may not be based on any aspect of unofficial communication, including content, timeliness, or failure to hear. This changes RRS 61.4.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1** Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board by 0830 on the day it takes effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it takes effect.
- 3.2** The Race Committee may make oral changes to the Sailing Instructions on the water by displaying Flag 'L' with one sound. The Race Committee will announce oral changes over VHF Channel 69 before the warning signal. Competitors shall monitor VHF or come within hail. See RRS 90.2(c).



4 SCHEDULE OF RACES

4.1 The event schedule is as follows:

Day & Date	Time / Event	Details & Location
Friday, Oct 9	1600 – 1900	Star Class Weight & Equipment Compliance (CYC Main Floor)
Saturday, Oct 10	0800 – 0830	Star Class Weight & Compliance (CYC Main Floor)
	0930 – 0945	Competitors Briefing (CYC Clubhouse)
	1100	First Warning Signal (All Fleets)
	After Racing	Racers Social at CYC Clubhouse (Commodore's Invitation)
Sunday, Oct 11	1100	First Warning Signal (All Fleets)
	1600	No Warning Signal after this time
	After Racing	Awards Ceremony & Party at CYC Clubhouse

4.2 Target Number of Races & Daily Limits:

- PSSC Big Boats (Keelboats, PHRF, ORC): A target of eight (8) races total are scheduled, with up to four (4) races per day. Typical race duration is 30 to 90 minutes.
- Star District 6 Championship: Six (6) races are scheduled total per StCR 27 (3 races per day). The Race Committee reserves the right to run one race ahead of schedule if weather conditions warrant.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the CYC Clubhouse flagpole.

5.2 **Flag AP Ashore Window:** When Flag AP is displayed ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after the removal of AP for all fleets, unless at that time the race is postponed again or abandoned. This changes RRS Race Signals AP.

6 RACING AREA AND RACE COMMITTEE SIGNAL BOAT

6.1 The racing area will be in the vicinity of Shilshole Bay, due West/Northwest of the marina (and north of Meadow Point).

6.2 The Race Committee signal boat will be the CYC M/V YC 5. If necessary, an alternate signal boat may be used. The signal boat will display the CYC burgee and/or a blue "R/C" flag or sign.

6.3 If needed, the Race Committee may relocate the racing area by moving after displaying Flag 'L' with one sound.

7 CLASSES & EQUIPMENT COMPLIANCE

7.1 This event is open to boats in the following classes: Star Class, One-Design Keelboats with 5 or more entrants, and boats racing under PHRF-NW and ORC rating systems.

7.2 Class flags will be finalized and posted as a notice to competitors issued by 1600 on Friday before the regatta. Subsequent changes may be made by 0830 Saturday.

7.3 **[Star Fleet Requirement] Team Weight Schedule & Compliance (StCR 31.1.3):** All Star Class teams must demonstrate compliance with StCR 31.1.3 (crew weight formula) prior to the end of measurement at 0830 on

Saturday, October 10th. Available measurement and weighing times at the CYC Clubhouse (lower floor) are Friday, Oct 9th from 1600 to 1900, and Saturday, Oct 10th from 0800 to 0830.

7.4 Sails with incorrect numbers must be reported to the Race Committee prior to 0930 Saturday.

8 COURSES & MARKS

8.1 Courses will be signaled from a reader board on the Race Committee signal boat. The course description is a series of letters on one row indicating the marks and their required sequence. An offset mark may be used.

8.2 Marks are specified in Attachment A: Mark Descriptions.

8.3 All rounding marks other than gate marks are to be left to port.

8.4 When 'S' or 'F' is used as other than Start and Finish, they designate a mid-course gate that must be crossed between the signal boat and mark if no point-of-sail change is required, or a rounding mark to port if a point-of-sail change is required.

8.5 A leeward rounding mark may be a gate mark. If one gate mark is missing, the remaining mark shall be rounded to port.

8.6 If any race mark is substituted by an object displaying Flag 'M', repetitive sound signals are not required. This changes RRS 34(b).

8.7 After completing the first leg of the course, a boat shall not cross the finishing line unless she is finishing or required by SI 8.4. A boat failing to observe this restriction may exonerate herself by taking a Two-Turns Penalty (RRS 44.2). Unexonerated breaches will be scored Did Not Sail the Course (NSC) without a hearing. This changes RRS 28.2, 60.5(b), and A5.

8.8 Except while rounding Mark 'E' as a mark of the course, boats must not enter the area near the Shilshole Marina south entrance between buoys G '1', R '2', and breakwater light G '3'. This area is an obstruction.

8.9 [Star Fleet Requirement - Course Shortening Prohibition] Per StCR 34.3.1, courses for the Star class will not be shortened. This changes RRS 32 for the Star fleet.

9 THE START

9.1 Boats must check in with the Race Committee signal boat before their first warning signal each day by hailing their sail number while passing her stern on starboard tack. No check-ins will be accepted via VHF.

9.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and the middle mast of an orange MarkSetBot (or course side of starting mark buoy if not a MarkSetBot).

9.3 If a general recall for a preceding class is signaled after the warning signal of a succeeding class, visual signals for the succeeding class will be removed and its start abandoned without further signal. This changes RRS Race Signals, 26, 27.3, and 29.2.

9.4 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 on VHF Channel 69. This is an unofficial communication under SI 2.4.

9.5 Late Start Time Limit: A boat starting later than four (4) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and applies to all classes (including Star Class).

9.6 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area and boats that are racing.

9.7 The Race Committee signal boat may maneuver to maintain the starting line at any time, including while anchored.

10 THE FINISH

10.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee signal boat and the course side of the finishing mark buoy.

10.2 The Race Committee may adjust finishing marks to maintain the line without regard to RRS 33.

11 TIME LIMITS

11.1 The time limit is the maximum allowable time from a boat's starting signal to her finishing time. A boat that does not finish within her time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS 35.

11.2 Race Time Limit & Finishing Window: The Race Time Limit is 90 minutes for the first boat in a class to finish. The Finishing Window is 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes. All boats failing to finish within 30 minutes of the first boat in their class will be scored DNF.

12 PROTESTS, REDRESS & HEARING REQUESTS

12.1 A boat intending to protest or request redress for an incident while racing must orally notify the Race Committee on the signal boat as soon as reasonably possible after retiring or finishing by hail or VHF until receiving oral confirmation. This adds to RRS 60.2(a)(1) and 61.2.

12.2 Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be filed online using the protest portal link found on the Official Notice Board within the protest time limit. Paper protest forms may be accepted by the Jury if there are good reasons to do so.

12.3 Protest Time Limit: The protest time limit will be posted on the Official Notice Board and is thirty (30) minutes after the Race Committee signal boat docks each day (or 10 minutes after posting of the time limit, whichever is later). This applies to all classes.

12.4 Hearing notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board within five (5) minutes after the protest time limit to inform parties of the time and place of hearings. Hearings will be held in the CYC Clubhouse.

12.5 RRS Appendix V1 (Penalty at the time of an incident) applies (One-Turn Penalty outside mark zone; Two-Turns Penalty inside mark zone).

12.6 RRS Appendix V2 (Post-Race Penalties) applies.

13 SCORING

13.1 Series Requirements & Discards (Drops):

- One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- PSSC Big Boats (Keelboats, PHRF, ORC): All races sailed will be scored (no race scores will be excluded/dropped). This modifies RRS A2.1.
- Star District 6 Championship: When five (5) or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score per StCR 27. This modifies RRS A2.1.

13.2 Letter Scores Calculation: A boat scored OCS, NSC, DNF, RET, DSQ, DNE, UFD, or BFD shall be scored points equal to 1 + the number of boats starting, sailing the course, and finishing (and not retiring or being disqualified). A boat scored DNC or DNS shall be scored points equal to 2 + the number of boats starting, sailing the course, and finishing (and not retiring or being disqualified). This changes RRS A5.2 for all classes.

13.3 PHRF-NW Handicap Scoring: Corrected times will be calculated using the Time-on-Time method.

13.4 ORC Fleet Scoring: Corrected times will be calculated using Five Band Windward/Leeward Time-on-Time ratings based on median wind speed at the start.

- 13.5** Race Committee Scoring Discretion: Decisions on scoring method parameters (course length, leg directions, wind details) are at the sole discretion of the Race Committee and not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b).

14 SAFETY REGULATIONS & OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

- 14.1** Risk Statement: RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' Competitors participate at their own risk.
- 14.2** A boat that retires while racing must orally notify the Race Committee as soon as reasonably possible after retiring by hail or VHF.
- 14.3** The Race Committee or Technical Committee may inspect a boat at any time before or after racing for rule compliance.
- 14.4** Commercial & Government Vessel Clearance: Boats shall not impede, cross ahead within 3/4 NM, or approach within 1/4 NM (1500 ft) to the side of commercial/government vessels over 30m length in traffic lanes or traveling over 15 knots.
- 14.5** Propulsion Engine Usage: A boat using its propulsion engine under RRS 42.3(h) that does not retire must file a report with the Protest Committee.
- 14.6 [Star Fleet Requirement - Support Vessels & Outside Assistance]** Coach boats, support vessels, and spectator craft shall stay at least 100 meters outside racing areas from the warning signal until all boats have finished racing. Per StCR 31.1.4, a Star Class boat shall receive no outside assistance from coach boats, support vessels, or private spectator craft once she has left the dock for the day until the finish of her last race of the day, except in the case of emergency or towing supplied by the OA and available to all competitors.

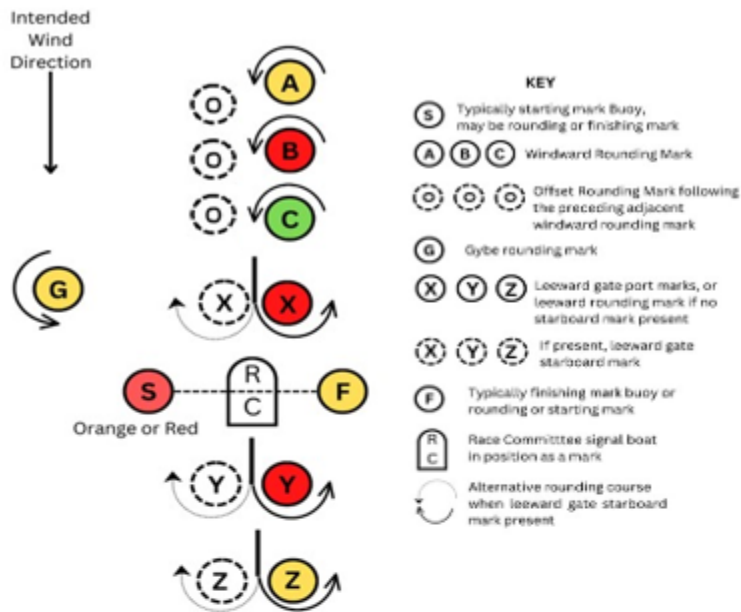
15 STATE OF WASHINGTON SENATE BILL 5371 / ORCA PROTECTION RULES

Note: *This instruction applies strictly to ALL participating classes, including the Star Class District 6 Fleet.*

- 15.1** Washington Senate Bill (SB) 5371 governs this event (definition Rule (g)). SB 5371 mandates maintaining a 1,000-yard buffer (approx. 1/2 NM) from killer whales in all directions. For this event, SI 15 applies to ALL Orca whales.
- 15.2** If an Orca approaches within 400 yards of any vessel, state law and these SIs require the vessel to disengage transmission, luff sails, or stop until the animal moves away.
- 15.3** RRS 32.1 Addition: The Race Committee may abandon a race if an individual Orca or Orca pod is found to be in, near, or approaching the race area.
- 15.4** RRS 61.4(b) Addition: Redress may be granted for reasonable actions taken by a boat to comply with SI 15.

Attachment A: Mark Descriptions

Buoy Course Marks: Position Relative to R/C



The course diagram for buoy course marks shows the general orientation of the race committee signal boat ("R/C"), other marks (identified by the letters S, A, B, C, O, G, X, Y, Z and F), and the intended wind direction. All buoy course marks other than the race committee signal boat are inflatable buoys.

Positions are approximate and the diagram is not to scale.

Notes:

- S When a starting mark for a downwind start, may be on either side of the race committee signal boat.
- XX When XX is signaled in the course description, mark X may be agate.
- YY When YY is signaled in the course description, mark Y may be agate.
- ZZ When ZZ is signaled in the course description, mark Z may be agate.

Geographic Mark Locations



Bearings are magnetic. Distances are nautical miles (NM). Bearings, distances, and positions are approximate. Each temporary mark is shown with its label in a circle. Each permanent mark is near its label in a square box.

- D Duwamish Head Lt. (LL #16910)
- E Shilshole Bay Entrance Lighted Buoy G "1" (LL #18125)
- H Temporary mark 0.3 NM E of Skiff Pt.
- I Temporary mark 0.5 NM N of Alki Pt.
- J Round ball buoy with flag 0.25 NM SSW of marina N entrance
- K Blakely Rock (LL #16830)
- L White buoy 0.5 NM SW of marina S entrance
- M Meadow Pt. Buoy (LL #16765)
- N Temporary mark 1.5 NM E of Traffic Separation Lane Lighted Buoy SF (LL #16745)
- P Temporary mark 0.5 NM NNE of Pt. Monroe
- Q Temporary mark 3.0 NM bearing 340° from Meadow Pt. Buoy
- R Temporary mark 0.5 NM SW of Pt. Wells
- T Temporary mark 0.5 NM SE of Pt. Jefferson
- U White spar buoy 2.9 NM bearing 6° from Meadow Pt. Buoy at 47°44.4N, 122°22.95W
- V Temporary mark 0.3 NM NNE of Wing Pt. Buoy (LL #1680)
- W West Point Lighted Buoy 1 (LL #44066)