



Bellingham Yacht Club

2010 Season Race Packet

2010 Racing Season

KEY CONTACT INFORMATION

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HOW TO PARTICIPATE

If you would like to participate during the 2010 racing season you will need to:

1. *Accept a liability waiver, and*
2. *Provide proof of insurance*

If you would like to be scored, you will also need to be a PHRF-Northwest member and have a rating for your yacht or be racing Etchells One-Design.

For each of the following invitational events, (open to BYC and non-BYC boats), you need to complete a separate on-line registration process using the BYC website:

1. *2010 PITCH Regatta*
2. *Bellingham Bay One Design (BBOD)*
3. *Moore Invitational*
4. *BYC Jr. Ski to Sea*

For all other non-invitational events such as buoy and distance racing you need to complete a one-time online registration process using the BYC website and pay a race registration fee of \$150.00.

Visiting yachts may participate in up to 3 BYC races for free; thereafter they are required to register and pay the registration fee. This does not apply to Invitational Races or other races where all boats must separately register. Once visitors **that** pay the registration fee they may race for one year without joining the BYC.

If a yacht, wishes to compete in only the “Long Distance” races, they may do so provided they fill out a registration form, provide proof of insurance and pay a fee of \$40.00. The one exception to this is for yachts belonging to other Bellingham area Yacht Clubs (e.g. CYC, Squaticum or Anacortes). BYC welcomes other Bellingham area yacht club members to participate in any long distance race, free of charge, so long as they have registered and paid for the race packet at that club. Entrants from other Bellingham Clubs are still required to submit the enclosed liability waiver prior to racing.

If you do not register or do not have a current PHRF-NW rating you will not be scored. Boats may voluntarily elect to sail in “open” (D-class 5), which is an un-scored class not requiring a PHRF-NW rating.

For PIYA category information go to www.ussailing.net/piya. To download current racing rules of sailing go to www.ussailing.org/rules.

REGISTRATION FOR BYC YACHTS

A BYC yacht is defined as a yacht owned either in whole or in part by a BYC member. All BYC boats must register and pay the registration fee. Boats that have not registered will be welcome to invitational races. **Boats that do not have a current valid PHRF-NW certificate prior to the race will not be scored.** Boats may also decline to be scored but still race in the Open class.

REGISTRATION FOR NON-BYC YACHTS

Non-BYC yachts wishing to participate in the Wednesday night series may do so for the same price as BYC yachts. However, non-BYC yachts usage of the BYC Club House will be limited to Wednesday nights. In addition, non-BYC yachts must still provide crew cards for each member of the crew wishing to use the BYC (there is no charge for crew cards). The "Boat of the Year" award shall be limited to BYC yachts.

Non-BYC yachts wishing to participate in invitational races must complete the on-line registration process for the invitational event or they will not be scored. Non-BYC yachts may also participate in up to three (3) non-invitational races without registering. In order to be scored they must be a current PHRF-NW member. After the three trial races the skipper must register and pay the normal registration fee.

BYC Invitational Races are as follows:

1. *PITCH*
2. *Bellingham Bay One Design*
3. *Moore Invitational Regatta*

NOTE - Race instructions in this packet supersede all previous publications and shall govern BYC races from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

1. RULES

The races will be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012*, including *U.S. Sailing Prescriptions (RRS)*, except as modified by these instructions.

A yacht in position where it may impede commercial traffic must exit from the danger area immediately, under auxiliary power if necessary. If power is used, it must be reported to the Race Committee at the finish line. Also, a written report must be made on a protest form, showing the location, time, duration of power use, speed, direction of exit, and that the competitive position of the yacht was not improved. If the last item cannot be demonstrated adequately, a time penalty may be imposed. Failure to stay clear may result in protest.

2. PIYA CATEGORIES

The races are designated as *PIYA Category IV* for the *Etchells Class* and *PIYA Category III* for *PHRF Classes*, except when in conflict with class rules or when a more restrictive Category is specified in individual race instructions. Pt. Roberts Overnight shall be *PIYA Category II*.

3. ENTRIES

See above section “**How to Participate**”

4. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board(s) (ONB) located on the window at the downstairs entrance to the BYC and/or the board in the downstairs lobby. Notices may also be made via email to racers who have registered their email address with the Race Committee (RC).

5. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted before 1800 hours on the preceding Monday for Wednesday races and before 2000 hours on the preceding Thursday for long distance races. In the unlikely event that the sailing instructions for distance races require further clarification or change, the changes will be posted on the downstairs window as specified in Section 3 above immediately after the Skippers’ meeting. If a PRO is not available then the Protest Committee shall be responsible for making, announcing, and posting any changes.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be flown from the yardarm in front of the BYC. Code flag “AP” (With two horn blasts) means the race is postponed. The warning signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after the “AP” (with one horn blast) is lowered.

7. CLASS DESIGNATION

7.1. Class assignments are as follows:

Class 1: Etchells

Class 2: PHRF below 100

Class 3: PHRF 100 to 195

Class 4: PHRF above 195 (if needed)

Class 5: cruising / novice class: non-PHRF rated boats, not scored

7.2. Class flags will be numeral pennants.

7.3. Changes to the above class breaks will be at jointly agreed upon by the PHRF Sail Fleet and the Race Committee. Notice shall be posted according to Sections 3 and 4 prior to the start of a new series. All boats shall be required to finish a series within the class they began sailing in, ~~except that~~. A boat may move from a lower rated class to a faster rated class at the start of a new series so long as the Race Committee and Sail Fleet Captain are notified. BYC members may earn points toward class championships.

7.4. Participation in the cruising class shall be by request of the skipper only. Cruising boats shall fly from their backstay a red streamer. Streamers are available in the downstairs lobby of the BYC. Cruising/novice class and non-BYC members shall not be eligible for "Boat of the Year" award.

8. RACING AREAS

The racing area for Wednesday night will be Bellingham Bay. All distance racing areas and course are described in Appendix B of the race packet. Written instructions shall take precedence over ~~graphical~~ diagrams.

9. COURSES

9.1. The Wednesday evening course numbers and descriptions are attached as Appendix A. Course numbers will be displayed on the starboard side of the Race Signals boat. ~~Addendum~~ Appendix A is considered part of the written Sailing Instructions.

9.2. All marks are to be left to port, except that Mark F shall be left to starboard.

9.3. **The Start and Finish lines are restricted unless a boat is starting or finishing a race; except when the pin end of the start line "S" is used as a turning mark for multiple lap races. Boats violating this rule shall be scored DSQ.**

9.3. When start and finish lines are restricted they are to be considered obstructions.

10. MARKS

Marks for the courses are described in Appendix A.

11. START

11.1. Starting order will be announced by the RC before the first warning signal via VHF 68. Races will be started by using *RRS Rule 26*.

11.2. Warning signal for Wednesday night racing is 1800 hours.

11.3. One or more classes may be combined per Section 7 for a start, at the discretion of the Race Committee, subject to change per notice in Section 4.

11.4 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and mark "S."

11.4.5. **The Start and Finish lines are restricted unless a boat is starting or finishing a race; except when the pin end of the start line "S" is used as a turning mark for multiple lap races. Boats violating this rule shall be scored DSQ.**

11.5. **Boats whose Warning Signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.** The starting area shall include a box 50 yards downwind and 50 yards extending from each end of the line. A boat who is protested for violation of this rule shall take a one turn penalty, including one tack and one jibe, as soon as possible after they have started. A boat failing to exonerate herself under this rule will be penalized one finishing place for that race.

11.6. A boat shall not start later than four (4) minutes after her starting signal.

11.7. Start sequences for distance races shall be as close to 0955 hours as possible, except for the Pt. Roberts race which will start one hour earlier.

11.8. A rabbit start may be used for distance races. The rabbit is to be considered a Committee Boat under the Racing Rules of Sailing.

11.9. For distance races, one of the competitors may act as a start boat. If a start boat is not agreed upon in the skippers meeting, then the boat with the middle PHRF rating will act as the rabbit (see Appendix C for Rabbit Start Diagram). If there is an even number of boats so that there is no "middle" rated boat, the slower of the middle two boats shall act as the rabbit. Should the rabbit start require a downwind start, spinnakers may not be hoisted by any competitors until after the rabbit has gybed to establish the line. Failure of the rabbit boat to follow the protocol (see Appendix C) for rabbit starts (i.e. rabbit does not tack or gybe to set the line) will result in the rabbit's overall time being penalized by 10% (i.e. multiply elapsed time by 1.1). Failure must be agreed upon by two or more of the remaining competitors.

12. RECALLS

- 12.1. Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with *RRS 29.1* and general recalls in accordance with *RRS 29.2*.
- 12.2. The Race Committee will attempt to hail the sail numbers or boat names of those boats that are on the course side of the starting line (OCS) with a hailer or on VHF 68. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such notifications, shall not be grounds for redress under *RRS Rule 62.1(a)*.

13. RACE COMMITTEE AND PERSONNEL

- 13.1. Boats hitting a Committee Boat on their own, or breaking a rule and causing another boat to hit a Committee Boat will be disqualified from the race.
- 13.2. Boats that have crossed the finish line must clear the finish area completely before lowering sails, to allow other boats to finish and to minimize the possibility of a collision.
- 13.3. **The Skipper of each boat is responsible for an unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of their crew. Harassment of the Race Committee before, during, or following a race will not be tolerated. Violation of this rule will lead to disqualification from the race under *RRS Rule 69*. A second violation of this rule will result disqualification from the series, and/or may result in a competitor being excluded from further participation in the BYC racing program.**

14. FINISH

- 14.1. The finish line will be between a staff displaying an Orange flag on the Race Signals boat and the finishing mark "F", except when "S" is used as a turning mark.
- 14.2. Any boat that withdraws or fails to finish for cause, must inform the Race Committee or have another boat relay such action to the Race Committee.
- 14.3. **The Start and Finish lines are restricted unless a boat is starting or finishing a race; except when the pin end of the start line "S" is used as a turning mark for multiple lap races. Boats violating this rule shall be scored DSQ.**

15. TIME LIMIT

- 15.1. *RRS 35* is modified as follows: If one boat in a class sails the course as required by *RRS 28.1* and finishes within two hours after the class starting signal, all boats in that class that finish within two hours and thirty minutes after the class starting signal shall be scored according to their finishing places unless the race is abandoned. Boats failing to finish within the time limit will be scored "Did Not Finish."
- 15.2. If fifty percent or more boats in a class fail to finish by the time limit, the race will not be scored.

16. SHORTENING COURSE

- 16.1. If a course change is called, the RC will announce to the fleet any changes on **VHF 68**.
- 16.2. For some races this sailing instruction is changed. See Appendix **A B** for individual races.

17. PROTESTS

17.1 WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACES:

- 17.1.1 Notification of intent to protest must be made by notifying the Race Committee or preferably contacting one of the key members of the protest committee via phone within 45 minutes of the last boat finishing. Key members: Eric Yaremko-319-1550, Don Mierzeski 739-1441.
- 17.1.2 Protests shall then be written on forms available at the BYC and given to the Protest Committee at the BYC within 40 minutes after the committee boat has docked.
- 17.1.3 Notices will be posted within 10 minutes of the protest time limit, to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the jury room, located at BYC, beginning 10 minutes after the posting.

17.2 DISTANCE RACES

- 17.2.1 Notify one of the key members above within two hours after your vessel finishes, via phone (message if necessary), including the name of the Protested vessel(s).
- 17.2.2 The Protest Committee will attempt to convene a hearing as soon as possible, but will hear the protest at least by the next Wednesday night.
- 17.2.3 Protests shall then be written on forms available at the BYC and given to the Protest Committee at the hearing.

17.3 OVERALL

- 17.3.1 The jury will hear protests in the order of receipt.

18. AUDIO AND MOBILE PHONE COMMUNICATION

A boat shall not make or receive special radio or mobile phone communications concerning the race, not available to all boats. Race Committee shall communicate announcements on **VFH channel 68**, including general race announcements before the first warning signal. Failure to receive announcements shall not be grounds for protest/redress.

19. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

19.1. Substitution of competitors will not be allowed during a race without prior approval of the race committee.

20. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected before or after a race for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

21. SCORING

21.1. All distance races will be scored using the **time-on-distance** method as prescribed by PHRF Northwest with the course distance as prescribed in this document.

All other races will be scored using the **time-on-time** method as prescribed by PHRF Northwest using the following formula:

$$\text{TCF} = 650 / (520 + \text{PHRF})$$

$$\text{Corrected_Time} = \text{TCF} * \text{Elapsed_Time}$$

The PHRF factor is the boat's current PHRF Northwest rating.

21.2. The low points scoring system. *Appendix A4.1 of the Racing Rules of Sailing* will apply, except for "Boat of the Year."

21.3. There will be one throw-out allowed per series, provided that five (5) races are completed in a series. However, a DSQ will not be allowed as a throw-out, and must be used as part of the series scoring calculation.

21.4. Boats not starting, finishing, or disqualified shall be scored as follows:

DNS = number registered in class

DNF = number of starters plus one

DSQ = number registered in class plus one

21.5. A committee of BYC sailors shall be selected by the Sail Fleet Captain to calculate and select the Best "Boat of the Year" based on the following criteria:

- Performance and participation in BYC sponsored races:
 - Wednesday Series 1st = 12 pts
 2nd = 10 pts
 3rd = 8 pts
 - Long distance Races 1st = 6 pts
 2nd = 5 pts
 3rd = 4 pts
- Performance and participation in affiliate club sponsored races:

- Regattas
 - 1st = 12 pts
 - 2nd = 10 pts
 - 3rd = 8 pts
- Distance Races
 - 1st=8 pts
 - 2nd=6 pts
 - 3rd=4 pts
-
- Offshore, Van Isle, Southern Straights, Swiftsure
 - 1st = 12 pts
 - 2nd = 10 pts
 - 3rd = 8 pts
- Championships (One Design Regionals, NOOD, GrandPrix
 - 1st = 16 pts
 - 2nd = 14 pts
 - 3rd = 12 pts

22. PRIZES

Inscribed awards will be presented at the Bellingham Yacht Club awards banquet, time to be announced. Awards will be marked and presented for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each class for Wednesday night and Frostbite Series and 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each class for distance races. Engravings will be made on the perpetual trophies for the overall winners of the distance races and presented. The perpetual trophy for “Boat of the Year” shall be announced and presented.

23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See *RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race*. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after racing.

24. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 per event or the equivalent.

25. LONG DISTANCE RACES

25.1. Long distance courses are described in the race packet in Appendix B.

25.2. Skippers’ meeting attendance is mandatory for *Vendovi, Around Lummi, Marmetta Cup, Commodore’s Cup, Jack Island, Governor’s Point* and *Pt. Roberts* races. The meeting will be held at Gate 3 at 0900 the day of the race, except for Pt. Roberts race which will be at 0800.

- 25.3. In the event that no committee boat is on station at the finish, you must take your GPS time (**NOT ELAPSED**) and report it on the web-site via the long distance /self recorded time form within 24 hrs after your finish.
- 25.4. Failure to report your time within the time limit will result in a DNF.
- 25.5. The Pt. Roberts race is a PIYA Category II race. All lights and safety gear shall conform with PIYA CAT II requirement