

SOUTH SOUND SAILING SOCIETY

2026 PHRF Races NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

(Updated June 1, 2026)

1. RULES

1.1. The racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) as amended by the USSA prescriptions, the PHRF Sailing Instructions that are applicable to all the races, and the Individual Series and race Sailing Instructions that provide information specific to that series or race.

2. ELEGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1 SSSS PHRF Races are open to keelboats racing under the PHRF handicapping racing system. *(NOTE: please visit the Southern Sound Series webpage for race information for the Toliva Shoal Race and other races in that series)*

2.2 PHRF Handicaps: Boats must obtain and hold a current handicap. Boats racing with Flying Sails must have a current PHRF certificate issued by PHRF-NW. Boats racing with No Flying Sails (NFS) must either have a current PHRF certificate issued by PHRF-NW, or may obtain a valid Club Handicap, as assigned by the SSSS Club Handicapper. NFS boats without PHRF-NW certificates must comply with PHRF rules and regulations for NFS ratings.

EXCEPTION: Boats owned and operated by Olympia Community Sailing may race with Flying Sails without a current PHRF-NW handicap certificate, but must have a valid club handicap.

2.2.1 The Club Handicapper, Principal Race Officer, or a boat on its own behalf may petition the Race Chair for an alternative rating for a boat in a PHRF class for club racing only. No boat racing in a PHRF class shall have an alternative rating without express approval by the Race Chair.

2.2.2 At its option the Race Chair may randomly or selectively inspect boats for validity of handicaps.

2.3 Sail Numbers: Sail numbers are required on all boats. For boats currently without sail numbers, sail numbers should match the hull number of the boat. If the hull number is not available, use a 5-digit number not currently active in the SSSS PHRF fleet. Sail numbers may also be obtained through USSailing.org. Sail numbers must be affixed on the mainsail as prescribed in Appendix G of the Racing Rules of Sailing.

2.3.1 Skippers may race in one series before complying with 2.3.

2.4 Race Entry: New skippers must notify the SSSS Club Scorer scorer@sssclub.com and give their boat name, sail number, and current rating a minimum of 2 days prior to racing.

2.4.1 Skippers are responsible for notifying the SSSS Club Scorer with any changes to current PHRF ratings or sail numbers a minimum of 2 days prior to racing.

2.5 Insurance: Boats must be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with coverage of at least \$300,000 per incident.

SOUTH SOUND SAILING SOCIETY

2026 PHRF Races NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

(Updated June 1, 2026)

3. RACE FEE

3.1 Race Fee is \$35 for full Season. All Skippers must pay the Race Fee prior to racing. Fees can be paid on the ssssclub.com PHRF website page.

EXCEPTION: Boats owned and operated by Olympia Community Sailing are exempt from Race Fee requirement.

4. ONE TRIAL RACE (TRY BEFORE YOU BUY)

4.1 In the spirit of encouraging participation, new boats, or boats that have been inactive for a minimum of one full season, may participate in one race without payment of Race Fees or obtaining a Club or PHRF-NW Handicap. Contact the Club Handicapper Richard Bigley bigleyre@gmail.com and the scorer scorer@ssssclub.com at least 2 days prior to the race they wish to participate in with your boat name, sail number (if you have one) and type of boat to obtain a provisional handicap rating, and they will inform the Race Committee of your intent to race.

5. RACE COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERING

5.1 To remain eligible, all racers who have participated, or plan to participate, in races during the current season must volunteer to assist the Race Committee during at least one race per season.

5.2 A boat serving as race committee volunteers, if participating in at least two additional races in that series, shall be scored for the race for which they are serving the average of her finishes for the series.

5.3 Any member assigned as Committee Boat by the Class Captain or Race Chair is required to accept the assignment or to provide a replacement. Failure to do so may render you ineligible for that series.

4. SCHEDULE

4.1. The racing season starts in the fall of each year, and is broken up into series that take place throughout the year. The following is the general calendar for the series, see the SSSS calendar for the specific dates, and the individual series sailing instructions for starting times:

Series	No. of Races	Type of Race	When
Fall Series	4	Buoy Racing	Saturday afternoon, Sept-Oct
Island Series	4	Distance Racing	Saturdays, October-January
Inlet Series	4	Distance Racing	Saturdays, January-March
Spring Series	4	Buoy Racing	Saturday afternoon, April-May
Commodore's Series	4	Buoy Racing	Wed Evenings, May-June
Vice Commodore's Series	4	Buoy Racing	Wed Evenings, June-July
Secretary's Series	4	Buoy Racing	Wed Evenings, July-August

SOUTH SOUND SAILING SOCIETY

2026 PHRF Races NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

(Updated June 1, 2026)

- 4.2. SSSS PHRF also supports the Toliva Shoal Race, race four in the Southern Sound Series in February. Please visit the Southern Sound Series webpage for information for the Toliva Shoal Race and other races in that series.

5. CLASS DIVISIONS

- 5.1. Class Divisions are as follows:
- 5.2. Class 1: Boats rating 134 or lower PHRF and not assigned to another class.
- 5.3. Class 2: Boats rating 135 or higher PHRF.
- 5.4. When in the interest of fair and competitive racing is best served, the Race Chair may assign any boat to any Class, but not without consulting the Class Captain of the Class that the boat is moved to.
- 5.4.1. If a boat that would normally be assigned to Class 2 is moved to Class 1, that boat shall be scored using the slowest handicap in Class 1 (currently 134).
- 5.4.2. If a boat that would normally be assigned to Class 1 is moved to Class 2, that boat shall be scored with her actual PHRF handicap, even if it is outside the Class parameters.
- 5.5. Boats that are current PHRF members may race in SSSS PHRF classes with a No-Flying Sails handicap. Boats shall not change between No-Flying Sails and Flying Sails handicaps during a series, in all SSSS classes, nor change classes during a series.
- 5.6. Any change affecting handicap must be submitted to the Handicapper and Scorekeeper before racing with the new rating. See Eligibility and Entry regarding changes to PHRF handicaps.
- 5.7. A boat may only sail in one Class during a series. If the Class for a boat is changed, that boat must continue in its original Class until the end of the series.
- 5.8. If a boat changes class during a Season, the boat is eligible for the Season Championship in the Class in which she sailed the most races.
- 5.9. Class changes must be made a minimum of two days before the first race of a series.

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be published each fall before the first series of the sailing season. They will be available on the SSSS website.

7. VENUE

- 7.1. Buoy racing takes place on Budd Inlet north of Government Mark #5, using marks set by the SSSS race committee. Fall and Spring Series races may extend out to Itsami Ledge.
- 7.2. Distance races are a series of races that sail around various islands and into various inlets in the south sound.

SOUTH SOUND SAILING SOCIETY

2026 PHRF Races NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

(Updated June 1, 2026)

8. COMMUNICATION

During the race, the race committee will monitor channel 72. In addition, there will be a cell phone on board the signal boat with phone number (360) 890-8450. However, except in an emergency, checking in, or notice of withdrawal, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats while racing. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

9. AWARDS

9.1. Awards to be given for races and series are as follows:

Series	Race/Series	Award
Fall	Series	SSSS Class Awards for Series Series Crew Awards
Island	Eagle Island	Sibold Trophy for First Overall SSSS Class Awards for Race
	Squaxin Island	Christopher Trophy for First Overall SSSS Class Awards for Race
	Herron Island	Talcott Bros. Trophy for First Overall SSSS Class Awards for Race
	Hope Island	SSSS Perpetual Trophy for First Overall SSSS Class Awards for Race
	Series	SSSS Perpetual First Overall in Series SSSS Island Series Class Awards Series Crew Awards
Inlet	Eld Inlet	SSSS Class Awards for Race
	McAllister Creek	SSSS Class Awards for Race SSSS Perpetual First Overall
	Henderson Inlet	SSSS Class Awards for Race
	Skookum Inlet	SSSS Class Awards for Race
	Series	SSSS Class Awards for Series Series Crew Awards
Spring	Series	SSSS Class Awards for Series Series Crew Awards
Wednesday Evening	Commodore's	SSSS Class Awards for Series Series Crew Awards
	Vice Commodore's	SSSS Class Awards for Series Series Crew Awards
	Secretary's	SSSS Class Awards for Series Series Crew Awards
Season	Winter	1st, 2nd & 3rd in Class
	Summer	1st, 2nd & 3rd in Class

9.2. Series Crew Awards - A boat that corrects to First in Class in any SSSS Series, or corrects to First in Class in any Island or Inlet Series race, wins the option to nominate one of her crew for the Crew Award. To do so, contact the Race Chair with the name of the crew person nominated after the race and before the General Meeting. The award will be presented to all those nominated who are present at the next General Meeting to receive it. Skippers are encouraged to ensure their crew person attends the meeting to receive the award.

SOUTH SOUND SAILING SOCIETY

2026 PHRF Races NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

(Updated June 1, 2026)

- 9.3. SSSS Class Awards - When Class Awards are given in the race or series, they will be made to the first, second and third boats in each class, except that if there are only 3 boats in a class then awards will be made only to the first and second boats and if there is only 1 or 2 boats in a class then only first place will be awarded.
- 9.4. Season Championship Awards
- 9.4.1. There will be two Season Championship Awards, one for the winter season and one for the summer season.
- 9.4.2. The Winter Championship consists of all races, Fall Series through Spring Series, except the Maclean Memorial. To qualify for the Winter Championship the racer must have finished at least eight races and have finishes in at least 3 of the series that comprise the Winter Championship.
- 9.4.3. The Summer Championship consists of all Wednesday night races during the summer months. To qualify for the Summer Championship the racer must have finished six of the races.
- 9.4.4. For both championships the scores for the required number of races are totaled. Points awarded for RC duty, DNF, or DNS will not be scored for this award. If a boat sails more than the required number of races only the best will be counted, except if a boat is scored DNE, it will be included in the boat's series score.
- 9.4.5. Awards go to the best three scores in class. In the event of a tie, the boats tied shall add their next best race and then compare scores. If still tied they shall repeat this process until the tie is broken or all the races the boats have sailed have been added to the score. A boat with no additional scores to add loses to those who have. If still tied, the boat that finished ahead of the other the most times in races that they both sailed, shall be declared the winner. If still tied, they shall remain tied.
- 9.5. The Uncle Juicy Trophy - This award is presented to one racer recognized as being the most improved over the course of a SSSS race year. This perpetual trophy was donated by Bill Maclean in memory of Joe Dubey, who raced Uncle Juicy, a Cal 40.
- 9.5.1. The recipient of this award is selected by the Trophy Committee. That Committee is made up of the Race Committee Chair, the Assistant RC Chair and the Class Captains for all active Classes. They may appoint one more SSSS member to their Committee, if it is deemed desirable to have an odd number of members on the Committee. The Committee is chaired by the RC Chair. Each member of the Committee has one vote.
- 9.5.2. The Trophy Committee solicits nominations for this award from the general Membership. They then choose a recipient from those nominations.
- 9.5.3. In determining the recipient of the Uncle Juicy Trophy, the Nominating Committee focuses on overall improvement in the skills of the skipper and crew demonstrated over time, as opposed to one spectacular race or series. Winning a lot of races is not a requirement for this award. The Uncle Juicy Trophy recognizes that losing a permanent claim to last place may be a greater achievement than consistently winning a lot of races.
- 9.5.4. The Uncle Juicy Trophy goes to a boat for demonstrated improvements while racing with SSSS. While performance down Sound may be taken into account, particularly the Southern Sound Series, it is not the primary criterion for receiving this award.
- 9.6. Perfect Attendance Award - To win you must start and finish every regularly scheduled Sailing Society race that someone in your class finishes, starting with the first race of the Fall Series and ending with the last race of the Spring Series, including the Toliva Shoal Race.

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2026 PHRF Races NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

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9.6.1 You only need to sail the course; you can then take a DNF or DSQ for any Rule infringement, other than not sailing the course. The exceptions:

The Race Committee rules you couldn't have finished within the Time Limit (only one finisher in Class for example); in which case it is enough to have Started and all Starters will be counted as finished for the purposes of this award only.

9.6.3 You are serving as Race Committee or Mark boat for the Race Committee. Such service substitutes for sailing the race.

9.6.4. If the Race Committee ever schedules two, or more, race events for the same date it is sufficient to attend any of them.

9.6.5. If, while racing, you become involved in aiding, or attempting to aid, another boat in an emergency that keeps you from Finishing, the Race Committee may count you as Finishing. You will need to submit a Petition for Redress to the Protest Committee which explains who you aided, when, for how long, and why you did not Finish.

10. LIABILITY

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

11. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information contact the South Sound Sailing Society Race Chair at rcchair@ssssclub.com