

Notice of Race & Sailing Instructions

Gig Harbor Yacht Club LeMans Race

Saturday, November 16th, 2024

This unique sailboat race, which began over 50 Years ago (inspired by car racing), will once again feature a Le Mans type start for all boats.

Instructions for Classes 1 and 2 - At the PREPARATORY SIGNAL (horn only):

- Flags will not be used at the start. Horns only!
- At the 5 minute horn all boats will be anchored, in their designated “starting box” with their anchor also within their designated starting area. Maximum scope for anchoring is 5:1
- *** ALL crew must be below deck at the 4 minute horn
- The mainsail must be down and on the boom and tied with at least one sail tie.
- The headsail must be down on the foredeck. Roller-furling sails will be entirely furled.
- Halyards may be attached and sails pre-fed.
- At each boat’s respective class STARTING SIGNAL: Crew may raise the anchor (no buoying the anchor), set sail and must pass through the start line. If your boat is over early you must round one end of the line to restart. Remember your lack of rights if doing so.

Eligibility: All boats entering **must** have a valid PHRF certificate OR must be a member of a group participating as a One-Design Class as recognized by the Race Committee (minimum 5 boats). All additional class restrictions for a One-Design Class are the responsibility of that class. PIYA category III safety requirements are in effect for all boats.

The Start and Finish: A boat will NOT be in use at the start. Both the “start”, “finish” and “horns” will be managed from a dock/land location at Ancich Park.

Starting times: There will be two starts. The warning signal for the first start is 0955 and start at 1000. The warning signal for the second start is 1005 and a start at 1010. A “reverse” start will be used (smaller boats / higher ratings start at 1000, anchored in the front box, larger/lower ratings start at 1010 anchor behind the second line). Special starting instructions may be given at the Skipper's Meeting on the day of the race. These Special Starting Instructions are unique to this event and are a change from RRS Rules 26.

Horns and Flags: All signals will be horns. Flags will **NOT** be used.

Skipper's Meeting: A skipper's meeting will be at the **Gig Harbor City Dock (Jerisich Park) between 0830 and 0900** on the day of the race. “Print outs” of Entries and Class designation and any “Special Instructions” will be handed out at that time. Skipper or one crew member per boat is sufficient.

Courses: There will be options of two (2) courses. The committee’s choice of course will be based on weather conditions the morning of the race and announced at the skipper’s meeting.

Short Course – 10 Miles

From the designated starting areas inside Gig Harbor, boats will proceed North in Colvos Passage to a mark due east of Point Richmond and close to the Vashon shore (north of Camp Sealth) at approximately 47 22.45 N, 122 31.08 W. Leave that mark to port and return to the finish line inside Gig Harbor.

Long Course – 14.25 Miles

From the designated starting areas inside Gig Harbor, boats will proceed north around a temporary mark approximately 400 yards east of the Olalla Bridge at approximately 47 25.15 N, 122 32.16 W (leave this mark to port) and return to the finish line inside Gig Harbor.

Either course may be shortened at the turning mark at the discretion of the race committee. Horns received at the turn mark will indicate a shortened race and a boat's finish.

Classes and Awards: Class breaks and starting areas will be determined by the number of entries received and will be announced at the skipper's meeting on Saturday morning. The race committee Chairman's decision on class breaks will be final and must be accepted by all participants. Trophies will be awarded to the top three boats in each class.

Rules, Protests, and Time Limit: The race will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021-2024 and the US Sailing Prescriptions, this Notice and Sailing Instructions and special instructions provided by the race committee. The race committee must receive protests no later than two hours after the time limit for each class. The course **time limit will be 5 hours** after the start of each class.

Special Notes: As with all events racers must stay clear of Orcas. If you are AIS broadcast capable you must broadcast. This race does not interfere with Ferry Traffic but all racers must stay clear of any commercial vessels.

Communication: The Race Committee will communicate on and monitor VHF Channel 68

Start/Finish cell phone number for Tom Mitchell - (253) 225-1846

Turn Boat - M/V Cuvee (a Swift Trawler 44) Tom Mitchell - (253) 225-1846

NO - Post-Race Party: Unfortunately do to unforeseen issues and conflicts there will not be a hosted post-race gathering at the club or elsewhere. [side note: locals likely will gather at El Pueblito which is across the street from Jerisich Dock (city dock), or at the Tides Tavern]

Registration: On-Line (using Regatta Networks)

https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=28848

Entry Fee: Entry fee, to be paid on line when registering, is \$45.00 - Late Entries \$50.00 –

If registering in person Saturday/Race Morning – contact Tom Mitchell 253-225-1846 – bring your registration and a check for \$50 made out to GHYC

Questions? **Contact:**

Tom Mitchell - (253) 225-1846 or sailwildflower@gmail.com

Marc Jorgenson - (253) 906-0951 or e38sailorman@yahoo.com