NOTICE OF RACE/Sailing Instructions

RACE TO THE STRAITS

Saturday, May 1 & 2, 2021

1. **Rules:** This race is governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing except as modified by the STYC General Sailing Instructions (GSI), these Sailing Instructions, and the USCG VTS Navigation Rules.

2. **Eligibility and Entry Deadline:** This is a double handed or single handed race. Double handed boats may consist of any two crew members (male or female). If the crew consists of one male and one female, this race will count as part of the Seattle Jack and Jill Series. This race is open to STYC members with PHRF-NW or STYC ratings. Non STYC members with a valid PHRF-NW rating are eligible to enter provided the skipper is a member of a PIYA or US Sailing accepted club. Entries must be received on the STYC website (www.styc.org), no later than 1800, on the Wednesday before the race. See the GSI for the late entry policy. Non-members and Associate Members must submit a $35 entry fee with the completed entry. Non-members who join STYC during this calendar year shall have this race fee applied against the initiation fee for membership.

3. **Crew Size Limits:** This is a double handed or single handed race. Crew size is limited to no more than 2 total including the skipper. Violation of this rule will result in a DSQ.

4. **Contact Tracing Requirements:** Competitors shall comply with local COVID-19 and Social Distancing regulations. Skippers are required to have contact tracing information for the entire crew for each individual race. Failure to have such contact tracing information when asked will result in disqualification. The race committee may ask to see proof of such contact information at the time of the race. An acceptable form for contract tracing is available at https://bit.ly/38awYGx or you may use a joint text or email thread if available for inspection at time of race. In the event a crew member suspects or is confirmed to have COVID-19, or is exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, they must notify the skipper and other crew immediately within 24 hours. It is the skipper’s responsibility to inform the crew of this requirement. This applies for up to 14 days after the race.

5. **Face Coverings and Social Distancing:** Sailors must follow state and local requirements for use of face coverings. For the purpose of such requirements, sailing should be considered outdoor exercise where a six foot separation will not be maintained between crew on a single boat. Sufficient separation will exist between boats. Currently, this means face coverings are required if a boat’s crew are not all members of the same household.

6. **Divisions and Starting Times:** Class breaks will be posted on the STYC website (www.styc.org) by 1800 the Friday before the race. This is a pursuit style race with the first start each day at approximately 0800. The class breaks will include starting time. See “Starting” below.

7. **Time Limit:** The time limit for this race is 1900 on May 1 and 1700 on May 2. Refer to the GSI for instructions concerning cancellations, postponements, and time extensions.

8. **Communication:** The race committee will utilize VHF channel 72 for on water communications. A failure by the race committee to issue a communication, the failure of a competitor to hear the communication, or any other issues regarding the communication shall not constitute grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

9. **Race Distance and Course:** This is a two day race starting and ending in Shilshole Bay each day. The race on Saturday May 1 starts between the N Mark and the orange flag on the RC boat. Proceed north leaving U to port, round Possession Pt buoy to port, leave U to starboard and return to the finish between N and the RC boat. Take your time as you round the Possession Pt buoy (when the buoy is due south magnetic) in case the race is cut short due to light wind. Course length is 26 miles. The race on Sunday May 2 starts between N and the RC boat, then proceeds south to round D to starboard, round Blake Island to starboard and return to cross the finish.
line between N and the RC boat. Take your time as you round the pile structure at D (when the structure is due north magnetic) in case the race is cut short. Course length is 23.4 miles.

10. **Starting:** GPS time is your official start time. The Race Committee will make no sound or flag signals during the start sequence except for OCS or delays. All boats, regardless of division or class, will start in reverse order based on the Time on Distance handicapping method. The slowest rated boat(s) will start first and the fastest rated boat(s) will start last. PHRF rating of 250 will start at 0800 each day. Note that because the course distances are not identical, the starting time will not be the same both days except for a PHRF rating of 250.

11. **Safety Requirements:** ISAF Category 5 – All crew must wear PFDs; in addition, single-handed skippers must wear a safety harness with tether at all times.

12. **Self-Steering:** Any type of self-steering apparatus may be used during this event, but competitors must maintain a watch on deck at all times.

9. **Skippers’ Meeting:** Skippers meeting will be online at 7:00 pm Friday, April 30, 2021. It will be possible to attend using Google Meet or telephone. Meeting details will be emailed to registered boats before the meeting and will be available on the race webpage. The STYC GSI are available on the STYC website. If there are questions, email race@styc.org.

10. **Awards:** Award will be announced during the Post-Race virtual happy hour. The Google Meets link will be included in any emails about the race. Physical prizes, awards, stickers, etc; will be distributed as needed by the Race Committee or designated volunteer. To be coordinated via email after the post-race happy hour meeting.