



The 43rd Annual  
**BLACKLINE MARINE**  
**PATOS ISLAND RACE**  
Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club  
1949 Marina Way, North Saanich, B.C.  
**March 21 & 22, 2026**

**Notice of Race (NoR) - Gulf Islands Course**  
Version 1.0 – December 31, 2025

The Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club will be hosting its 43rd Blackline Marine Patos Island Race. This is the Notice of Race for the Gulf Islands Course to be held on March 21st.

The course will be around fixed marks and islands with an approximate length of 20 nm to 30 nm depending on wind conditions targeting an approximate duration of 7 hours.

There will be a double handed division if a four-boat minimum is attained.

SNSYC will attempt to provide moorage for participating yachts. Larger/deep draft vessels may need to secure moorage at local marinas.

## 1 SCHEDULE

	Date	From	To
Registration Packages Available	Friday March 20th	16:00	20:00
BBQ Dinner		17:30	19:30
Weather and Currents Briefing		19:30	20:00
Skippers Meeting		20:00	
Pancake and Sausage Breakfast	Saturday March 21st	07:00	08:00
Bagged Lunch Pick-Up		07:00	08:30
<b>Warning Signal</b>	(no earlier than)	10:15	
Complimentary Chili & Buns		18:00	08:00
<b>Time Limit Expires</b>		21:00	
Continental Breakfast	Sunday March 22nd	08:00	11:00
Awards Presentation		11:00	

All social activities are held at SNSYC. The race start is in the vicinity of the Sidney downtown waterfront.



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## **2 RULES**

*The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.*

- 2.1** The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, available at [sailing.org/racingrules](http://sailing.org/racingrules). The prescriptions of Sail Canada apply, available at [sailing.ca/rules-prescriptions](http://sailing.ca/rules-prescriptions).
- 2.2** The Rules of PHRF BC, available at [bcsailing.bc.ca/phrf](http://bcsailing.bc.ca/phrf).
- 2.3** Boats shall comply with the safety equipment requirements of its national safety authority.
- 2.3.1** Boats shall carry a marine VHF transceiver with DSC, capable of transmitting and receiving on Canadian channels.
- 2.3.2** Boats shall carry charts appropriate for the racing area (see appendix A) in either paper or electronic form.
- 2.4** All monohull boats are strongly recommended to comply with Category 4 of the 2024–2025 World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations for Monohulls with Canadian Prescriptions available at [sailing.ca/special-regulations](http://sailing.ca/special-regulations).
- 2.5** All multihull boats are strongly recommended to comply with Category 4 of the 2024–2025 World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations for Multihulls with Canadian Prescriptions available at [sailing.ca/special-regulations](http://sailing.ca/special-regulations). The following amendments are for multihulls only:
  - 2.5.1** 3.14.2, append "On a boat with no lifelines the use of a harness tethered to jackstays and/or clipping points (see 4.04) is strongly recommended at all times when not below deck."
- 2.6** The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) shall replace the relevant sections of Part 2 of the RRS between sunset and sunrise. IRPCAS is available at [laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/pdf/C.R.C.,\\_c.\\_1416.pdf](http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/pdf/C.R.C.,_c._1416.pdf).



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**2.7** [DP] Tracking will be via the SAP Sailing Analytics system. Race participants will be required to download and run the SAP Sail Insight app on their smart phone. This will require each boat to maintain a smart phone with data (including the USA) and a means of keeping the device charged throughout the race duration. Instructions and assistance with setting up the app will be provided at registration.

**2.8** Boats entered as a double-handed crew are allowed to use self-steering and/or autopilot mechanisms for sail changes and other situations, where having one crew member assigned to steering the yacht may compromise the safety of crew and craft. This changes RRS 52.

**3 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**3.1** The Sailing Instructions for the Gulf Islands Course will be available after 08:00 on March 1st at [patosislandrace.com](http://patosislandrace.com).

**4 COMMUNICATION**

**4.1** The official notice board is located in the entrance of the SNSYC clubhouse and online at [patosislandrace.com](http://patosislandrace.com).

**4.2** All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channel 16, 11 and 72.

**5 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

**5.1** The event is open to all boats with a valid 2026 PHRF BC certificate. 2026 PHRF NW certificates will be accepted and will be normalized to PHRF BC regulations.

**5.2** Division splits will be announced at the Skippers Meeting.

**5.3** Eligible boats may enter by registering online at [patosislandrace.com](http://patosislandrace.com) together with the required fee by 23:59, March 16th, 2026.

**5.4** The number of boats entered in the event (all courses) is limited to 55. Boats will be placed on a waiting list once there are 55 entries.



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## **6 FEES**

### **6.1** Entry fees are as follows:

Class	Early Entry Fee until February 1st, 2026	Standard Fee
Gulf Islands Course	\$100 Cdn	\$135 Cdn

### **6.2** Social activity fees:

BBQ Dinner (Friday)	\$20.00 / person
Pancake & Sausage Breakfast (Saturday)	\$10.00 / person
Bagged Lunch to Go (Saturday)	\$18.00 / bag
Complimentary Chili & Buns (Saturday/Sunday)	Free
Continental Breakfast (Sunday)	Free

## **7 CREW LIMITATIONS**

### **7.1** As per OSR 6.04, At least annually the crews shall practice the drills for:

- a) crew-overboard recovery, and
- b) abandonment of vessel.

## **8 COURSES**

### **8.1** The race start is in the vicinity of the Sidney downtown waterfront.

### **8.2** The race course will use fixed marks and islands in the vicinity of Sidney. The Sailing Instructions will define a number of courses and the race committee will select the course to be used no later than 30 minutes before the start of the race. The selection will be based on weather and tide with the intent of having a race duration of approximately 7 hours. Appendix A shows the Racing Area and example courses. Final courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions. Competitors are strongly advised to check the appropriate charts for navigational hazards.

## **9 PENALTY SYSTEM**

### **9.1** RRS 44.1 will apply (two-turns penalty).



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**10 RISK STATEMENT**

- 10.1** RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

**11 INSURANCE**

- 11.1** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$3,000,000 Cdn per incident or the equivalent. A hard copy of the insurance policy must be on board while racing.

**12 FURTHER INFORMATION**

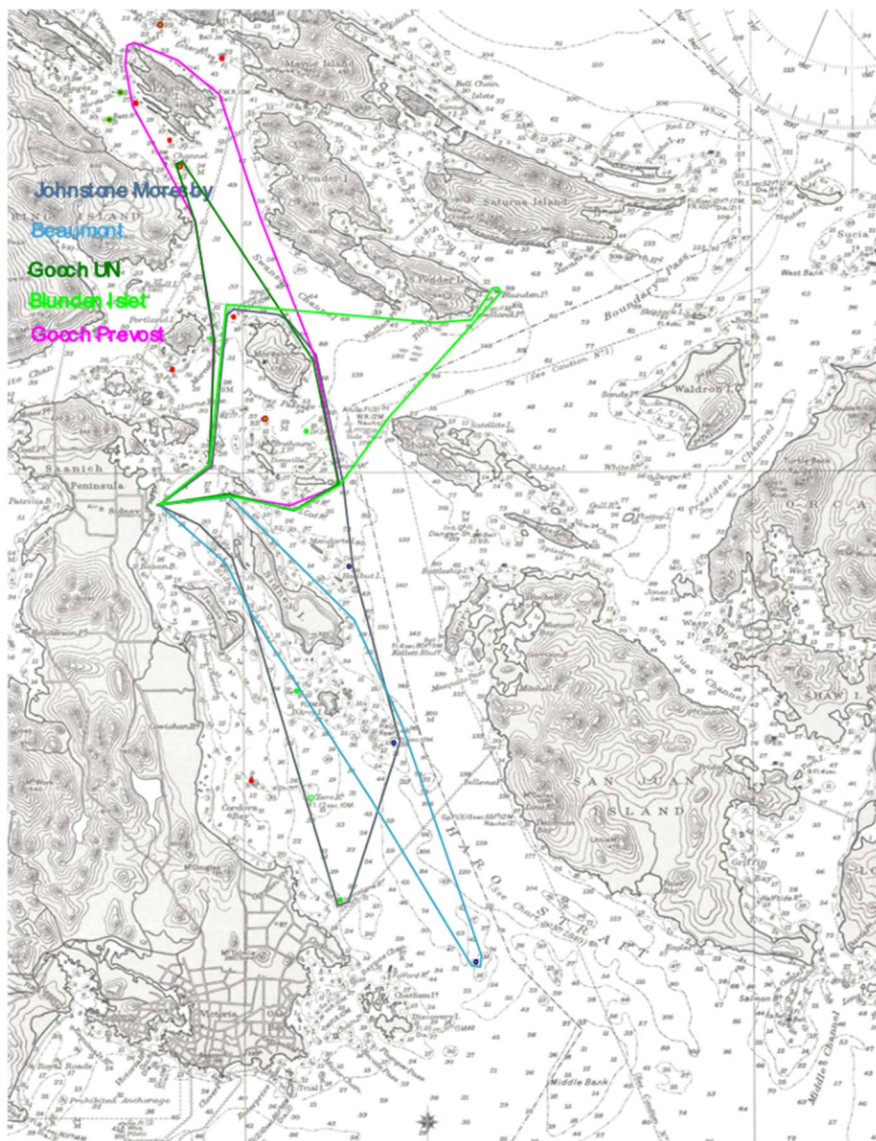
- 12.1** For further information please contact Heather Meads, [info@patosislandrace.com](mailto:info@patosislandrace.com)



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**Appendix A COURSE DESCRIPTION**



**Not to be used for Navigation. Example courses only, to show racing area.**