



"Making Sailing Exciting!"

Notice of Race

VARC 2019 Championship Season

The Vancouver Area Racing Circuit Society welcomes you to this year's racing season and invites you to participate in the series of racing events hosted and managed by local yacht clubs of the greater Vancouver area.

1 RULES

- 1.1 VARC events will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing unless changed in the event documentation.
- 1.2 The host yacht club will publish an event Notice of Race and event Sailing Instructions. In case of conflict with this Notice of Race the provisions of the event documents will take precedence.
- 1.3 The rules for each division as applicable under section 3 include the rules of PHRF of BC, the rules for ORC Club, the ORC Sportboat Class Rules as modified herein, the Farr 30 Class Rules as amended by the BC Fleet, this Notice of Race, the event Notice of Race and the event Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4 All boats are required to check-in within 30 minutes prior to the start sequence of the first race each day and indicate their boat name, sail number, division and their compliance with displaying prescribed advertising if applicable.
- 1.5 Safety Requirements:
 - 1.5.1 VARC recommends that the Organizing Authority for each event assess whether these section 1.5 safety requirements are sufficient, and if appropriate, prescribe additional or alternative safety requirements.
 - 1.5.2 Boats shall carry the equipment required by law. Particular attention is drawn to Small Vessel Regulations.
 - 1.5.3 Boats racing in a one design class shall also comply with the safety requirements of their class rule.
 - 1.5.4 Boats racing in a handicap class (including one design boats not racing in a one design class) shall also comply with the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations applicable to Race Category 4 Monohulls, 2018-2019 (OSR Race Category Mo4) with Canadian prescriptions, and as amended in this section. OSR Race Category 4 *"is intended for short races, close to shore in relatively warm or protected waters normally held in daylight"*.
 - 1.5.4.1 A tubular type, commercially available radar reflector permanently mounted within 15 degrees of vertical and meeting the minimum effective height requirement shall be considered compliant with OSR 4.10.1.
 - 1.5.4.2 Compliance with 4.26.2(a)(ii) (alternative means to attach the luff to the stay) is recommended but shall not be required. A roller furling headsail or #3 or smaller jib, suitable for heavy weather, shall be considered compliant with OSR 4.26.2(a).
 - 1.5.4.3 Lifejackets or PFDs meeting applicable government requirements shall be considered compliant with OSR 5.01.1 (lifejacket specifications), provided that
 - a) inflatable devices are fitted with crotch or thigh straps (ride up prevention system (RUPS));
 - b) inherently buoyant devices are fitted with crotch or thigh straps (ride up prevention system (RUPS)) or if the user has taken alternative measures to ensure the device does not ride up;
 - c) lifejacket lights are fitted for races with finish time limits later than two hours before sunset.

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- 1.5.4.4 A propulsion engine is required. While racing, a boat shall also carry sufficient fuel for safety purposes such as crew-overboard recovery and to motor from the farthest point on the course to the host venue docks, the boat's home port, or a safe harbour, whichever is closer, in the forecasted conditions.
- 1.5.4.5 Carriage of the number of fire extinguishers required by law shall be considered as compliant with OSR 4.05.2 (Fire Fighting Equipment).
- 1.5.4.6 Carriage of a single tactical racing compass, either electronic (and internally calibrated) or magnetic with a deviation card shall be considered as compliant with OSR 3.24 (Compass) provided that if the compass is electronic then a boat shall also carry a second marine magnetic compass which may be handheld.
- 1.5.4.7 A safety equipment location chart displayed in any conspicuous location shall be considered compliant with the location requirement of OSR 4.12 (Safety Equipment Location Chart).
- 1.5.4.8 For boats that were not fitted with a depth sounder by the builder or when commissioned, a depth sounder is recommended. This changes rule OSR 4.13 (Depth, Speed and Distance Instruments).
- 1.5.4.9 Carriage of the life-saving equipment required by law shall be considered compliant with OSR 4.22 (Crew Overboard Identification and Recovery), however, where carriage of a lifebuoy is not required by law, carriage of a lifebuoy is recommended.
- 1.5.4.10 Carriage of the pyrotechnic signals required by law shall be considered as compliant with OSR 4.23 (Pyrotechnic and Light Signals). SOLAS flares are permissible but not required.
- 1.5.4.11 Boats designated as One Design by World Sailing (as either Keelboats or Yachts) or by VARC whose one design class rule conflicts with OSR section 3 requirements (structural features, stability, fixed equipment) and who are racing in handicap classes:
 - a) shall not be penalized for non-compliance with OSR section 3 that is a result of conflict with their one design class rule,
 - b) shall have all crew wearing lifejackets or PFDs while racing,
 - c) shall carry at least two thermal protective aids or other devices for treating crew following a crew overboard incident,
 - d) in the absence of class rule compliance with OSR 3.14 (pulpit, stanchion and lifelines), shall carry at least one harness and safety line (tether) and have attachment point(s) to reduce crew overboard risk when working forward of the mast.
- 1.5.5 Competitors are reminded of the Fundamental Rules of The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS): Helping those in Danger, Life-Saving Equipment and Personal Buoyancy, and Decision to Race. Competitors are reminded of the Responsibility of Person in Charge as described in the Offshore Special Regulations. Competitors are reminded of the safe boating practices described in the Safe Boating Guide published by Transport Canada.
- 1.6 Competitors are reminded of the Offshore Racing Environmental Code. Competitors are reminded of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, and in particular Part 7, Division 3 Disposal at Sea.

2 ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Boats racing in VARC events may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by VARC and/or the organizing authority of each event as defined in the event documentation.
- 2.2 Boats not displaying advertising as required will be scored DNS by VARC without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1 and rule A5.
- 2.3 Boats may apply to VARC and/or the organizing authority of each event in advance of any event for an alternative method of displaying required advertising if special circumstances prohibit compliance with this section. A boat will be granted this alternative at the discretion of VARC or the organizing authority of each event, as applicable, and if granted, will not be penalized as prescribed in section 2.2.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1.1 The VARC series are open to all keelboats that have a current valid PHRF of BC certificate with a rating between 100 and 275, or a current valid ORC Certificate (Club or International) no higher than 640, or

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conform to the Farr 30 One Design Class BC Fleet Rules, or conform to the ORC Sportboat Class Rules as modified below. One Design classes are encouraged to apply to VARC for their own division.

3.2 DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

3.2.1 Boats will be assigned to divisions based on their handicap rating or classification as follows:

Div. 1 (pennant 1): ORC GPH Less than 600.0 (see also Div 2 definition).

Div. 2 (pennant 2): ORC 600-640 (also classed as PHRF-BC 60-99):

[Division 2 will be scored ORC and boats rating faster than ORC GPH 600 who also rate slower than or equal to PHRF-BC 60 may elect to race in Div 2]

Div. 3 (pennant 3): PHRF-BC 100-173.

Div. 7 (pennant 7): PHRF-BC 174-275.

Div. Farr 30 (class flag): Farr 30 OD Class BC Fleet Rules.

Div. ORC Sportboat (pennant 4): ORC Sportboat Class Rules modified as follows;

- Length Overall LOA (m) 6.0 to 8.5

- Displacement in measurement Trim DSPM (kg) < 2000

- Displacement / Length Ratio DSPM / LSM³ < 3.70

- Spinnaker is Asymmetric on CL (Centerline).

(examples: Melges 24, GP 26, Elliott 770, Viper 640)

3.2.2 Boats may race in all VARC events but will be scored by VARC only in their division-sanctioned events as described in section 5 Schedule of Events.

3.2.3 If a boat's rating changes during the season, such that her new rating falls within a different division, or no division, with the same rating system, the boat shall continue to sail in the division which she began the season, with her amended rating. If a boat changes her rating system during the season, the boat will be scored in all applicable divisions she races in with the rating with which she registered for each event.

3.2.4 VARC may modify division splits to accommodate new boats during the season.

3.2.5 VARC may recognize additional one design fleets during the season.

3.2.6 All boats, except one design divisions, must conspicuously display their division pennant on their backstay or a stern fixture. Boats failing to do so are subject to protest by the race committee but not by competitors.

3.3 ENTRY AND REGISTRATION

3.3.1 Eligible boats may enter individual events by completing the online registration and payment as described by the host yacht club of each event on the host yacht club's website. VARC does not accept registrations for any of the events or series.

3.3.2 Boats are automatically entered in the applicable VARC series when they are scored by the host club as described in section 10 Scoring.

4 FEES

4.1 Event fees are determined and collected by the host yacht club of each event.

5 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

5.1 VARC promotes many regattas and distance races hosted by local yacht clubs and groups them into a Regatta Series, Distance Series, Division Championship Series and the Boat of the Year series.

5.2 All the VARC events and series are listed chronologically in Table 1 – VARC Schedule of Events.

5.3 All Divisions will be scored in *all* VARC events unless otherwise noted by a division that chooses not to participate in an event as listed in their **division-sanctioned** events on the VARC website RACING page; Boats may race in these events if a division is offered by the host club however VARC will not score that event for that division's series.

5.4 Details of each event are provided in the event documentation as it becomes available from the host yacht clubs throughout the season and made available on the host yacht club's website and the VARC website.

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5.5 The annual year-end Awards Ceremony will follow the racing season. See the VARC website for details.

6 MEASUREMENTS

6.1 Each boat shall carry a current valid measurement rating certificate applicable to her division.

7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

7.1 Each event will have Sailing Instructions issued by the host club that will be available on the host yacht club's website prior to the event with a link from the VARC website.

8 VENUES

8.1 The venue for each event will be the host yacht club and the waters nearby, or as identified in the event Notice of Race and the event Sailing Instructions issued by the host club.

9 COURSES

9.1 The courses to be sailed will be described in the event Notice of Race and the event Sailing Instructions issued by the host club.

10 SCORING

10.1 Scoring Procedure - General:

10.1.1 VARC groups many club events into the Regatta Series, the Distance Series, a Division's Championship Series and the Boat of the Year (BOTY) Series as described in section 5 Schedule of Events.

10.1.2 All divisions will score each of these series in the same way **except**, if applicable, as described in section 10.2 Scoring Procedure Specific to Each Division, and according to their **division-sanctioned event list** shown on the VARC website RACING page.

10.1.3 VARC scores each day of a club event as a separate "event-day" and the results for each event-day will be the posted results by the host club for each division, each day, except as modified in this section.

10.1.4 The Southern Straits Classic courses will be scored as 2 event-days due the length of the race relative to other event-days.

10.1.5 VARC scores each series as follows:

10.1.5.1 For each division, the Regatta Series will score the best 4 Regatta event-days.

10.1.5.2 For each division, the Distance Series will score the best 6 Distance event-days.

10.1.5.3 Each Division Championship Series will be derived from the Boat of the Year series.

10.1.5.4 The Boat of the Year Series will score the best 10 of all event-days.

10.1.6 There is no minimum number of events required to qualify for a series championship.

10.1.7 If a host club does not use standard VARC division breaks, then boats will be scored in the division in which they raced at the event; VARC will not modify the results as posted by the host club except as follows:

10.1.7.1 When a host club has multiple courses (e.g. Straits) a boat will be scored by VARC in the position in which they placed in their division on that course, as scored by the host club, except that:

10.1.7.2 For boats in a VARC division who are placed by the host club in different divisions on the **same** course, and with the **same** start time, VARC will use the corrected times for scoring each boat in its VARC division regardless of the division assigned by the host club, and

10.1.7.3 A VARC Division may stipulate which course(s) a boat may sail in. See the VARC website RACING page.

10.1.8 All boats racing at an event within the VARC division splits, including visiting boats, will be scored by VARC.

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- 10.1.9 All events and series will be scored using the High Point Percentage Scoring System as per US Sailing scoring guidelines (US Sailing - Scoring a Long Series) with the following modifications:
- 10.1.9.1 For series scoring, all events will receive an equal weight rather than assigning a higher weight for higher attendance, and a lower weight to less attended events.
 - 10.1.9.2 If, at any event, a division has fewer than four boats racing, a boat's score will be the number of boats racing in the division at the event, plus one, minus her finishing position (1,2,3...), then multiplied by $\frac{1}{4}$. For example, Three boats in the division: 1st Place = $\frac{3}{4}$, 2nd = $\frac{1}{2}$, 3rd = $\frac{1}{4}$.
- 10.2 Scoring Procedure Specific to Each Division:
- 10.2.1 A VARC division may change the scoring procedure for their division due to the number or type of **division-sanctioned** races. See the VARC website RACING page for details of each division's schedule and scoring procedure, if different from the scoring rules of section 10.1 above.
 - 10.2.2 A boat in the VARC One Design or ORC Sportboat divisions (e.g. Farr 30, Sportboat) that may qualify to race in another VARC division may compete and be scored in the appropriate handicap division but not both divisions for any one event-day and will qualify for a series championship in both divisions.
- 10.3 Boat of the Year Award
- 10.3.1 Scored as noted above and including all divisions.
 - 10.3.2 The winner of the BOTY series shall be ineligible to win the Corinthian Award.
- 10.4 Corinthian Award
- 10.4.1 The Corinthian Award will be determined through peer nominations and an executive vote by the society for the boat with the best attributes including team spirit, participation, performance improvement, sportsmanship and sailing community contribution.

11 SUPPORT BOATS

- 11.1 Support boats shall not interfere with boats racing. A registered boat whose support boat breaks this rule is subject to disqualification from the race.

12 BERTHING

- 12.1 Boats shall contact the host yacht clubs for available moorage during each event.

13 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 13.1 Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

14 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

- 14.1 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

15 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 15.1 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats, unless required for safety. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

16 AWARDS

- 16.1 Event awards will be presented at each club event by the host club as described in the event documentation.
- 16.2 Series awards will be presented at the year-end VARC Awards Ceremony:

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16.2.1 Awards for the VARC Series will be presented for each division, as applicable, as follows:

- 1st place will be awarded if 2 or more boats race in a division,
- 2nd place will be awarded if 4 or more boats race in a division,
- 3rd place will be awarded if 5 or more boats race in a division.

16.2.2 Perpetual Trophies will be awarded for each Division Championship, Boat of the Year, and Corinthian Award.

17 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

17.1 Competitors participate in the races, regattas and race series entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority, host yacht clubs, sponsors and suppliers will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after an event.

18 INSURANCE

18.1 All boats must always carry a minimum of \$2 million liability insurance.

19 CONTACT INFORMATION

19.1 Correspondence with VARC shall be electronic via the contact information on the VARC website at www.VARC.bc.ca. Mail that must be sent by post shall be pre-arranged with VARC.

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Table 1
VARC Schedule of Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Day(s)</i>	<i>Series</i>	
				<i>Event Day 1</i>	<i>Event Day 2</i>
April 13	Day Race "Opener" Regatta	RVYC	Sat	Regatta	-
April 19 / 20	Southern Straits Classic + Inshore Races, Sportboat Regatta	WVYC	Fri & Sat	Distance	Distance ¹
May 4	Collingwood Race	WVYC	Sat	Distance	-
June 8	Round Bowen Race	BIYC	Sat	Distance	-
June 29 / 30	SIN Regatta	NYC	Sat & Sun	Regatta	Regatta
July 13 / 14	Summer Regatta	VRC	Sat & Sun	Regatta	Distance
July 20	SOAR Regatta	SYC	Sat	Distance	-
August 10 / 11	English Bay Scramble Race	TCYC	Sat & Sun	Distance	Regatta
September 7 / 8	Deep Cove Regatta	DCYC	Sat & Sun	Regatta	Distance
September 14 / 15	Howe Sound Regatta	WVYC	Sat & Sun	Regatta	Distance
September 28	Fraser River Lightship Race	RVYC	Sat	Distance	-
After Racing (tbd)	Awards Ceremony	TBD	TBD	-	-

NOTES: 1. VARC scores the Southern Straits Classic races as 2 event-days. See section 10. Scoring.