



SWIFTSURE INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE

Hosted by the Royal Victoria Yacht Club

May 24-25, 2025

Victoria, British Columbia



*The Royal Victoria Yacht Club is pleased to announce details for the Inshore Classic, which is part of the 80th running of the Swiftsure International Yacht Race, and extends a cordial invitation to **monohull** boats which meet the eligibility requirements specified in this Notice of Race.*

NOTICE OF RACE

SWIFTSURE INSHORE RACE

(RACING AND CRUISING DIVISIONS)

The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Swiftsure Committee of the [Royal Victoria Yacht Club](#).

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The prescriptions of Sail Canada apply. See Addendum A.
- 1.3. Boats shall comply with the safety equipment requirements of the regulatory authority of their country of residence (e.g., US Coast Guard, Transport Canada's Safe Boating Guide).
- 1.4. Boats shall be familiar with the Traffic Separation Scheme and in the absence of electronic means of navigation have charts on board for the area where they will be racing. See Addendum B - Appendix TS.
- 1.5. Boats shall not impede or obstruct commercial traffic.
- 1.6. Boats that do not have an official sail number on their mainsail shall display on the port and starboard lifelines or on their hull a number 18 inches (45.7 centimetres) in height. The OA will assign this number.
- 1.7. Boats shall fly from their backstays the following International Code Numeral Pennants:
 - 1.7.1. **Racing Division – Numeral Pennant 4**
 - 1.7.2. **Cruising Division – Numeral Pennant 5**
- 1.8. RRS Appendix T – Arbitration – will apply except that T1(b) is modified to read: The post-race penalty shall be 30% of the difference between the corrected time of the first boat and the corrected time of the last boat in the boat's division, to a maximum of 15 minutes, added to the corrected finish time of the boat accepting the penalty.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The Sailing Instructions will be available online after **Monday, May 12** on the Swiftsure website at the Race Info, Sailing Instructions 2025 page. Competitors will be required to print their own copy or save the file to their personal electronic device. **No printed copies of the Sailing Instructions will be available at check-in.**
- 2.2. All amendments to the Sailing Instructions issued after May 12 will be posted on the Swiftsure website under the Race Info page.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The [Official Notice Board](#) is online under Race Info.
- 3.2. All boats must carry a VHF radio with DSC.
- 3.3. Every boat shall have onboard during the race at least one designated cellular or satellite phone which can be used as a backup in case of VHF communications failure.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. Entry is open to all monohull boats which meet the Safety Equipment Requirements identified in 1.3 of this Notice of Race.
- 4.2. Racing Division:
 - 4.2.1. The Swiftsure Inshore Classic is a Pacific Handicap Racing Fleet of British Columbia (PHRF-BC) event. Monohull boats with a PHRF-NW or PHRF rating from other jurisdictions will be assigned a rating to be consistent with the PHRF-BC database by the Royal Victoria Yacht Club's handicapper at no charge.
 - 4.2.2. In order to ensure ratings are confirmed for the **May 16 deadline** it is highly recommended that race registrants apply for or renew their membership in their respective handicap association early, preferably prior to **March 31, 2025.**
- 4.3. Cruising Division:
 - 4.3.1. There will be Flying Sails and Non-Flying Sails classes if there are a minimum of 5 participants in each class.
 - 4.3.2. Boats that do not have a valid PHRF certificate will be assigned a temporary PHRF rating by the OA for the purposes of this race at no charge.
- 4.4. Boats may be split into classes. Preliminary assignments will be made and posted on the Swiftsure website under Registration, [Registered Yachts](#), by **0800 Monday May 19** but will not be made final until **1800 Friday May 23.**
- 4.5. Boats may enter by [registering online](#) beginning on Monday **February 3rd.**
- 4.6. The deadline for registering and payment of fees is **Friday May 16.** Late entries will be accepted at the sole discretion of the OA.
- 4.7. The Swiftsure Registrar will notify entrants of acceptance or rejection, subject to verification of ratings and payment of the registration fee.
- 4.8. A request to change the race in which a boat has been registered must be made by email to registrar@swiftsure.org before **noon on Friday May 23** and shall be subject to approval by the OA.

5. FEES

- 5.1. **Early Bird:** if received **on or before** midnight **Friday April 25** the entry fee is **CAD \$3.25** per foot LOA. Federal GST of 5% will be added.
- 5.2. **Regular:** if received after midnight **Friday, April 25** the entry fee is **CAD \$4.75** per foot LOA. Federal GST of 5% will be added.
- 5.3. The entry fee payment may be made during registration, or by Royal Victoria Yacht Club member account.
- 5.4. Credit card payments made via PayPal will be automatically exchanged from US to Canadian dollars (where applicable) during the credit card transaction.

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. Entry deadline and rating changes: **Friday May 16.**
- 6.2. Swiftsure racers pre-race party:
See [Racer Key Dates](#) on the Swiftsure website after **May 1, 2025.**
- 6.3. Start of Swiftsure International Yacht Race: **Saturday May 24.**
The warning signal for the Swiftsure Bank Race will be at 9:50am, with the first race scheduled to start at 10:00am. The Inshore Races will start following the the three Offshore races.
- 6.4. *No host* barbecue and prize giving:
Saturday May 24 – at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club in the late afternoon.

7. VENUE

- 7.1. Racing will be conducted in the Juan de Fuca Strait (adjacent to the City of Victoria), in southern Haro Strait, and in Oak and Cadboro Bays.
- 7.2. The start line will be located immediately south of Clover Point; the finish line will be located in Cadboro Bay adjacent to the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

8. COURSES

- 8.1. The course will be determined for each division or class after consideration of the fleet makeup and predicted weather conditions.
- 8.2. The Race Committee shall announce the courses to the Inshore Fleet the morning of the race, as detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

9. SCORING

- 9.1. The results will be calculated by Time on Distance.

10. PENALTIES

- 10.1 RRS 44.3 will apply when a boat breaks a rule of Part 2 of RRS or RRS 31 while racing. The penalty shall be 20% of the difference between the corrected time of the first boat and the corrected time of the last boat in the Division, to a maximum of 30 minutes, added to the corrected finish time of the boat accepting the penalty. This modifies RRS rule 44.3[c].

11. BERTHING

- 11.1. There will be no moorage charge for race entrants from 1200 noon **Thursday May 22** through 1100 **Monday May 26** if moored at the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Causeway Floats or Ship Point located in Victoria's Inner Harbour.

- 11.2. To arrange for moorage up to and including **Wednesday May 21** or after 1100 **Monday May 27** contact the [Greater Victoria Harbour Authority](#) (you will pay the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority directly for such moorage).
- 11.3. After the race on **May 24**, overnight moorage for race entrants will be provided at no charge at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club in Cadboro Bay. Contact information for making these arrangements will be provided in the race package materials.

12. PRIZES

- 12.1. **Class Winners** – A prize of first will be awarded in a class of 5 boats: prizes of first and second in a class of 6 to 10 boats, and prizes of first, second, and third in a class of more than 10 boats. The minimum entry required to form a separate class shall be 5 boats, except by special decision of the OA.
- 12.2. **Racing Division** - A trophy for the first overall in the division will be awarded.

13. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 13.1. The Royal Victoria Yacht Club, the Swiftsure Committee, and their respective organizers, agents, officials, servants, representatives, and volunteers ("the Organizers") shall not be liable for any injury or damage whatsoever to persons or property howsoever caused which may occur during, arise out of, or in connection with this Race notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to, caused, or occasioned by the negligence of the Organizers or any of them.
- 13.2. Notice is hereby given to all participants including spectators, officials, and others that they participate in this event solely at their own risk.

14. INSURANCE

- 14.1. Each participating boat shall have third party liability insurance covering property damage, personal injury, and death in an amount not less than CAD \$390,000 or USD \$300,000 per occurrence, and the policy must cover boat racing activities. As persons in charge are attesting to meeting this requirement during the registration process, submitting copies of these forms is not required. However, persons in charge must ensure they carry a hard copy of their insurance policy on board while racing.

15. FURTHER INFORMATION

Event Chair: chair@swiftsure.org

Registration: registrar@swiftsure.org

Website: swiftsure.org

For additional contact information please refer to the [Contact list](#).

Royal Victoria Yacht Club

Telephone: [250-592-2441](tel:250-592-2441)

3475 Ripon Road

Victoria, BC, Canada V8R 6H1

ADDENDUM A

Sail Canada Prescriptions 2025-28

Rule 46 – Person in Charge

Sail Canada prescribes that the designated person in charge, if resident in Canada, shall be a member of Sail Canada through either a club affiliated to Sail Canada or such person's Provincial Sailing Association.

PART 5 – Protests, Redress, Hearings, Misconduct and Appeals

Sail Canada prescribes that no fee shall be charged for any procedure of the protest committee under Part 5 or Appendix T.

Rule 65.1 – Legal Liability and Costs

Sail Canada prescribes that a boat that has been found by a protest committee to have broken a rule and caused damage shall be considered at fault for the purposes of rule 65.1.

Rule 70.3(b) – Appeals and Requests to a National Authority

Sail Canada so prescribes.

Rule 86.3 – Changes to the Racing Rules

Sail Canada so prescribes.

Rule 88.2 – Changes to Prescriptions

Sail Canada prescribes that its prescriptions to Part 5 of the rules and rule 65.1 may not be changed or deleted. The notice of race or sailing instructions may change or delete any other Sail Canada prescription only if a no-appeal protest committee or an international jury has been appointed for the event.

Rule 91(b) – Protest Committee

Sail Canada prescribes that, before making a request to World Sailing for an international jury formed under rule N1.7 comprised of only three members, written approval be obtained from Sail Canada. Submit all requests for Sail Canada's prior approval by email to: appeals@sailing.ca.

Appendix G, Rule G2 – Other Boats

Sail Canada prescribes that unless otherwise stated in her class rules, the sails of a boat that is not a World Sailing Class or other recognized class shall comply with rule G1. However, boats not in a class that is subject to rule G1, whose overall length exceeds 6 metres (19.7 feet) and which race under either a measurement rule or handicapping system shall carry numbers allotted by a sailing national authority on mainsails, spinnakers and each overlapping headsail having a luff perpendicular measurement exceeding 130% of the base of the boat's foretriangle.

Appendix R – Procedures for Appeals and Requests

Submit appeals and requests to Sail Canada at: appeals@sailing.ca

Sail Canada prescribes that it may delegate the responsibilities and actions of the national authority in rules 71.2, 71.3, 71.4, 71.5, R3, R4 and R5 to a provincial appeals committee.

Decisions of a provincial appeals committee may be further appealed to Sail Canada. If a decision is further appealed the words "protest committee" are changed to "provincial appeals committee" wherever they are found. In rule R4.1 the protest committee may also comment on the further appeal and receive copies.

ADDENDUM B

APPENDIX TS - Traffic Separation Schemes

Version 4.0 – January 2025

TS1 Rule 56.2 is changed to:

- 56.2** (a) A Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) shall be understood to mean an area shown on a nautical chart, or in the notice of race, as a TSS.
- (b) A boat shall not impede, or present a threat of impeding, the safe passage of a power-driven vessel in a traffic lane
- (c) If a commercial, government, or naval power-driven vessel in a traffic lane makes five short and rapid blasts on her whistle (a danger signal, see *IRPCAS* rule 34(d)) and the boat causing the danger signal can be identified, then the boat is subject to protest under rule 56.2(b).
- (d) If an official complaint/action is lodged against a boat by a commercial, government, or naval power-driven vessel, by a pilot, by vessel traffic service (VTS), or by other local government authority, it shall be presumed that the boat has broken rule 56.2(b).
- (e) The race committee will cooperate with and provide relevant information to VTS and other governmental authorities regarding investigations of boats impeding a power-driven vessel.