

Gig Harbor Yacht Club

2023 Bill Harter Series / In-Harbor

Thursdays: May 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023

Warning Horn for First Start 1825 PM

Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions

THE EVENT: A series of **INFORMAL** sailboat races to be held in the waters of Gig Harbor on Thursday evenings in May 2023 (May 4, 11, 18, 25).

ENTRIES: All fixed keel, multihull and centerboard sailboats are invited to participate in this event. There will be no flying sails allowed. This is a LOW KEY, LOW STRESS event. Centerboard boats will compete in a modified and arbitrary handicap system. Complaints may not be accepted. Entry fee is \$20 for the Series or \$5 for each evening. Prizes may be awarded and will be commensurate with the total entry fees collected.

RACE REQUIREMENTS: Boats should report to the “starter” before each race. [the start location will likely be the stern of Jam or a finger pier at Arabella’s]. This is to ensure that we have your entry correct, and you may be advised of your class, course and the number and order of start (s).

RULES: The races will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing and the prescriptions of US Sailing, except as modified by these instructions. Protests will be frowned upon, may not be heard, and decisions by the protest committee will be final and not subject to appeal. **The 360 rule is in effect.**

SAFETY: It is the responsibility of the skipper to provide for the safety of the crew and to have proper safety equipment and to sail in a safe and prudent manner.

THE COURSE: Course will be set at each race. There will be a start line and **TWO** course marks. The start line will be in the vicinity of Arabella’s Landing. There will be a race committee representative with an orange flag and an orange buoy to denote the starting line. One orange turning mark will be placed in the area of Anthony’s Shorline Restaurant. The other orange mark will be set near the Tides Tavern.

NORTH WIND: If the wind is from a Northerly direction, boats will start in a Northerly direction. The first mark will be an orange buoy in near the Shorline Restaurant. **LEAVE ALL MARKS TO STARBOARD**

SOUTH WIND: If the wind is blowing from a Southerly direction, boats will start in a Southerly direction. The first mark will be an orange buoy near the Tides Tavern - **LEAVE ALL MARKS PORT**

- **IMPORTANT NOTE: ALL RACERS MUST GO THROUGH THE START/FINISH LINE AT THE COMPLETION OF THE FIRST LAP. This is important: the race can be shortened to one lap.**
- **Do NOT go through the line on the downwind or half lap leg. Stay clear of the start line except when completing laps and/or finishing.**

START: There **MAY** be just one start and/or there may be up to three separate starts, one for each class, provided there are sufficient boats in a class to warrant a separate start. **Flags will NOT be used.** We will sound three quick sound signals roughly 1 minute prior the first start sequence 5 minute horn (for Class 1). A second start would be 5 minutes after the first start and the third start for dinghies would be 5 minutes after that. We will try our best to get races started on time. [The number of boats racing will determine 1, 2 or 3 start sequences. There could be just one start sequence if the number of contestants is small on a given evening]

CLASSES: Your assignment to a particular class and start will be at the sole discretion of the Race Committee. Basically, the class breaks **MAY** be as follows: **Note that depending on turnout, classes may be combined for the start at the discretion of the race committee.**

Class 1	1830	First Start	Big boats (Over 30')
Class 2	1835	Second Start	Thunderbirds, other small fixed keel
Class 3	1840	Third Start	Dinghies / Centerboards

TIME LIMIT: There could be more than one race per evening. That would be likely if all boats finish the “primary race” in less than 45 minutes. For a “single race evening” any boat not finishing within 90 minutes of its start will be scored DNF (Did Not Finish). A second race would likely be just one lap and have a 45 minute time limit, at which point non finishers will be scored DNF. In all cases the goal is to be done sailing and recover all buoys by 2030. **(There may be future changes to allow for shortened courses/finishes)**

SCORING: Scoring/points will done on a per race basis. Points will be totaled after the series to determine the series winner. A boat must participate in at least three (3) evenings of races and be registered for the series to qualify for series scoring. DNF will be scored as the number of finishers +1 for each race. OCS, DNC, DNS and DSQ will be scored as the number of starters +2 for each race.

Results will likely be e-mailed to each participant and eventually be posted at www.gigharboryc.com under the Boating tab look for “Sail Regatta”

A post race gathering each evening is a tradition. Location TBD by participants.

Erik Carlson will chair the R/C for the 2023 Bill Harter Series
Phone 253-224-1513 E-Mail ecarlsongh@outlook.com

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Print this **Entry Form**. Complete and mail to the address below.

For late entries and single race entries complete form and submit the with payment to the Race Committee the evening of the race.

In consideration for participating in this event, I represent to the organizers that my boat is properly equipped and is in a safe condition. I will operate my boat in a seamanship manner at all times. I acknowledge that the decision to enter my boat and participate in the event is solely my own, and I agree to be bound by the US Sailing rules, the organizers, and the notice of race for this event; and I hold harmless the Gig Harbor Yacht Club, its officers and the race committee with respect to any and all claims arising out of the participation in this event.

Skipper's Signature _____ Date _____

Skipper's Name _____ Cell # _____

E-Mail Address _____

Boat Name _____ Type / Length _____

Sail # _____ Boat Color _____

Handicap /Rating _____ (normal + 18 for no flying sails)

Make checks payable to GHYC:

Mail to: Erik Carlson, PO Box 731, Gig Harbor, WA 98335 --- or deliver to the starter or prior to the race --- \$20 for Series or \$5 per evening