



# SWIFTSURE INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE

May 27-29, 2017  
Victoria, British Columbia



**SWIFTSURE**

Hosted by  
The Royal Victoria Yacht Club

## NOTICE OF RACE FOR THE FOUR LONG COURSES

(THE SWIFTSURE LIGHTSHIP CLASSIC, THE HEIN BANK RACE, THE CAPE FLATTERY RACES, AND  
THE JUAN DE FUCA RACE)

*The [Royal Victoria Yacht Club](#) is pleased to announce details for the 2017 Swiftsure International Yacht Race, and extends a cordial invitation to monohull yacht owners with a PHRF or ORC handicap and multihull yacht owners with a PHRF handicap who meet eligibility requirements*

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The Swiftsure International Yacht Race shall be governed by the rules as defined in [The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 \(“RRS”\)](#) with the following exceptions:
  - a) RRS rule 52, Manual Power, is amended for monohulls to include:

Yachts entered as a Double-Handed crew in the Juan de Fuca course are allowed to use 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.
- 1.2 [Prescriptions of Sail Canada](#) shall apply.
- 1.3 Competitors shall have current charts on board showing the Traffic Separation Scheme in the area they will be racing. Charts that meet this requirement are either the Canadian chart 3606 as revised and published November 29, 2002 or both the US charts 18460 (edition 13 or 14) and 18465 (edition 38 or 39).
- 1.4 Between sunset and sunrise, the “[International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972](#)” shall replace the rules of Part 2 of the RRS.
- 1.5 A yacht that impedes or obstructs commercial traffic may be subject to disqualification.
- 1.6 Between sunset and sunrise while on deck all crew shall wear life jackets having lights, whistles, tethers, marine grade retro-reflective material, and crotch/thigh straps. Yachts that fail to comply may be subject to protest and penalization up to and including disqualification.
- 1.7 Each competing yacht shall display its official sail numbers on both the port and starboard lifelines or hull while racing. Size of letters and numbers shall be similar to that required in the RRS Appendix G1.2 for sail numbers. Yachts that fail to comply may be subject to protest and penalization up to and including disqualification.
- 1.8 Competitors who intend to fly sails that display numbers other than the yacht’s official sail number shall report those numbers to the Race Committee (RC) by **1800 Friday May 26, 2017**. Failure to comply shall result in a time penalty of 15 minutes added to the corrected finish time of the competitor without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.

- 1.9 All yachts shall display the following numeral pennants: the Swiftsure Lightship Classic Race and the Hein Bank Race, numeral 1; the Cape Flattery Race for Multihulls, numeral 2; the Cape Flattery Race, numeral 3; and the Juan de Fuca Race, numeral 4 (Yachts competing in the Swiftsure Inshore Classic, which is covered by a Notice of Race for the Swiftsure Inshore Classic, will display a numeral 5 pennant).
- 1.10 All **monohull** yachts racing under PHRF Handicap or ORC Handicap shall comply with the [Safety Equipment Requirements \(“SERs”\) for Monohulls for the 2017 Swiftsure International Yacht Race, ‘Coastal’](#) (It is the 4<sup>th</sup> column). This document is located at the Registration, Notices of Race & Safety Equipment Requirements page of the Swiftsure.org website.
- 1.11 All **multihull** yachts shall comply with the [Safety Equipment Requirements \(SERs\) for Multihulls for the 2017 Swiftsure International Yacht Race, ‘Coastal \(The Four Long Courses’](#) (the 4<sup>th</sup> column). This document is located at the Registration, Notices of Race & Safety Equipment Requirements page of the Swiftsure.org website).
- 1.12 All competitors shall mount Race Committee issued transponders on their yachts and shall operate them in the prescribed manner. The transponder units, which will transmit competitors’ positions to Swiftsure’s Tracker System, will be issued along with race packages when registered skippers or their representatives check in at the Swiftsure Centre. A deposit of \$200 shall be required to ensure the return of the units in good condition.

Yachts that fail to turn on the transponder prior to the start of the race, fail to restart their transponder upon rounding each turning mark (as required in the Sailing Instructions), or turn it off (other than during the restart procedure) during the race may be subject to protest and penalization up to and including disqualification.

## **2 ADVERTISING**

Yachts may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organizing Authority.

## **3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

- 3.1 These races are open to all monohull and multihull yachts which meet the Safety Equipment Requirements identified in this Notice of Race.
- 3.2 For *Monohull* and *Multihull* Yachts Racing under the *PHRF* Handicap:
  - 3.2.1 Monohull yachts shall have a valid PHRF certificate. Multihull yachts shall have a valid PHRF Multihull rating certificate.
  - 3.2.2 The Swiftsure International Yacht Race is a Pacific Handicap Racing Fleet of the Northwest (PHRF-NW) event. Monohull yachts with a PHRF BC or PHRF rating from elsewhere in North America will be normalized to be consistent with the PHRF NW database by the Royal Victoria Yacht Club’s handicapper at no charge.
  - 3.2.3 In the event that a multihull yacht’s PHRF rating or a monohull yacht’s PHRF-NW, PHRF BC or other PHRF rating has been changed after the entry has been accepted, the owner/person in charge is required to notify the Organizing Authority by email to: [registrar@swiftsure.org](mailto:registrar@swiftsure.org). No rating changes will be accepted after **1700 on Friday May 19, 2017**. Failure to provide a valid and correct rating may result in

protest by the Race Committee. In addition, all ratings are subject to review by the Race Committee.

- 3.3 For *Monohull* Yachts Racing under the *ORC* Handicap:
- 3.3.1 Yachts shall have a valid ORC Club or ORCi Certificate.
- 3.3.2 Yachts shall provide their ORC rating to the Organizing Authority through the registration process by **Friday May 19**.
- 3.3.3 In the event that a yacht's rating has been changed by its National Rating Office or the central ORC Rating Office after the entry has been accepted, the owner/person in charge is required to notify the Race Committee by email to: [registrar@swiftsure.org](mailto:registrar@swiftsure.org). No change in a yacht's Triple Number scoring coefficients will be permitted after **1700 on Friday May 19, 2017**. All ratings are subject to verification with the yacht's National Rating Office or the central ORC Rating Office.
- 3.4 All yachts racing under PHRF or ORC handicaps may enter by [registering online](#) beginning on **Monday January 2, 2017**. If registration is by paper, completed entries shall be delivered or mailed so they are received by the Swiftsure Office by **Friday May 19** (The registration form can be [downloaded](#)).
- 3.5 The deadline for registering is **Friday May 19**. If received after **Friday May 19**, the entry may be accommodated subject to the decision of the Organizing Authority.
- 3.6 The Swiftsure Registrar will notify entrants of acceptance or rejection, subject to verification of ratings and payment of the registration fee.
- 3.7 As a critical part of safety, yachts must provide a complete crew list, which shall include all persons who will be aboard the yacht during the race. Crew updates and substitutions may be made online until the person in charge checks in at Swiftsure Centre, while checking in, and thereafter by contacting the Race Committee using VHF or mobile telephone up to **0845 on Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup>**. Failure to provide the RC with an accurate and complete crew list may be subject to protest and penalization up to and including disqualification.
- 3.8 A request to change the race in which a yacht has been registered will not be accepted after **Friday May 19, 2017** unless the request is submitted in writing to, and approved by, the Organizing Authority by **1300 on Friday May 26**. Such requests should be emailed to [registrar@swiftsure.org](mailto:registrar@swiftsure.org) or presented to the Organizing Authority at the Swiftsure Centre on May 25 or 26 but in any event by no later than noon on May 26.
- 4 **FEES**
- 4.1 **Early Bird:** if received **on or before Monday May 1, 2017**, the entry fee is **CAD \$6.15** per foot of length overall, and **CAD \$166.05** for yachts with an overall length of 27 feet or less (8.2 metres or less). Federal GST of 5% will be added.
- 4.2 **Regular:** if received on or after **Tuesday May 2** the entry fee is **CAD \$7.30** per foot of length overall or **CAD \$197.10** for yachts with an overall length of 27 feet or less (8.2 metres or less). Federal GST of 5% will be added.
- 4.3 For 2017 USA currency will be accepted at the rate of \$1.25 Canadian for registration fees paid by cash or personal cheque. Credit card payments will be automatically converted from USA to Canadian dollars during the credit card transaction.

- 4.4 The entry fee must be paid at the time of registration. Payment is accepted by VISA, MasterCard, cash, cheque, or Royal Victoria Yacht Club member account. Please make cheques payable to the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.
- 4.5 Refunds, less \$20.00, will be given if withdrawal is advised prior to **Friday May 19**. At the sole discretion of the Organizing Authority refunds less \$20 may be given if withdrawal for exceptional circumstances is advised from **May 19** to **May 26**.

## **5 SKIPPER CHECK-IN**

- 5.1 Each registered person in charge, or their representative, is required to check-in at the Swiftsure Centre in Victoria no later than **1800 Friday May 26, 2017**. During check-in the yacht's moorage location will be recorded, the crew list verified, and the transponder unit and race package will be picked up.
- 5.2 Registered entrants who do not check-in and pick up their race package and transponder unit will be recorded as "Did Not Compete (DNC)".
- 5.3 An Awards ceremony will be held starting at **1530 on Friday May 26** at the Distrikt in the Strathcona Hotel to recognize the winners of the Four Long Courses in Swiftsure 2016. The Distrikt is located at 919 Douglas Street in Victoria, BC (within easy walking from the docks in the Victoria Harbour).
- 5.4 The Skippers' Meeting for the Four Long Courses and the Swiftsure Inshore Classic will start at **1630 on Friday May 26** at the Distrikt in the Strathcona Hotel located at 919 Douglas Street in Victoria, BC. It is highly recommended that persons in charge and navigators attend.

## **6 SCHEDULE**

- 6.1 Entry deadline and rating changes: **Friday May 19, 2017**
- 6.2 Registered skippers check-in and collect their race packages at Swiftsure Centre:
  - 1400 to 1800 on **Thursday May 25**
  - 1000 to 1800 on **Friday May 26**
- 6.3 Technical training – "The Start Line" by Mike Turner (World Sailing International Judge)
  - 1400 to 1500 on **Friday May 26** (location TBA)
- 6.4 Awards Ceremony recognizing winners of the Four Long Courses in Swiftsure 2016:
  - 1530 on **Friday, May 26** (at the Distrikt in the Strathcona Hotel, 919 Douglas Street in Victoria )
- 6.5 Skippers' Meeting:
  - 1630 on **Friday May 26** (at the Distrikt in the Strathcona Hotel located at 919 Douglas Street in Victoria)
  - It is highly recommended that persons in charge (skippers) and navigators attend.
- 6.6 Swiftsure racers pre-race party:
  - 1830 to 2200 on **Friday May 26** (at the Distrikt in the Strathcona Hotel located at 919 Douglas Street in Victoria, complete with the popular band Consenting Adults)
- 6.7 Start of Swiftsure International Yacht Race: **Saturday May 27**
  - Warning signal will sound at 0851, with the first race scheduled to start at 0900
  - The Starting Line will be located adjacent to Clover Point.
- 6.8 Race time limit: **0600 on Monday May 29**

## **7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 7.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available online after **Monday May 8** on the Swiftsure website ([Sailing Instructions](#)) on the Race Info, Sailing Instructions 2017 page. Printed copies will be included in the race package, which will be given to persons in charge when they check-in at Swiftsure Centre.
- 7.2 Questions regarding the Sailing Instructions will be accepted by e-mail to the PRO ([principalraceofficer@swiftsure.org](mailto:principalraceofficer@swiftsure.org)) until **1800 Thursday May 25** and answers will be posted on the Swiftsure website under the Race Info, Official Notice Board page ([Official Notice Board](#)).
- 7.3 All amendments to the Sailing Instructions issued prior to **Friday May 19** will be provided in a printed addendum included in the race package, and they will be posted on the Swiftsure website under the Race Info, Official Notice Board page ([Official Notice Board](#)). Amendments issued after **Friday May 19, 2017** will be posted on the Swiftsure website ([Official Notice Board](#)).
- 7.4 No changes to the Sailing Instructions will be made after **0700 Saturday May 27**.

## **8 THE COURSES**

### **8.1 The Swiftsure Lightship Classic Race for Monohulls (PHRF handicapped class and ORC handicapped class)**

From a starting line at Clover Point, leaving a mark at Swiftsure Bank to port, and crossing a finish line across the Victoria Harbour – 138.2 NM.

Open to monohull yachts with a PHRF rating, and monohull yachts with an ORC rating.

The fleets in the PHRF and ORC classes may be split into divisions in order to create the best competition possible, it being understood that PHRF and ORC handicapped yachts will compete and be scored as separate classes. The Race Committee will use PHRF measurements as per rating certificates and ORC Club or ORCi Certificates, as applicable.

### **8.2 The Hein Bank Race for Monohulls (ORC handicapped yachts)**

From a starting line at Clover Point, leaving a mark at Neah Bay to port, leaving to port the ODAS 46088 (located about 5 nautical miles bearing approximately 238<sup>0</sup> M from Hein Bank, and crossing a finish line across the Victoria Harbour – 118.1 NM.

Open to monohull yachts with an ORC rating.

The fleet may be split into divisions in order to create the best competition possible. The Race Committee will use ORC Club or ORCi Certificates, as applicable.

### **8.3 The Cape Flattery Race for Monohulls (PHRF handicapped yachts)**

From a starting line at Clover Point, leaving a mark at Neah Bay to port, and crossing a finish line across the Victoria Harbour– 101.9 NM.

Open to monohull yachts with a PHRF rating.

The fleet will be split into Heavy and Light Classes, and each class may be grouped into divisions, in order to create the best competition possible. The Race Committee will use PHRF measurements as per rating certificates.

8.4 **The Cape Flattery Race for Multihulls (PHRF handicapped yachts)**

From a starting line at Clover Point, leaving a mark at Neah Bay to port, and crossing a finish line across the Victoria Harbour– 101.9 NM.

Open to multihull yachts with a PHRF rating.

The fleet may be split into divisions, in order to create the best competition possible. The Race Committee will use PHRF measurements as per rating certificates.

8.5 **The Juan de Fuca Race for Monohulls (yachts with a PHRF rating of 40 or slower)**

From a starting line at Clover Point, leaving a mark at Clallam Bay to port, and crossing a finish line across the Victoria Harbour – 78.7 NM.

Open to yachts rating 40 PHRF and slower.

The fleet will be split into Heavy, Light, and Double-handed Classes and each class may be grouped into divisions, in order to create the best competition possible. The Race Committee will use PHRF measurements as per rating certificates.

8.6 The Organizing Authority is offering **double-handed monohull** entries for the Juan de Fuca Race if there are at least five double-handed yachts entered. The double-handed entrants will be eligible for First to Round and First Overall in the Juan de Fuca Race.

8.6.1 If there are fewer than five such entries, those yachts which have registered for double-handed these yachts will be entered in the Heavy or Light Classes, as applicable, and in any case Rule 1.1a) in this Notice of Race will apply.

**9 PENALTY SYSTEM**

RRS rule 44.3 will apply. The penalty shall be 20% of the difference between the corrected time of the first yacht and the corrected time of the last yacht in the Division, to a maximum of 30 minutes, added to the corrected finish time of the yacht accepting the penalty. This modifies RRS rule 44.3[c].

**10 SCORING**

10.1 For yachts racing under the PHRF handicap system, the results will be calculated by Time on Distance.

10.2 Scoring for yachts racing under an ORC Club or ORCi Certificate will be calculated by Time on Time using the Triple Number scoring coefficient for one of the following three wind speed ranges:

Low Range (9 knots or less)

Medium Range (between 8 and 14 knots)

High Range (equal to or greater than 14 knots)

10.2.1 At the Skippers' Meeting the Race Committee will advise of the Declared Wind Speed Range that it plans to use for the Swiftsure Lightship Classic and for the Hein Bank Race course. The Race Committee may change the wind speed range if the actual recorded wind speed range is different than the Declared Wind Speed Range for more than 50% of the time that it takes the first-to-finish boat to transit the course. Any adjustments to the wind speed range will be based on the average hourly winds observed at wind stations and adjusted to the 10m datum.

## **11 MOORAGE**

- 11.1 There will be no moorage charge for race entrants on the Thursday and Friday preceding the Swiftsure start if moored at the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority's Causeway Floats in front of the Fairmont Empress Hotel and at Ship Point. To make arrangements for moorage up to and including **Wednesday May 24** or after the night of **Sunday May 28** contact the [Greater Victoria Harbour Authority](#) (you will pay the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority directly for such moorage).
- 11.2 After the races, there will be no moorage charge for race entrants upon return to the Victoria harbour up to and including **Sunday night, May 28** at the Causeway Floats in front of the Fairmont Empress Hotel and at Ship Point.

## **12 COMMUNICATION**

- 12.1 The transmission or receipt while racing of any communication for the direct or indirect benefit of an individual yacht is prohibited, per RRS rule 41. Yachts may receive weather information and fleet position information in any form, providing that the information is public and in a form that is available without charge. Communication, including electronic communications, required in order to comply with the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions for the Swiftsure International Yacht Race or for personal messages not related to a yacht's performance in the race is permitted.
- 12.2 The Race Committee will be using marine VHF to communicate with yachts.
- 12.3 Every yacht 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. The phone number for the backup onboard cellular or satellite phone shall be provided to the Race Committee through the Registration System prior to the race.

## **13 PRIZES**

- 13.1 **Division Winners** – Prizes will be awarded as follows: a prize of first for a division of five yachts; a prize of first and second if there are from six to 10 yachts in a division; and prizes for first, second, and third if more than 10 yachts are in a division. The minimum entry required to form a separate division shall be five yachts, except by special decision of the Organizing Authority. If a division of less than five yachts is established, a prize will be awarded for first place in that division.
- 13.2 **First to Round and Overall Race Winners**
- 13.2.1 Where there is more than one division in a race and all yachts in the race are sailing the same course, a prize will be awarded for first to round and for first overall in that race.
- 13.2.2 If in the Swiftsure Lightship Classic there are both PHRF and ORC handicapped classes, a prize for the first to round and for first overall for the course will be awarded based on PHRF ratings.
- 13.2.3 Yachts racing under their ORC handicap in the Swiftsure Lightship Classic will be eligible for first to round and for first overall provided they have also entered in the Registration System or emailed to the Swiftsure Registrar ([registrar@swiftsure.org](mailto:registrar@swiftsure.org)) their approved PHRF rating by **Friday May 19**.
- 13.3 **Line Honours** – Prizes will be awarded for the first yacht to finish in each of the four courses for monohulls, including line honours for light and heavy classes where such classes exist, and for the first multihull yacht to finish in the Cape Flattery course.

## **14 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 14.1 Competitors participating in the Swiftsure International Yacht Race agree that the responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone (See the [RRS fundamental rule 4, Decision to Race](#)).
- 14.2 Competitors acknowledge and agree that the safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Person in Charge who shall do his best to ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced and appropriately trained crew who are physically fit to face bad weather. The person in charge shall also assign a person to take over his responsibilities in the event of his incapacitation. (See 1.2 of the [Safety Equipment Requirements \("SERs"\) for monohulls for the 2017 Swiftsure International Yacht Race](#) or 1.2 of the [Safety Equipment Requirements for Multihulls \(SERs\) for the 2017 Swiftsure International Yacht Race](#), as applicable).
- 14.3 The Royal Victoria Yacht Club, the Organizing Authority for the Swiftsure International Yacht Race, does not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the Swiftsure International Yacht Race.

## **15 INSURANCE**

Each participating yacht shall have third party liability insurance covering property damage, personal injury and death in an amount not less than \$500,000 (Canadian or U.S.) per occurrence, and the policy must cover yacht racing activities.

## **16 INQUIRIES**

Event Chair: [chair@swiftsure.org](mailto:chair@swiftsure.org)  
Registration: [registrar@swiftsure.org](mailto:registrar@swiftsure.org)

Swiftsure Office (Telephone: 250-592-2441):  
Royal Victoria Yacht Club  
3475 Ripon Road  
Victoria, BC, Canada V8R 6H1

Website: [www.swiftsure.org](http://www.swiftsure.org)



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