



*Sailing Instructions*  
*Bellingham Pink Boat Regatta*  
*August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

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This event is organized by the Pink Boat Regatta, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation supporting The Breast Cancer Research through sailing with 100% of all net proceeds.

**TIME:** First warning is expected to be at 12:55pm.

**ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION:** The race is open to all boats under sail. Vessels may [register here](#).

**MOORAGE:** Moorage will be available for race day on a first come basis at the dock outside Bellingham Yacht Club at Gate 3. Boats are asked to raft to the degree practicable to accommodate others.

**PRE-RACE MEETING:** A mandatory pre-race meeting (party!) will be held in person at 1130 on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup> in the bar at Bellingham Yacht Club. All participants are encouraged to join.

**CLASS FLAGS:** All classes will start together.

**RULES:** This event is considered a 'Fun' race. Boats are expected to abide by the current *Racing Rules of Sailing*, common sense and a spirit of service. DON'T BE A JERK. If you foul someone or may have fouled someone, do a 360 degree turn and continue the race. Keep it safe, kind, and courteous on the water, this is a charity fundraiser after all! The race committee is a bunch of people who are out here for a good cause and a good time and will reserve the right to disqualify any boats that don't resolve their differences on the water.

**SAFETY:** Racers are reminded that it is the sole responsibility of each boat to decide whether or not to start or continue the race. Each boat is responsible for carrying the safety equipment required and operating their vessel in a safe manner.



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**NOTICES TO COMPETITORS, COMMUNICATIONS:** Notices to competitors will be posted on this website, and on official notice board(s) located at Bellingham Yacht Club on the morning of the race. Boats shall check in by sailing by and hailing the committee boat before the race. The Race Committee may make announcements on VHF Channel 69, please ensure your radio is sufficiently charged and at a volume where it can be heard by the skipper and/or a designated crew member. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted to the website before 1130 on the day of the event.

**SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:** Signals made ashore will be displayed on the deck of the Bellingham Yacht Club.

**START TIME:** First warning is expected to be at 1255.

**START/FINISH LINE:** The start/finish line will be at the “Outfall” buoy, leaving it to Port. It is likely that the start will be a “rabbit” start unless otherwise specified at the pre-race meeting. All boats must stay clear of the RC Vessel. Remember, fun charity race, no need to be aggressive.

**RACE FORMAT AND COURSE:** The race is a timed event in which competitors sail a course, passing as many of the fixed marks as possible within the time limit.

The course will be announced at the pre-race meeting and will be announced by race committee boat prior to the start.

The course will be a series of fixed marks in Bellingham Bay.

Boats will round the buoys to port in the order stated. To be counted, a boat must round the buoy to port, fully passing the mark in the direction of the next buoy of the course.

#### Course Marks:

- Mark 1 will be the yellow “Outfall” buoy, left to Port.
- Mark 2 will be the Post Point buoy, left to Port
- Mark 3 will be the Star Rock buoy, left to Port, west of the “Outfall” buoy closer to the beach.



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Boats will start at the “Outfall” buoy, leaving it to Port. It is likely that the start will be a “rabbit” start unless otherwise specified at the pre-race meeting.

Boats will be considered finished upon rounding their last mark within the time limit.

Boats are REQUIRED to record all mark roundings, including the start, and submit the number of marks rounded to the race committee as soon as possible upon return to the yacht club.

In the event of little to no wind, boats may purchase a mulligan for \$25 that will give them 5 minutes of motoring time. Mulligans must be called in to the Race Committee via VHF Ch69 and approved by the RC. If another boat feels that the boat requesting the mulligan is just fine in its position and pays \$35, the boat requesting the mulligan will be denied. The boat requesting the mulligan still pays the \$25 even if it gets blocked by another boat paying the \$35.

**AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS:** There are not obstructions noted on the race course.

**PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS:** Protests are highly discouraged in this event, other than for the purposes of learning.

**TIME LIMIT:** The time limit for all boats will be 3 hours after their class start. The race committee intends to use a signal horn and announce on VHF channel 69 that the race is completed but makes no guarantee that this will occur. Please watch your GPS time.

**SCORING:** The scoring system is as follows: A boat’s score will be the total of all buoys rounded within the time limit IN ADDITION to the total of all buoys purchased in donations to the Pink Boat Regatta.

- A boat may increase the number of buoys rounded by ‘buying’ buoys at the party following the race until 5 minutes prior to the awards ceremony. (see next section)
- Awards will be given to the top 3 boats in each class that have rounded the most marks.



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**CHARITABLE BUOY DONATIONS:** Boats have the opportunity to add to their score by making donations to Pink Boat Regatta supporting Breast Cancer Research following the race. These additional buoys will be counted towards the boat's total in the awards.

Buoys will be available at the sales desk at the party until 5 minutes prior to the awards ceremony. Price per buoy will be posted following the race.

**TROPHIES and AWARDS:** At the awards ceremony the following will be awarded:

- 1st through 3rd place awarded based on total buoys in each division.
- The 'Black Flag' perpetual trophy will be awarded to the team that raises the most money.
- Pinkest boat
- Overall Female Skipper

**DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

**INSURANCE:** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300K per incident or the equivalent.