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April 28, 2011

To: Tri-Island Series Competitors

cc: Dave Ferguson, Roger Pawley, Rhonda Halffman, Phil Calvert, Mike Milburn, Brian Ledbetter

Re: Welcome to the Protection Island Race

Thank you for registering for the SYC Tri-Island Series and sailing this Saturday in the Protection Island Race. The Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions, and Preliminary Class Assignments are up on the web site at www.seattleyachtclub.org under Sailboat Racing / Regattas (link).

I'd like to share with you the intentions of the race committee regarding the start. While the race committee retains several options within the rules, they intend to start the classes of each course together, as follows:

Long Course classes together
Short Course classes together
Sport Boat Course classes together (currently no entries, may be a start with no starters)
Cruiser/Racer Course classes together

To do that, the race committee would fly all the class flags for all the Long Course classes, for instance, together at the warning signal for those classes. The race committee intends to "roll" the starts in series so that the starts will be five minutes apart. Of course, the race committee could also do something else within the rules, for whatever reason, like pause the sequence, so you should keep an eye on the flags.

I hope you and your crew have a good time out on the water. We look forward to seeing you there and at the Tri-Island Party after the Blake Island Race on June 4th at Elliott Bay Marina. Your regatta chairpersons are well along on the planning and it's shaping up great.

Finally, I'd like to ask if any of you will be using any locating technology, like AIS transmission or SPOT, that is publically viewable from the internet. From a competitor's perspective, we don't favor requiring boats to give away their location this way, but if you want to do it voluntarily your race committee would like to know how to track your location.

Please let me or any of us know of any questions or considerations.

Brian Watkins as r/c volunteer 206-276-1445 m