

Setting up your Following Sea account and joining Pacific Puddle Jump 2020 digital net for daily check-ins and communications



Overview

Following Sea is a service built by sailors for sailors. It enables you to share your sailing adventures with family and friends ashore via personal blog, interactive map showing your boat location and a group messaging functionality.

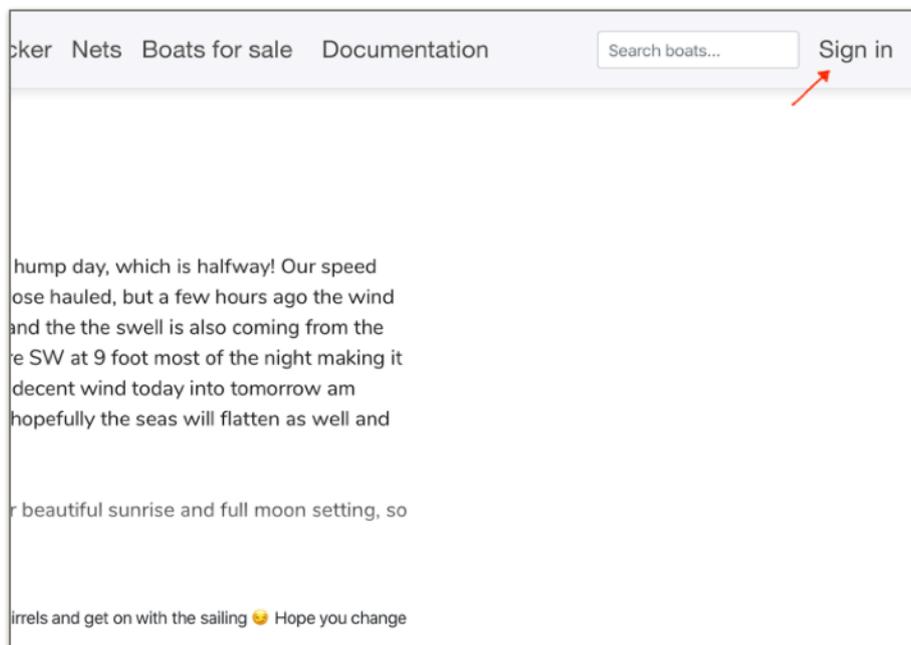
Everything is optimised to be used offshore via slow speed connection such as Garmin inReach, Iridium, YB Tracking or HF SSB radio paired with Pactor modem.

This manual will guide you through steps necessary to set up your personal profile, configure boat tracking and blogging services and explain how to join Pacific Puddle Jump digital net to stay in touch with the fleet via text/email.

If you do have any questions, issues or comments you can always reach us at support@followingsea.net and we will be happy to assist you.

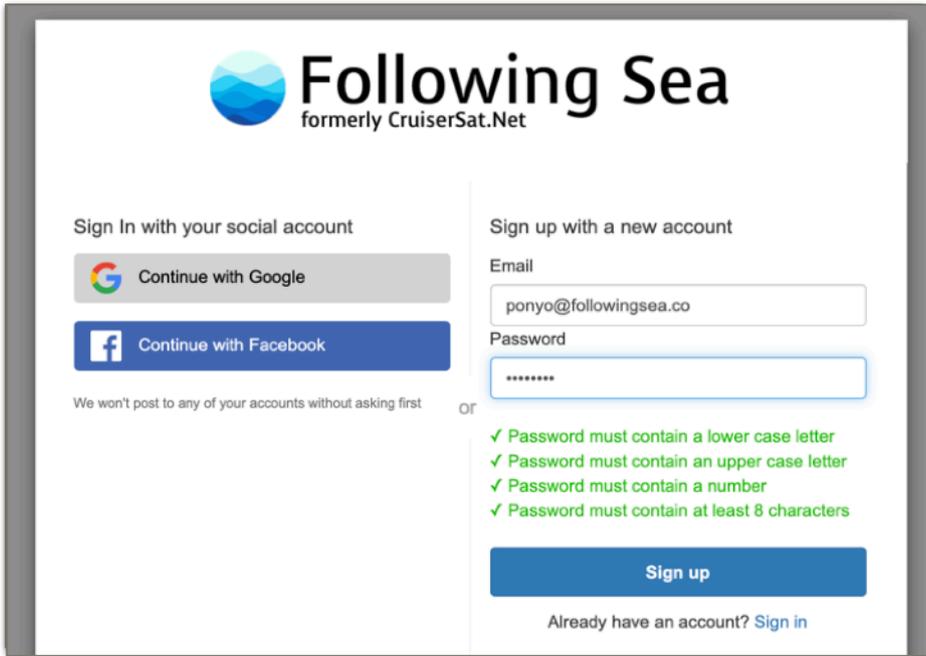
Sign in or Sign up

1. Sign in into your account or Sign up to create a new one



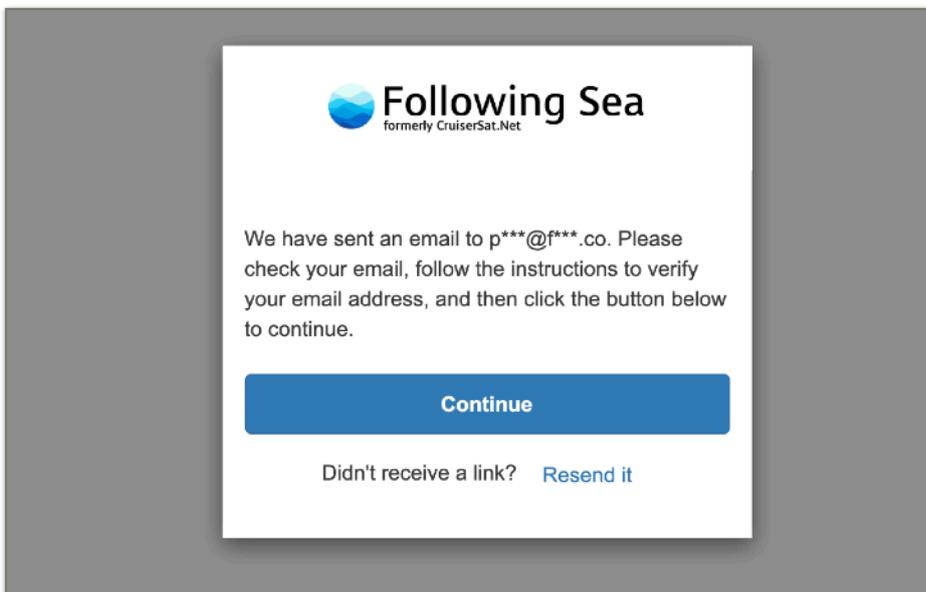
1.1 If you already have an account then type in your email and password and press "Sign in" button. Alternatively you can proceed with your Google or Facebook account. Otherwise press "Sign up" link at the bottom to start creating new account.

1.2 On the sign up screen type in your primary email address and a password you would like to use for your Following Sea account, then press sign up button



The image shows the login and sign-up interface for Following Sea. On the left, under "Sign In with your social account", there are buttons for "Continue with Google" and "Continue with Facebook". Below these is a note: "We won't post to any of your accounts without asking first". On the right, under "Sign up with a new account", there are input fields for "Email" (containing "ponyo@followingsea.co") and "Password" (containing "*****"). Below the password field are four green checkmarks indicating password requirements: "Password must contain a lower case letter", "Password must contain an upper case letter", "Password must contain a number", and "Password must contain at least 8 characters". At the bottom right is a blue "Sign up" button and a link "Already have an account? Sign in".

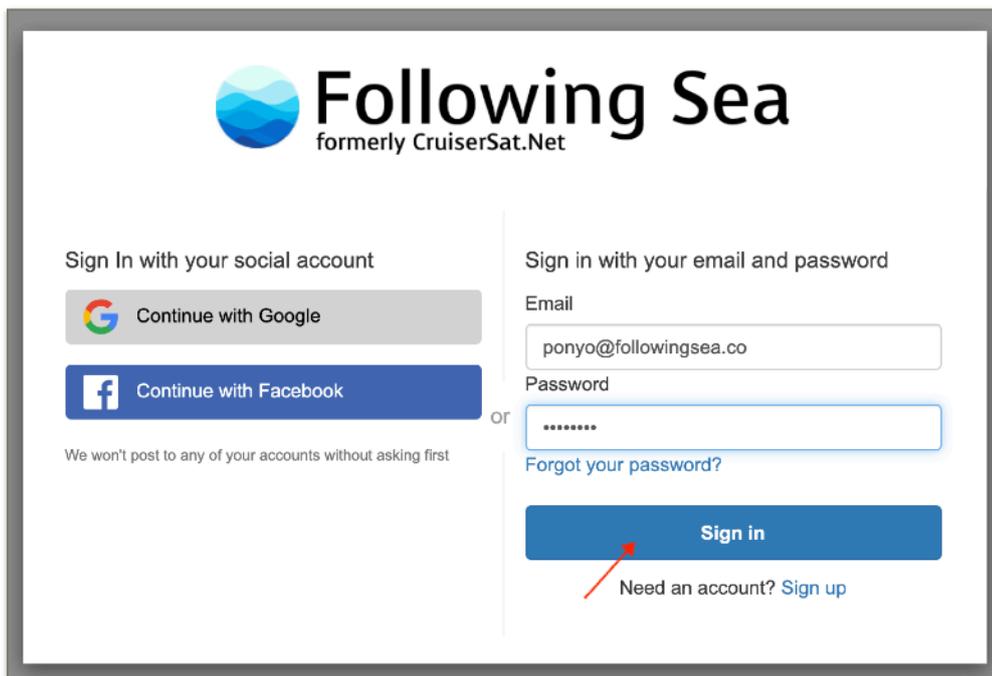
1.3 You will be sent verification email with instructions on how to verify it. Once you have followed instructions press “Continue” button on the sign up screen.



The image shows a verification email screen for Following Sea. At the top is the logo and name "Following Sea formerly CruiserSat.Net". The main text reads: "We have sent an email to p***@f***.co. Please check your email, follow the instructions to verify your email address, and then click the button below to continue." Below this text is a large blue button labeled "Continue". At the bottom, there is a link: "Didn't receive a link? Resend it".

1.4 Once your email is verified and you are back on the sign in screen populate your email and password and press “Sign in” button to proceed.

Configure your profile



Following Sea
formerly CruiserSat.Net

Sign In with your social account

Continue with Google

Continue with Facebook

We won't post to any of your accounts without asking first

OR

Sign in with your email and password

Email
ponyo@followingsea.co

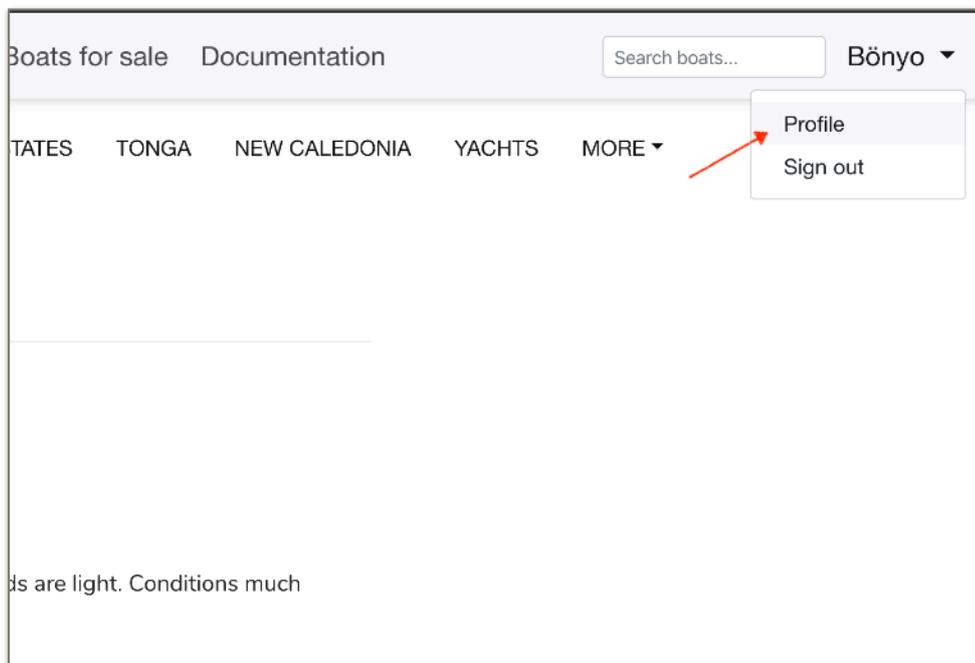
Password
.....

[Forgot your password?](#)

Sign in

[Need an account? Sign up](#)

2. Once signed in navigate to your profile page by clicking on your email/display name in the top right corner and then clicking on “Profile” link



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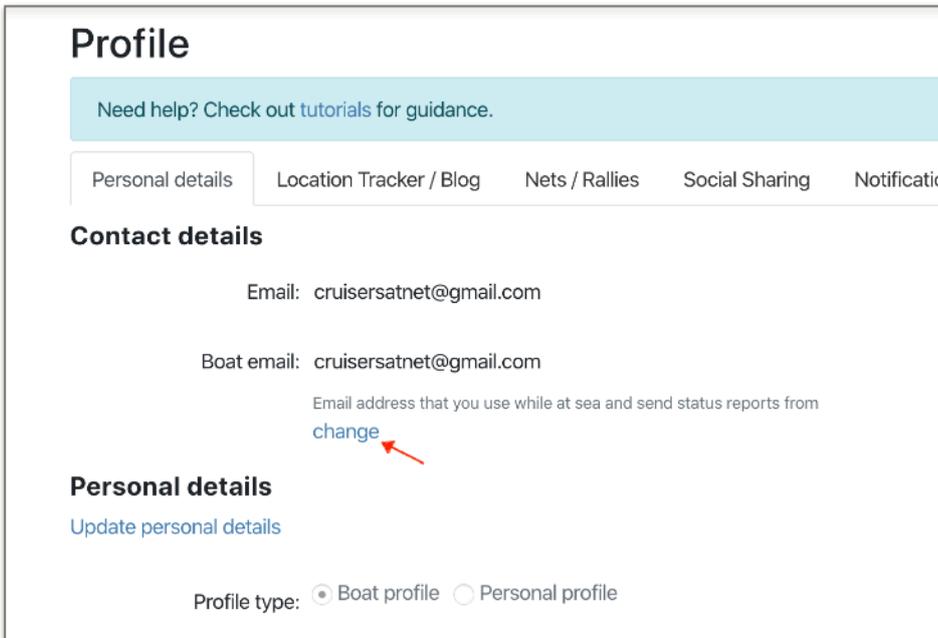
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Profile

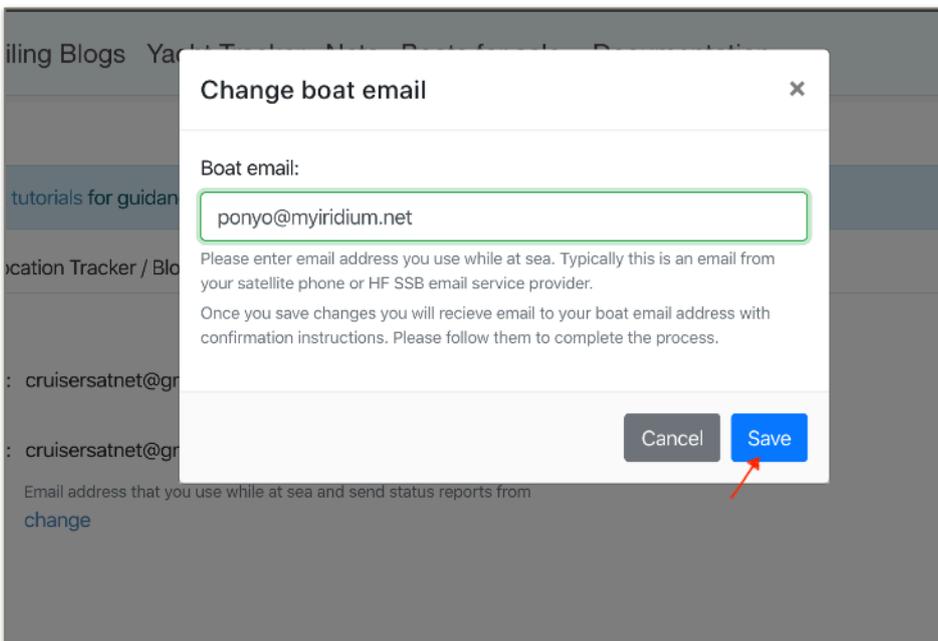
Sign out

ds are light. Conditions much

2.1 In your profile you can manage personal details, communication preferences as well as your service subscriptions. First you need to configure your contact details. Email you have registered with is your primary email that notifications will be sent to. Many people have additional email address that they use offshore (often their satellite phone or WinLink/SailMail email address). It is important to register your boat/offshore email with the service if you plan to use it offshore. Click “change” link under Boat email field. Ignore this if you are using Garmin inReach device as the process is slightly different, skip to step **2.3**



2.2 Type in your offshore/boat email address and press “Save”. Verification email will be sent to your offshore/boat email address with instructions on how to verify the email address. Until your address is verified you won’t be able to use it with the service. You will see “pending verification” next to the email on profile page.



2.3 Next step is to set your personal and boat details. Click “Update person details” link on the profile page.

2.4 On the next screen fill in the information about your boat. The only mandatory field is the boat name and it has to be unique within the service. You are encouraged to fill other fields as well to give bit more information about yourself, your boat and adventures you are having. Press “Save” button once you are done.

Following Sea formerly CruiserSat.Net Sailing Blogs Yacht Tracker Nets Boats for sale D

Profile

Need help? Check out [tutorials](#) for guidance.

Personal details Location Tracker / Blog Nets / Rallies Social Sharing Notif

Contact details

Email: cruisersatnet@gmail.com

Boat email: cruisersatnet@gmail.com

Email address that you use while at sea and send status reports from [change](#)

Personal details

[Update personal details](#)

Enable and configure yacht tracker / sailing blog

3. Once you have set your personal details you can proceed to configuring tracker and sailing blog service. Go to “Location tracker / Blog” tab on Profile page. Press “Enable tracker / blog” button.

Following Sea formerly CruiserSat.Net Sailing Blogs Yacht Tracker Nets Boats for sale D

Profile

Need help? Check out [tutorials](#) for guidance.

Personal details Location Tracker / Blog Nets / Rallies Social Sharing Notif

Location Tracker / Blog

[Enable tracker / blog](#) ▶ Learn more ▶ Embed tracker on your website

About	Iridium GO! yacht tracker
Contact	Garmin inReach yacht tracker
Terms & Conditions	YB Tracking yacht tracker
Privacy	Yacht tracker for HF SSB

3.1 After enabling the tracker service you can configure some of its aspects. You can make it private so that only those you share private link with will be able to access it or you can leave it public. If you scroll down to tracker preferences section and click on “Update tracker preferences” link you will have an option of configuring few more details such as what icon to use to represent your boat on the map, whether to allow people to send you messages via Following Sea website to your registered boat/offshore email and etc.

Change tracker preferences

Boat icon: monohull

Max boat speed, knots: 40
Sometimes location data is slightly incorrect so calculated boat speed could be way off. Specify theoretical max speed for your boat and values higher than that would be ignored for speed calculation.

- Show current, average and top boat speed
- Show total distance sailed
- Show time at sea
Total time while moving at >1 knot
- Show when was the last position report
- Show countries visited
- Allow sending messages
You can let others send you messages to your registered boat Email from your location tracker page

Message length limit: 160
Control size of the messages you are willing to accept via your location tracker page

Cancel Save

3.2 Once you are happy with tracker settings you then can import your past location data from variety of 3rd party services or from your navigation equipment (as long as it can export it in GPX/KML format). You will find detailed instructions under relevant headings in “Import past location data” section of profile page.

3.3 Now you are ready to start sending your position and status updates to the service. There are few different ways you can do that: manually via email/text or automatically via Iridium, Garmin inReach or YB Tracking device. You can also use combination of both – have your Iridium/Garmin/Yb Tracking device automatically send periodic position report and then also send manual status update with more details once a day or so.

3.4 To configure automatic position reporting follow instructions in your profile on “Location tracker / Blog” tab – you will see sections under “Configure position reporting” heading, click on the one related to device(s) you have and follow steps there.

Sending position updates and status reports

4. By now everything should be ready for you to be able to send position updates and status reports.

When you have proper internet connection you can post new updates online via followingsea.net website. You will see “New post” button in the website header (you need to be logged in). When your internet connection is not great or when you are offshore you can send status and position updates via email/text by sending a message to your unique tracking email address. You can find your unique tracking email address under “Send position reports manually” section in your profile on “Location tracker / Blog” tab. Make sure to include coordinates of your location somewhere in the message. Garmin inReach devices can include coordinates in all outgoing messages automatically, refer to Garmin inReach user manual for details.

Configure position reporting
Send position reports manually
Location reports can be sent manually from pretty much any device that supports sending emails. Satellite phones Go!, Garmin inReach, HF SSB with SailMail and Winlink are very well supported. Send position reports to track_1543985015174@cruisersat.net . You can include photos in reports if your connection has sufficient bandwidth. Make sure you include coordinates of your location somewhere in the report. Various formats are supported, decimal like -35.124, 178.12 or 35.124S, 178.12E as well as DMS like 35°1'10" S, 178°2'33" E or 35 12.154S, 178 23.587E .
Note: even if you have automatic position reporting configured from Garmin inReach or Iridium Go! device you can send manual location reports to share photos and messages with followers of your journey.
Send automatic position reports via Iridium Go!
Send automatic position reports via Garmin inReach
Import past location data
Import from GPX/KML file
Import from Garmin inReach

You can share link to your personal blog/tracker page with your family and friends so they can follow your sailing adventure. They can subscribe to receive email notifications whenever you post and update and that is a great way to keep everyone in the loop, an great thing about email notifications is that they work pretty well for wide range of people, we have many 80+ year old grandparents following adventures of their children and grandchildren that way!

4.1 If you would like your status updates to be shared automatically to Facebook page you can configure that on “Social Sharing” tab. Tick “Share status reports to Facebook page” and then after giving permission select page you would like to share to. Once social sharing is configured you will see an option of choosing whether to share your new update to facebook or not while posting via website. When posting update via email you will need to include [share:facebook] text somewhere in the message to let service know you want that particular update to be shared.

Please feel free to get in touch via support@followingsea.net if you need any assistance with setting things up or have comments/suggestions.

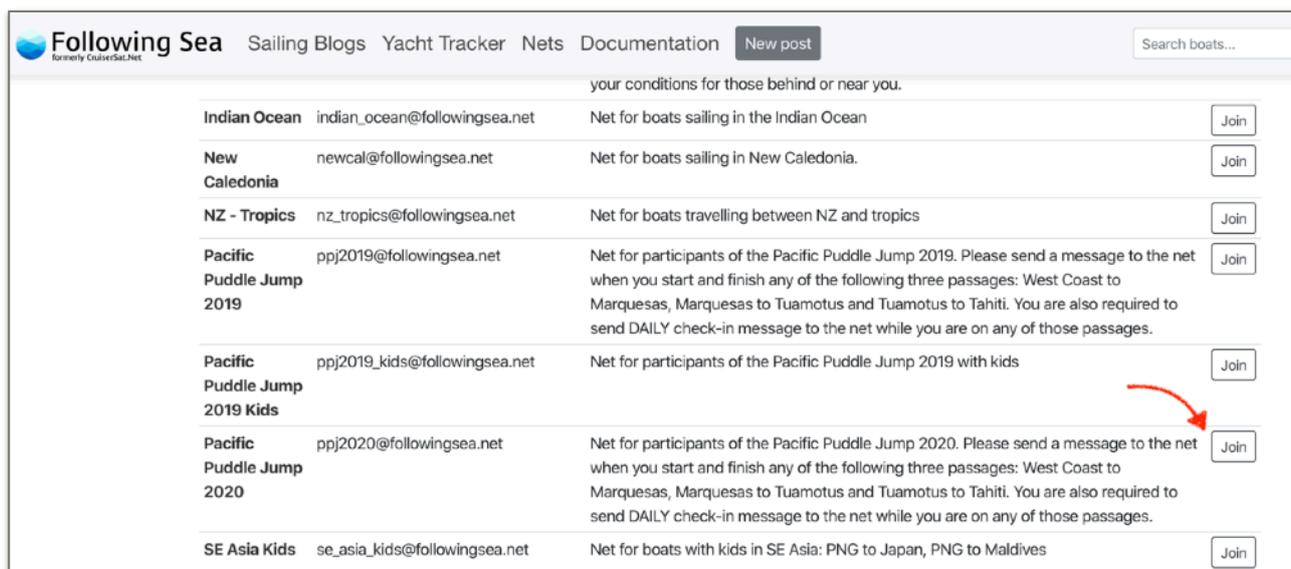
Joining Pacific Puddle Jump 2020 Net for daily check-ins

Once you have your account setup, personal and boat details configured you can now join Pacific Puddle Jump 2020 digital net (it is sort of like a group chat / mailing list) to participate in daily check-ins, communicate with other boats via email/text, share your position reports and see what other boats are nearby.

5.1. NOTE: If you are using **Garmin inReach** device then scroll down to section 5.1.1 as process is slightly different because Garmin inReach device doesn't have fixed email address assigned to it.

Navigate to the "[Nets](#)" page , find "Pacific Puddle Jump 2020" entry in the table and press "Join" button on the right side.

In the dialog check that your boat name is displayed correctly. There you can also chose whether you would like your participation to be private or public. When you chose private option then only other registered members of the net will be able to see your latest reported position and messages you send to the net. When you are public then anyone looking at the net page for Pacific Puddle Jump 2020 on <https://followingsea.net/net/ppj2020> will be able to see your position and check-in messages. Press "Join" button to join the net.



The screenshot shows the 'Following Sea' website interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Sailing Blogs', 'Yacht Tracker', 'Nets', 'Documentation', and 'New post'. A search bar on the right says 'Search boats...'. Below the navigation, there is a table of nets. The table has columns for the net name, email address, description, and a 'Join' button. The 'Pacific Puddle Jump 2020' net is highlighted with a red arrow pointing to its 'Join' button.

Net Name	Email Address	Description	Join Button
Indian Ocean	indian_ocean@followingsea.net	Net for boats sailing in the Indian Ocean	Join
New Caledonia	newcal@followingsea.net	Net for boats sailing in New Caledonia.	Join
NZ - Tropics	nz_tropics@followingsea.net	Net for boats travelling between NZ and tropics	Join
Pacific Puddle Jump 2019	ppj2019@followingsea.net	Net for participants of the Pacific Puddle Jump 2019. Please send a message to the net when you start and finish any of the following three passages: West Coast to Marquesas, Marquesas to Tuamotus and Tuamotus to Tahiti. You are also required to send DAILY check-in message to the net while you are on any of those passages.	Join
Pacific Puddle Jump 2019 Kids	ppj2019_kids@followingsea.net	Net for participants of the Pacific Puddle Jump 2019 with kids	Join
Pacific Puddle Jump 2020	ppj2020@followingsea.net	Net for participants of the Pacific Puddle Jump 2020. Please send a message to the net when you start and finish any of the following three passages: West Coast to Marquesas, Marquesas to Tuamotus and Tuamotus to Tahiti. You are also required to send DAILY check-in message to the net while you are on any of those passages.	Join
SE Asia Kids	se_asia_kids@followingsea.net	Net for boats with kids in SE Asia: PNG to Japan, PNG to Maldives	Join

5.1.1 For Garmin inReach device users: From your Garmin inReach device send a message with text "subscribe Boat Name" to ppj2020@followingsea.net email address to join the Pacific Puddle Jump 2020 net. Make sure to replace "Boat Name" with your actual boat name that you have used while registering an account with Following Sea.

5.2 Now that you have joined the net you will start receiving messages sent by other participants of the net via email. They will be sent to your registered emails that you have set while configuring your account (see step 2.2 above). If you don't want to receive messages from other net participants and only hear from moderators then you can mute the net by navigating to your Profile -> "Nets / Rallies" tab and checking "Mute" checkbox against the "Pacific Puddle Jump 2020" net.

Following Sea Sailing Blogs Yacht Tracker Nets Documentation New post

Pacific Puddle Jump 2020

Net for participants of the Pacific Puddle Jump 2020. Please send a message to the net when you start and finish any of the following three passages: West Coast to Marquesas, Marquesas to Tuamotus and Tuamotus to Tahiti. You are also required to send DAILY check-in message to the net while you are on any of those passages.

You are participating as **Ponyo**.

To send messages to the net email to ppj2020@followingsea.net from kostya.marchenko@gmail.com or ponyo@myiridium.net

Receive net messages to:

- All registered emails
- Boat email only
- Shore email only
- Private

When your participation in the net is private only registered net participants could see your messages and position
- Mute

When net is muted you will only receive messages from net moderators but not anyone else
- Receive acknowledgement when you send message to the net

You can choose to receive acknowledgement every time you send message to the net. Useful when you want to absolutely certain that you messages have reached the net.

5.3 As a net participant you can now send your daily check-in via email to ppj2020@followingsea.net. Make sure to include your position coordinates somewhere in the message. Your daily check-in will be shared with all members of the net who don't have muted the net. Your latest position and past track (based on your previous check-in messages) will be shown on the map on the dedicated page for Puddle Jump and is located at <https://followingsea.net/net/ppj2020>. Also if you had automatic position reporting configured in previous steps your position will be automatically updated in all nets you are participating in. You are welcome to share the page of the net with family and friends if you would like them to follow the rally.

5.4 You can get report with positions of other boats participating in the net by sending a command like **"boats within 200nm from -35.112, 176.1123"** to ppj2020@followingsea.net and that would email you back list of boats within 200 nautical miles from coordinates -35.122, 176.1123. You can set whatever radius you like in miles and location with relation to which you would like to get boat positions. There's an option of getting back GPX file with boat positions instead of plain text (useful if you want to import data into chartplotter/navigation software and see nearby boats as markers on the map). In that case you need to append "GPX" at the end of command so the message will look something like **"boats within 540nm from 35 112.12, 176 12.11 gpx"** and that will email back GPX file with boats within 540 nautical miles from set position.

5.5 You can also use the net to exchange messages with other participants. Simply email your message to ppj2020@followingsea.net if you wish to exchange some information with others in the net. Try to keep your message concise to make sure others can download them quickly over slow speed connections. Also some net participants that use devices like Garmin inReach won't be able to receive messages longer than 624 characters so as a general advice aim to keep your messages under that limit.

If you have any questions, issues or any feedback please do get in touch via support@followingsea.net and we would be happy to help you!