

GENERAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron and Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club Combined Sydney Harbour program – 06 September 2008 to 25 July 2009

The Organising Authority is the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS) and/or the Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club (RPEYC).

1. RULES

All racing will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2005 - 2008 and 2009-2012 (RRS) of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) except as amended herein.

In the event of conflict between any of the *rules* or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing Instructions will prevail.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 These General Sailing Instructions apply to all series in this Handbook except where amended by the Sailing Instructions for each series.

2.2 There are Sailing Instructions in this Handbook for the Spring (SPR) & Summer (SUM), Mini Regatta (MINA and MINB), Friday Twilight (FRI), Tuesday Twilight (TUE), Sunday (SUN), Short Ocean Pointscore (SOPS), RPEYC Wednesday (WED) and Winter (WIN) Series.

2.3 Sailing Instructions for the SPR and SUM series apply to the MAIN series and the Short Inshore Series (SIS).

3. FLAGS, PENNANTS AND RACE COMMITTEE BURGEES

3.1 In these Sailing Instructions any flags or pennants mentioned are those of the International Code of Signals. Race Signals will be as per RRS except as amended by the Sailing Instructions.

3.2 International Code Flags and ISAF Yacht Racing Signals can be found inside the front and back cover respectively of this Handbook.

3.3 The Race Committee vessels may be identified as follows:

- for inshore events, the Committee Vessel may display the host club burgee (RSYS burgee surrounded by a white border or the RPEYC burgee)
- an orange "REGATTA" banner may be displayed to identify the Mini Regatta Race Committee Vessel on designated race days
- for offshore events, the Committee Vessel may display the host club burgee (RSYS, MHYC, CYCA or the SASC burgee).

4. CHANGES TO CLASS RULES AND RRS

4.1 Class Rules

4.1.1 The rules of the Etchells class One-Design Rules will be altered as follows:
Rule 7.1 (Crew) shall be modified to allow two persons on board when racing in RSYS organised events, except for World Qualifiers, for a maximum of three races.

This change to the Class rules is only intended to be used on an exception

basis and only to enable participation by those who are genuinely without a full crew unexpectedly and at short notice. No points will be credited in respect of world qualification, club championship or any club pointscores.

4.2 **RRS**

RRS 52 is amended so that it does not apply for the adjustment and operation of sails or the adjustment of movable appendages on any boat.

5. **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

5.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Boards of the respective clubhouses;

- underneath the Careening Cove Room stairs of the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron
- at the top of the stairs in the clubhouse of the Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club
- in the breezeway adjacent to the Sailing Office at the Middle Harbour Yacht Club
- in the downstairs hallway of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia

5.2 The List of Entries will be available to all entrants, and a copy will be placed on the Official Notice Boards no later than two (2) hours before the start of the event. Notices in writing may also be distributed to all starters before the event(s) by the Race Committee from the Committee Vessel.

6. **ALTERATIONS TO CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

6.1 The Organising Authority reserves the right to alter this Handbook, the Calendar of Events, these General Sailing Instructions and the Sailing Instructions for each series. Alterations will be available in writing to all entrants as per RRS 89.2.

6.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 1000hrs on the day it will take effect. Any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800hrs on the day before it will take effect.

7. **SPECIAL SIGNALS**

7.1 **Signals made ashore** – will be displayed at RSYS on the club flagmast, and may also be displayed at RPEYC, MHYC and CYCA.

7.1.1 Flag AP with two sounds indicates the race is postponed. The first Warning Signal will be made not less than thirty (30) minutes after the AP is lowered. (Amends RRS Race Signals)

7.1.2 Flag signal N over A over Second Substitute with three sounds indicates racing for the Etchells, Dragons and Yngling Classes has been abandoned for the day.

7.1.3 Flag signal N over A over Third Substitute with three sounds indicates racing for the Mini Regatta and Etchells, Dragons and Yngling Classes has been abandoned for the day.

7.2 **Signals made on the Committee Vessel** – will be displayed on the

respective Committee Vessel.

- 7.2.1 Flag signal N over A over Second Substitute with three sounds indicates racing for the Etchells, Dragons and Yngling Classes has been abandoned for the day.
- 7.2.2 Flag signal N over A over Third Substitute with three sounds indicates racing for the mini regatta and Etchells, Dragons and Yngling Classes has been abandoned for the day.
- 7.2.3 For the SPR and SUM series these signals will remain displayed during the entire starting sequence and the order of starting will not be altered.

8. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Racing is scheduled as detailed in the Calendar of Events in this Handbook.

9. WARNING SIGNALS

The scheduled time of the warning signals will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions for each series in this Handbook.

10. CLASS & DIVISION FLAGS

Class / Division flags, except for WED, TWI and TUE series, will be:

Division 1	Q
Division 2	K
Division 3	R
Division 4	V
International Etchells	E
International Dragon	D
International J24	J
International Yngling	F
Sydney 32	Class insignia / Lime green flag
Sydney 38	Class insignia / Hot pink flag
Non-Spinnaker Division	H
SOPS Division 3	3

11. RACING AREA

- 11.1 **Harbour** –will be as illustrated by the Chartlet on [pages 36 & 37](#) of this Handbook.
- 11.2 **Offshore** – will be as illustrated by the Offshore Chartlet located on pages 52 and 53 of this Handbook.
- 11.3 **Cardinal Marks** – boats shall not sail within the area bounded by Cardinal Marks. These areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions.
- 11.4 **Moorings** – boats shall not sail within mooring areas. These areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions. Naval and shipping moorings are excluded from this clause.
- 11.5 **Shark Island** – boats shall not sail between the YA Shark Island Mark (SM)

and the cardinal mark south of Shark Island in either direction. This area is prohibited and deemed to be a continuing obstruction.

11.6 **Garden Island and Chowder Bay** – boats shall not sail within the yellow markers in the vicinity of Garden Island or near the naval wharf in Chowder Bay. These areas are prohibited and deemed to be a continuing obstruction.

11.7 Skippers are reminded of the existence of bombora conditions in strong S to SE winds;

- at Cape Banks Botany Bay
- off Bear Island inside Botany Bay
- to seaward of Port Hacking Point

12. COURSES

The courses are described in the Sailing Instructions for each series in this Handbook.

13. MARKS AND BUOYS

13.1 All marks and buoys referred to in these Sailing Instructions are as described on page 44 of this Handbook. For the Mini Regatta and Offshore series additional marks and buoys will be as described in the relevant Sailing Instructions.

13.2 Missing Mark – when a mark is missing or out of position the Race Committee shall, if possible;

1. replace it in its correct position, or
2. substitute one of similar appearance, or
3. replace it with a buoy or vessel displaying Flag M. (Amends RRS 34)

14. THE START

14.1 Races scheduled in this Handbook will be started according to RRS 26, except as amended by the FRI, TUE, SUN, WED and Offshore Sailing Instructions.

14.2 The starting line will be as described in the Sailing Instructions for each series in this Handbook.

14.3 Except for the TUE, FRI, SUN, WED and SOPS series, a boat starting later than four (4) minutes after her starting signal may, at the discretion of the Race Committee, be scored Did Not Start (DNS).

14.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.

14.5 Except as provided in clauses 7 and 15 of these General Sailing Instructions, and clause 7.5 of the Mini Regatta Sailing Instructions, if one boat in any class or division appears at the start that boat is entitled to sail the course and receive a result.

15. POSTPONEMENT AND ABANDONMENT

15.1 Postponement and abandonment shall be in accordance with RRS 27.3 and



RRS 32.

- 15.2 Abandoned races will not be re-sailed, except at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 15.3 Any race not completed on the scheduled day will not be re-sailed, except as provided in the Offshore Sailing Instructions.

16. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be as described in the Sailing Instructions for each series.

17. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 17.1 The Two-Turns Penalty shall apply to all classes as provided in RRS 44.2 except for Etchells class and Yngling class.
- 17.2 For Etchells class in the SPR and SUM series and MINA regatta RRS 44.1 and 44.2 are amended so that the penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2 shall be a One Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe in the same direction) except that for infringements occurring within the Two Length Zone the penalty shall be a Two Turns Penalty (two tacks and two gybes in the same direction). For infringements against any other boat other than an Etchells in the same race the Two-Turns Penalty applies.
- 17.3 For Yngling class in the SPR and SUM series and MINB regatta RRS 44.1 and 44.2 are amended so that the penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2 shall be a One Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe in the same direction) except that for infringements occurring within the Two Length Zone the penalty shall be a Two Turns Penalty (two tacks and two gybes in the same direction). For infringements against any other boat other than an Yngling in the same race the Two-Turns Penalty applies.

18. TIME LIMITS

Time limits will be as detailed in the Sailing Instructions for each series.

19. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 19.1 Protests are to be lodged in accordance with RRS 61 as amended by 19.2, 19.3 and 19.4 below.
- 19.2 Protests should be lodged on the ISAF prescribed form available from the respective clubs. All protests shall be lodged at the RSYS Sailing Office except for:
- WED series for which protests shall be lodged at the RPEYC.
 - Offshore series for which protests shall be lodged with the conducting Club.
- 19.3 If the RSYS Sailing Office is closed, protests may be placed in the Sailing Office letter box.
- 19.4 The time limit for the lodging of protests will be as follows (Amends RRS 61):



- MAIN, SPR, SUM, SIS, MINA and MINB series: 1000 hours on the first working day after the event
- SOPS series: two (2) hours after the protesting boat's finishing time
- WED series: two (2) hours after the last boat in the Division finishes
- FRI, TUE, SUN and WIN series: one (1) hour after the last boat in the Division finishes

19.5 Protests will be heard at the clubhouse of the conducting club on the following Wednesday unless otherwise decided by the relevant Race Committee. The hearing time will be advised to the parties involved.

19.6 Requests for Redress shall be in accordance with RRS 62.

20. SCORING

20.1 Scoring will be as detailed in the Sailing Instructions for each series.

20.2 A boat's pointscore will not be transferred following a change of ownership or a change in division.

20.3 Supplementary pointscores may be established.

20.4 All series pointscores are open to block entries only.

20.5 No boat will be eligible to enter a pointscore after the number of discard races for that pointscore has been sailed.

20.6 **Boats competing in other events** - Upon written application to the RSYS Sailing Committee prior to the regatta, a boat which starts in its State, National or World Championship may receive points for any series race thereby missed equal to the boat's average points. The number of races eligible will be determined by the Sailing Committee (Amends RRS 62). Average points will be based on points in all the races in the series, including discards, except the race or races in question.

20.6.1 All other requests for redress shall be made under RRS 62.

21. ALTERATIONS AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

21.1 Any changes to hull, engine, propeller, trim, spars, sail area or significant changes to onboard skill level should be notified in writing to reach the RSYS Sailing Office not later than 1400 hours on the day prior to the race affected by the change or to RPEYC not later than the start of the race for WED series. This may result in a change of handicap. A boat failing to comply may be subject to action by the Race Committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.

The supplying of a new rating certificate to RSYS or RPEYC will not be accepted as compliance with this requirement.

21.2 When rating changes apply, the altered rating certificate must be lodged with the Sailing Office not later than 1400 hours on the day prior to the start of the race affected by the change. A boat failing to comply may be subject to action by the Race Committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.

- 21.3 It is the Skippers obligation to declare any change in or addition to the sail wardrobe including new and replacement sails.
- 21.4 If under any circumstance a Mixed Division boat elects not to use a spinnaker during a race it is the Skippers obligation to advise the Sailing Office. This may result in a change of handicap.

22. CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR HELMSMAN

- 22.1 To be eligible for pointscores, boats must sail under the same ownership and be entered for the whole of that series.
- 22.2 Any change of helmsman from those listed on the Entry Form must be notified to the Sailing Office not later than 1400 hours on the day prior to the race and may result in a change of handicap.

23. EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

- 23.1 Harbour Racing - Category 7 (YA Special Regulations Part 1 Section 2). All boats which do not have navigation lights permanently fitted are additionally required to comply with YA Special Regulations 3.23.4 and 3.23.5 and carry portable navigation lights capable of being attached to the boat.
- 23.2 Offshore - Category 4 (YA Special Regulations Part 1 Section 2).
- 23.3 Random equipment audits may be made throughout the Season. Any boat failing to comply with equipment requirements may be subject to protest by the Race Committee.
- 23.4 Yachts shall not carry anchors protruding beyond the bow while racing.

24. RETIREMENT

To assist the Race Committee, boats which retire from a race before finishing are required to notify the Race Committee by direct contact or on VHF 73, or by phoning the RSYS on 9017 0150. For WED series please phone the RPEYC on 9327 3149 as soon as practicable.

25. OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

- 25.1 No litter shall be disposed of overboard
- 25.2 Yachts shall not interfere with the Commercial or Defence shipping of the Port. The attention of skippers is drawn to NSW Maritime Authority regulations regarding the right of way of vessels entering or leaving port, ferries displaying orange diamonds and vessels engaged in towing. NSW Maritime regulations specify "*Priority over Sail – some Commercial Ferries on Sydney Harbour display an orange diamond shape which grants priority of way over sailing vessels. Do not attempt to cross the path of an approaching ferry displaying this signal*". Attention is drawn to the guidelines published in Appendices 7 and 8 of this Handbook.
- 25.3 Boats found to have interfered with commercial shipping may be subject to action by the Race Committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.

- 25.4 All yachts must abide by traffic directions of NSW Boating Service Officers. Any yacht directed to stop or alter course by NSW Maritime Boating Service Officers as a result of an anticipated breach of the above rules, incident/collision or complaint shall do so immediately.
- 25.5 Any yachts reported by NSW Maritime as having contravened NSW Maritime regulations shall be disqualified without a hearing. (amends RRS 63.1).
- 25.6 The attention of any competitors, involved in an accident, is drawn to the requirements of NSW Maritime as published in Appendix 5 of this Handbook. Competitors are also required to notify the Sailing Office of any contact incident occurring during racing whether or not it results in a Race Protest or a report to NSW Maritime. RSYS is obliged under the terms of its Aquatic Licence to prepare a report of all contact incidents occurring during racing whether or not injury or an insurance claim results.

26. SAIL NUMBERS

- 26.1 A boat should sail under the sail number advised on its entry form.
- 26.2 A boat should display identical sail numbers on its sails.
- 26.3 The use of any sail displaying a different number to that on the entry form must be notified to the Sailing Office not later than two (2) hours before the start of the race.
- 26.4 A boat which displays an incorrect sail number and which has not notified the Sailing Office in accordance with 26.3 may be subject to protest by the Race Committee.

27. NON-SPINNAKER RACES

Boats competing in the Tuesday Twilight Series (TUE), Friday Twilight Series (FRI), RPEYC Wednesday Series (WED) and the Non-Spinnaker Divisions are not permitted to fly spinnakers. Headsails may be poled out but must be tacked to the foot of the forestay and fully hanked or attached to the forestay by a luff groove device.

28. HANDICAPPING

- 28.1 The handicap will be a Time Correction Factor (TCF) which is applied at the finish, except as amended by the Sailing Instructions for the FRI, TUE and SUN Series. Handicaps may be adjusted after each race has been finalised.
- 28.2 The Race Committee will determine a yacht's handicap in relation to its performance in previous races. A yacht's handicap shall not be subject to protest or grounds for redress. (Amends RRS 60.1 & 62)
- 28.3 If a boat is disqualified, its handicap may not be adjusted.
- 28.4 If a boat is granted redress and the finish time is amended by a Protest Committee, a new handicap may be generated.
- 28.5 IRC races will be decided by the application of the IRC Time Correction

Factor as displayed on each boat's IRC certificate (IR2000 Club Rule).

A boat with a current valid IRC certificate, based on 'Independent Measurement' by an RORC approved measurer, shall supply that certificate. An entrant of such a boat should be familiar with pages 58-60 of the RORC IRC Yearbook 2008.

29 RESPONSIBILITIES

29.1 **Risk Warning** - The Organising Authority advises owners, skippers and anyone who participates in yachting events conducted by the Organising Authority that participation in the sport of yachting, whether racing or otherwise, can be dangerous and can result in harm, personal injury and property damage. The Organising Authority is not responsible for any harm or injury suffered by any person in any yachting event of whatever nature conducted by the Organising Authority. All participants acknowledge that competing in yachting events may be dangerous and may result in harm or personal injury and they participate in such events aware of such dangers and voluntarily accept any risk of harm.

29.2 **Competitors Declaration** – the attention of all competitors is drawn to the responsibilities of owners and skippers as detailed in clause 5.3 of the Notice of Race.

29.3 Responsibilities

- (a) All those taking part in these races do so at their own risk and responsibility. Specific attention is drawn to RRS 4 which states; "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". The RSYS, RPEYC, sponsors, any Class Association, the Race Committee and other race officials are not responsible for any damage or injury either afloat or ashore.
- (b) The RSYS, RPEYC, sponsors, any Class Association, the Race Committee and other race officials are not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.
- (c) All those taking part in these races are reminded of their obligations as set out in the Yachting Australia Special Regulations clause 1.02 Owner's Responsibility.

30. INSURANCE

Boats shall have adequate current Third Party Property Liability insurance cover and Third Party Personal Liability insurance cover of not less than \$10,000,000 (ten million) for each separate incident and \$5,000,000 (five million), recommended \$10,000,000 (ten million) for the RPEYC Wednesday Series. All insurance cover shall be maintained during the period of racing.

31. MINIMUM DRESS REQUIREMENTS

Skippers and crew are required to be appropriately dressed at all times while racing. The minimum standard of dress is shorts and T-shirt.

