



# **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

FOR THE

## ***INTERNATIONAL ETHELLES CLASS NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIP***

**26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

to be conducted by the

***ROYAL SYDNEY YACHT SQUADRON***

On behalf of

***The International Etchells Sydney Fleet Incorporated***

Under the authority of  
**YACHTING NSW**

The Organising Authority (OA) is Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS) in conjunction with the International Etchells Sydney Fleet Inc.

## **1 RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009 – 2012*.
- 1.2 The Championship is classified as a Class C event as sanctioned by the International Etchells Class Association.
- 1.3 The Yachting Australia Special Regulations – Part 1, section 2.01 Category 7 shall apply.
- 1.4 In addition to Special Regulations Category 7 all boats are required to complete a declaration certifying that they carry for the duration of the regatta the following additional equipment:
  - o Buoyant rescue quilt with 15 metres of line or lifebuoy with 30 metres of line
  - o Flares – 2 red and 2 orange
  - o V-Sheet
  - o Compass and chart of area (approaches to Sydney Harbour)
  - o Water – a minimum of 2 litres per person
  - o An operating VHF radio and to monitor channel 69 during all races.
- 1.5 The wearing of a Personal Flotation Device complying with AS1512 (or equivalent more stringent overseas standard) by each crew member will be mandatory at all times while sailing north of an imaginary line between South Head and Georges Head.
- 1.6 All boats shall display bow numbers as supplied and fitted by the Organising Authority.
- 1.7 If there is a conflict between rules or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing Instructions will prevail. This changes rule 63.7.

## **2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located underneath the RSYS Careening Cove stairs.
- 2.2 A competitors briefing will be held at 0900hrs Friday 26 February under the 'Anchorage' sail located adjacent to the RSYS Club flagmast.

## **3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900hrs on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000hrs the day before it will take effect.

## **4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the RSYS Club flagmast located on the RSYS lawn.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP.

## 5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

The schedule of events including times of the Warning Signals is as follows:

5.1	Date	Race	Times
	Fri 26 Feb		0900 Competitors Briefing
	Fri 26 Feb	Race 1	1200
	Fri 26 Feb	Race 2	As soon as practicable after Race 1
	Fri 26 Feb	Race 3	As soon as practicable after Race 2
	Sat 27 Feb	Race 4	1200
	Sat 27 Feb	Race 5	As soon as practicable after Race 4
	Sat 27 Feb	Race 6	As soon as practicable after Race 5
	Sun 28 Feb	Race 7	1100
	Sun 28 Feb	Race 8	As soon as practicable after Race 7

5.2 On Sunday 28 February no Warning Signal will be made after 1530 hours.

## 6 CLASS FLAG

6.1 The class flag will be a blue Etchells Class insignia on a white background.

## 7 RACING AREA

7.1 The races will be sailed in the Manly Circle, East of Queenscliff Head or on the waters of Sydney Harbour. The anticipated course area will be posted on the Official Notice Board under the Careening Cove Room stairs by 0900 hours on each race day.

## 8 THE COURSES

8.1 The diagram below shows the approximate course configuration. Mark 1 will be to windward of the Starting Line. Mark 2 will be laid as a distance mark and will be approximately 50 metres from Mark 1. Marks 3A/3B will be not less than 50m to windward of the Starting Line.

8.2 Please note: diagram not to scale

□-----Finish (A)-----▲ RC Vessel

MARK 2□□

□MARK 1

MARK 3A□□

□MARK 3B

□-----Start/Finish (B) Line-----▲ RC Vessel

- 8.3 The course descriptions are:  
**Course 1**  
START - 1 - 2 - 3A/3B - 1 - 2 - 3A/3B – FINISH (A)
- Course 2**  
START - 1 - 2 - 3A/3B - 1 - 2 – FINISH (B)
- 8.4 Marks 1 and 2 shall be left to PORT.
- 8.5 Marks 3A/3B are a gate. When a boat passes through the gate it shall either leave Mark 3A to STARBOARD or Mark 3B to PORT.
- 8.6 The course to be sailed will be indicated by displaying the corresponding numeral pennant with or before the warning signal together with the approximate compass bearing of Mark 1.
- 9 THE MARKS**
- 9.1 Marks 1, 3A and 3B will be orange inflatable marks with the lettering RSYS. Mark 2 will be a yellow inflatable mark with the lettering RSYS.
- 9.2 New marks as provided in clause 12 will be orange inflatable marks with a black band and the lettering RSYS.
- 10 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**  
The following areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions;
- 10.1 Cardinal Marks – A boat shall not sail within the area bounded by Cardinal Marks.
- 10.2 Naval waters – A boat shall not sail within the yellow markers in the vicinity of Garden Island or near the naval wharf in Chowder Bay.
- 11 THE START**
- 11.1 The Starting Line will be between the staffs displaying orange flags on the Committee Vessels. An Inner Distance mark, flag “U”, may be positioned near one or both of the Committee Vessels. When the Inner Distance Mark is laid, boats shall leave it on the same hand as the adjacent Committee Vessel when starting. No boat shall pass between the Inner Distance Mark and the Committee Vessel from the course side of the line during its starting sequence.
- 11.2 A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule A4.
- 11.3 The race committee will attempt to broadcast on VHF channel 69 the number of boats that are subject to rule 29.1. Failure to make a broadcast or any error in the information provided will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1 (a).
- 12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**
- 12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee may change the position of the next mark in accordance with rule 33 subject to the following amendments.

12.2 When the next leg of the course is changed, the race committee will lay a new mark(s) as described in clause 9.2 and remove the original mark(s) as soon as practicable.

12.3 In the event that the position of Mark 1 is changed, Marks 1 and 2 will be replaced by a new single Mark 1 and boats will round the new Mark 1 and proceed directly to Marks 3A/3B or to the Finishing Line as appropriate.

### **13 THE FINISH**

13.1 The Finishing Line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the Committee Vessels.

13.2 The Finishing Line for course 1 will be approximately 50 m above Mark 1 and for courses 2 it will be approximately 50 m below Marks 3A/3B.

### **14 PENALTY SYSTEM**

14.1 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 Zone as defined in the current RRS the penalty shall be a Two Turns Penalty (two tacks and two gybes in the same direction). This changes rules 44.1 and 44.2.

14.2 A boat that has taken a penalty or retired under rule 31.2 or 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the race office within the protest time limit.

14.3 As provided in rule 67, the Protest Committee may, without a hearing, penalize a boat that has broken rule 42.

### **15 TIME LIMIT**

15.1 The time limit will be 120 minutes for each race. If no boat finishes within this time limit the race will be abandoned.

15.2 A boat finishing after expiration of the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rule 35, A4 and A5.

### **16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

16.1 Protest forms are available at the race office located at the RSYS. Protests and request for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.

16.2 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings to which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located the RSYS Milson Room.

16.3 Notices of protest by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1 (b).

16.4 Breaches of Instructions 1.6, 11.3, 14.2, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 28 and 29 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1 (a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than DSQ if the Protest Committee so decides.

16.5 It is the sole responsibility of parties who protest to present themselves to the hearing with such witnesses as may be required.

## **17 SCORING**

17.1 The Low Point scoring system of the RRS Appendix A will apply.

17.2 Eight (8) races are scheduled.

17.3 Five completed races are required to constitute a series.

17.4 If six (6) or more races are completed, the worst score will be dropped, and if 5 races are completed, all scores will count, this changes RRS A2.

## **18 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

18.1 If a boat retires the helmsman shall be responsible for notifying the Race Committee Vessel or the RSYS Sailing Office as soon as possible after retiring.

## **19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

19.1 Substitution of crew will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee who shall verify eligibility and crew weight of the proposed substitute crew.

19.2 After measurement until completion of racing, no sail shall be re-cut or altered. Repairs to sails pursuant to all applicable rules are permissible only upon written approval of the Race Committee. All such sails may be subject to re-measurement on completion of repairs.

## **20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

20.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions which may include rule 43 and One Design Rules 7.1 and 7.2.

20.2 On the water, a boat can be instructed by the Race Committee or the Protest Committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

## **21 SUPPORT BOATS**

21.1 Coach and support boats must be registered with the Organising Authority prior to acting as a coach or support boat and shall be marked with identifying flags issued by the Organising Authority. Boats shall display identifying flags at all times while they are acting as a coach or support boat.

21.2 Competitors shall have no communication with, and boats shall not be tied to, coach or support boats from the first Warning Signal of the day until racing has been concluded for the day. Between races, coach and support boats shall not approach, communicate with or transfer provisions or equipment to or from their supported boats unless in a medical or emergency requirement threatening the health of the crew or the flotation of the boat and only with the expressed permission of the Race Committee.

21.3 Registered coach and support boats and their personnel shall stay at least 100 metres below the starting line from the time of the Preparatory Signal until five minutes after the start of any race. After this time, coach and support boats may then proceed parallel to the course on the starboard side of the course facing

the wind at a distance of at least 100 metres outside areas where boats are racing. No coach and support boats shall go above the weather marks or the Finishing Line (A) or below the leeward marks or Finishing Line (B) at any other time while boats are racing.

- 21.4 Any breach of SI 21.1, 21.2 or 21.3 by a coach or support boat may result in a penalty being applied to any or all boats serviced by that coach or support boat. The penalty may be disqualification or some other penalty as determined by the Protest Committee.
- 21.5 Coach and support boats shall, when requested by the Race Committee, tow or assist boats not associated with them. Coach and support boats will monitor VHF channel 69 and shall follow all instructions from the Race Committee.

## **22 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

- 22.1 All boats shall be afloat before 1800 hrs on Thursday 25 February and shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee.
- 22.2 All boats shall be moored in the RSYS / Careening Cove area for the duration of the series.

## **23 PLASTIC POOLS**

- 23.1 Plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around competing yachts between the close of registration and the end of the regatta.

## **24 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 24.1 This supplements but does not change RRS 2 and 41 for the IECA. All boats must carry a marine band VHF receiver capable of receiving and transmitting Marine VHF channels 69, 72, 73 and 77. Boats must use the radio to log on, to report retirement from racing, to notify the Race Committee of their intention to protest and may use the radio to request assistance in an emergency. The Race Committee may use the radio to advise competitors of race information. No other transmissions are permitted by competing boats during each race day from the first Warning Signal until racing has been concluded for the day.
- 24.2 **Log On.** All boats shall contact (log on with) the Committee Vessel, on VHF channel 69, from 40 minutes prior to the Warning Signal of the first race in which it intends to start, until the Warning Signal is displayed, and receive an acknowledgement. Each boat shall relay the following information, Sail Number and number of Persons on Board. Failure to do so will result in a boat being scored Did Not Compete. This changes rule 63.1. No race information is to be requested by yachts while logging on.
- 24.3 **Retirement Log Off.** All boats retiring from racing shall contact the Race Committee Vessel, on VHF channel 69, and log off.

## **25 PRIZES**

- 25.1 The following prizes shall be awarded:
- Regatta Winner – Perpetual trophy
  - First, second and third overall
  - Winner of Masters Division (skipper over 50 yrs)

- Winner of Grand Masters Division (total crew age if three on board 150 yrs or more, if four on board 200 yrs or more)
  - Other prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 25.2 Age for the Masters and Grand Masters Divisions is that applicable at midnight on Thursday 25 February 2010.
- 25.3 Prizes will be presented at the prize giving on the Careening Cove Terrace at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron as soon as practicable after racing on Sunday 28 February 2010.

## **26 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

26.1 **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.

### **26.2 Responsibilities**

- (a) All those taking part in these races do so at their own risk and responsibility. Specific attention is drawn to rule 4 which states; "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". The RSYS, sponsors, the Etchells Class Association, the Race Committee and other race officials are not responsible for any damage or injury either afloat or ashore.
- (b) The RSYS, sponsors, the Etchells 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.

## **27 INSURANCE**

27.1 Boats shall have adequate current Third Party Property Liability Insurance and Third Party Personal Liability Insurance cover maintained during the period of racing of not less than \$10,000,000 (ten million dollars) for any one incident.

## **28 COMMERCIAL SHIPPING**

28.1 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*".

28.2 Attention is drawn to the NSW Maritime requirement that all competitors must maintain a minimum distance of 500 metres from the bow of any ship (oil tankers and sea going

- cruise ships) and 200 metres from the bow of any ferry and no less than 30 metres from the sides/stern of any ship or ferry underway.
- 28.3 Boats found to have interfered with commercial shipping may be subject to action by the Race Committee in accordance with rule 60.2.
- 28.4 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.
- 28.5 Any yachts reported by NSW Maritime as having contravened NSW Maritime regulations shall be disqualified without a hearing, this changes rule 63.1
- 28.6 The attention of any competitors, involved in an accident 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.
- 29 RUBBISH**
- 29.1 Boats shall not put rubbish in the water. Bins will be provided on the RSYS Hardstand area.