



Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron and Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club Combined Sydney Harbour program 12 August 2023 to 6 April 2024.

The Organising Authority (OA) is the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS).

The notation '(NP)' in a rule of the sailing instructions means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a). '(DP)' denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee.

1. RULES

- 1.1 All racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the 2021-2024 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing and the Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations except as amended herein or in the notice of race.
- 1.2 (DP) Due to the handicap start a boat may use prohibited propulsion until four minutes prior to her starting time. A boat that uses prohibited propulsion after this time to arrive at the start line shall carry out a minimum 360 degree turn (including one tack & one gybe), keeping clear of all other boats, after ceasing to use such propulsion and before starting. This changes RRS 42.1.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be placed on the official notice board underneath the RSYS Careening Cove Room stairs and posted on the RSYS website.
- 2.2 A list of entries will be available to all entrants, and copies will be placed on the RSYS official notice board and posted on the RSYS website no later than two (2) hours before the start of the event.

3. CHANGES TO CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 The OA reserves the right to change the calendar of events and the sailing instructions. Changes will be available in writing to all entrants as per RRS 90.2.
- 3.2 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.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the RSYS club flag mast.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 Racing is scheduled as detailed in the calendar of events posted on the RSYS website.
- 5.2 The list of entries shall show each boat's scheduled starting time and division.
- 5.3 Due to changing sunset times race starting times will vary. The starting time of the limit boat will be:
 - **5 October to 2 November 2023, races 1 – 5:**
 - Divisions 1-4, no earlier than 1700 hours
 - Elliott class, 1745 hours
 - **9 November 2023 to 22 February 2024, races 6 – 19:**
 - Divisions 1-4, no earlier than 1730 hours
 - Elliott class, 1800 hours
 - **29 February - 21 March 2024, races 20 – 23:**
 - Divisions 1-4, no earlier than 1700 hours
 - Elliott class, 1745 hours
- 5.4 It is the responsibility of all boats to check their scheduled start times before each race.
- 5.5 The official time will be as per the Time and Date World Clock which can be accessed at <https://www.timeanddate.com/world-clock/australia/sydney> or as displayed on the homepages of the RSYS website and the RSYS App.
- 5.6 The Lady Skippers Race is scheduled for 7 March 2024, and the Sailing Office is to be notified of the lady skipper's name no later than 1500 hours on Thursday 7 March 2024. From four (4) minutes before a boat's start time until it finishes, a lady shall helm the boat. If the owner or the owner's representative is obliged to intervene, solely to avoid a collision, the boat must fly a protest flag at the first reasonable opportunity and report details to the race committee or the Sailing Office.



6. RACING AREA

- 6.1 Racing will be on the waters of Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) as illustrated in the Chartlet included in Appendix 3 – Harbour Marks, Buoys and Chartlet posted on the RSYS website.

7. COURSES

- 7.1 **Division 1:** Starting Line – N2(P) – LB – SM – Finishing Line. Approx. 7.5 nm.

Division 2: Starting Line – N2(P) – OB - SM – Finishing Line. Approx. 7.0 nm.

Division 3: Starting Line – N2(P) – SP – SM – Finishing Line. Approx. 6.5 nm.

Division 4: Starting Line – N2(P) – CBS – Finishing Line. Approx. 5.5 nm.

Elliott class: Races 1 - 5 Starting Line – N2(P) – SM – Finishing Line Approx. 4.5 nm

Races 6 – 20 Starting Line – N2(P) – NP – SM – Finishing Line Approx. 5.5 nm

Races 21 – 24 Starting Line – N2(P) – SM – Finishing Line Approx. 4.5 nm

- 7.2 Boats shall proceed to all marks shown in clause 7.1 above in the order listed and leave each mark on the required side.

- 7.3 Leave all marks to STARBOARD unless the mark is suffixed (P), which indicates the mark is to be left to PORT.

- 7.4 **Shortened Course** - indicated by flag S with two sound signals displayed from the club flag mast no later than five minutes before the start of the first boat. To assist competitors, an additional flag S may be displayed from the Careening Cove Anchorage Terrace. This changes RRS 32 and Race Signals:

In the event that a shortened course is signalled, the shortened course detailed below shall be sailed.

Division 1: Starting Line – N2(P) – NP – SM – Finishing Line Approx. 5.5 nm

Divisions 2 and 3: Starting Line – N2(P) – SM – Finishing Line Approx. 4.5 nm

Division 4 & Elliotts: Starting Line – N2(P) – PP – Finishing Line Approx. 3.1 nm

8. MARKS AND BUOYS

- 8.1 Marks and buoys will be as described in Appendix 3 – Harbour Marks, Buoys and Chartlet posted on the RSYS website.

9. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1 (NP DP) The following areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions. Boats infringing this clause will be subject to protest.

- a) **Other Starting and Finishing Lines** – the starting and finishing lines of another division or class or another club's race.
- b) **Cardinal Marks** – the areas bounded by cardinal marks.
- c) **Moorings** – mooring areas. Naval and shipping moorings are excluded from this clause.
- d) **Shark Island** – the areas between the AS Shark Island Mark (SM) and Shark Island or between Shark Island and the Shark Island light (north of Shark Island).
- e) **Garden Island and Chowder Bay** – the areas within the yellow markers in the vicinity of Garden Island or near the naval wharf in Chowder Bay..

10. HANDICAPS

10.1 Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4

- a) Handicaps will apply at the start and will determine the start time for each boat. Handicaps are subject to adjustment after each race has been finalised.
- b) When flag "S" is displayed in accordance with clause 7.4 above, race results will be calculated using TCF handicaps. The elapsed time will be based on each boat's official start time. The boat with the lowest corrected time will be scored first. This instruction shall not be subject to protest or constitute grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1 & 60.2.

10.2 Elliott class



TCF handicaps will be applied to the elapsed time of each boat after the finish. Handicaps may be adjusted after each race has been finalised.

11. THE START

- 11.1 The starting line will be located off the RSYS Clubhouse and will be between two (2) orange inflatable marks with the lettering RSYS. Boats are to pass between these marks in the direction of the first mark of the course.
- 11.2 There will be no warning or other starting signals displayed by the race committee. The warning signal for all boats is deemed to be made five (5) minutes before the first boat's scheduled starting time. The preparatory signal for all boats is deemed to be made four (4) minutes before the first boat's scheduled starting time and is deemed to be code flag I (India) as amended in clause 12.1. This changes RRS 26 and 30.1.
- 11.3 From the warning signal until five (5) minutes after the scheduled starting time of the last boat:
- the starting line and the area 50 metres either side is designated a prohibited area (obstruction) for boats that are not approaching the line to start, and
 - a boat not approaching the line to start shall keep clear of a boat that is approaching the line to start, and
 - RRS 19 (Room to Pass an Obstruction) does not apply at this obstruction if one of the boats is approaching the starting line to start. This changes RRS 19.1.
- 11.4 A boat which infringes clause 11.3 may be scored DSQ by the race committee without a hearing. This changes RRS 63 and Appendix A.

12. RECALL

- 12.1 RRS 30.1, the I Flag Rule, applies and is amended as follows. When any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line or one of its extensions during the last minute before her scheduled starting time, she shall sail across an extension of the line so that her hull is completely on the pre-start side of the starting line before she starts. There will be no visual or sound signals, except that to assist competitors, the race committee may advise recalled boats over VHF channel 73. This changes RRS 29.
- 12.2 A boat that infringes clause 12.1 and fails to return to the pre-start side of the starting line by sailing across an extension and restart to the satisfaction of the race committee will be scored OCS.
- 12.3 Any error or omission in the advice referred to in clause 12.1 will not be grounds for protest or redress.

13. RETIREMENT

- 13.1 (DP) Boats which retire from a race before finishing are required to notify the race committee by direct contact or on VHF channel 73 or by phoning the Sailing Office on 9017 0152.

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line will be located off the RSYS Clubhouse and will be between two (2) orange inflatable marks with the lettering RSYS. Boats are to pass between these marks in a westerly direction.
- 14.2 After she has finished, a boat shall not sail through the finishing line in either direction. A boat which infringes this clause may be scored DSQ by the race committee without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1.

15. TIME LIMIT

- 15.1 The absolute time limit for all races will be the official sunset time as detailed in Appendix 3 – Sunset Times posted on the RSYS website.
- 15.2 If one boat finishes within the time limit, all boats that have started and have not finished by the time limit will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 Protests are to be lodged in accordance with RRS 61, and requests for redress in accordance with RRS 62, as amended by clauses 16.2 and 16.3.
- 16.2 Protests and requests for redress shall be lodged in writing with the RSYS Sailing Office or by electronic means. If the RSYS Sailing Office is closed, protests and requests for redress may be placed in the Sailing Office letter box.



- 16.3 The time limit for the lodging of protests, and requests for redress based on an incident in the racing area, will be 1000 hours on the first working day after the race.
- 16.4 Protests will be heard at the RSYS on the following Tuesday unless otherwise decided by the race committee. The hearing time will be advised to the parties involved.
- 16.5 Any boat which lodges a protest or a request for redress and which is not represented at the protest hearing without informing the protest committee by 1000 hours on the day of hearing shall be scored DNE for the race to which the protest or request for redress related. This changes RRS 63.1 and 63.3(b).
17. **PRIZES**
- 17.1 Prizes will be awarded as per Appendix 11 – Prizes and Trophies posted on the RSYS website.
- 17.2 Prizes may be presented to eligible placegetters on the RSYS Careening Cove Anchorage Terrace after each race.
- 17.3 The overall series prize for Divisions 1 – 4 will be awarded at a presentation dinner at the RSYS on Thursday 4 April 2024.
- 17.4 Eligibility for the series prize will be subject to:
- Participation in 75% (17 races, rounded to the nearest whole number) or more of the Division 1 – 4 races.
 - Should a race be abandoned, all series competitors shall be considered a starter for the purposes of the competition.
 - Boats must be represented at the Thursday Twilight series presentation dinner to claim a prize. Boats not represented at the dinner will not be eligible for a prize.
18. **OTHER INSTRUCTIONS**
- 18.1 **NSW Roads and Maritime Services Regulations**
- 18.1.1 (NP) Boats shall not interfere with the Commercial or Defence shipping of the Port. The attention of skippers is drawn to NSW Roads and Maritime Services (NSW RMS) regulations regarding the right of way of vessels entering or leaving port, ferries displaying orange diamonds and vessels engaged in towing. NSW RMS regulations specify *“Priority over Sail – Some Ferries on Sydney Harbour display an orange diamond shape which grants priority of way over sailing vessels. Sailing vessels must keep a minimum distance from these ferries of:*
- 200 metres from the bow
 - 30 metres from sides or stern.
- Do not attempt to cross the path of an approaching ferry displaying this signal”.*
Attention is drawn to the guidelines published in the appendices posted on the RSYS website.
- 18.1.2 (NP) Boats found to have interfered with commercial shipping may be subject to action by the race committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.
- 18.1.3 (NP) All boats must abide by traffic directions of NSW RMS Boating Service Officers and NSW Port Authority. Any boat directed to stop or alter course by NSW RMS Boating Service Officers as a result of an anticipated breach of the above rules, incident/collision or complaint shall do so immediately.
- 18.1.4 (NP) Any boats reported by NSW RMS as having contravened NSW RMS regulations shall be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1. Any alleged infringement of this clause shall not be grounds for protest by another competitor. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 18.1.5 (NP) Reporting of Incidents - Competitors are required to notify the Sailing Office of any marine incident occurring during racing whether or not it results in a race protest or a report to NSW RMS. The attention of competitors involved in an accident is drawn to the requirements of NSW RMS published in Appendix 5 – NSW RMS Requirements in Case of Accident posted on the RSYS website.
19. **RESPONSIBILITIES**
- 19.1 The attention of all competitors is drawn to the responsibilities of owners and skippers as detailed in the notice of race clauses 18.1 – Risk Warning, 18.2 – Competitors’ Declaration, 18.3 - Disclaimer of Liability and 19.1 – Safety Requirements.