



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 Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS) and/or Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club (RPEYC).

The notation '(NP)' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for infringing 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 Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS) applicable to Category 7 or higher, except as amended herein or in the sailing instructions.
- 1.2 RRS 52 is amended so that electric winches and canting keels may be adjusted using the vessel's electrical system.
- 1.3 In the event of conflict between any of the rules or regulations, other than RRS, the sailing instructions will prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.

## 2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Sailing instructions for each series will be available on the respective club's website prior to the first race of the series.

## 3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 (DP) All boats shall carry an operating marine band VHF radio capable of receiving normal international channels. The radio shall be switched on at all times and tuned to the correct race committee frequency. The race committee intends to monitor the radio and communicate race information to competitors.
- 3.2 (DP) Boats are required to use the VHF radio to report retirement from racing and may use the radio to request assistance in an emergency. No other transmissions are permitted by competing yachts during each racing day from their warning signal until the completion of their race. This changes RRS 63.
- 3.3 The race committee and Sailing Office will monitor VHF channel 73 during inshore racing, VHF channel 74 during mini regattas and VHF channel 72 during offshore races.

## 4. ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 All boats shall have a valid AS Special Regulations Category 7, or higher, Equipment Audit Form. Equipment Audit Forms will expire on 30 June immediately following the date of the audit unless an extension is granted by the OA. In addition, all boats which do not have navigation lights permanently fitted are required to comply with AS Special Regulations 3.23.4 and carry portable navigation lights capable of being attached to the boat. 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.
- 4.2 Each crew member on boats competing in the Ladies Combined One Design division in the Tuesday Twilight series, the Elliott class in the Thursday or Friday Twilight series and the Sunday series shall wear a life jacket that complies with AS Special Regulations Category 7 at all times while on the water.
- 4.3 Skippers and crew who are not financial members of an AS recognized yacht club shall apply for and receive a valid Sail Pass from RSYS before racing to comply with RRS 46.
- 4.4 Boats shall be of mono-hull construction except entries from multi-hull boats may be considered for twilight events.
- 4.5 All boats starting in a race shall have a minimum of two (2) persons on board.
- 4.6 (DP) Etchells Class - The International Etchells Class Association of Australia and the International Etchells Sydney Fleet have agreed that M11 Etchells, whether or not they have completed the Protocol of Modifications, may race with the Sydney Etchells fleet in mini regattas and club championship events conducted by the RSYS and RPEYC. Reference to the Etchells class is deemed to include the M11 boats that have completed the M11 Protocol of Modifications.

## 5. ENTRY

- 5.1 Series Entries — Entries and payment of entry fees are to be made utilizing the online entry system which can be accessed via the RSYS website at [www.rsys.com.au](http://www.rsys.com.au).
- 5.2 For a valid entry, competitors shall:
  - complete the online entry,
  - accept the declaration detailed in the online entry,



- include the entry fee as detailed in the online entry system,
- lodge a valid Australian Sailing Special Regulations Equipment Audit Form,
- lodge a current insurance Certificate of Currency.
- lodge a current ORC Club Certificate, if appropriate,
- have satisfied the requirements of clause 9 of this notice of race in relation to skippers' briefings, and
- declare that the crew will at all times comply with the requirements of RRS 46.

**5.3** Casual Entries — All documentation listed above in clause 5.2 and payment of the entry fee must be finalized with the RSYS or RPEYC not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the start of the race, and for the Sunday series not later than 1500 hours on Friday prior to the race.

**5.4** (DP) A maximum of two (2) helmsmen may be nominated when entering.

**5.5** (DP) Any change of helmsman from those listed shall be notified to the RSYS Sailing Office not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race.

**5.6** Competitors intending to enter the Combined Clubs Inshore series, Short Ocean Point score (SOPS) series, the Etchells Worlds Qualifying series or the Combined Clubs Winter series should refer to the website of the conducting club for the respective notice of race.

**5.7** Entry in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 Main Season series point scores will include entry in the Combined Clubs' Inshore series point scores.

## **6. ENTRY FEES**

**6.1** Entry fees are detailed in the online entry system which can be accessed through the respective club's website.

## **7. ADVERTISING**

**7.1** (DP) (NP) All races governed by this notice of race are subject to the advertising code as set out in World Sailing Regulation 20 (World Sailing Advertising Code) and any restrictions stated in class rules.

## **8. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

**8.1** Racing for the 2023 - 2024 sailing season is scheduled to begin on 2 September 2023.

**8.2** The scheduled time of the first warning signal, unless notified otherwise, will be:

- 1230 hours for Spring (SPR) and Summer (SUM) series.
- 1230 hours for Yngling mini regattas.
- 1230 hours, or 1330 hours during daylight saving, for Etchells and J/70 mini regattas.
- 1350 hours for Wednesday (WED) series (preparatory signal).

**8.3** For the Tuesday Twilight (TUE) series the starting time of the limit boat will be no earlier than 1700 hours.

**8.4** For the Thursday Twilight (THU) series the starting time of the limit boat will be:

- 5 October to 2 November 2023, races 1 – 5:
  - no earlier than 1700 hours for divisions 1 – 4
  - 1745 hours for the Elliott class.
- 9 November 2023 to 22 February 2024, races 6 – 19:
  - no earlier than 1730 hours for divisions 1 – 4
  - 1800 hours for the Elliott class.
- 29 February - 21 March 2024, races 20 – 23
  - no earlier than 1700 hours for divisions 1 – 4
  - 1745 hours for the Elliott class.

**8.5** For the Friday Twilight (FRI) series the starting time of the limit boat will be:

- 6 October to 3 November 2023, races 1 – 5:
  - no earlier than 1700 hours for divisions 1 – 4
  - 1745 hours for the Elliott class.
- 10 November 2023 to 23 February 2024, races 6 – 18:
  - no earlier than 1730 hours for divisions 1 – 4
  - 1800 hours for the Elliott class.



- 1 - 22 March 2024, races 19 – 22
  - no earlier than 1700 hours for divisions 1 – 4
  - 1745 hours for the Elliott class.

8.6 For the Sunday Twilight (SUN) series, the starting time of the limit boat will be no earlier than 1600 hours.

8.7 Full details of fixtures are detailed in the calendar of events posted on the respective club's website.

8.8 Impact of the Sail GP Event, 24-25 February 2024 — Advice from NSW Maritime about planned exclusion zones on Sydney Harbour indicates that the starting times for the club races scheduled for Saturday 24 February may need to be brought forward so that racing can be concluded before the exclusion zone becomes effective. Details of changes to the starting times will be advised closer to the event.

## 9. SKIPPERS' BRIEFING

9.1 RSYS will conduct briefings at 1800 hours on Tuesday 15 August and Thursday 24 August 2024. It is compulsory for the skipper or the person in charge of each boat entered to attend one of these briefings and register on the night by signing the attendance sheet. There will be provision for skippers or persons in charge, who are unable to attend a briefing in person, to register through the sailing office and request an online link to satisfy briefing requirements after the prescribed dates. Entries will not be accepted for any race or series conducted by RSYS without satisfactory evidence that a skipper or person in charge has attended a briefing or completed an online briefing.

## 10. DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

10.1 The OA reserves the right to create or delete classes or divisions depending on entries received and with reference to entries for the previous season. As a general guide, five (5) entries with regular participation may be required for boats to compete as a separate class or division.

10.2 For Divisions 1, 2 and 3, the first race of the Sydney Harbour Regatta on 2 March will be included as a point score race in the RSYS Main and SUM point scores.

10.3 The Club Championship series (ECC) is for the Etchells class on designated dates in the SPR and SUM series.

10.4 The Mini Regatta series is open to entries from the Etchells, J/70 and Yngling classes. The Sailing Committee may add classes to or delete classes from the Mini Regatta series at its discretion.

10.5 For the Etchells class, the Mini regatta on 2 March will be included as part of the Sydney Harbour Regatta.

10.6 Tuesday Twilight series includes:

- A Ladies Non-spinnaker division
- An Open Non-spinnaker division
- A Ladies Combined one design division - spinnakers may be flown.

10.7 Thursday and Friday Twilight series include:

- Open Non-spinnaker divisions
- An Elliott Non-spinnaker division

10.8 Sunday Twilight series includes:

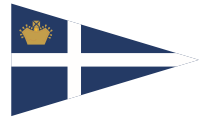
- An Open Non-spinnaker division.
- An Open Spinnaker division - spinnakers may be flown.

10.9 Boats competing in the Tuesday Ladies Non-spinnaker division, Tuesday Open Non-spinnaker division, Thursday or Friday Twilight series, Sunday Open Non-spinnaker division or the RPEYC Wednesday series shall not 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. Elliotts competing in the Friday Twilight series shall not fly spinnakers and shall not pole out jibs.

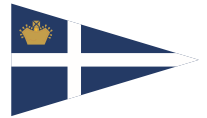
## 11. HANDICAPS

11.1 A Performance Handicap System (PHS) will be used based on a Time Correction Factor (TCF) which is applied at the finish, except as amended by the sailing instructions for the TUE, THU, FRI and SUN Twilight series. Handicaps may be adjusted after each race has been finalised.

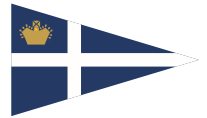
11.2 The race committee will determine a boat's handicap in relation to its performance in previous races and the division to which a boat is allocated. Such determinations shall not be subject to protest or grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1 & 62.



- 11.3 If a boat is disqualified, its handicap may not be adjusted.
- 11.4 If a boat is granted redress and the finish time is amended by a protest committee, a new handicap may be generated.
- 11.5 Boats in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 intending to be scored in the ORC Club in the Main, SPR or SUM series shall hold a current ORC Club Certificate which shall be lodged with the RSYS Sailing Office not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the start of the first race in which the boat intends to be scored. Racing under ORC Club is an additional option to the PHS used by the club, and it is the owner's responsibility to obtain and lodge an annual ORC Club Certificate each season to be eligible.
- 12. RACING AREA**
- 12.1 Racing will be on the waters of Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) as displayed in the chartlet included in Appendix 3 – Harbour Marks, Buoys and Chartlet posted on the RSYS website.
- 13. COURSES**
- 13.1 The courses shall be as described in the sailing instructions for each series.
- 14. PENALTY SYSTEM**
- 14.1 In addition to the penalties at the time of the incident in accordance with RRS 44.1 and 44.2, boats may also take a 30% Post Race Penalty in accordance with RRS Appendix T by notifying the sailing office.
- 14.2 RRS Appendix T Arbitration may be applied by the protest committee. Arbitration may take place promptly after racing or at some other time as advised to the parties. Arbitration may take place by email, telephone or other electronic means.
- 14.3 RRS 44 is amended herein for the Etchells, J/70 and Yngling classes competing in the mini regattas and Etchells competing in the Club Championship series. RRS 44.1 is amended for the Etchells, J/70 and Yngling classes 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) and applies to infringements against other boats in the same race, 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). For infringements against any boat in another race the Two-Turns Penalty applies. This changes RRS 44.
- 15. SCORING**
- 15.1 The Low Point System, RRS Appendix A, including the provisions of Appendix A5.3, applies to all series except the Thursday and Friday Twilight series, subject to the amendments detailed in clause 15.2 below and those detailed in the respective sailing instructions for each series and in Appendix 12 – Schedule of Discards posted on the RSYS website.
- 15.2 All series point scores are open to series entries only. No boat will be eligible to enter a series point score after the number of discard races for that series point score has been sailed. This changes RRS Appendix A2.2.
- 15.3 Boats competing in other events – Upon prior written application to the RSYS Sailing Committee a boat which competes in its State, National or World Championship or an event of significant national or interclub importance, as determined by the Sailing Committee, may receive average points for any series race/s thereby missed. The number of races eligible will be determined by the Sailing Committee. This changes RRS 62. Average points will be calculated as per RRS Appendix A9(a).
- 15.4 All boats entered in a mixed division point score and which enter SOPS races involving the Gascoigne Cup, Morna Cup or Milson Memorial Cup will receive points for any series race thereby missed equal to the boat's average points.
- 15.5 To be eligible for series point scores, boats shall sail under the same ownership and be entered for the whole of that series except that an owner of a one design class boat who has entered for the season and who purchases a replacement boat of the same class during the season may on written application to RSYS Sailing Committee prior to using the replacement boat request the boat nominated when entering be changed to reflect the replacement boat.
- 16. SAIL NUMBERS**
- 16.1 Sail numbers shall comply with RRS 77 and the AS Prescription to RRS Appendix G which require sail numbers to be of a contrasting colour to the body of the sail and clearly legible. A boat infringing this rule may not be recorded as a finisher and may be scored DNF.
- 16.2 A boat shall sail under the sail number advised when entering and shall display identical sail numbers on its sails. Where the RRS require spinnakers to display sail numbers, they shall be the sail numbers stated when entering.
- 16.3 A request to use any sail displaying a different number shall be submitted to the Sailing Office not later than two (2) hours before the start of the race.



- 16.4 (DP) A boat which displays an incorrect sail number and which has not submitted a request to the Sailing Office in accordance with clause 16.3 may be subject to protest by the race committee.
- 16.5 J/70 class boats, if requested by the OA, shall display bow numbers which will be allocated by the J/70 class association and supplied by the OA.
17. **CHANGES AFFECTING PERFORMANCE**
- 17.1 (DP) Any changes to hull, propeller, trim, spars, sail area or significant changes to onboard skill level shall be notified in writing to reach the RSYS Sailing Office not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race affected by the changes; Sunday Twilight series not later than 1500 hours on the Friday prior to the race; and to the RPEYC for the WED series not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race. This may result in a change of handicap, and a boat failing to comply may be subject to action by the race committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.
- 17.2 (DP) When rating changes apply, the altered rating certificate shall be lodged with the RSYS Sailing Office not later than 1500 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.
18. **RESPONSIBILITIES**
- 18.1 **Risk Warning** — The OA advises owners, skippers and anyone who participates in yachting events conducted by the OA 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 OA is not responsible for any harm or injury suffered by any person in any sailing event of whatever nature conducted by the OA. All participants acknowledge that competing in sailing 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.
- 18.2 **Competitors Declaration** — It is the responsibility of owners and skippers to ensure that each boat nominated complies with the 'rules' as defined in the RRS. The owner or person who enters the boat declares to the OA that the nominated boat will at all times while racing comply with the requirements of Australian Sailing, this notice of race and the sailing instructions and that the owner or person who enters the boat:
- warranting to the OA that he or she will draw the attention of any person who competes on the boat the subject of the entry in any event conducted by the OA to the risk warning above, and
  - acknowledging receipt of the risk warning above and releasing the OA from any claim or liability whatsoever for any harm or personal injury suffered by him or her, or by any person claiming through him or her, in any event conducted by the OA, and
  - declaring to the OA that the nominated boat has not been grounded during the past twelve (12) months.
- 18.3 **Disclaimer of Liability**
- All those taking part in these races do so at their own risk and responsibility. Specific attention is drawn to RRS 3 which states;  
"The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". The OA, sponsors, respective class associations, the race committee and other race officials are not responsible for any damage or injury either afloat or ashore.
  - The OA, sponsors, respective class associations, 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.
  - All those taking part in these races are reminded of their obligations as set out in the Australian Sailing Special Regulations clause 1.02 Responsibility of the Person in Charge.
19. **OTHER INSTRUCTIONS**
- 19.1 **Safety Requirements** — To ensure that rescue, medical and ambulance authorities can be properly informed as needed, all boats are **required encouraged** to provide crew contact details (including the skipper) in the Sailsys race management system prior to the boat's first warning signal on each day that the boat intends to race.
- 19.2 (NP) (DP) RSYS registered boats should clearly display the RSYS racing pennant at all times while racing. Boats registered with other clubs should display the racing pennant or flag of the club with which they are registered. Racing pennants are displayed to assist competitors distinguish between boats from other clubs when on the racecourse.
- 19.3 Boats shall not carry anchors protruding beyond the bow while racing.



- 19.4** Skippers and crew are required to be appropriately dressed at all times while racing. The minimum standard of dress is shorts and t-shirt.
- 19.5** The RSYS encourages sustainable racing by avoiding: single use water bottles, printing race documents, and one-off race promotion materials, etc. The RSYS provides water bottle refilling stations and recycling bins on the hardstand area.
- 19.6** Competitors' attention is drawn to Appendix 5 – NSW RMS Requirements which outline the reporting of incidents involving injuries to any person or damage to boats.
- 19.7** Competitors' attention is drawn to Appendix 13 – Race Committee which outlines the composition of the race committee referred to in this notice of race and the sailing instructions and sets out guidelines for race committees to consider when deciding whether racing should proceed or be abandoned.
- 20. INSURANCE**
- 20.1** 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. All insurance cover shall be maintained during the period of racing, and it is the owner's responsibility to ensure a current Certificate of Currency is lodged.
- 21. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS**
- 21.1** In participating in these events, a competitor automatically grants to the OA and the sponsors of these events the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live taped or film television and other reproductions of him/her during the period of the competition for the said events in which the competitor participates and all material related to the said events without compensation.
- 22. PRIZES**
- 22.1** RSYS & RPEYC prizes and trophies will be as described in Appendix 11 – Prizes and Trophies as detailed on the RSYS website. Prizes and trophies will be presented at the respective clubs' annual prizegiving functions, except where the respective sailing instructions state otherwise.
- 23. FURTHER INFORMATION**
- 23.1** For further information please contact the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron Sailing Office by phoning (02) 9017 0152 or emailing [sailing@rsys.com.au](mailto:sailing@rsys.com.au).