



Cowes yacht club



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

CLUB RACES

FOR "TRAILABLE YACHTS" AND "OFF THE BEACH BOATS"
TO BE HELD OVER THE SAILING SEASON AS SPECIFIED IN THE CYC CALENDAR.
ORGANISING AUTHORITY: COWES YACHT CLUB (CYC)

1. RULES

The race will be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009 – 2012* and the *Yachting Australia Special Regulations*.

The racing rules will be modified in accordance with Rule 86 as follows:

- Part 4 preamble – Rule 40 applies at all times while afloat when code flag 'Y' is flown.
- Rule 26 – starting signals and DNS for late starting boats
- Rule 32 – shortening course
- Rule 35 – time limits and DNF for late finishing boats
- Rule 44.1 – penalties for multihulls changed from 720° to 360°.
- Rule 66.1(a) – the red flag exemption applies to all boats.
- Rule 66.2 – the time allowed for a request to reopen a hearing is reduced to 30 minutes.
- Rules A4 & A5 – scoring: late start DNS, late finish DNF & mean series points if on duty.

2. SAFETY

All Off the Beach boats must comply with the safety regulations specified in *Yachting Australia Special Regulations Part 2 for Off the Beach Boats*.

All Trailable Yachts must comply with Category 6 safety regulations specified in the *Yachting Australia Special Regulations Part 1 for Racing Boats* with the following inclusions:

- 3.07.4 Removable hatches to have locks and lanyards
- 3.24.3 Engine, permanently installed or outboard
- 3.24.4 Outboard motors for trailable boats, to be mounted at all times
- 3.24.5(a) Engine to provide minimum speed into 12 knot headwind
- 3.25 VHF or 27 MHz transceiver installed as specified
- 4.21.1 Lifebuoy or other approved device with drogue (no light for daylight race)
- 4.23.1 Heaving line accessible to cockpit

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the upstairs whiteboard.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to the Sailing Instructions that are not specific to a particular race will be noted on the club website, www.cowesyachtclub.com, and the revised Sailing Instructions posted there.

Any change in the sailing instructions for a particular race will be posted on the upstairs whiteboard no later than the race briefing, and code flag 'L' will be flown from the CYC flagpole with one sound signal.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Flag signals made ashore will be displayed from the CYC flagpole. Light signals will be made with the three lights under the eaves to the west of the race control tower. Sound signals will be made with a hooter.

When code flag 'Y' is displayed with one sound signal all competitors are required to wear PFDs at all times while afloat. This changes the Part 4 preamble.

6. BRIEFING

There will be a briefing on the first floor of the Club not less than 30 minutes before the scheduled race start time.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

The details of the dates and start times of the club races can be found on the CYC Calendar. The club races do not include the Marathoner's Race, the Cock of the Bay, the Tasar/Pacer challenge, the Triangular Series, the Westernport Challenge (OTB or TY) or the Southern Westernport Challenge.

8. DIVISIONS

There will be three divisions:

DIVISION	ELIGIBILITY	CODE FLAG
A	Off the beach catamarans	Numeral 1
B	Trailable yachts and monohull off the beach boats with handicaps under 131	Numeral 2
C	Boats with handicaps of 131 or greater	Numeral 3

9. RACING AREA

The racing area will be on the waters of Westernport Bay within 1.5 nautical miles of the club.

10. THE COURSE

The course will be defined by the Race Officer on the day and written on the upstairs whiteboard. The courses for the different divisions will be different numbers of laps of the same common course. Courses for the New Year A series races will be a common course for all divisions, with as many laps as possible completed in the nominated time. Guidance on the courses for the different series is provided in Addendum A.

11. MARKS

The start/finish mark will be the yellow conical 8 km/h buoy off CYC or an inflatable buoy placed less than 100 m to the north of this.

Other marks of the course will be set by the Race Officer of the day.

12. THE START

The start line will be between the start/finish mark and the centre line of the CYC race control room. Races will be started with the following signals. This changes Rule 26.

SIGNAL	LIGHTS AND SOUND	MINUTES BEFORE START
Warning	3 lights	5
Preparatory	2 lights	4
One minute	1 light	1
Starting	0 lights and hooter	0

There will be only one start, with all the divisions combined into a single start.

Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.

A boat starting later than 15 minutes after her starting signal will be scored "Did Not Start".

This changes Rules A4 & A5.

13. SHORTENING COURSE

Courses may be shortened by displaying code flag 'S' on a mark of the course. If a numeral pennant is displayed as well then only the course for that division is shortened.

When the code flag 'S' is displayed on a mark the next, and final, leg of the course is from the mark with the code flag 'S' directly to the finish line. This changes Rule 32.

14. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between the start/finish mark and the centre line of the CYC race control room.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

For multihulls, Rule 44.2 is changed so that the 720o turn is replaced by a 360o turn.

As provided in Rule 67, the protest committee may, without a hearing, penalise a boat that has broken Rule 42.

16. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for a division is three hours after the start of that division, or 60 minutes after the first boat in that division finishes, whichever is the later. All boats finishing outside these time limits will be scored "Did Not Finish". This changes Rules 35, A4 & A5.

17. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

Protest forms are available at the race office of Cowes Yacht Club. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat to finish. This changes Rule 66.2.

Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit on the upstairs notice board adjacent to the race control room of CYC to inform competitors of the hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

Hearings will be held at Cowes Yacht Club at a time to be advised. A quorum for the Protest Committee shall be three people.

18. SCORING

The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A shall apply.

A skipper who is performing race control or patrol boat duty for a race, rather than sailing in that race, shall be given a series score for the race of their mean points score for the series. This changes Rules A4 and A5.

Points from the club races (with the exception of the Summer Series, Junior & Lady Skipper races, TY races and Sternchaser) and the Cock of the Bay count towards the club championships. Triangular series and TY WPC results will also be included for TYs.

19. HANDICAPS

Unless otherwise specified, handicaps will be based on the Yachting Victoria yardsticks and CBH using the conversion of yardstick = 80.30 / CBH will be used for the calculation of corrected time and the boat's corrected time will be used to determine her finishing place.

The Summer Series races will use handicapped yardsticks. The process for this is outlined in Addendum B. The New Year A series races will be scored based on the boat's elapsed time for the number of completed whole laps of the course divided by the number of completed whole laps.

The Sternchaser will have different start times for boats dependent on their handicapped yardstick.

Finishing places will be determined by the order in which boats finish the race.

All other club races will be scored based on the boat's elapsed time divided by the number of laps of the common course relevant for her division.

20. SIGN ON / SIGN OFF

The skipper of a boat must sign on at CYC by making an entry in the sign on/off book that will be upstairs near the whiteboard. This may be done any time between two hours before the first start and the warning signal for the first start.

The skipper of a boat must sign off at CYC by completing the entry in the sign on/off book. This must be done within 30 minutes of the boat finishing.

A boat that retires shall sign off as soon as is practical and not more than 30 minutes after returning to the club.

Trailable yachts may sign on/off by radio if the radios are being monitored and if the sign on/off is acknowledged. This is to be done to call sign VJ3CK on VHF channel 16 or 27.88 MHz and then changed to the nominated working frequency.

21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

22. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all other boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. The intention of this rule is to ensure that no external assistance or information is available to individual boats.

23. PRIZES

For each race pennants will be presented to the first place skipper provided that there are at least two boats that finish the race, to the second place skipper provided that there are at least four boats that finish the race and to the third place skipper provided that at least six boats that finish the race.

First, second and third place-getters in each series will receive a trophy.

First place trophies will be presented to the winners of the Junior and Lady Skipper races.

A line honours trophy will be presented to the winner of the Sternchaser.

The winner and runner up for the club champion, in the monohull, TY and catamaran sections, will receive trophies.

24. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in races entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.” The Organising Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the race.

25. INSURANCE

Each participating boat or skipper in charge of the boat must be insured with Marine Third Party insurance legal liability cover to a minimum level of \$5,000,000 per event or the equivalent.

ADDENDUM A – GUIDANCE ON COURSES

The courses for the New Year A, New Year C and Summer A series should be short, preferably within 0.5 nautical miles of the Club.

The courses for the Spring, Christmas, New Year B and Summer B series should be long, preferably with leg lengths of at least 1 nautical mile.

The New Year A series races consist of as many laps as possible within a 1 hour race time.

ADDENDUM B – YARDSTICK HANDICAPPING PROCESS

Handicapped yardsticks are to be used for the Summer series races and for the calculation of start times for the Sternchaser.

Details to be completed.