
Western Port Challenge & Younger Set Western Port Challenge
for "Off the Beach" Boats
Organised by Yachting Western Port in conjunction with
Cowes Yacht Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1** The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the Australian Sailing (AS) Prescriptions, the Special Regulations Part 2 for off-the-beach boats and the rules of the respective classes shall apply.
- 1.2** The Racing Rules will be modified in accordance with RRS 86(1)(b) to read as follows.
- **RRS 26** timing of signals is as specified in SI 11.1
 - **RRS 29** starting of a recalled division will be changed as specified in SI 11.2
 - **RRS 32.2** Shortening the course will be changed as specified in SI 8.2
 - **RRS 33** Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal as specified in SI 8.4
 - **RRS 35** Time Limits will be changed so that all boat finishing outside time limits will be scored DNF.
 - **RRS 44.1** Taking a Penalty. Two-Turns penalty will be changed to One-Turn penalty for multi-hulls.
 - **RRS A4.1** Scoring. A boat starting 15 minutes later than her starting signal will be scored DNS as specified in SI 11.6.
 - **RRS 60.1(a)** will be changed as specified in SIs 16.5 and 16.6
 - **RRS 61.1(a)**. The red flag exemption applies to all boats.
 - **RRS 66**. The time allowed for a request to reopen a hearing is reduced to 30 minutes as specified in SI 16.7.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board(s) located downstairs at Cowes Yacht Club.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1** Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than 60 minutes prior to the scheduled time of the Warning Signal for the first start.
- 3.2** An information session will be held on the day of the race 1 hour before the scheduled start time at Cowes Yacht Club.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1** Signals made ashore will be displayed from the CYC flagpole on the west side of the control tower.
- 4.2** When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 15 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1** The warning signal for the first start will be at **13:00 hours** on **Saturday 11 January 2020**.

Re-sail (if necessary): **Sunday 19 January 2020**, First Warning Signal at **13:00 hours**.

- 5.2** To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.3** No warning signal will be made after **15:00 hours** on the race day.

6 DIVISIONS

The race will be conducted in Divisions. The Divisions and their respective flags are:

Division	Hull Type	Yardstick	Numeral Pennant
Division 1	Multihulls	Less than 88	One
Division 2	Multihulls	88 and above	Two
Division 3	Monohulls	Less than 119	Three
Division 4	Monohulls	119 to less than 131	Four
Division 5	Monohulls	131 and above	Five

7 RACING AREA AND PORT RULES

- 7.1** The racing area will be on the waters of Western Port in the vicinity of the Cowes Yacht Club.
- 7.2** The racing area lies within the proclaimed commercial shipping zone of Western Port. Port Rule 62B for Victorian Proclaimed Ports, including the waters of Westernport, requires small vessels IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES to keep clear of Commercial Shipping. No exceptions will be tolerated, boats found to have contravened this Rule will be subject to disqualification.

8 THE COURSE

8.1 The course is triangular. The diagram in **Attachment A** shows the course, including: the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

8.2 The course for each or all Divisions may be shortened, in which case Flag 'S' will be displayed by an Official boat in the vicinity of a rounding mark. The flag for each Division for which the course is shortened will be displayed before the leading boat of that Division rounds or passes the mark, accompanied by two sound signals. Boats of that Division will complete the course as shortened for the leading boat by rounding or passing that mark and then proceeding to the finish line in accordance with SI 13. A Flag 'S' displayed with no Division flags will mean that the course has been shortened for all divisions

8.3 Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 33.

9 MARKS

9.1 Marks of the course will be inflatable buoys as follows:

Start Mark/Mark 3	Marks 1 & 2	Finish Mark (Mark F)
Purple cylindrical inflatable buoy (if closest mark to shore), or Yellow cylindrical inflatable buoy	Purple cylindrical inflatable buoy (if closest mark to shore), or Yellow cylindrical inflatable buoy	Orange cylindrical inflatable buoy

9.2 The course rounding mark that is closest to shore will be purple so to be distinguishable from the multiple Victoria Parks yellow 5 knot buoys on the shoreline.

9.3 For avoidance of doubt, the **Start Mark** is **Mark 3** and the **Finish Mark** is **Mark F**.

10 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1 The following area is designated as an obstruction:

- For all Divisions except Division 5, the 5 knot inshore regulated zone bounded by the Parks Victoria 5 knot yellow buoys between Mussel Rocks on the east and the Anderson Street boat ramp on the west.

10.2 Yachts must not exceed 5 knots within the Parks Victoria 5 knot inshore regulated zones. The zone boundaries are marked by Parks Victoria 5 knot yellow buoys. This restriction includes while racing (except for Division 5 boats) and all boats transiting to and from the Cowes shore. Boats found to have contravened this requirement will be subject to disqualification.

11 THE START

11.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26:

- 3 minutes: Warning Signal, division number flag for that division raised
- 2 minutes: Preparatory flag raised
- 1 minute: Preparatory flag removed
- 0 minutes: Division start, division number flag for that division removed.
- The warning signal for each succeeding division will be the start signal of the preceding division.

11.2 Races will be started in the order of divisions 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. In case of a general recall for any division, the recalled division will not be restarted until the sequences for all other divisional starts have been completed.

11.3 In the interest of timely racing, some divisions may be combined into one start.

11.4 The starting line will be in the vicinity of Mark 3 and be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat at the starboard end, and Mark 3 (Start Mark) at the port end. The race committee boat may stream a barging buoy, which will be considered an extension of the race committee boat.

11.5 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

11.6 A boat starting later than 15 minutes after her starting signal will be scored "Did Not Start" (DNS). This changes RRS A4.1.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 No changes to the course will be made after the start of the first division.

13 THE FINISH

13.1 The finishing mark (Mark F) will be as described in SI 9.1. The finishing line will be in the vicinity of Mark 3 and will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Start Boat, and Mark F.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 For the Multi Hulls, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

15 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

15.1 The time limit for a division is three (3) 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" (DNF). This changes RRS 35 and A4.1.

16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

16.1 Protest forms are available at the race office, located at the race office of Cowes Yacht Club. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

16.2 The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the last boat has finished.

- 16.3** Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. These notices will also be communicated on that day for posting on the notice boards of participating clubs whose members are named in the protest. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at Cowes Yacht Club, beginning at the time posted. Competitors and witnesses named may participate by phone.
- 16.4** Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 16.5** Breaches of instruction 17 (Scoring) will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for this breach may be the subject of a protest by the race committee.
- 16.6** Breaches of instructions 11.5, 18, 20 and 21 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.
- 16.7** A request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.
- 17 SCORING**
- 17.1** The course for each division is a specified number of laps.
- 17.2** For the **Western Port Challenge**, each boat's Elapsed Time will be adjusted for the time taken for the leg from leeward mark to the finish by using the time taken on that leg by a selected boat and adjusted by the respective yardstick, to give an Elapsed Time for the laps sailed. This time will be corrected to give a Yardstick Corrected Time for the number of laps sailed.
- 17.3** Each boat's Yardstick Corrected Time will then be corrected to 4 laps.
- 17.4** A Multi-hull Correction Factor will be calculated using the fastest 5 monohulls and 5 multi-hulls.
- 17.5** The Scoring for each boat entered will be as follows:
DNC will not be included as an entrant.
DNS, OCS, DNF, RAF, and DSQ will be allocated a corrected time equal to the last boat overall.
- 17.6** Each club's score will be average of its Yardstick Corrected Times excluding time of:
1 boat for every 3 boats after 7, then 1 boat for every 2 boats after 28 starters.
e.g. 6 (0 drop), 7-9 (1 drop), 10-12 (2 drops), 13-15 (3 drops), 16-18 (4 drops), 19-21 (5 drops), 22-24 (6 drops), 25-27 (7 drops), 28-29 (8 drops), 30-31 (drops), 32-33 (10 drops), 34-35 (11 drops), cont...
- 17.7** Entrants of clubs that cannot field a team of sufficient numbers to qualify for a team score, may nominate another club for their scores to contribute to as a joint result. This must be indicated on individual entries.

- 17.8** The Club or joint club team with six (6) or more entrants and the lowest average time is the winner. A club that has less than six (6) boats rank as entrants will not qualify as a Club entry, but the boats will be eligible for individual prizes.
- 17.9** For those also entered in the Younger Set Western Port Challenge the Yardstick Corrected Times will be calculated as in instructions 17.1, 17.2, 17.3, 17.4, 17.5.
- 17.10** For the Younger Set Western Port Challenge, each club's score will be the average of its Yardstick Corrected Times excluding times discarded as follows:
- | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|---|---|------------|
| Entrants | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 11+ |
| Discards | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | all over 6 |
- 17.11** The Club with 3 or more entrants and the lowest average time is the winner. If less than three (3) boats rank as starting for a Club, that Club will not qualify

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1** Each club will nominate and assign a "Home Race Officer" (HRO) and contact details of each HRO (name, mobile and email address) will be provided to the Host Club no later than 17:00 hours on **Friday, 10 January 2020** by email (admin@cowesyachtclub.com).
- 18.2** The HRO will ensure any boats sailing to the host club have signed on at their club before sailing to the host club for the race. Also the HRO will ensure that all boats who signed on have returned and signed off. The HRO will also inform the host Club Race Officer that all boats (including Official Boats) have returned and signed off either by contacting CYC Race Control on **VHF CH 73** or by phone to the Club ((03) 5952 2330).
- 18.3** Racing for the day will be postponed to the re-sail date (or abandoned if on the scheduled re-sail day) if a Gale Force or higher warning issued by the Bureau of Meteorology is current on the morning the race is scheduled.

SIGN ON and SIGN OFF

- 18.4** Sign On ashore at the Host Club is required for all entrants.
- 18.5** A boat that retires from the race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible
- 18.6** All Boats, including those that retire, are required to sign off at the end of the race, by:
- signing the Sign Off sheet at the Cowes Yacht Club within 30 minutes of the last boat to finish; or
 - making a verbal declaration to an Official Boat flying a blue flag lying to windward of the finishing mark. This must be done by sailing close to and hailing the Official Boat, and ensuring that a clear acknowledgement is received back from that boat. The acknowledgement will comprise the sail number of the boat signing off being repeated and the raising of code flag 'C'. This alternative does


not apply to any protesting boat, or a boat subject to protest. These boats must proceed ashore and Sign Off.

18.7 A boat which fails to sign on or sign off in accordance with SIs 18.3 or 18.4 may be scored DNF at the discretion of the Host Club Race Officer.

18.8 Before the race, the Host Club Race Officer will check that all entered boats from each club have signed on. After the race the Host Club Race Officer will remain on duty until each club confirms that all competitors from that club have returned.

19 OFFICIAL BOATS

Official boats will be marked as follows:

- Start Boat and Sign Off Boat- the Cowes Yacht Club burgee 
- Mark Boats and Rescue Boats – official burgee of the Club to which the boat belongs.

20 RUBBISH DISPOSAL

Rubbish may be placed aboard official boats.

21 RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make voice or data transmissions while racing nor receive voice or data communications not available to all boats..

22 PRIZES

Prizes will be presented at the next AGM of Yachting Western Port as follows:

22.1 The Western Port Challenge Shield to the winning club.

22.2 The Western Port Challenge Younger Set Trophy to the winning club of the Younger Set race.

22.3 The Rod Johnson Memorial Trophy. This will be awarded to the club with the best all junior crew. Requires a minimum of three boats and all crew members must be under 16 years on **11 January 2020**.

22.4 The overall winner of divisions 1 and 2 will be awarded the Western Port Challenge Multi-hull Shield.

22.5 The overall winner of divisions 3, 4 and 5 will be awarded the Western Port Challenge Mono-hull Shield.

22.6 For each division, in both the Western Port Challenge and the Western Port Younger Set Challenge, individual prizes will be awarded to each of the crew in a boat, subject to the number of boats in a division as follows:

- a) if there are 5 boats or more -first, second and third;
- b) if there are 4 boats -first and second;
- c) if there are 3 boats-first only.

There will be no individual prize if there are less than three boats in a division

- 22.7** Individual prizes will be awarded to each of the crew of the leading boat with a lady skipper, and each of the crew of the leading boat with a junior skipper (under 16 on **11 January 2020**).

23 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 23.1** Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing 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 event.

- 23.2** Each competitor should note the indemnity that is granted to the Host Yacht Club and the Organizing Authority on completing the Entry Form.

24 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$5,000,000 per incident or the equivalent and details of the policy must be provided on the Entry Form.

ATTACHMENT A

Proposed Course

Division 1 Start-123-123-123-123-F (Finish)

Division 2 Start-123-123-123-123-F (Finish)

Division 3 Start-123-123-123-123-F (Finish)

Division 4 Start-123-123-123-F (Finish)

Division 5 Start-123-F (Finish)

Marks 1, 2, 3 & F, will be kept to port

