



Western Port Challenge & Younger Set Western Port Challenge for "Off the Beach Boats"

To be held on **13th January 2024**

Re-sail, if required, **21st January 2024**

Organising Authority: Cowes Yacht Club

to be held at **Cowes Yacht Club**

NOTICE OF RACE

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The Australian Yachting Special Regulations Part 2 for Off the beach boats, the rules of the respective classes, except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions
- 1.3 The racing rules will be modified in accordance with RRS 86 as follows.
- RRS 35 Time Limits will be changed so that all boats finishing outside time limits will be scored DNF.
 - RRS 44.1 Taking a Penalty. 720° will be changed to 360° for multi-hulls.
 - RRS Appendix A5 Scores determined by the race committee. A boat starting 15 minutes later than her starting signal will be scored DNS.
 - 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.
- 1.4 Appendix T Arbitration shall apply

2 RACE OFFICERS

The Host Club will nominate a Host Club Race Officer to coordinate sailing and racing activities on behalf of the Organising Authority.

- 2.1 Each club with sailors entering the event will nominate a Home Club Race Officer to:

- be the primary contact between the Host Club and the Home Club
- undertake home club information sessions,
- coordinate boats sailing to and from the event
- manage sign-on/sign-off process at the home club
- Email sign on sheets to Cowes by 11:30am (sailing@cowesyachtclub.com)
- Check that boats are using the sail rig as entered.
- coordinate checking and confirmation of draft results

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 The object of the Westernport Challenge is to bring together as many members of Westernport Yacht Clubs as possible for mutual enjoyment and friendly competition.
- 3.2 Entries will be accepted from "Off the Beach" boats, which are registered with Westernport Clubs affiliated with Australia Sailing. Each competitor must be a financial sailing member of one of those clubs. A competitor may select to sail

for an eligible club that is not their home club provided that they are a member of an eligible club.

- 3.3 Sail Pass members are **NOT** eligible.
- 3.4 Entries shall be made online through the Cowes Yacht Club website by midnight on Wednesday 10th January 2024.
- 3.5 For entries after midnight Wednesday an additional late fee will be charged. (See NoR 4)
- 3.6 **Entries close at 20:00 Friday 12th January 2024.** Entries made after this time may be disallowed at the discretion of the Host club Race Officer.
- 3.7 Incorrect or incomplete entries may be disallowed at the discretion of the Host Club Race Officer.
- 3.8 Each boat must have a defined yardstick accepted by Australia Sailing. This list will be the Australian Sailing current or archival Yardstick list plus those accepted by Cowes Yacht Club. Boats without such a defined yardstick can only enter by prior arrangement with the Race Committee. The onus rests with the entrant to provide satisfactory evidence of the boat's yardstick to the Race Committee, not less than seven days prior to the race.
A Pacer that is not rigged with a spinnaker will be allocated a yardstick of 130.8, a Pacer Pursuit will be allocated a yardstick of 117.
- 3.9 A competitor from each boat must "sign on" on the sheets provided at Host YC before 1230 hrs OR, alternatively, a boat may sign on at the member's home club before 1200 hrs. Boats not correctly signed on in accordance with this instruction may be scored DNS.
- 3.10 Each boat or skipper in charge of a boat must have valid racing insurance that provides sufficient third-party legal liability cover. (See NoR 13). The Entry Form includes a declaration to this effect.
- 3.11 To be eligible for the Western Port Challenge Shield a club must have 6 or more entrants. Three or more entrants are required to be eligible for the Western Port Challenge Younger Set Shield.
- 3.12 Advertising will be permitted according to Category C.
- 3.13 The skipper in charge of a boat that has an alternative sail rig and chooses to sail with a different rig on race day than was entered shall notify the host club of the change before racing commences.
- 3.14 Entries can be made by following link

www.cowesyachtclub.com/events/220313/

or use the following QR code



4 FEES

4.1 Required fees are as follows:

The entry fee will be \$20 per boat

4.2 A late entry fee of \$30 in total, to be paid if entry is submitted after midnight Wednesday 10th January 2024.

5 SCHEDULE

5.1 The Host Race Officer will hold a race information session at Cowes Yacht Club at 12:00 on the day of the race. The Home Club Race officers may hold information sessions at their home club on race day prior to boats sailing to Cowes.

5.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the race is 13:00 on 13th January 2024.

5.3 If a re-sail is required the scheduled time of the warning signal is 13:00 on 21st January 2024.

6 MEASUREMENT

All boats are required to conform to their class association rules, but no measurement checks will be performed as part of this regatta.

7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available not later than 6th January 2024 on the Cowes Yacht Club Website.

8 RACING AREA

The racing area will be on the waters of Western Port in the vicinity of Cowes Yacht Club

9 THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be triangles as described in the Sailing Instructions.

10 PRIZES

10.1 Individual prizes are subject to the number of starters in each category as stated in the Sailing Instructions.

The list of prizes and the award conditions will be stated in the Sailing Instructions. Prizes and awards include:

- The Westernport Challenge Shield
- The Westernport Younger Set Trophy; (skipper & crew under 21 years on Saturday 13th January 2024)
- Rod Johnson Memorial Trophy; (Best Junior Club Team under 16 years on Saturday 13th January 2024)
- The Westernport Challenge Multihull Shield;
- The Westernport Challenge Monohull Shield;
- The overall Female Skipper;
- The overall Junior Skipper; under 16 on Saturday 13th January 2024
- The competitors in boats placed first, second, and third in each division; and
- The competitors of the Younger Set who are first, second, and third in each division.

11 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, 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 regatta.

12 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

13 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10 million per incident or the equivalent.

14 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Michael Hart, Rear Commodore Cowes Yacht Club at 03 5659 2122 or sailing@cowesyachtclub.com