



Sydney Harbour Combined Clubs Inshore Series 2023-2024

Sailing Instructions

The Organising Authority (OA) is the Middle Harbour Yacht Club (MHYC), Manly Yacht Club (MYC), Royal Australian Naval Sailing Association (RANSA), Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club (RPEYC), Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS) and Vaucluse Yacht Club (VYC).

The race committee referred to in the notice of race and these sailing instructions will consist of one representative from each participating club.

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 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS) as amended.
- 1.2 All boats shall have a current 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. 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.
- 1.3 These sailing instructions take precedence for MHYC, MYC, RANSA, RPEYC, RSYS and VYC season point score races scheduled for 16 September, 21 October, 18 November, 9 December 2023, 20 January, 17 February and 16 March 2024.
- 1.4 In the event of conflict between any of the rules or regulations, other than RRS, the sailing instructions will prevail. This changes 63.7.

2 CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted by 1000hrs on the day of the race. Any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800hrs on the day before the race.

3 COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice boards located at MHYC, MYC, RANSA, RPEYC, RSYS and VYC. Notices will also be available on each club's website.
- 3.2 The race committee intends to monitor VHF channel 73 and will use the radio to advise competitors of race information.
- 3.3 (DP) Boats which retire from a race before finishing are required to notify the race committee on VHF channel 73, or by phoning the conducting club. Contact numbers can be located in clause 19 of these sailing instructions.
- 3.4 (DP) No other transmissions are permitted by competing yachts during each racing day from the first warning signal until the end of the race except in an emergency.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at MHYC, MYC, RANSA, RPEYC, RSYS and VYC on the clubs' flag masts.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 The following races are scheduled:

Date	Race	Race Committee
Sat 16 September	Race 1	RSYS
Sat 21 October	Race 2	RPEYC
Sat 18 November	Race 3	MHYC/MYC
Sat 9 December	Race 4	RSYS/VYC
Sat 20 January	Race 5	RANSA
Sat 17 February	Race 6	RSYS
Sat 16 March	Race 7	MHYC

6 START TIME & CLASS FLAGS

6.1 The scheduled time of the warning signal for each division and the respective division flags are:

Scheduled Time	Division	Flag Displayed
1250 hrs	Division 1	Q
1255 hrs	Division 2	K
1300 hrs	Division 3	R
1305 hrs	Non-Spinnaker Division	F

6.2 Boats intending to race are required to report to the committee vessel with their mainsails hoisted and on starboard tack before the first warning signal of the day and receive acknowledgement. Failure to observe this requirement may result in a boat being scored DNC.

7 RACING AREA

Racing shall be conducted on Sydney Harbour.

8 COURSES

8.1 Course descriptions are as described in Addendum 1.

8.2 The course to be sailed will be indicated by the appropriate numeral pennant.

8.3 Boats shall proceed to all marks of the course in the order listed and leave each mark on the required side.

8.4 All marks are to be passed to STARBOARD unless the mark is suffixed (P), which indicates the mark is to be passed to PORT.

9 SHORTENED COURSE

9.1 In the event of the course being shortened before the start, flag S will be displayed with the course signal with two sound signals. Boats are to proceed directly to the finish line after leaving the mark indicated by an asterisk (*) in the courses listed in Addendum 1.

9.2 In the event of the course being shortened after the start, the committee vessel will display flag S with two sound signals at a rounding mark in accordance with RRS 32.

10 MARKS

10.1 Mark descriptions as per Addendum 2.

11 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

11.1 (NP) (DP) The following areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions. Boats infringing this instruction may be subject to protest:

(a) **Other Starting and Finishing Lines** – the starting or finishing lines of another division 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.

12 THE START

- 12.1 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the committee vessel and the course side of an orange or red inflatable buoy marked with MHYC, MYC, RANSA, RPEYC, RSYS or VYC. The committee vessel will be identified by the burgee of the conducting club.

13 RECALLS

- 13.1 To assist competitors, the race committee may advise individual and general recalls over VHF 73 This changes RRS 29.1 and 29.2.
- 13.2 Any error or omission in the advice referred to in clause 13.1 above will not be grounds for protest or redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finish line will be between the staff displaying a blue flag on the committee vessel at the starboard end of the line and the course side of an orange or red inflatable buoy marked with MHYC, MYC, RANSA, RPEYC, RSYS or VYC.

15 TIME LIMIT

- 15.1 The absolute time limit will be 1730 hours.
- 15.2 If one boat finishes within the time limit, all boats that have started and 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 16.2, 16.3 and 16.4 below.
- 16.2 Protests and requests for redress shall be lodged in writing in person or by electronic means with the conducting club of the day.
- 16.3 The time limit for the lodging of protests or requests for redress involving an incident in the racing area will be 1000 hours on the first working day after the event. This changes RRS 61 and 62.
- 16.4 Protests and requests for redress will be heard at the clubhouse of the duty or conducting club on the following Wednesday unless otherwise decided by the Combined Clubs' race committee. The hearing time will be advised to the parties involved.

17 NSW ROADS and MARITIME SERVICES REGULATIONS

- 17.1 (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 Commercial Ferries on Sydney Harbour display an orange diamond shape which grants priority of way over sailing vessels. Do not attempt to cross the path of an approaching ferry displaying this signal.*" Boats found to have interfered with commercial shipping may be subject to action by the race committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.
- 17.2 (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.
- 17.3 (NP) Any boats reported by NSW RMS as having contravened NSW RMS regulations shall be disqualified without a hearing. This amends RRS 63.1. Any alleged infringement of this clause shall not be grounds for protest by another competitor.
- 17.4 Competitors are required to notify the duty club (MHYC, MYC, RANSA, RPEYC, RSYS or VYC) of any contact incident occurring during racing whether or not it results in a race protest or a report to NSW RMS. MHYC, MYC, RANSA, RPEYC, RSYS and VYC are obliged under the terms of their Exemption Orders to prepare a report of all contact incidents occurring during racing whether or not injury or an insurance claim results.

18 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 18.1 The attention of competitors is drawn to the responsibilities of owners and skippers as detailed in the Notice of Race clauses 15.1 - Risk Warning, 15.2 - Competitors Declaration, 15.3 - Disclaimer of Liability and 16.1 - Safety Requirements.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

- MHYC email: sailing@mhyc.com.au or telephone: (02) 9969 1244
- MYC email: sailing@myc.com.au or telephone: (02) 9977 4949
- RANSA email: sailing@ransa.com.au or telephone: (02) 9363 9939
- RSYS email: sailing@rsys.com.au or telephone: (02) 9017 0152
- RPEYC email: sailing@rpeyc.com.au or telephone (02) 9363 5809
- VYC email: vacluseyachtclub@gmail.com or telephone (02) 9337 5775