



Amended Sailing Instructions for the Sydney Harbour Regatta 1 - 2 March 2025.

The Organising Authority (OA) is Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS) and/or Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club (RPEYC).

The notation '(NP)' in a rule of the sailing instructions means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking 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 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing and the Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations except as amended herein or in the notice of race.

## 2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices will be posted online at [www.shr.mhyc.com.au/racing/notices-to-competitors.html](http://www.shr.mhyc.com.au/racing/notices-to-competitors.html) Printed copies of the notices may also be posted on the noticeboard located at Middle Harbour Yacht Club or on the noticeboards of participating clubs.

## 3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board at least 2 hours before the scheduled start time of the first race for which they will take effect.

3.2 Any changes to Sailing Instructions made afloat will be indicated by the display of the 3rd Substitute accompanied by two sound signals. The change will be communicated verbally on the designated course VHF Channel and/or displayed on the Course Area Race Committee Vessel.

3.3 Changes to the schedule of races will be posted on the Official Notice Board before 2000hrs on the day preceding the race concerned and may also be posted on [www.shr.mhyc.com.au](http://www.shr.mhyc.com.au).

## 4. SPECIAL SIGNALS

4.1 Flags N over A over Second Substitute with three sounds indicates racing for classes competing in the mini regatta has been abandoned for the day. This changes RRS 27.3 and Race Signals.

## 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Six (6) races are scheduled for the Yngling, Dragon, Farr East 28R, J/70 and VX-One classes, with up to three races each day.

5.2 Two (2) races are scheduled for the Etchells class on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

5.3 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race in each class will be:

- International Yngling class: 1230 hours
- International Dragon class: 1235 hours
- The Farr East 28R: 1240 hours
- International J/70 class: 1245 hours
- The VX-One class: 1250 hours
- International Etchells class: 1300 hours.

## 6. CLASS FLAGS

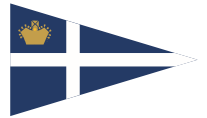
6.1

- International Yngling class: Yngling Insignia on a white field
- International Dragon class: Dragon Insignia on a white field
- The Farr East 28R: International Code Flag "O"
- International J/70 class: J/70 Insignia on a white field
- The VX-One class: VX-One Insignia on a white field
- International Etchells class: Etchells Insignia on a white field

6.2 After the start of the first race of each day all other races will start as soon as practicable after completion of the previous race.

## 7. RACING AREA

7.1 Racing will be on the waters of Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) with the starting area communicated to competitors via VHF radio channel 74.



## 8. THE COURSE

8.1 The diagram below shows the approximate course configuration. Mark 1 will be to windward of marks 3P/3S, and mark 1a will be an offset mark approximately 50 metres from mark 1. Marks 2 and 2a will be to leeward of marks 1 and 1a, and mark 2a will be an offset mark approximately 50 metres from mark 2. Marks 3P/3S are a gate and will be approximately 50m to windward of the starting and finishing lines. The diagram shown is not drawn to scale.

### 8.2 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS for the Etchells and Farr East 28R and VX-One Class

8.2.1 One Lap

START – 1 – 1a – FINISH

8.2.2 Two Laps

START – 1 – 1a – 3P/3S – 1 – 1a – FINISH

8.2.3 Three Laps

START – 1 – 1a – 3P/3S – 1 – 1a – 3P/3S – 1 – 1a – FINISH

### 8.3 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS for J/70s, Ynglings and Dragon Class

8.3.1 One Lap

START – 2 – 2a – FINISH

8.3.2 Two Laps

START – 2 – 2a – 3P/3S – 2 – 2a – FINISH

8.3.3 Three Laps

START – 2 – 2a – 3P/3S – 2 – 2a – 3P/3S – 2 – 2a – FINISH

8.4 Marks 1, 1a, 2 and 2a shall be left to port.

8.5 In the event that mark 1a or mark 2a is not in place, boats shall leave the single mark to port.

8.6 Marks 3P/3S are a gate. When a boat passes through the gate it shall leave either mark 3P to port or mark 3S to starboard.

8.7 In the event that either mark 3P or mark 3S is not in place, boats shall leave the single mark to port.

8.8 Number of laps – the number of laps shall be indicated by the corresponding numeral pennant displayed no later than the warning signal for each race.

8.9 The approximate compass bearing of the first leg will be displayed no later than the warning signal for each race.

## 9 MARKS

9.1 Marks 1, 1a, 3P and 3S will be yellow inflatable marks with the lettering RSYS.

9.2 Marks 2 and 2a will be an orange inflatable marks with the lettering RSYS.

9.3 The start and finish marks will be black and white checked inflatable marks with the lettering RSYS.

9.4 New marks as provided in clause 13 will be yellow or orange inflatable marks with the lettering RSYS and black bands.

## 10 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1 (NP) (DP) The following areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions. Boats infringing this rule will be subject to protest:

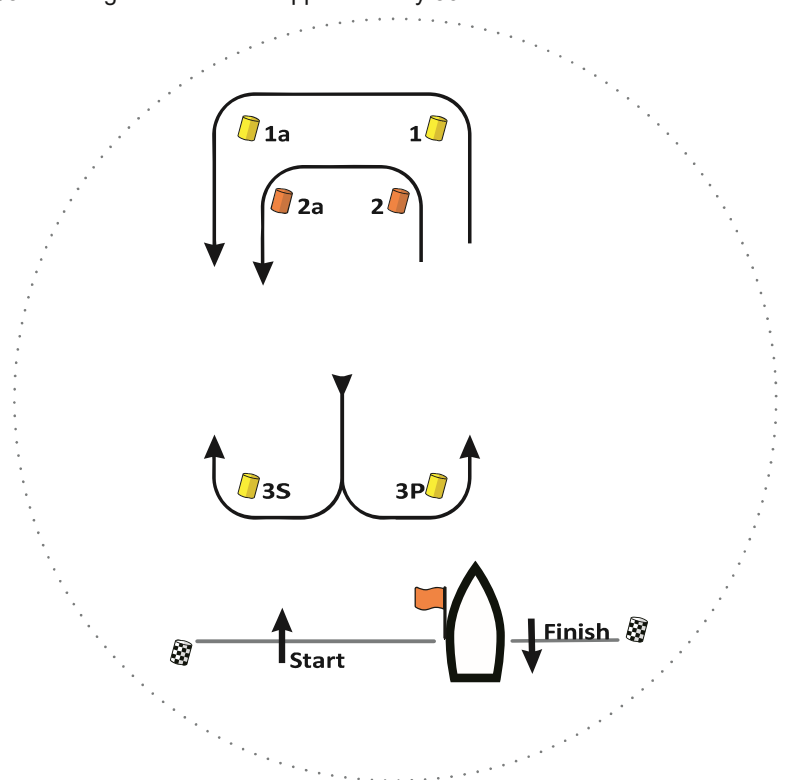
(a) **Other Starting and Finishing Lines** – the starting or finishing line of another class or division or another club's race.

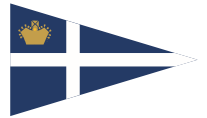
(b) **Cardinal Marks** – the areas bounded by cardinal marks.

(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** – boats shall not sail within the yellow markers in the vicinity of Garden Island or near the naval wharf in Chowder Bay.





## **11 ASSISTANCE IN RECORDING STARTERS**

11.1 Boats are requested to sail past the starboard side of the committee vessel prior to their starting sequence for their first race to assist identification of starters in all events. In so doing, boats must keep clear of boats already in their starting sequence or in the process of finishing.

## **12 THE START**

12.1 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel at the starboard end of the line and the course side of the start mark at the port end.

12.2 The start sequence for each class in each race will be a separate procedure. The race committee may advise over VHF channel 74 starting times and sequences prior to the warning signals for races.

12.3 The race committee may change the line by moving one of the starting line marks up to the lowering of the preparatory flag. This changes RRS 27.2.

12.4 A boat starting later than (4) minutes after her starting signal may at the discretion of the race committee be scored DNS.

12.5 (DP) Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.

12.6 There may be more than one committee vessel on the water. It is the obligation of each skipper to identify the location of the mini regatta committee vessel.

12.7 At least five (5) boats from a class will be ready to start each race or racing for that class may be abandoned for the day.

## **13 RECALLS**

13.1 The race committee may advise individual and general recalls over VHF channel 74. This changes RRS 29.

13.2 When a black flag or flag U has been displayed, and there is no general recall, any boat identified as BFD or UFD may be advised on VHF channel 74. This changes RRS 30.3 and 30.4.

13.3 Any error or omission in the advice referred to in clauses 13.1 and 13.2 above will not be grounds for protest or redress.

## **14 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

14.1 The race committee may change the position of the next mark in accordance with RRS 33 subject to the amendments in clauses 14.2 and 14.3.

14.3 When the next leg of the course is changed, the race committee will lay a new mark(s) as described in clause 8.4 and remove the original mark(s) as soon as practicable.

14.4 In the event that the position of Mark 1 or Mark 2 is changed, Marks 1 and 1a may be replaced by a new single Mark 1, and Marks 2 and 2a may be replaced by a new single Mark 2. Boats will round the new Mark 1 or Mark 2 as appropriate and proceed directly to Marks 3P/3S or to the finishing line as appropriate. Similarly, in the event that the position of Marks 3P/3S is changed and there is only one new mark in place, boats shall leave the single mark to port.

## **15 RETIREMENT**

15.1 (DP) Boats which retire from a race before finishing are required to notify the race committee by direct contact or on VHF channel 74 or by phoning the Race Officer on 0418 645 032.

## **16 THE FINISH**

16.1 The finishing line will be between the staff displaying a blue flag on the committee vessel and the course side of the finish mark.

16.2 When the committee vessel is on station, it will be on the starboard end of the line when viewed from Mark 1a or Mark 2a.

## **17 TIME LIMIT**

17.1 The absolute time limit for all races will be 90 minutes. Any boat finishing after this time will be scored DNF.

17.2 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.

## **18 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

18.1 Protests shall be lodged at the MHYC Office within 90 minutes of the finish time of the last boat in the protesting boat's Class or Division in the last race of the day. Protest forms are available from the MHYC Regatta Office or online on the event website. Protests may be lodged in person or by email to [sailing@mhyc.com.au](mailto:sailing@mhyc.com.au).



18.2 Notification of the details of protest hearings will be placed on the Official Notice Board as soon as possible to inform competitors when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a protest or named as a witness. All hearings shall take place in the Commodore's Room at MHYC. These notices are deemed to fulfil the requirements of RRS 63.1. Representatives of boats who are parties to hearings, and their witnesses, are advised to remain on call in the vicinity of the MHYC (or any other place as directed by the protest committee).

17.3 In accordance with RRS 60.5(c), for a breach of a rule of RRS Part 2, the protest committee may award a disqualification or a scoring penalty. For all other rules the penalty shall be at the discretion of the protest committee which may include no penalty.

## 18 ARBITRATION

18.1 For protests involving an alleged breach of the rules of Part 2 of the RRS, an arbitration hearing may be held prior to a protest hearing in accordance with RRS Appendix T.

18.2 The arbitrator may be a member of any subsequent protest committee or may observe and give testimony to the protest committee. This changes RRS 63.3(a).

## 19 SCORING

19.1 The Low Point System, RRS Appendix A, applies including the provisions of RRS Appendix A5.2.

## 20 OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

### 20.1 NSW Roads and Maritime Services Regulations

20.1.1 (NP) Boats shall not interfere with the Commercial or Defence shipping of the Port. The attention of skippers is drawn to 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 Ferries on Sydney Harbour display an orange diamond shape which grants priority of way over sailing vessels. Sailing vessels must keep a minimum distance from these ferries of:*

- 200 metres from the bow
- 30 metres from sides or stern.

*Do not attempt to cross the path of an approaching ferry displaying this signal".*

20.1.2 (NP) Boats found to have interfered with commercial shipping may be subject to action by the race committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.

20.1.3 (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.

20.1.4 (NP) Any boats reported by NSW RMS as having contravened NSW RMS Regulations shall be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1. Any alleged infringement of this clause shall not be grounds for protest by another competitor. This changes RRS 60.1.

20.1.5 (NP) Reporting of Incidents - Competitors are required to notify the Sailing Office of any marine incident occurring during racing whether or not it results in a race protest or a report to NSW RMS. The attention of competitors involved in an accident is drawn to the requirements of NSW RMS published in Appendix 5 – NSW RMS Requirements in Case of Accident posted on the RSYS website.

## 21 RESPONSIBILITIES

21.1 The attention of all competitors is drawn to the responsibilities of owners and skippers as detailed in the notice of race clause 16, Disclaimer of Liability.