

**7 October to 28 October 2016 - Races 1 – 4**

**Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron and Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club Combined Sydney Harbour program  
03 September 2016 to 29 April 2017**

**1. RULES**

- 1.1 All racing will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016 (RRS) of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) except as amended herein.
- 1.2 All boats must carry an operating marine band VHF radio capable of receiving normal international channels. The radio must be switched on at all times and tuned to VHF Channel 73.
- 1.3 Boats shall not carry anchors protruding beyond the bow while racing.
- 1.4 RRS 52 is amended so that it does not apply for the adjustment and operation of sails or the adjustment of movable appendages on any boat.
- 1.5 Due to the handicap start a boat may use prohibited propulsion until 5 minutes prior to her starting time. A boat that uses prohibited propulsion after this time to arrive at the start line shall carry out a minimum 360 degree turn (including one tack & one gybe), keeping clear of all other boats, after ceasing to use such propulsion and before starting (amends RRS 42.1).
- 1.6 In the event of conflict between any of the *rules* or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing Instructions will prevail.

**2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board underneath the Careening Cove Room stairs at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron

**3. CHANGES TO CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1 The Organising Authority reserves the right to change this Handbook, the Calendar of Events and the Sailing Instructions. Changes will be available in writing to all entrants as per RRS 90.2.
- 3.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 1000hrs on the day it will take effect. Any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800hrs on the day before it will take effect.

**4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at RSYS on the Club flag mast.
- 4.2 Flag AP with two sounds indicates the race is postponed. The first Warning Signal will be made not less than thirty (30) minutes after the AP is lowered (amends RRS Race Signals)

**5. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 5.1 Racing is scheduled as detailed in the Calendar of Events included in this Handbook.
- 5.2 The starting time for all Audi Alto Artarmon Friday Intermediate Elliott Twilight races is **1800hrs**.
- 5.3 There will not be any warning or other starting signals displayed by the Race Committee. It is the responsibility of each boat to start no earlier than its official starting time. The illumination of the blue transit lights on the Careening Cove Terrace indicates the Race Committee is in attendance (amends RRS26).
- 5.4 The official time will be available from the Sailing Office, or from the Race Officials, or by dialling the Telstra Recorded Time Service on 1194.

**6. RACING AREA**

- 6.1 Racing will be on the waters of Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) as illustrated by the Chartlet attached.

**7. COURSES**

- 7.1 Intermediate Twilight Course for Races 1 – 4: **Starting Line – N2(P) – SI – SM – Finishing Line**. Approx. 4.5 miles
- 7.2 Boats shall proceed to all marks shown in clause 7.1 above in the order listed and leave each mark on the required side.

7.3 Pass all marks to STARBOARD unless the mark is suffixed (P), which indicates the mark is to be passed to PORT.

7.4 **Shortened Course** – indicated by Flag S displayed from the Club flag mast no later than five minutes before the start of the first boat. To assist competitors, an additional Flag S may be displayed from the Careening Cove Terrace. In the event that a shortened course is signalled, the relevant shortened course detailed below shall be sailed: (Amends RRS 32 and Race Signals)

Shortened Intermediate Twilight Course for Races 1 – 4: **Starting Line – N2(P) – PP(P) – Finishing Line.**

## 8 MARKS AND BUOYS

N2 Naval Buoy No. 2 – Approximately 250m North West of Clark Island

SI Shark Island – Summit of Shark Island and the lighthouse north of Shark Island

SM Shark Island Mark – AS (YA) buoy approx. 10m south east of the south cardinal mark off Shark Island (leave Shark Island to starboard)

PP Point Piper Mark – AS (YA) buoy north of Point Piper

## 9. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

9.1 **Cardinal Marks** – boats shall not sail within the area bounded by Cardinal Marks. These areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions.

9.2 **Moorings** – boats shall not sail within mooring areas. These areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions. Naval and shipping moorings are excluded from this clause.

9.3 **Shark Island** – boats shall not sail between the AS (YA) Shark Island Mark (SM) and the cardinal mark south of Shark Island in either direction. This area is prohibited and deemed to be a continuing obstruction.

9.4 **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. These areas are prohibited and deemed to be continuing obstructions.

## 10. POSTPONEMENT AND ABANDONMENT

10.1 Postponement and abandonment signals as described in RRS 27.3, 32 and Race Signals will be displayed on the Club flag mast. (Amends RRS 27.3 and 32)

## 11. THE START

11.1 The Starting Line will be located off the RSYS Clubhouse and will be between two (2) orange inflatable buoys with the lettering RSYS. Boats are required to pass through these marks in the direction of the first mark of the course.

11.2 Boats are requested not to pass through the Starting Line unless they are officially starting. A boat that infringes this clause may be subject to a penalty as detailed in 13.2 below.

11.3 **Starting Courtesy.** The starting area should be kept clear except for boats within five minutes of their start time. Skippers preparing to set sails or practising starting manoeuvres should be aware of their potential to interfere with boats starting. It is recommended that skippers prepare for racing in the area to the east of the start line.

11.4 At all times boats shall avoid interfering with the Neutral Bay ferry service.

## 12. RECALL

12.1 There will be no recall signals. It is the responsibility of each boat to determine whether she is over the Starting Line before her starting time. (Amends RRS 29)

12.2 A boat that infringes clause 13.1 above, and fails to restart to the satisfaction of the Race Committee, will be recorded as OCS

## 13. RETIREMENT

13.1 To assist the Race Committee, boats which retire from a race before finishing are required to notify the Race Committee by direct contact or on VHF Channel 73 or by phoning the Sailing Office on 9017 0152.

## **14. THE FINISH**

- 14.1 The Finishing Line off the RSYS Clubhouse will be the extension of the transit of two blue lights, one mounted on the right most chimney of the clubhouse and one mounted above the Careening Cove Terrace.
- 14.2 The limits of the Finishing Line will be the blue circular reflectors mounted on Kurraba Point and an orange inflatable mark laid east of the Neutral Bay ferry lanes. The orange mark may not be precisely on the transit described in 15.1 above.
- 14.3 When finishing, boats shall cross the Finishing Line from the direction of the last mark of the course leaving the orange mark to port.
- 14.4 At all times boats shall avoid interfering with the Neutral Bay ferry service.

## **16. TIME LIMIT**

- 16.1 The absolute time limit for all races will be the official sunset time as detailed in the 2016-2017 Season Sailing Handbook.
- 16.2 If one boat finishes within the time limit, all boats that have started and have not finished by the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF), (amends RRS 35).

## **17. SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

- 17.1 Spinnakers are not permitted. Headsails may be poled out but must be tacked to the foot of the forestay and fully hanked or attached to the forestay by a luff groove device.

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

- 18.1 Protests are to be lodged in accordance with RRS 61 as amended by 18.2, 18.3 and 18.4 below.
- 18.2 Protests should be lodged on the ISAF prescribed form available from the respective clubs. All protests shall be lodged at the RSYS Sailing Office.
- 18.3 If the RSYS Sailing Office is closed, protests may be placed in the Sailing Office letter box.
- 18.4 The time limit for the lodging of protests will be 1000 hours on the first working day after the event (amends RRS 61).
- 18.5 Protests will be heard at the clubhouse of the conducting club on the following Wednesday unless otherwise decided by the relevant Race Committee. The hearing time will be advised to the parties involved.
- 18.6 Requests for Redress shall be in accordance with RRS 62.
- 18.7 Any boat which lodges a protest and which is not represented at the protest hearing without informing the protest committee by 1000 hours on the day of hearing shall be scored DNE for the race to which the protest related (amends RRS 63.1 and 63.3 (b)).

## **19. PRIZES**

- 19.1 Weekly prizes for each race will be presented to the eligible winner on the RSYS Careening Cove Terrace after the finish of each race.
- 19.2 Audi Alto Artarmon Friday Intermediate Elliott Twilight participants are not eligible for series prizes.

## **20. OTHER INSTRUCTIONS**

- 20.1 No litter shall be disposed of overboard.
- 20.2 Yachts shall not interfere with the Commercial or Defence shipping of the Port. The attention of skippers is drawn to Roads and Maritime Services regulations regarding the right of way of vessels entering or leaving port, ferries displaying orange diamonds and vessels engaged in towing. Roads and Maritime Services 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”*. Attention is drawn to the guidelines published in the appendices of this Handbook.
- 20.3 Boats found to have interfered with commercial shipping may be subject to action by the Race Committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.
- 20.4 All yachts must abide by traffic directions of NSW RMS Boating Service Officers. Any yacht 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.
- 20.5 Any yachts reported by Roads and Maritime Services as having contravened Roads and Maritime Services

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.

20.6 The attention of any competitors, involved in an accident, is drawn to the requirements of Roads and Maritime Services as published in Appendix 4 of this Handbook. Competitors are also required to notify the Sailing Office of any contact incident occurring during racing whether or not it results in a Race Protest or a report to Roads and Maritime Services. RSYS is obliged under the terms of its Aquatic Licence to prepare a report of all contact incidents occurring during racing whether or not injury or an insurance claim results.

## 21. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 21.1 **Risk Warning** - The Organising Authority advises owners, skippers and anyone who participates in yachting events conducted by the Organising Authority that participation in the sport of yachting, whether racing or otherwise, can be dangerous and can result in harm, personal injury and property damage. The Organising Authority is not responsible for any harm or injury suffered by any person in any yachting event of whatever nature conducted by the Organising Authority. All participants acknowledge that competing in yachting events may be dangerous and may result in harm or personal injury and they participate in such events aware of such dangers and voluntarily accept any risk of harm.
- 21.2 **Competitors Declaration** – the attention of all competitors is drawn to the responsibilities of owners and skippers as detailed in clause 22.2 of the Notice of Race.
- 21.3 **Disclaimer of Liability**
- (a) All those taking part in these races do so at their own risk and responsibility. Specific attention is drawn to RRS 4 which states; "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". The RSYS, RPEYC, sponsors, any Class Association, the Race Committee and other race officials are not responsible for any damage or injury either afloat or ashore.
  - (b) The RSYS, RPEYC, sponsors, any Class Association, the Race Committee and other race officials are not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.
  - (c) All those taking part in these races are reminded of their obligations as set out in the Yachting Australia Special Regulations clause 1.02 Owner's Responsibility.

