



Harbour Trek

Saturday 25th October 2025

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



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SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1.0 RULES

- 1.1 The races will be governed by the current versions of:
- the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing ("RRS")
 - the prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing ("Special Regulations");
 - the Middle Harbour Yacht Club Requirements ("MHYC Requirements")
 - the Notice of Race (NoR),
- except as any of these are modified by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 The attention of competitors is drawn to the MHYC Requirements which are referenced throughout the NoR and these SIs including their responsibilities under the applicable NSW Roads & Maritime legislation.
- 1.3 Fixed and retractable spinnaker poles and bowsprits will be permitted for the purpose of setting asymmetrical spinnakers.
- 1.4 Boats with movable or variable ballast (within the meaning of those terms in the AS Special Regulations) may move that ballast for the purpose of changing trim or stability. This amends RRS 51.
- 1.5 RRS 52 does not apply the adjustment and operation of sails or the adjustment of movable appendages on any boat.
- 1.6 All boats are required to register their crew via the POB QR Code or via SailSys. The penalty for not registering crew or POB before the finish time of the last boat may be DSQ without a hearing.

2.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board online on the [Keelboat Racing Noticeboard](#).

3.0 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Changes to these sailing instructions, if any, will be posted not later than 2 hours prior to the attention signal.

4.0 SIGNALS

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the MHYC Race Official's Box on the north-western perimeter of the Club premises.
- 4.2 Signals will be as follows:
- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1220 Hrs | Attention Signal & Course Number Displayed |
| 1230 Hrs | Start Count-up Sequence Commences |
- 4.3 The display of the course number and the start of the count-up sequence may each be accompanied by a sound signal.

5.0 THE COURSE

- 5.1 The Courses are described in Appendix A. The Race Committee will display a Course Number and competitors may choose to sail Option Alpha or Option Bravo for that course.
- 5.2 Courses may be shortened prior to the Start at the discretion of the RC. Should Code Flag "S" be displayed with or prior to the display of the Course, the race will be shortened and all yachts should proceed to the finish line after having rounded the mark indicated by an asterisk (*).
- 5.3 If a Committee Vessel displaying Code Flag "S" is stationed to the West or South of Grotto Point Lighthouse, AS Mark Edwards Beach shall be omitted (if applicable) and boats shall finish between the Committee Vessel and Grotto Point Lighthouse.
- 5.4 Courses may be shortened in accordance with RRS 32.

- 5.5 The attention of competitors is drawn to NOR 13 & 15 and those areas which are designated obstructions and prohibited areas in the vicinity of the Start and Finish lines, the Gowlland Bombora, the Sow and Pigs Reef and Shark Island. A boat shall not sail into an area designated a prohibited area.

6.0 DIVISIONS

- 6.1 Divisions may be formed or abandoned at the discretion of the Sailing Manager or their nominee.
- 6.2 Two-Handed and Non-Spinnaker entries may be included in any division.
- 6.3 For boats entered as non-spinnaker, only a mainsail and headsails as defined in the Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS) shall be used. Headsails shall not be set flying. (No sail shall be set forward of a point of attachment of the permanent forestay).
- 6.4 Class Flags shall be:
- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| Division 1 | Code Flag D |
| Division 2 | Code Flag E |

7.0 HANDICAP PURSUIT RACE

- 7.1 The RC or its nominee will allocate a Start Number in whole minutes to a boat; this number will be a count up number.
- 7.2 For Pursuit (Count Up Start) Races, a boat's Start Number is the time in minutes at which her allocated starting time appears in view on the start clock.
- 7.3 A boat is racing from her Preparatory Signal which is 4 minutes before her allocated Start Number.
- 7.4 A boat not racing shall stay well clear of the Start Line. Attention is drawn to RRS 23.
- 7.5 Boats are advised that the RC may not record a boat that starts more than 5 minutes after her Start number as starting. This amends RRS 63.1.
- 7.6 There shall be no general or individual recall signals. A boat recorded as OCS will be penalised 5 minutes plus the difference between her nominated starting time and actual start time. This amends RRS 29.
- 7.7 Boats will be scored in the order of crossing the finishing line, including any penalties incurred under SI 7.6, and NOR 16 & 17 (if applicable).
- 7.8 The RC may at its absolute discretion review any boat's handicap where it is of the opinion that due to anomaly, error or circumstance, the handicap is deemed unfair or unreasonable.

8.0 THE START

- 8.1 The Start Line shall be as MHYC NOR 16 – Club House Start.
- 8.2 The RC will allocate a starting number to a boat for each race. A boat shall not start before the display of its designated start number.
- 8.3 Numbers will be displayed by a count-up clock or alternatively by numbered boards at 1 minute intervals commencing with the number '0'. The race committee may provide a countdown to the attention signal and start signals, or announce start times, via VHF on Channel 72.

9.0 THE FINISH

- 9.1 The Finish Line will be the Clubhouse Finish Line in MHYC NOR 17 unless shortened in accordance with SI 5.3 or 5.4.
- 9.2 A boat's finish time shall be used for the calculation of its racing division results. The boat with the earliest finish time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first.
- 9.3 All times will be recorded in minutes and whole seconds. Boats with equal finishing times shall be scored as dead heated.
- 9.4 All results will be subject to the application of Alternate Penalties, if any.

10.0 TIME LIMITS

- 10.1 The time limit for the first boat to finish will be 1600 hours on the day of racing. If the leading yacht finishes within the time limit, then the finish for other yachts will be recorded until 1630 hours.
- 10.2 A boat that does not finish within the time limit shall be scored DNF (amends RRS 35).

10.0 ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

- 11.1 For an infringement of RRS Part 2, the Two-Turns Penalty (RRS 44.2) shall apply.
- 11.2 For an infringement of any other rule or requirement, the Scoring Penalties of RRS 44.3 shall apply.
- 11.3 The penalty shall be computed as a percentage of the number of entries in the relevant division.

12.0 ABANDONED RACES

- 12.1 Abandoned races will not be resailed.

13.0 PROTESTS

- 13.1 Protests shall comply with MHYC NOR 24.

14.0 ADVERTISING

- 14.1 Boats may be required to display bow and/or boom stickers and/or backstay flags provided by the RC.

15.0 RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 15.1 Except in an emergency, while racing a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio transmissions not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 15.2 Yachts shall maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 72 for the duration of the race.

16.0 PRIZES

- 16.1 Prizes shall be presented at a post-race presentation.

17.0 RESPONSIBILITY

- 17.1 Competitors participate in the race at their own risk. Special attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3, which states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".
- 17.2 The Organising Authority, Event Sponsors (if applicable), and their respective officers, employees, volunteers and members accept no liability for any injury, loss or damage that may be suffered by any competitor, and any liability for harm to persons that results from breach of an express or implied warranty that the MHYC Feature Race Program and all services relating thereto will be conducted or rendered with reasonable care and skill is excluded.
- 17.3 Neither MHYC, nor the event sponsor (if applicable), are responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

APPENDIX A – COURSES

COURSE 1 – Yachts may choose to sail EITHER of the two following course options.

Option ALPHA

START	MHYC
1	(X) AS MARK CANNAE POINT
2	AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
3	SHARK ISLAND
4	* NAVAL MARK N3
5	(X) FORT DENISON (P)
6	AS MARK MANLY WEST
7	AS MARK MANLY EAST
FINISH	MHYC

Option BRAVO

START	MHYC
1	(X) AS MARK MANLY WEST
2	(X) AS MARK MANLY EAST
3	AS MARK CANNAE POINT
4	AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
5	SHARK ISLAND
6	* NAVAL MARK N3
7	(X) FORT DENISON (P)
8	AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
9	SHARK ISLAND
FINISH	MHYC

COURSE 2 – Yachts may choose to sail EITHER of the two following course options.

Option ALPHA

START	MHYC
1	AS MARK LADY BAY
2	NAVAL MARK N3
3	AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
4	SHARK ISLAND
5	(X) FORT DENISON (P)
6	* AS MARK TAYLORS BAY
7	AS MARK MANLY WEST
8	AS MARK MANLY EAST
9	AS CANNAE POINT
FINISH	MHYC

Option BRAVO

START	MHYC
1	(X) AS MARK MANLY WEST
2	(X) AS MARK MANLY EAST
3	AS CANNAE POINT
4	NAVAL MARK N3
5	AS MARK TAYLORS BAY
6	* AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
7	SHARK ISLAND
8	NAVAL MARK N3
9	(X) FORT DENISON (P)
FINISH	MHYC

COURSE 3 – Yachts may choose to sail EITHER of the two following course options.

Option ALPHA

START	MHYC
1	AS MARK MANLY WEST
2	AS MARK MANLY EAST
3	(X) AS MARK LADY BAY
4	(X) AS MARK CANNAE POINT
5	AS MARK LADY BAY
6	AS MARK ROCKY POINT
7	* AS MARK EDWARDS BEACH
8	AS MARK CANNAE POINT
9	AS MARK NIELSEN PARK
FINISH	MHYC

Option BRAVO

START	MHYC
1	AS MARK NIELSEN PARK
2	AS MARK CANNAE POINT
3	(X) AS MARK LADY BAY
4	(X) AS MARK CANNAE POINT
5	AS MARK ROCKY POINT
6	* AS MARK EDWARDS BEACH
7	AS MARK LADY BAY
9	AS MARK MANLY WEST
10	AS MARK MANLY EAST
FINISH	MHYC

Notes:

- All Marks are to be rounded or passed to Starboard excepting those suffixed (P) which shall be rounded or passed to Port.
- Division 2 boats shall omit each mark prefixed (x)
- If Code Flag "S" is displayed prior to or with the warning signal all yachts should proceed directly to the finish after having rounded or passed the mark prefixed *
- If a Committee Vessel displaying Code Flag "S" is stationed to the West or South of Grotto Point Lighthouse, boats shall finish between the Committee Vessel and Grotto Point Lighthouse.