

2026 Spring Series

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA // Sunday 2 August - Sunday 23 August



2026 Spring Series SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



1 RULES

The races will be governed by the current versions of:

- the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (“RRS”) of World Sailing;
- the prescriptions and special regulations of Australian Sailing (“Special Regulations”);
- IRC Rules 2026 Part A, B and C, if applicable; and the Notice of Race (“NoR”),

except as any of these are modified by or inconsistent with these Sailing Instructions (“SI”).

2 SCHEDULE OF RACES

Race 1 – August 2

Race 2 – August 9

Race 3 – August 16

Race 4 – August 23

3 ADVERTISING

Advertising on a boat shall comply with the requirements of World Sailing Regulation 20 (World Sailing Advertising Code).

4 RACE DOCUMENTS

Changes to these SI's, if any, may be made in accordance with RRS 90.2 (c). A change to the date or time of a race will be posted by 1800 hours on the day preceding the race it affects. Any other notice affecting a race will be posted not later than 2 hours prior to the warning signal of that race.

5 OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD

The Official Notice Board is located in the downstairs hallway of the CYCA clubhouse.

6 RACE COMMITTEE

The Sailing Committee Chair, Deputy Chair and a member of the Sailing Committee of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (“CYCA”) as nominated by the Sailing Committee Chair shall be the Race Committee (“RC”) for the purposes of and with the powers and discretions contained in RRS 90.1.

7 RESPONSIBILITY

- 7.1 All those taking part in the Spring Series 2026 do so at their own risk and responsibility. The Organising Authority 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 Spring Series 2026 and all services relating thereto will be conducted or rendered with reasonable care and skill is excluded.

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”.

- 7.2 The CYCA are not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.
- 7.3 The owner or charterer of a boat entered in a race shall hold a marine legal liability insurance policy with respect to the boat current when racing, with a sum insured of not less than A\$10,000,000.

8 SPECIAL REGULATIONS

- 8.1 Attention is drawn to Special Regulation 1.02 that in part states, “The safety of the boat and its crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the person in charge”.



- 8.2 A boat shall comply with the Special Regulations Part 1 for Category 7 except that trailable boats shall comply with Category 6. An audited Special Regulations Form for the relevant Category (or higher) shall be submitted with the entry if not already held by the CYCA.
- 8.3 The RC may inspect a boat under Special Regulation 2.02.
- 8.4 Every boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

Attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 1.

9 ENTRIES

- 9.1 The Organising Authority will post a final list of entries, amendments to SIs (if any) and other relevant information prior to each race of the Spring Series 2026.
- 9.2 The RC may reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude any competitor in accordance with RRS 76.1.

10 AMENDMENT OF RRS & Class Rules

Refer NoR 4.3

11 CREW LIMITATIONS

- 11.1 The minimum number of crew on a boat shall be 3, two of whom shall be of a minimum age of 18 years.
- 11.2 The RC may, in its absolute discretion, give a dispensation from the age limitation for members of the CYCA Youth Sailing Academy.
- 11.3 The number of people on board shall not exceed the maximum crew number specified on a boat's Equipment Audit Form. Boats that do not comply with this safety requirement may be subject to protest by the race committee.

12 SAILS

- 12.1 Unless the use of a sail with an alternate Sail Number has been approved by the Race Committee, a boat shall comply with the RRS Appendix G, Identification on Sails. This SI is the warning and opportunity to correct in the terms of RRS Appendix G4.
- 12.2 In divisions designated non-spinnaker, only a mainsail and headsails as defined in RRS 55.4 shall be used. Headsails shall not be set flying (no sail shall be set forward of a point of attachment of the permanent forestay).

13 ONE BOAT CONSTITUTES A RACE

When only one boat starts and sails the course within the time limit the Race Committee shall not abandon the race (this changes RRS 32).

14 FLAG SIGNALS

- 14.1 Visual signals will be made in accordance with RRS 26 using the flags illustrated in the RRS Race Signals (referred to as International Code (IC) flags).
- 14.2 Courses may be displayed by either course boards or IC flags.

15 COURSES

- 15.1 Boats are to proceed to all marks named in these courses in the order shown and are to round each mark on the specified side.
- 15.2 Any course may be shortened in accordance with RRS 32.



15.3 Course Descriptions:

COURSE A

Division	Start	Marks	Finish
1	PP -	CP - EC2 - SIM - CI - SP - SIM -	RB
2	PP -	LB - SIM - CI - SP - SIM -	RB
3	PP -	LB - SIM - CI - SP - SIM -	RB

COURSE B

Division	Start	Marks	Finish
1	PP -	CI - CP - SIM - GH - SIM -	RB
2	PP -	CI - LB - SIM - CI - SIM -	RB
3	PP -	CI - LB - SIM - CI - SIM -	RB

All marks are to be rounded to starboard.

16 MARKS

- 16.1 Australian Sailing (AS) marks, mentioned in this Instruction, may be a yellow spherical, cylindrical or spar shaped buoy and can be replaced with a different mark without warning.
- 16.2 Mark Descriptions (all positions and distances are approximate. See attached chart for approximate positions):
- CI - Clarke Island
 - CP - AS mark 200m West of Cannae Point Flagstaff
 - EC2 - AS mark 150m NW of EC
 - GH - The northern most AS mark in Chowder Bay, 200m SW of Georges Head
 - LB - AS mark 150m west of Lady Bay
 - SIM - AS mark SE of Shark Island (The area between the Shark Island AS Mark (SIM) and Shark Island is a continuing obstruction and no boat shall pass between them.)
 - SP - AS mark 150m SW of Sow & Pigs Reef

17 DIVISIONS

- 17.1 The RC may form racing divisions at its discretion.
- 17.2 The composition and allocation of boats into divisions shall not be subject to protest or constitute grounds for redress (this changes RRS 60.1 and 61.1(a) and 63.2 shall not apply).
- 17.3 Division 3 is designated a non-spinnaker division.

18 START LINE

- 18.1 The start line will be between the flag mast on the CV displaying an orange flag and a white flag with "CYCA" in black at the starboard end and a laid inflatable mark at the port end.
- 18.2 An inner distance mark (IDM) may be laid. When laid, a boat shall leave the IDM to starboard when starting. No boat shall pass between the IDM and the CV from the course side of the start line after the first preparatory signal.
- 18.3 The start line will be identified as:
- PP - In the vicinity of Point Piper approximately 200m east of Clarke Island



19 THE START & START SIGNALS

- 19.1 Boats shall report to the Committee Vessel prior to the Warning Signal on starboard tack with mainsail hoisted to confirm its intention to race. Boats which cannot be identified may be scored as DNS.
- 19.2 The time of the first Start Signal, unless amended by the List of Entries, will be 1355 hours.
- 19.3 Start Divisions will be identified numerically.
- 19.4 Start Signals will be made in accordance with RRS 26.
- 19.5 The Class Flags will be:
Division 1 - Numeral pennant 1
Division 2 - Numeral pennant 2
Division 3 - Numeral pennant 3
- 19.6 The Warning Signal for each succeeding class shall be made with or after the Start Signal of the preceding class.
- 19.7 A boat may use prohibited propulsion after its Preparatory Signal to arrive at the Start Line, provided it shall cease using such propulsion 100 metres from the Start line. It shall immediately carry out a 360 degree turn while keeping clear of all other boats and if the start signal has been made, start.
- 19.8 A boat shall not start later than 10 minutes after its Start Signal (this changes RRS 35).
- 19.9 When there is more than one start division, a boat shall not approach closer than 100 metres to the start line until its preparatory signal has been made.

20 RECALLS

- 20.1 Individual recalls will be made in accordance with RRS 29.1. The sail number of the recalled boat may be announced on VHF Channel 72 (amends RRS 29.1)
- 20.2 General recalls will be made in accordance with RRS 29.2.

21 SHORTENED COURSE

If IC Flag "S" and a blue flag are displayed on a CV near a rounding mark of the course, then boats shall finish by passing between the CV and the nearby mark of the course (RRS 32 and RRS 'Race Signals' refers).

22 FINISH LINE

- 22.1 The finish line will be between the flag mast of the CV displaying a blue flag and a white flag with "CYCA" in black and a LM at the port end.
- 22.2 The position of the finish line will be designated as follows:
RB - In the vicinity of the entrance of Rushcutters Bay

23 TIME LIMIT

- 23.1 The time limit will be 1715 hours on the day of racing.
- 23.2 A boat that does not finish within the time limit shall be scored DNF (amends RRS 35).



24 BOATS RETIRING

- 24.1 A boat that retires shall notify the CV or the CYCA Sailing Office of its retirement as soon as possible and in any event not later than one hour after retiring by whatever means is available. Boats not doing so may be scored equal to DNC.
- 24.2 The Race Committee will monitor for the duration of the race frequency VHF Channel 72.

25 POSTPONED RACES

- 25.1 The Race Committee at its sole discretion may postpone the start from ashore in inclement conditions. Flag signals AP over H will be displayed on the flagmast on the SW corner of the clubhouse no later than 1 hour prior to the warning signal.
- 25.2 For races postponed ashore the warning signal will be made 40 minutes after removal of AP over H.
- 25.3 Entrants may be advised of the flying/dropping of AP over H by text message. Owners may provide their boat phone number in the online entry if they would like to be advised by text.

26 ABANDONED RACES

Abandoned races will not be resailed.

27 PROTESTS

- 27.1 A protest shall be lodged within 2 hours of the protesting boat's finish time (this changes RRS 60.3(b))
- 27.2 A protest may be lodged at the Sailing Office or, if closed, lodged by acknowledged email.
- 27.3 There is no time limit on protests by the Race Committee or the Protest Committee.
- 27.4 Notices of protests will be posted on the official notice board with the order of hearing.
- 27.5 Protests will be scheduled to be heard at the CYCA at 1900 hours on the Thursday following the race. A postponement of the hearing from that date will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

28 HANDICAPS

- 28.1 PHS results will be calculated by the application of a Time Correction Factor (TCF) of a four decimal number as a multiplier of the boat's elapsed time. The Race Committee will in its absolute discretion determine a boat's TCF in relation to its performance in previous races. The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first.
- 28.2 A boat's Initial TCF or Race TCF, shall not be subject to protest or constitute grounds for redress (this changes RRS 60.1 and 61.1(a) and RRS 63.1 shall not apply).
- 28.3 The Race Committee may manually adjust a boat's TCF retrospectively where it appears that the handicap applied contains an error, mistake or omission or is otherwise demonstrated to be patently unfair.
- 28.4 IRC results will be calculated by the application of the IRC Time Corrector (TCC) as a multiple of the boats elapsed time. The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first.

29 POINTSCORES

- 29.1 A pointscore series is open only to block entries. Boats shall enter by Race 2 to be eligible for the pointscore.



- 29.2 Female skippers shall be automatically entered in the Women's Pointscore. To remain eligible a nominated female skipper shall helm for the duration of each race.
- 29.3 A boat's points will not be transferred with a change of ownership or change of division.
- 29.4 Tied pointscores for 1st, 2nd and 3rd at the end of a series shall be broken in accordance with RRS Appendix A Rule A8.
- 29.5 The Low Point Scoring system of Appendix A will apply subject to the following amendments:

Non Starting	Boats which are scored Did Not Start (DNC) shall be awarded points equal to the number of pointscore starters in the race plus four points.
On Course Side	Boats which are scored On Course Side (OCS) shall be awarded points equal to the number of pointscore starters in the race plus two points.
Non Finishing	Boats which Retire (RET) or are scored Not Sailed Course (NSC) or Did Not Finish (DNF) shall be awarded points equal to the number of pointscore starters in the race plus one point.
Disqualified	Boats which disqualified (DSQ) shall be awarded points equal to the number of pointscore entries in the race plus two points.

(This changes RRS Appendix A)

- 29.6 If 4 or more, races are completed in the Spring Series 2026, a boat's highest points shall be discarded when calculating the pointscore.
- 29.7 If fewer than 4 races are completed in the Spring Series 2026, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 29.8 The boat in each division with the lowest cumulative points excluding discarded points and after application of penalties and redress will be declared the winner.

30 PRIZES

Trophies will be presented to 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each division. The presentation of prizes will take place at the conclusion of racing on Sunday 23 August 2026 at the CYCA. .

31 OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

- 31.1 A boat shall give priority of passage to a vessel displaying an orange diamond signal.
- 31.2 A boat shall not use trapeze(s) at any time during the series.
- 31.3 A boat shall not cause interference to an ocean going vessel or other vessels having right of way under the government right of way regulations.
- 31.4 Attention is drawn to the New South Wales Legislation as to reporting requirements in the case of collision as published in these SIs.
- 31.5 The start boat will monitor VHF Channel 72 for the duration of the race.
- 31.6 Anchors which protrude from the bow such that they would be the first point of contact in a collision must be removed.
- 31.7 Use of engine for propulsion:
- As allowed by rule 42.3(i) a boat may use its engine for propulsion in order to get clear: after grounding; after colliding with a vessel or object; or to prevent imminent grounding or collision.



- b) A boat that uses its engine for propulsion as allowed in SI 31.7(a) shall, as soon after getting clear, take a Two Turns Penalty as detail in RRS 44 (this changes RRS 44.1).
- c) For the purpose of this SI 31.7, “to gain (or gained) a significant advantage” does not relate to the act of getting clear allowed under SI 31.7(a).

32 PROHIBITED AREAS / OBSTRUCTIONS

32.1 The following are continuing obstructions and prohibited areas, namely:

- a) The area of Sow and Pigs Reef enclosed by an imaginary line joining all four of the Cardinal Marks surrounding the Reef in sequence N, E, S and W.
- b) The non safe water side of a Cardinal Mark.
- c) The area between the Shark Island AS Mark (SIM) and Shark Island.
- d) The Start Line / Finish Line except when starting, finishing or when it forms a gate in the course. When complying with RRS 44.2 at or near the finishing line a boat shall sail around the ends of the finishing line before finishing. (Amends RRS 28).
- e) The area between Shark Island and Shark Island Light (north of Shark Island)
- f) The area enclosed by moorings.

32.2 A boat shall not sail into a prohibited area designated in SI 32.1