

GENERAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR SASC EVENTS

The Instructions published in this section apply to all SASC events except where specifically modified for an event or a series of events elsewhere in this programme.

1. RULES

1.1 Conduct of Racing

The racing will be governed by:

- (a) The current World Sailing (WS) Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) (2021–2024);
- (b) The Prescriptions and Safety Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS) (2021–2024);
- (c) The Marine Safety (General) Regulation 2016;
- (d) These General Sailing Instructions; and
- (e) Any specific Sailing Instructions for a series or event.

In the event of conflict between the RRS and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions will prevail.

1.2 Advertising

A boat and her crew shall comply with WS Regulation 20, Advertising Code.

1.3 Alternate Penalties for infringing a Rule of Part 2 of the RRS

All boats: The **Two-Turns penalty** (as provided in Rule 64.1 and 44.2) will apply for an infringement of a Rule under Part 2.

1.4 Basic Principles and Fundamental Rules

All competitors are required to observe the Basic Principles and the Fundamental Rules, as set out in the Racing Rules of Sailing Part 1.

Boats failing to observe the Fundamental Rules may be subject to protest by the committee. The penalty for breaking a rule of Part 1 shall be a disqualification that is not excludable (DNE).

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official club notice board at the SASC clubhouse by 1000 hours on the day of the race. These may contain additional information and may supersede the sailing instructions. Best endeavour will be made to post notices to competitors on the SASC website by 1000 hours on the day of the race.

3. COMMITTEE VESSEL

The Committee Vessel will display the SASC Burgee.

4. STARTING LINE

Between the Signal Mast on the Committee Vessel and an orange inflatable buoy marked SASC in black.

5. FINISHING LINE

Between the Signal Mast on the Committee Vessel (displaying a blue flag when on station) and an orange inflatable buoy marked SASC in black. The finishing line must be crossed in the direction from the last mark. The Committee vessel will be at the starboard end of the line, except for windward-leeward races and Friday Twilight races.

Competing boats that pass through the Finishing Line when not finishing shall be disqualified.

For Shortened courses refer SASC Rule 31 and RRS Rule 32.

6. PROTESTS

Protests must conform to RRS Rule 61.6

Completed Protest forms must be delivered to the SASC Sailing Office no later than 1100 hours on the first working day following the day of the race protested. Protests may be lodged in person, addressed to the SASC Protest Committee, 1 Green St. Cremorne, or by email to racing@sasc.com.au, Hearings will be held on the following Tuesday at the SASC Clubhouse at 1930 or as directed by the Protest Committee.

It is prudent to advise the Committee Vessel when finishing of any intention to protest.

7. SCORING

7.1 Scoring System

The Low Point scoring system, RRS Appendix A, applies subject to the following amendments:

7.2 Non-competing

A boat scored Did Not Compete (DNC) shall be awarded points equal to the number of pointscore entries in the race plus one point.

7.3 Non-starting

A boat scored Did Not Start (DNS), On Course Side (OCS), Retired (RET) shall be awarded points equal to the number of pointscore starters in the race plus one point.

7.4 Non-finishing

A boat scored Did Not Finish (DNF) shall be awarded points equal to the number of pointscore finishers plus one point.

7.5 Disqualification

Boats which are disqualified (DSQ) shall be awarded points equal to the number of pointscore starters in the race plus two points.

7.6 Abandonment

When a race is abandoned after the start and not re-sailed, boats that started shall be scored DNF. Boats that did not start will be scored DNS. When a race is abandoned before the start, the race shall be shown as ABN and all boats entered shall be awarded zero points.

8. CONTROL

The Organising Authority will have control of all matters connected with racing and will fix race entry fees, determine handicaps, set courses, divide boats in divisions at its discretion and will decide any question which may arise which is not provided for in these regulations. A boat will always have the right of appeal to Australian Sailing (AS) against a disqualification as a result of a protest.

9. ENTRIES

Entries will be made online via the SASC website. Series entries should be submitted by 1200 hours on Friday prior to series commencement. Casual entries for races will be accepted up to 1500 hours on the day of the twilight race requested or Friday where the race requested occurs on Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday. Entry fees will not be refunded if the race is not sailed.

All entries are subject to the approval of the Organising Authority. Only boats nominated on the entry are allowed to race, i.e. boats are not interchangeable.

10. PERSON IN CHARGE

A member of a recognised Boat Club affiliated with Australian Sailing who is also a member of AS must be in charge of each boat competing in a race conducted by the Club. There must also be a minimum of two persons on a boat competing in a race conducted by the Club.⁷

11. ALTERNATIVE HELMSMAN

Change of regular helmsman must be notified to the Organising Authority at least 24 hours before the race. A boat may be disqualified for failing to notify. The Organising Authority reserves the right to alter the handicap.

12. AMENDMENTS TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organising Authority reserves the right to alter the General Sailing Instructions and the Sailing Instructions herein at its discretion. Amendments to Sailing Instructions will be available in writing to all entrants and will be deemed to be incorporated herein from the effective date notified. See also Rule 2.

13. DRESS

The helmsman and crews of all boats competing will be attired suitably, the minimum requirements in this respect being shorts and short-sleeved shirt.

14. MOTORS

A boat may be propelled by motor or towed until its preparatory signal for Scratch Divisions or 5 minutes before the nominated start time for each boat in Handicap Divisions.

Once racing, boats may briefly use their motors, but only when there is no other way to avoid a grounding, collision, or to comply with SASC General Sailing Instruction 28 (Commercial and Defence Shipping). Such use of the motor shall be declared to the Race Committee after finishing, and must not give the boat any advantage, as per RRS 42.3 (i).

15. NUMBER OF STARTERS

15.1 Special (or Non-Series) Races

Unless three (3) boats start in a Club race, it will be at the Organising Authority's discretion to cancel that race and no prize, medal or trophy will be awarded. Unless four (4) boats start, no second prize, medal or trophy will be given. Unless six (6) boats start, no third prize, medal or trophy will be given.

15.2 Point Score Series

Unless there are at least three (3) starters in 70% of the races in a Club race series, it will be at the Organising Authority's discretion to cancel that series and no prize, medal or trophy will be awarded. Unless there are at least four (4) starters in 70% of the races in a Club race series, it will be at the OA's discretion to cancel that series and no second prize, medal or trophy will be awarded. Unless there are at least six (6) starters in 70% of the races in a Club race series, it will be at the OA's discretion to cancel that series and no third prize, medal or trophy will be awarded.

16. PRIZES

The Committee will award the prizes subject to these rules, but before they do so, the owner or his representative can be required to sign the prescribed declaration that the boat has complied with all Rules and Regulations.

17. CLUB RACING FLAG

Boats when racing are required to fly the SASC racing flag at or near the masthead or from the backstay.

18. SAIL NUMBERS

18.1 Boats must sail under the sail number advised on its entry form and shown on the list of entries. Permission to carry a sail displaying a different number to that shown on the list of entries for the event must be obtained from the Organising Authority at least two hours before the first warning signal of the day. Any permission granted will apply to that race or event only. Boats 8

sailing with sails carrying unrecorded numbers may be disqualified.

18.2 Sail numbers must be black or in a contrasting colour to the sail and are to be displayed on each side of the mainsail, spinnaker and overlapping headsails. For SASC A-prefix sail numbers, the A-prefix is to be centrally located above the numerals. Gaff-rigged boats are not required to carry numbers on overlapping headsails. Boats not complying may be disqualified at the discretion of the starter.

19. ALTERATIONS AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

Any changes in hull, engine or propeller, trim, spars or sails must be notified in writing to the Organising Authority as soon as known and before the race affected by the change. Failure to comply with this rule will render the boat liable to disqualification. In all cases where the Club has not been given opportunity to adjust the handicap, the right is reserved to make summary adjustment at any time when the change is brought to the attention of the Committee.

20. EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

20.1 Harbour races

Category 7 (AS Special Regulations Part 1 Section 2). All boats which do not have navigation lights permanently fitted are additionally required to comply with AS Special Regulations 3.23.4 and 3.23.5 and carry portable navigation lights capable of being attached to the boat. All boats must have lodged a copy of their completed equipment audit form with the SASC Sailing Office before they are eligible to race.

20.2 Lion Island and Bob Brown races

Category 4 (AS Special Regulations Part 1 Section 2).

20.3 Anchors

Anchors are to be removed from bow fittings when racing.

21. CARDINAL MARKS

Cardinal Marks constitute Boundary Marks for all courses and must be passed on the safe side from the danger that they mark (e.g. boats must pass on the West side of a West Cardinal Mark), except the Junction Buoy (sea buoy).

22. SHARK ISLAND

Boats shall not sail between the AS 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.

23. GARDEN ISLAND

Boats shall not sail within the yellow markers in the vicinity of Garden Island. This area is prohibited and deemed to be a continuing obstruction.

24. 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.

25. KEEP CLEAR OF THE STARTING LINE

Boats not engaged in starting must keep clear of the starting line and other boats starting. After the warning signal of the first division to start, boats must not cross the start line before their own signal.

In a handicap start, boats must keep clear of the start line until their own prep signal, deemed made four minutes before their allocated start time.

Boats shall endeavour to not sail through other clubs' starting or finishing lines.⁹

Boats not adhering to these instructions may, at the discretion of the Starter, be disqualified.

26. REPORTING TO THE STARTER

Boats intending to race are required to report to the Race Officials aboard the Committee Vessel and receive acknowledgement. Failure to observe this requirement can result in a boat failing to be classified as a starter.

27. LATE STARTERS

Boats starting more than five (5) minutes after their starting signal may be recorded as DNC.

28. COMMERCIAL AND DEFENCE SHIPPING

28.1 Boats 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 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”*.

28.2 Boats found to have interfered with commercial shipping may be subject to action by the Race Committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.

28.3 All boats must abide by traffic directions of Roads and Maritime Services Boating Service Officers. Any boat directed to stop or alter course by Roads and Maritime Services Boating Service Officers as a result of an anticipated breach of the above rules incident/collision or complaint shall do so immediately.

28.4 Any boat reported by Roads and Maritime Services as having contravened Roads and Maritime Services regulations shall be disqualified without a hearing. (amends RRS 63.1).

28.5 The attention of any competitors involved in an accident is drawn to the requirements of Roads and Maritime Services as published on page 42 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. The SASC is obliged under the terms of its Aquatic Licence to prepare a report of all contact incidents occurring during racing whether or not damage, injury or an insurance claim results.

29. LATE FINISHERS

The Race Official aboard the Committee Vessel may, at their sole discretion, leave the finishing area and allocate finishing times to boats that are not yet finished.

30. BOATS RETIRING

Boats retiring from a race shall notify the Committee Vessel by hailing, on VHF 73 or Starter’s mobile 0419 625 883.

Boats not complying may be scored DNE.

31. CLASSIFICATION

31.1 The Organising Authority reserves the right to reclassify any boat at any time during the season.

31.2 A new handicap may be generated if a boat is granted redress and its finishing time is amended by a Protest Committee.10

32. SHORTENED COURSE

The course to be sailed by all Divisions will be signalled by the corresponding code flag(s). When the Shortened Course signal is displayed with or before the Warning Signal, boats should proceed directly to the finish line after rounding the mark indicated by an asterisk "*" in the relevant Sailing Instructions. A race once started may be shortened as per RRS Rule 32.

33. BOATS COMPETING IN OTHER EVENTS

Upon written application to the Organising Authority prior to the regatta, a boat which starts in its State, National or World Championship or other sanctioned event deemed significant by the Organising Authority may receive points for any races thereby missed, equal to the boat's average points. The number of races eligible will be determined by the Sailing Committee. Average points will be based on points in all races in the series, including discards, except the race or races in question. Requests for competing in other regattas may be reviewed at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

34. INSURANCES

34.1 All owners of boats competing in SASC events must hold adequate current Third Party Property Liability insurance cover and Third Party Personal Liability insurance cover of not less than \$10,000,000 (ten million dollars) for each separate incident. Furthermore, all owners are to ensure that their boat's insurance fulfils this requirement whilst under racing conditions.

34.2 Participants are also advised that, although SASC is covered by third party liability insurance, this cover DOES NOT extend to participants. Any participant who considers that they have need for insurance must make their own private arrangements with an insurer.

34.3 Skippers are encouraged to ask crew without an Australian Sailing Number to register for Sail Pass. Details and registration are on the SASC web site. This will provide compliance with RRS Rule 46 and provide personal accident insurance.

35. RRS RULE 55 – TRASH

RRS Rule 55 is amended to allow for the banding/tying of spinnakers for the purpose of hoisting.

36. RESPONSIBILITY — COVID-19 Restrictions:

As always, skippers take responsibility for the safety of their crew including observing current Government COVID-19 restrictions and recommendations. For current updates on the COVID-19 pandemic visit sasc.com.au/covid19-update/ and Australian Sailing's COVID-19 Information Hub at www.sailingresources.org.au/covid-19/.