



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sydney Harbour Couta Boat Series

The Muriel Trophy

Saturday 21st October 2023



conducted by

THE SYDNEY AMATEUR SAILING CLUB

**Sydney Amateur Sailing Club
Sydney Harbour Couta Boat Series
The Muriel Trophy**

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The Organising Authority is the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club (SASC) .

1. RULES

All racing will be governed by

- (a) the *rules* as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS) of World Sailing (WS) as amended;
- (b) the Prescriptions and Safety Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS);
- (c) the Marine Safety (General) Regulation 2016;
- (d) these Sailing Instructions

In the event of conflict between any of the *rules* or regulations the Sailing Instructions will prevail.

- 1.1 The minimum number of crew in any boat shall be three persons. Each boat shall have a competent adult crew member to leeward on watch at all times while racing.

2. FLAGS, PENNANTS AND RACE COMMITTEE BURGEES

- 2.1 In these Sailing Instructions any flags or pennants mentioned are those of the International Code of Signals. Race Signals will be as per RRS except as amended by the Sailing Instructions.

- 2.3 The Race Committee vessel will display the SASC club burgee.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board at Sydney Amateur Sailing Club and on the SASC web site not later than 2 hours prior to the start.
- 3.2 The List of Entries will be placed on the Official Notice Board and the SASC web site no later than two (2) hours before the start of the event.

4. ALTERATIONS TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 The Organising Authority reserves the right to alter these General Sailing Instructions. Alterations will be available in writing to all entrants as per RRS 90.2.
- 4.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 1000hrs on the day of the race. Any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800hrs on the day before the race.

5. SPECIAL SIGNALS

- 5.1.1 **Signals made ashore** – will be displayed at SASC on the club flag mast. 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)
- 5.2 **Signals made on the Committee Vessel** – will be displayed on the respective Committee Vessel displaying the SASC burgee.

6. NON-SPINNAKER RACE

This is a no extras race so only normal working sails may be used. Headsails may be poled out.

7. WARNING SIGNALS AND TIMES (to be read in conjunction with RRS 26)

The scheduled time of the **warning** signal is:

SCHEDULED TIME (warning signal)	DIVISION	WARNING SIGNAL (FLAG DISPLAYED)
1235	Couta Boats – Muriel Trophy	W
1240	Super 30	V
1245	Cavalier 28	T
1250	Cruiser Racer Division	K
1255	Classic Division	C

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1 Racing shall be conducted on Sydney Harbour (see separate chartlet).
- 8.2 **Cardinal Marks** – boats shall not sail within the area bounded by Cardinal Marks. These areas are prohibited and deemed to be obstructions.
- 8.3 **Moorings** – boats shall not sail within mooring areas. These areas are prohibited and deemed to be obstructions. Naval and shipping moorings are excluded from this clause.

9. THE START and FINISH

- 9.1 The Starting and Finishing Lines will be:

COURSE	START LINE	FINISH LINE
A — N & NE Winds	West of Clark Island	Taylor Bay
M — NE Strong Winds	West of Clark Island	Taylor Bay
B — W/NW Heavy Winds	West of Shark Island	SE of Kurraba Point
G — SE Winds	Shell Cove	West of Clark Island
Q — E Winds	West of Clark Island	West of Shark Island
O — S, SW, SSE Winds	Athol Bight	West of Clark Island
Z — W/NW Light Winds	West of Shark Island	SE of Kurraba Point

- 9.2 The Starting line will be between the Signal Mast on the Committee Vessel and the orange inflatable buoy marked SASC in black.
- 9.3 The Race Committee may change the line by moving one of the Starting Line marks after a division's preparatory signal. (Amends RRS 27.2)
- 9.4 The Finishing line will be between the Signal Mast on the Committee Vessel (displaying a blue flag) and the orange inflatable buoy marked SASC in black. The finishing line must be crossed in the direction from the last mark.

10. RECALLS

- 10.1 Individual and general recalls shall be in accordance with RRS 29.

11. REPORTING TO THE STARTER

11.1 Yachts 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 yacht failing to be classified as a starter.

12. COURSES

12.1 The courses are detailed in 12.6 below.

12.2 The course to be sailed will be:

- signaled with or before the warning signal, and
- indicated by the appropriate flag.

12.3 Boats shall proceed to all marks of the relevant course in the order listed and leave each mark on the required side.

12.4 All marks are to be passed to STARBOARD unless the mark is suffixed (P), which indicates the mark is to be passed to PORT.

12.5 The Race Committee may change the course signal, display Flag S or Flag Y before, with or shortly after the warning signal. When a signal is displayed with a Division Flag it is to apply to that division only. (Amends RRS 27.1, 40 and Race Signals).

12.6 Courses

A	START-BB-SM-EC-SM*-GI-FINISH
M	START-MW-ME-SM*-GI-FINISH
B	START-A(P)-COCKATOO IS(P)- KP(P)- FINISH
G	START-SM-OB-NP*- KP(P)-FINISH
Q	START-SM-TB-EC-N3*- SM-GI-FINISH
O	START-N2(P)-BB-SM-CB*-PP-KP(P)-FINISH
Z	START-KP(P)-SM*-KP(P)-SM-FINISH

13. SHORTENED COURSE

13.1 When the shortened course signal is displayed with or before the warning signal, yachts will proceed directly to the finish line after rounding the mark indicated by an asterisk “*”. A race once started may be shortened as per RRS Rule 32.

14. MARKS AND BUOYS

14.1 All marks and buoys referred to in these Sailing Instructions are as described in the attached and should be read in conjunction with the Chartlet attached to these Sailing Instructions:

NOTES:

AS buoys – AS buoys referred to in these Sailing Instructions will be yellow, spherical, cylindrical or spar shaped buoys but may be replaced with a different mark without warning.

15. TIME LIMIT

Providing that one yacht has finished by 1630 then the remaining yachts will be finished until 1700. No yacht will be finished after 1700. The Race Official on the Committee Vessel will have sole discretion as to when to leave the finish line. A boat that does not finish within the time limit shall be scored DNF (amends RRS 35)

16. SCORING

The Low Point scoring system, RRS Appendix A, will apply.

17. POSTPONEMENT AND ABANDONMENT

Postponement and abandonment shall be in accordance with RRS 27.3 and RRS 32.

18. PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only a part-turn is required:

- 18.1 On a leg to a windward mark, a part-turn is a gybe and luffing to a close-hauled course as soon as reasonably possible.
- 18.2 On other legs a part-turn is a tack and bearing away as soon as reasonably possible to more than 90 degrees from the true wind.

19. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 19.1 Protests are to be lodged in accordance with RRS 61 as amended by 19.2, 19.3 and 19.4 below.
- 19.2 Protests should be lodged on the World Sailing (WS) prescribed form. All protests shall be lodged at the SASC.
- 19.3 The time limit for the lodging of protests will be one (1) hour after the last boat in the Division finishes. (Amends RRS 61)
- 19.4 Protests will be heard at the SASC clubhouse on the following Tuesday unless otherwise decided by the Race Committee. The hearing time will be advised to the parties involved.
- 19.5 Requests for Redress shall be in accordance with RRS 62.

20. ALTERATIONS AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

Any changes to hull, engine, propeller, trim, spars, sail area or significant changes to onboard skill level should be notified in writing to reach the SASC not later than 1200hrs on Friday 20th October 2023. This may result in a change of handicap. A boat failing to comply may be subject to action by the Race Committee in accordance with RRS 60.2.

21. CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR HELMSMAN

Any change of helmsman from those listed on the Entry Form must be notified to the SASC not later than 1200 on Friday 20th October 2023 and may result in a change of handicap.

22. EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

- 22.1 Harbour Racing - Category 7 (YA Special Regulations Part 1 Section 2).
- 22.2 Random equipment audits may be made. Any boat failing to comply with equipment requirements may be subject to protest by the Race Committee.
- 22.3 Anchors are to be removed from bow fittings when racing.

23. RETIREMENT

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 73, or by phoning the SASC Committee Vessel on 0419 625 883.

24. OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

- 24.1 No litter shall be disposed of overboard
- 24.2 Yachts shall not interfere with the Commercial or Defence shipping of the Port. The attention of skippers is drawn to NSW Maritime Authority Special Regulations regarding the right of way of vessels entering and leaving port, ferries displaying orange diamonds and vessels engaged in towing.
- 24.3 All yachts must abide by traffic directions of NSW Maritime Boating Service Officers. Any yacht directed to stop or alter course by NSW Maritime Boating Service Officers as a result of an anticipated breach of the above rules, incident/collision or complaint shall do so immediately.

24.4 Any yachts reported by NSW Maritime as having contravened NSW Maritime Regulations shall be disqualified.

25. SAIL NUMBERS

25.1 A boat should sail under the sail number advised on its entry form.

25.2 A boat should display identical sail numbers on its sails.

25.3 The use of any sail displaying a different number to that on the entry form must be notified to the Sailing Office not later than two (2) hours before the start of the race.

25.4 A boat which displays an incorrect sail number and which has not notified the Sailing Office in accordance with 25.3 may be subject to protest by the Race Committee.

26. HANDICAPPING

26.1 The handicap will be a Time Correction Factor (TCF) which is applied at the finish.

26.2 The Race Committee will determine a yacht's handicap in relation to its performance in previous races. A yacht's handicap shall not be subject to protest or grounds for redress. (Amends RRS 60.1 & 62)

27. RESPONSIBILITIES

27.1 **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 conducted by the Organising Authority of whatever nature. 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.

27.2 Responsibilities

- (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 SASC, 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 SASC, 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 this race are reminded of their obligations as set out in the Yachting Australia Special Regulations clause 1.02 Owner's Responsibility.

28. INSURANCE

Boats shall have adequate current Third Party Property Liability insurance cover and Third Party Personal Liability insurance cover of not less than \$10,000,000 (ten million) for each separate incident. All insurance cover shall be maintained during the period of racing.

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.

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.

