

Sydney Amateur Sailing Club (SASC) Winter Series 2026

The Organising Authority (OA) is SASC.

The notation '(NP)' in a rule means that a yacht may not protest another yacht for infringing that rule. This changes RRS 60.1. '(DP)' denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee.

The OA appoints the Race Committee (RC) referred to in this Notice of Race (NoR) and the Sailing Instructions (SI) consisting of the SASC Club Captain, Race Secretary, Sailing Committee and Race Officer(s).

A Protest Committee will be appointed by the OA.

1. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 Unless otherwise specified, terms and definitions in this NoR are to be read as those in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-28 (RRS)
- 1.2 Other words and terms are used in the sense ordinarily understood in nautical or general use. For a source of the nautical sense of a word, a reader may refer to The Equipment Rules of Sailing

2. RULES

- 2.1. Racing will be governed by:
 - 2.1.1 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing.
 - 2.1.2 The Prescriptions and Safety Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS) (2025-2028).
 - 2.1.3 The Marine Safety (General) Regulation 2016.
 - 2.1.4 SASC Sailing Instructions.
- 2.2. RRS 52 is amended to permit:
 - 1.3 The use of electric winches.
- 2.3. In the event of conflict between any of the rules or regulations, the SI will prevail. This changes RRS 63.5(c).

3 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Sailing Instructions for each series will be available on the SASC website prior to the first race of the series <https://sasc.com.au/sailing/#SailingProgram>. The SI may be amended by the OA any time prior to 08:00 on the day of the race.
- 3.2 The SI will also be posted on the SailSys Noticeboard for the Winter Series: [SailSys Noticeboard](#)

4 COMMUNICATION

- 4.1 The RC intends to monitor VHF channel 72 and mobile 0419 625 883 from the start boat MV Kareela.
- 4.2 The RC will communicate race information to competitors via VHF channel 72.
- 4.3 If carried, VHF radios shall be always switched on and tuned VHF channel 72 during racing. Note that VHF will be mandatory for the next cycle of equipment audits in August 2026.
- 4.4 Any radio with dual watch should monitor VHF 16 as well.

5 ELIGIBILITY

- 5.1 All yachts shall have a valid AS Special Regulations safety audit Category 7, (or higher if specified in the relevant race or series SI).
- 5.2 Equipment Audit Forms will expire twelve (12) months after the date of the audit.
- 5.3 Random equipment audits may be made throughout the Season. Any yacht failing to comply with equipment requirements may be subject to protest by the RC.
- 5.4 Skippers and crew who are not financial members of an AS recognized yacht club shall apply for and receive a valid Sail Pass from SASC before racing to comply with RRS 46.
- 5.5 Yachts shall be of mono-hull construction, self-righting yachts.
- 5.6 Specific Division eligibilities are specified in the respective SI.
- 5.7 All yachts starting in a race shall have a minimum of two (2) persons on board.

6 ENTRY

- 6.1 Entries can be for a series or an individual (casual) race(s).
- 6.2 Entries can be made up to 15:00 hours on the Friday of weekend of racing.
- 6.3 Only those yachts nominated on an entry are permitted to race, (i.e. yachts are not interchangeable) unless expressly approved by the RC beforehand.
- 6.4 Entries and payment of entry fees are to be made utilizing the online entry system which can be accessed via the SASC website at www.sasc.com.au.
- 6.5 For a valid entry in all race(s) or series, competitors shall:
 - 6.5.1 Complete the online entry in SailSys.
 - 6.5.2 Include the entry fee as detailed in SailSys.
 - 6.5.3 Accept the declaration detailed in SailSys.
 - 6.5.4 Upload a current insurance Certificate of Currency into SailSys.
 - 6.5.5 Upload a valid AS Special Regulations safety audit into SailSys.

- 6.6 **Series entries** - entries can be made for the complete series of six races. This includes the point score.
- 6.7 **Casual entries** – Casual entries do not include the point score. Casual entry fees may be refunded at the discretion of the OA if the race is cancelled or abandoned.
- 6.8 No yacht will be eligible to enter the series point score after the first three races have been sailed. This changes RRS Appendix A2.2.
- 6.9 (DP) Any change of helmsperson from those listed shall be notified to the SASC Racing Office not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race.

7 ENTRY FEES

- 7.1 Entry fees are detailed in the online entry system which can be accessed via SailSys

8 RACING PROGRAM

- 8.1 The Winter Series racing program is detailed in the SASC Sailing Program posted on the SASC website (<https://sasc.com.au/sailing/#SailingProgram>) and on the SASC Racing Noticeboard and is scheduled to begin on 2nd May 2026.
- 8.2 A summary of the racing program is below:

SERIES	DATES	No. of RACES
Winter Series	Race 1 - May 2 nd Race 2 - May 16 th Race 3 - May 30 th Race 4 - June 13 th Race 5 - July 4 th Race 6 - July 18 th	6

- 8.3 The scheduled time of the first warning signal, unless notified otherwise, will be:

SERIES or RACE	SCHEDULED TIME of <u>WARNING SIGNAL</u>
Winter Series *	Classic 2 - 11:25 Mixed 2 - 11:30 Classic 1- 11:35 Mixed 1 - 11:40

9 RACING DIVISIONS

- 9.1 The OA reserves the right to create, merge or delete divisions depending on entries received.
- 9.2 As a general guide, five (5) entries with regular participation may be required for yachts to compete as a separate Division.
- 9.3 There are up to four divisions divided into Mixed and Classic yachts. Divisions are allocated based on relative performance. Yachts may select to race as spinnaker or non-spinnaker in any division. **Yachts cannot change this selection once the racing begins.**
- 9.4 Yachts competing under a non-spinnaker entry shall not fly spinnakers. Headsails may be poled out (the pole must be attached to the mast) and the headsail must be tacked to the foot of the forestay and fully hanked or attached to the forestay by a luff groove device.

10 HANDICAPS

- 10.1 A Performance Handicap System (PHS) will be used based on a Time Correction Factor (TCF) derived from the SailSys database, which is applied at the finish, except if amended by the SI.
- 10.2 Handicaps may be adjusted after the first race of the series has been finalised at the discretion of the Club Captain.
- 10.3 The RC will determine a yacht's handicap in relation to its performance in previous races and the selection of Spinnaker/Non Spinnaker in the division to which a yacht is allocated. Such determinations shall not be subject to protest or grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1 & 61.4(b).
- 10.4 If a yacht is disqualified, its handicap may not be adjusted.
- 10.5 If a yacht is granted redress and the finish time is amended by a protest committee, a new handicap may be generated.

11 RACING AREA

- 11.1 Harbour Racing will be on the waters of Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) as displayed in the chartlet(s) included in relevant SI's.

12 COURSES

- 12.1 The courses shall be as described in the SI for the Winter series
- 12.2 Yachts 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

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1 Penalties shall be as stipulated in RRS 44.1 and 44.2.

14 SCORING

- 14.1 The Low Point System, RRS Appendix A, including the provisions of Appendix A5.3, applies, subject to the amendments detailed in clause 14.2 below and those detailed in the respective SI for each series.
- 14.2 All series point scores are open to series entries only.
- 14.3 Upon prior application to the RC, a yacht which starts in a conflicting event as determined by the RC may receive points for any races thereby missed, equal to the yacht's average points. The number of races eligible will be determined by the RC. Average points will be based on points in all races in the series, including discards, except the race or races in question.

15 SAIL NUMBERS

- 15.1 (DP) Sail numbers shall comply with RRS 77 and the AS Prescription to RRS Appendix G which require sail numbers to be of a contrasting colour to the body of the sail and clearly legible. A yacht infringing this rule may be recorded as a non-finisher and be scored DNF.
- 15.2 (DP) A yacht shall sail under the sail number advised when entering and shall display identical sail numbers on its sails. Where the RRS require spinnakers to display sail numbers, they shall be the sail numbers stated when entering.
- 15.3 (DP) A request to use any sail displaying a different number shall be submitted to the SASC Racing Office not later than two (2) hours before the start of the race. Such requests will be considered only where the owner has been genuinely unable to have the correct numbers displayed on a sail - to this end, two consecutive weeks is considered sufficient.
- 15.4 (DP) A yacht which displays an incorrect sail number, and which has not submitted a request to the Racing Office in accordance with clause 16.3 may be subject to protest by the RC.

16 CHANGES AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

- 16.1 (DP) Any changes to hull, propeller, trim, spars, sail area or significant changes to onboard skill level shall be notified in writing to reach the SASC Racing Office not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race affected by the changes. This may result in a change of handicap, and a yacht failing to comply may be subject to action by the RC in accordance with RRS 60.2.

17 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 17.1 **Risk Warning** - RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a yacht's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, yacht handling errors, poor seamanship by other yachts, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.

Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

- 17.2 **Competitors Declaration** — It is the responsibility of owners and skippers to ensure that each yacht nominated complies with the ‘rules’ as defined in the RRS. The owner or person who enters the yacht declares to the OA that the nominated yacht will always while racing comply with the requirements of Australian Sailing, this NoR and the SI and that the owner or person who enters the yacht:
- 17.3 Warrants to the OA that he or she will draw the attention of any person who competes on the yacht the subject of the entry in any event conducted by the OA to the risk warning above, and
- 17.3.1 Acknowledging receipt of the risk warning above and releasing the OA, the RC and other race officials from any claim or liability whatsoever for any harm or personal injury suffered by him or her, or by any person claiming through him or her, in any event conducted by the OA, and
- 17.4 Acknowledges the OA, the RC and other race officials are not responsible for the seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment, and
- 17.5 Warrants all those taking part in these races are reminded of their obligations as set out in the Australian Sailing Special Regulations clause 1.02 Responsibility of the Person in Charge.

3. INSURANCE

- 17.6 Yachts 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, and it is the owner’s responsibility to ensure a current Certificate of Currency is lodged on SailSys.

18 OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

- 18.1 To ensure that rescue, medical and ambulance authorities can be properly informed as needed, all yachts are encouraged to provide crew contact details (including the skipper) in the SailSys race management system prior to the yacht’s first warning signal on each day that the yacht intends to race.
- 18.2 Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing a personal flotation device adequate for the conditions RRS 1.2.
- 18.3 (DP) Yachts shall not interfere with commercial or defence shipping and shall not sail between a pilot vessel and the ship it is piloting.
- 18.4 (DP) Yachts must adhere to the TFNSW regulations for Priority Over Sail - indicated by ferries displaying an orange diamond shape. Yachts must keep clear of these ferries during the day and maintain a minimum distance of 200 meters from the ferry's bow and 30 meters from its sides or stern. This rule applies when the orange diamond is displayed and does not apply at night or if the ferry is overtaking a sailing vessel.

- 18.5 (NP) (DP) All yachts racing in a SASC race must display the SASC racing pennant or flag. Racing pennants are displayed to assist competitors distinguish between yachts racing in other clubs' races when on the racecourse.
- 18.6 (NP) (DP) Yachts shall not carry anchors protruding beyond the bow while racing.
- 18.7 Skippers and crew are required to be always dressed appropriately while racing. The minimum standard of dress shorts and t-shirt.
- 18.8 Competitors' attention is drawn to *Appendix 4 - TfNSW Accident Requirements*, which outline the reporting of incidents involving injuries to any person or damage to yachts.
- 18.9 Competitors' attention is drawn to *Appendix 7 –Weather Guidelines* which sets out guidelines for the RC to consider when deciding whether racing should proceed. The RC may decide not to start a race or may abandon a race after it has started in accordance with RRS 32.
- 18.10 Prior to each race (on the day of the race), SASC will send an SMS message to all nominated skippers to sign-on for the race. The options are yes/no to compete in the race. This assists the starters to record which yachts are racing for the day.
- 18.11 The nominated skipper can be changed by race in the case of multiple yachts owners or syndicates.

4. RIGHTS TO NAMES AND LIKENESS

- 18.12 In participating in these events, a competitor automatically grants to the OA and the sponsors of these events the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live taped or film television and other reproductions of him/her during the period of the competition for the said events in which the competitor participates and all material related to the said events without compensation.

5. RESULTS

- 18.13 Race results will be published on the SailSys results page after each race – initially as 'provisional'. An SMS message may be sent to skippers with a link to the race results.
- 18.14 After any protests or corrections are resolved, the race results will be finalized and the handicaps for the next race generated.
- 18.15 Results are posted on the SailSys website:
<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/6/entry?tab=results>

19 PRIZES

- 19.1 SASC prizes and trophies will be as described in *Appendix 9 - Prizes and Trophies* and will be presented at the SASC annual prizegiving function, except where the respective SI state otherwise.

19.2 Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each division, on the day of the race. Skippers or a crew member must be present at the clubhouse to accept the prize (SASC will not hold or send any prizes).

19.3 Eligibility for Prizes:

19.3.1 Point score Series - unless there are three (3) or more starters in 70% of the races in a SASC series, it will be at the OA discretion to award no prize, medal or trophy to that series.

20 FURTHER INFORMATION

20.1 Refer to relevant Appendices found on the SASC web site under Racing>Appendices

20.2 For further information please contact the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club Racing Secretary by phoning (02) 9953 6597 or emailing racing@sasc.com.au.

20.3 Documents are also available via SailSys Noticeboard for each series.
<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/6/profile?tab=results>