



Skippers' Briefing 2026-27



August 2026

SASC 20th and 25th August @19:00
Club Captain – Declan Brennan
Sailing Manager – David Pryke



Agenda



SASC Skipper Briefing

- TfNSW Maritime
- SASC 2026-27 Season sailing Program
- Season updates and entry
- Crew Concierge
- Volunteers
- Special Regulations Equipment Audits
- Insurance
- Racing
- Questions

SASC 2026-27 Sailing Program



- Sailing Program is available for download on the SASC website.

Racing Season 2026-27 (Updated)

- Please read and keep a copy on your boat
- Make sure you heed emails from Sailing Manager about changes to the Program ...



SASC 2026-27 Sailing Program



SASC Sailing Program 2026-2027 (10/07/2026)												
SASC Sailing Programme 2026-27 Spring												
	Day	Date	Description									
AUG	Sat	8	Equipment Audits	Bookings essential								
	Sat	15	Equipment Audits	Bookings essential								
	Thurs	20	Skippers Briefing	On-line								
	Tues	25	Skippers Briefing	In person - Clubhouse or MRC								
	Day	Date	Description	Friday	Saturday					Off shore	Sunday	
					S30	Cav 28	CR	MF	CC	Classic		
AUG	Sat	22	Sprints RANSA								1,2,3	
	Sun	23	Sprints RANSA								1,2,3	
SEP	Sat	5	Lion Island	Open to yachts with CAT 5+							1	
	Sat	12	Saturday 1 - Opening Regatta		1	1	1			1		
	Sun	13	Sunday Series								1	
	Sat	19	Saturday 2					1		2		
	Sun	20	WKBS / RCF Sprints								1, 1.2,3	
	Sat	26	Saturday 1		2	2	2			3		
	Sun	27	Sunday Series								2	
OCT	Sat	3	October Long Weekend	Northshore Regatta RMYC								
	Fr1	9	Twilight	1e								
	Sat	10	Saturday 1 (Muriel Trophy)		3	3	3			4		
	Sun	11	Gaffers Day 2026	GD								
	Fr1	16	Twilight	2e								
	Sat	17	Saturday 2					2	1	5		
	Sun	18	WKBS								2, 4,5,6	
	Fr	23	Twilight	3e								
	Sat	24	Saturday 1		4	4	4			6		
	Sun	25	Balmain Regatta	All Yachts invited to enter the Balmain Regatta								
	Fr1	30	Twilight	4e								
	Sat	31	Saturday 1		5	5	5			7		
NOV	Sun	1	Sunday Series - Platypus								3	
	Fr1	6	Twilight	5								
	Sat	7	Saturday 2 (Port Stephens)					3	2	8		
	Sun	8	WW Rally for Fun								WWR	
	Fr1	13	Twilight	6								
	Sat	14	Saturday 1		6	6	6			9		
	Sun	15	Sunday Series								4	
	Fr1	20	Twilight	7								
	Sat	21	Saturday 2 (SS1)					4	3	10		
	Sun	22	Womens Keelboat Series								3	
	Fr1	27	Twilight	8								
	Sat	28	Saturday 1		7	7	7			11		
	Sun	29	Sunday Series (RPEYC WOW)								5	
DEC	Fr1	4	Twilight	9								
	Sat	5	Saturday 2 (SS2)					5	4	12		
	Sun	6	IDLE HOUR (TBC)									
	Fr1	11	Twilight	10								
	Sat	12	Saturday 1 - Spring Trophy		8	8	8			13		
	Sun	13	Womens Keelboat Series (SASC)								4	

SASC Sailing Programme 2026-27 Summer												
	Day	Date	Description	Friday	Saturday							Sunday
					S30	Cav 28	CR	MF	CC	Classic		
JAN	Fr1	8	Twilight	11								
	Sat	9	Saturday 1		9	9	9			14		
	Sun	10	Sunday Series									6
	Fr1	15	Twilight	12								
	Sat	16	Saturday 2 (SS3)					6		15		
	Fr1	22	Twilight	13								
	Sat	23	Saturday 1 - Round The Islands		10	10	10			16		
	Sun	24	Sunday Series									7
	Tues	26	Australia Day Regatta	All Yachts invited to enter the Australia Day Regatta								
	Fr1	29	Twilight	14								
	Sat	30	Saturday 2 (SS 4)					7	5	17		
	Sun	31	Womens Keelboat Series									5
FEB	Fr1	5	Twilight	15								
	Sat	6	Saturday 1		11	11	11			18		
	Sun	7	Pittwater Regatta RPAYC									
	Fr1	12	Twilight	16								
	Sat	13	Saturday 2					8	6	19		
	Sun	14	Sunday Series (Karoo Trophy)									8
	Fr1	19	Twilight	17								
	Sat	20	Saturday 1 (Don Deller)		12	12	12			20		3
	Sun	21	Womens Keelboat Series									6
	Fr1	26	Twilight	18								
	Sat	27	Saturday 2					9	7	21		
	Sun	28	RANSA Regatta /Sunday Series									9
MAR	Fr1	5	Twilight	19e								
	Sat	6	SHR (MHYC)		1,2,3		1,2			22 NPS		
	Sun	7	SHR (MHYC)		4,5,6							
	Fr1	12	Twilight	20e								
	Sat	13	Saturday 2 - Summer Trophy					10	8	23		
	Sun	14	Sunday Series - Summer Trophy									10
	Fr1	19	Twilight Final	21e								
	Sat	20	Club Championship	Point Score Placegetters from each series								
	Sun	21	Womens Keelboat Series									7
			RCF Sprints									7,8,9
	Thur	25	Bob Brown Race	Open to yachts with Cat 5+								
	Fr1	26	Bob Brown BBQ									
APR	Sat	3	RPEYC Classic Regatta									

SASC 2026-27 Sailing Program



Important dates:

- **Lion Island Race** – Saturday 5th September
- **Season opening party** – Friday 11th September
- **Opening Day & Series Point Score** – Saturday 12th September
- **Sunday Racing** – Sunday 13th September
- **Ranger & Couta, Folkboat sprints** – Sunday 20th September
- **Women's Keelboat Series (CCS)** – Sunday 20th September
- **Rules Night** – Wednesday 30th September
- **Twilight Racing** – Friday 9th October (early start)
- **Gaffers Day 2026** – Sunday 11th October

SASC 2026-27 Sailing Program



Sydney Harbour Women's Keelboat Series

Supports women's development at SASC, outside normal racing

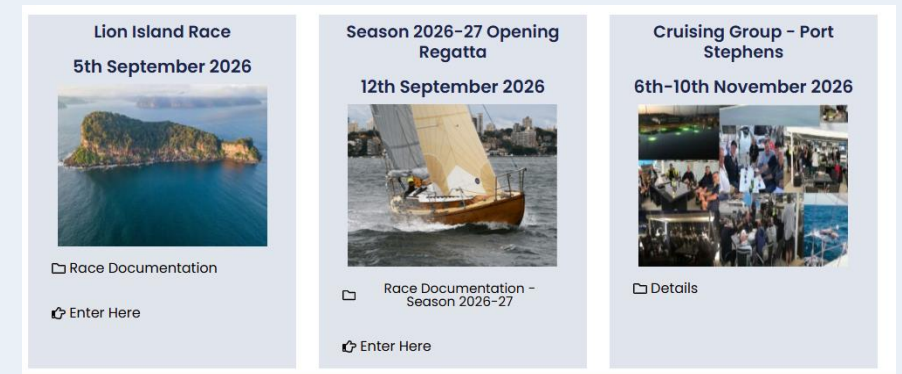
- Operated by the seven Sydney Harbour Clubs
- Only requires female helm
- Mixed crews welcome
- 7 races (2 discards)
- One Sunday a month
- Full series or casual entry



Racing Documentation for 2026-27



- SASC “Sailing Program Book” is no longer published
- Replaced by a new document suite (in line with RRS Appendix J):
 - Notice of Race
 - Sailing Instructions
- Handy Course Guide developed to print/laminate for your boat
- All documents available on the website and updated regularly.



Changes to Series for 2026-27



- **Super 30** - two Series with separate entry:
 - Gold Cup Saturday Point score – 12 Races
 - Windward Leeward (hosted by MHYC) – up to 6 Races.
- **Twilight Series** –BB to EC (layoff mark) now permanent
- **Women's Keelboat Series** – Combined Clubs – 7 Races
- **Commodores Cup** – Folkboat Sub-Series continues
- **Sunday Non-Spinnaker Series** – Two divisions based on performance – overlay Pointscore (Mixed/Classic)

SailSys - Season entries

Season entry allows you to enter some or all the Series for a fixed price, in one entry process



SASC Season 2026-27		
SASC Season 2026-27	Includes: Classics Overall Series 2026-27, Mixed Fleet, Sheep Station 2026-27, Commodores Cup (Folkboats) 2026-27, Ranger Couta Sprints & Folkboat Sprints 2026-27, Super 30, Cavalier 28, Cruiser Racer 2026-27, Sunday Series 2026-27, Friday Twilight 2026-27, Winter 2027 (Block Entries), Lion Island Race 2026, Bob Brown Trophy 2027 Next Race: Race 1, 5th September 2026	Enter
Classics Overall Series 2026-27	Next Race: Race 1 (Opening Regatta), 12th September 2026	Enter
Friday Twilight 2026-27	Next Race: Race 1e, 9th October 2026	Enter
Commodores Cup (Folkboats) 2026-27	Next Race: Race 1, 17th October 2026	Enter
Mixed Fleet, Sheep Station 2026-27	Includes: Sheep Station Series Next Race: Race 1, 19th September 2026	Enter
Ranger Couta Sprints & Folkboat Sprints 2026-27	Next Race: Race 1, 20th September 2026	Enter
Sunday Series 2026-27	Next Race: Race 1, 13th September 2026	Enter
Winter 2027 (Block Entries)	Next Race: Race 1, 8th May 2027	Enter
Super 30, Cavalier 28, Cruiser Racer 2026-27	Next Race: Race 1 (Opening Regatta), 12th September 2026	Enter
Lion Island Race 2026	Next Race: Race 1, 5th September 2026	Enter
Bob Brown Trophy 2027	Next Race: Race 1, 25th March 2027	Enter

Season entry
magenta
(Block entry
fixed price)

Individual Series entry blue
(Individual Series pricing)

Season entries



Race entry completion

- After payment, the entry will be received by SASC as 'pending' for compliance checks:
 - Cat 4/5/7; and
 - Insurance
- You will receive an email per Series asking for the compliance documents to be uploaded.
- If you already have (current) compliance documents in Sailsys, SASC will transfer them to your entry(s). Nothing further for you to do.
- Expired compliance documents require the **updated** documents to be uploaded via your SailSys account.

Crew Concierge

Looking For Crew?



- All crew requests now managed via the Crew Concierge App.
- Access via SASC WEB Site: <https://sasc.com.au/crew-opportunities/#CrewConcierge>
- Skippers can add their sailing days and crew requests.
- Crew can add their available sailing days and their profile
- Skippers and Crew then "connect" in the Crew Concierge Application

Volunteers



- The Club is always looking for new volunteers to join the Race Management team;
- Start boat volunteers (new start boat Kareela)
 - Friday twilights – all volunteer crew for the start boat.
 - Saturday and Sunday races.
- Race officers
- Equipment auditors
- Tender drivers (weekends)
- Training is available through the Club and on-line via AS

Special Regulations Equipment Audits



- Audit forms expire twelve months after the date of audit
- Equipment audits must be completed on the (current) official Australian Sailing (AS) form(s) with SASC appendices as required, such as:
 - PFD - proof of annual service
 - Category 5 Annex - TfNSW Maritime “Open Water” requirements
 - VHF Transceiver is now mandatory for Cat 7
- All equipment shall be laid out neatly for inspection. Where equipment is not appropriately laid out, the auditor may refuse to continue the audit.
- The boat owner or person in charge must be in attendance during the audit
- **Audit Forms must be uploaded to Sailsys to complete your race entry**

Special Regulations Equipment Audits

VHF Transceivers



- VHF Transceivers are now mandatory to race (Cat 7 and above)
- Can be handheld or fixed
- Recommended the unit supports DSC (MMSI number required)
- Recommended you have a radio Operators license – note this is mandatory for MMSI allocation.
- SASC will facilitate Radio License training at the clubhouse if there is interest.
 - Minimum class size – 8-10 persons
 - Contact sailingmanager@sasc.com.au if you are interested?

Insurance



- All boat owners competing in SASC events must hold current third-party property liability and personal liability insurance cover of not less than \$10,000,000 (ten million dollars) for each and every separate incident.
- Important Notice to Skippers: while the SASC maintains insurance appropriate for Club activities, this cover does not automatically extend to individual skippers or their vessels.
- Skippers must not assume that the Club's insurance will respond to incidents or losses arising from their participation. It is the skipper's responsibility to ensure they have adequate personal and vessel insurance in place.

Insurance (policy details...)



- Have you paid your annual insurance premium?
- Have you renewed your boat (TfNSW) Rego?
- Is your boat fit for your intended purpose?
- Are you covered for change of skipper/helmsperson?
- Do you have sufficient cover - offshore, spinnaker, racing?
- Have you checked your policy for exclusions – PDS?
- Do your crew have accident/liability insurance?
- SailPASS provides (limited) personal insurance coverage to individuals who are participating in sailing activities as a temporary member of a sailing club.

No Current Insurance certificate in SailSys – no entry to race

Racing



Crew - SailPASS

- Australian Sailing prescribes (RRS 46) that:
 - A boat shall have on board a person in charge designated by the member ... that entered the boat.
 - All persons on board a boat while racing shall be members of a Club affiliated to Australian Sailing and have an Australian Sailing number **or** hold a valid SailPASS....
- A SailPass can be obtained via the SASC Web site, with the first three being free and each additional SailPASS being \$12.00.
- A season SailPASS can be purchased for \$175.00 which expires on 31st May each year.

Racing



Helmsperson

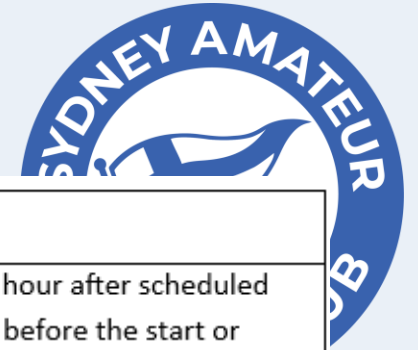
- Change of regular helmsperson must be notified to the Sailing Office at least 24 hours before the Race.
- This is for compliance purposes, does not affect handicapping.
- A boat may be disqualified for failing to notify the Race Committee of a change in helmsperson
- Check if you need to let your insurance company/broker know about a change of helmsperson

Racing



Sailing Instructions

- Each Season there are changes to the Sailing Instructions and courses
- Read the Sailing Instructions and become familiar with the courses before you race !
- Check the SailSys noticeboard (part of the skipper's race entrants screen in SailSys) for any amendments or updates for your Series/Race
- The Sailing Office may advise skippers with any notifications (commercial) shipping movements.



Race Cancellation

Racing

- Race cancellation will be at the discretion of the Race Officer on the day with reasons for cancelling a Race including (but not be limited to)
- Notification of race cancellations will be via:
 - SailSys SMS,
 - Usually after BOM 10am post.
- A Race cancelled and not re-run will be scored zero points.
- It's the **Skippers responsibility** to decide whether to participate in a Race.

Average Wind Conditions	Action
Below <5kn	Race Start may be delayed (AP) for up to 1 hour after scheduled race start time. Course might be shortened before the start or during the race time. Race might be abandoned after the start.
5Kn - 25Kn	Normal Race Conditions – Above 20kn the Y flag shall be in-place for open boats.
26kn - 33kn	Strong Wind Warning – Racing is at the discretion of the RO and Sailing Committee. Safety of the Race Management team and Yacht Crews are the key considerations. Class wind strength restrictions may apply – skippers to make their own determination. Race may be abandoned or delayed start if weather conditions are due to moderate. Y flag will be in place for open boats (Couta, Etchell etc)– all crew must wear flotation devices.
34kn - 47kn	Gale Warning – Race Abandoned (automatic)

Racing



Boats intending to Race

- Sign-on via SailSys
- Prior to entering the start area **remove the anchor from the bow.** This provision may be enforced by the Race Officer with a DNE - Disqualification that is not excludable.
- Ensure you have the SASC racing A Flag (available from SASC office) displayed at or near the masthead or from the backstay
- Report to the Race Officer aboard the Committee Vessel and receive acknowledgement.

Racing



Boats intending to race (Cont.)

- Check the flags for Division start and courses – don't just follow the boat in front or in your Division (flags are identified inside front cover of NoR).
- Shortening a course may be;
 - at the start
 - at a mark
- Boats not actually engaged in starting **MUST KEEP CLEAR** of the starting area and other boats starting.
- Boats should endeavor to not sail through other Clubs' starting or finishing lines.

Racing

Y Flag



- When the Y Flag is displayed with one sound signal before or with the Warning Signal, competitors in boats with open non-self-draining cockpits and which are not fitted with sufficient in-built buoyancy to stay afloat whilst flooded, shall wear appropriate personal flotation devices, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment
- Skippers can mandate when all crew must wear PFDs even if the Y Flag not displayed.
- RRS 1.2: Each competitor is **individually responsible** for wearing a personal flotation device adequate for the conditions.



Y Wear a personal flotation device (see [rule 40](#)).

Racing



Boats retiring

- Boats retiring from a race are required to notify the Committee Vessel via:
 - the Race Officers mobile 0419 625 883, or
 - hailing on VHF Channel 73, or
 - by any other suitable means

Racing



Sail Numbers

- RRS 77 requires that a boat's sail number match the number on her official entry list.
- Sail numbers shall comply with RRS 77 and the AS Prescription to RRS Appendix G (1.2) requiring **sail numbers to be of a contrasting colour to the body of the sail**
- Non-compliant boats may be recorded as DNQ by the Race Officer

Racing

Sail numbers must be in a contrasting color to the sail



Racing

Know the Rules of Racing ...

- Obtain the RRS 2025-28 book or download from the SASC web site
- Come to the rule's nights – Next event 30th September, 7pm
- Ask members at the Club
- Ask members of the Protest Committee



Racing

Protesting...

- The SASC encourage skippers to protest infractions, even if unsure of the specific application of the rules applying – it's a good way to learn.
- Protests must conform to RRS Rule 61.
- Completed protest forms must be delivered to the SASC Sailing Office no later than 11:00 on the first working day following the day of the Race being protested.
- Hearings will be held on the following Tuesday at the SASC clubhouse or as directed by the Protest Committee.
- Resources available on the SASC WEB site:



Racing

Risk minimization on the water

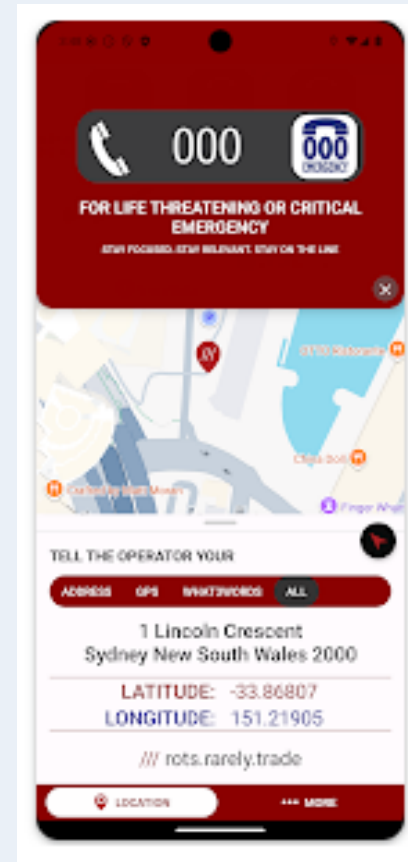
- Provide a safety briefing to your crew – each time !
- Train for on-water emergencies
 - person overboard
 - medical emergency
 - collision or grounding
- Ensure all crew can operate safety equipment
- Weather – check the forecast before you go out
- Check daily vessel movements on Sydney Harbour
- SASC Safety Resources can be found on the WEB site -
<https://sasc.com.au/sailing/safety/>



Racing

Emergency Plus App

- Use Emergency Plus when calling 000 on the water.
- “What3words” – quote to the operator to determine your location.
- Proceed to the nearest ambulance pickup point or as directed.



Racing



Rendering assistance

- SASC Race Committee vessel is not designed as a rescue boat.
- RRS 1.1 Helping Those in Danger
 - A boat, competitor or support person shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger
 - If you see another boat in danger, you are required to stand by and render assistance as appropriate.
 - Redress can be sought from the Race Officer

Racing



Incidents

- Skippers must report all incidents that involve a fatality, serious injury and/or significant damage to NSW Water Police
- A written incident report must be emailed to the Sailing Office racing@sasc.com.au and to TfNSW within 24 hours if one of the following applies:
 - The incident has resulted in death or serious injury to a person
 - The incident has result in damage more than \$5,000 to a vessel or any other property
 - Damage or risk to the environment has occurred

Racing



Incidents Cont.

- The information you provide in your incident report plays an important part in supporting the way we improve safety on the water
- Report **all on-water incidents** to the Race Officer
- Following an incident that causes a loss, contact your insurance company ASAP
 - Check your specific policy(s) for details of reporting requirements



?Questions?

Thank you for your attention and please reach out to the SASC **Sailing Manager - David Pryke** at sailingmanager@SASC.com.au or by telephone on (02) 9953 6597 if you require any further information about the Clubs racing or to enquire about volunteering.