



**GIANT STEPS SYDNEY
2024 AUTISM SAILING REGATTA**

Friday 15 November

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



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1.0 RULES

- 1.1 The Race will be governed by the following;
 - the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS),
 - the Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS),
 - the MHYC Safety Requirements,
 - the MHYC Conditions of Entry, and by
 - this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 The Race will be a 'Pursuit' race with a handicapped starting sequence.
- 1.3 The Race will be categorized as 'Non Spinnaker'. No sails shall be set forward of a mast which are not normally carried forward of that mast when working to windward. Only a mainsail and headsails as defined in RRS 50.4 shall be used. Headsails shall not be set flying.
- 1.4 The attention of competitors is drawn to the MHYC Notice of Race (Sailing Handbook 2017-2018) which are referenced throughout the NoR and these SIs including their responsibilities under the applicable NSW Maritime legislation.
- 1.5 The Sailing Office of Middle Harbour Yacht Club ("MHYC") shall be the Race Committee ("RC") for the purposes of, and with, the powers and discretions contained in RRS 90.1. This amends MHYC NOR 4.2.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board which is located on the MHYC Website www.mhyc.com.au.

3 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Changes to these Sailing Instructions, if any, will be posted not later than 2 hours prior to the warning signal of the race.

4 SIGNALS

- 4.1 Signals will be displayed from the MHYC Race Official's Box on the north-western perimeter of the Club premises.
- 4.2 Signals will be as follows:

1320 Hrs	Course Number Displayed
1330 Hrs	Start, Count Up Sequence Commences
- 4.3 The display of the course number and the start of the count up sequence may each be accompanied by a sound signal.
- 4.4 Information for competitors may be broadcast by the the Race Committee on VHF Ch 72.

5 THE COURSE

- 5.1 The Courses are those annexed to these Sailing Instructions (Annex A). A chartlet showing the approximate locations of the marks is attached (Annex B) and a description of the marks is also attached (Annex C).
- 5.2 Courses may be shortened prior to the Start at the discretion of the RC. If Code Flag "S" be displayed with or prior to the display of the Course Number, the race will automatically be shortened and all yachts should proceed to the finish line after having rounded the mark indicated by an asterisk (*).
- 5.3 Courses may also be shortened at any mark in accordance with RRS 32.

- 5.4 The attention of competitors is drawn to the MHYC NOR and those areas which are designated obstructions and prohibited areas in the vicinity of the Start and Finish lines, the Gowlland Bombora and the Sow and Pigs Reef. A boat shall not sail into an area designated a prohibited area.

6 HANDICAP PURSUIT RACE

- 6.1 The race shall be a Handicap Pursuit Race with a Count Up start sequence.
- 6.2 A boat shall comply with the Special Regulations Part 1 for Category 7 or have a current Survey Certificate issued by Transport for NSW Maritime.
- 6.3 The Regatta is designated non-spinnaker, only a mainsail and headsails as defined in RRS 50.4 shall be used. Headsails shall not be set flying. (No sail shall be set forward of a point of attachment of the permanent forestay.)
- 6.4 Start numbers will be based on time correction factors (TCFs). A boat's TCF shall be determined by the RC or its nominee.
- 6.5 Boats shall notify the MHYC Sailing Office not later than 2 days prior to a race of any change, addition or alteration to a boat's hull appendages, equipment, sail inventory or skipper/crew that may affect its performance. At the discretion of the RC, a boat that fails to comply may be either disqualified after a hearing or have its results retrospectively adjusted by applying a new TCF based on the effect on the boat's performance.
- 6.6 The TCF, and a boat's start number based on it, shall not be subject to protest or constitute grounds for redress (amends RRS 60.1 and 62).
- 6.7 When only one boat starts and sails the course within the time limit, the RC shall not abandon the race (amends RRS 32).

7 THE START

- 7.1 The start line is a transit formed by aligning two orange triangles located adjacent to the MHYC Race Official's Box. The transit bears approximately 065°/245° magnetic.
- 7.2 The Clubhouse Pre-Start area is defined as the area between the start line and the extension of the D-Arm outer walkway (northern marina arm). No boat shall enter the Pre-Start Area before her Preparatory Signal unless transiting the area under motor.
- 7.3 Any boat observed to breach 7.2 shall be awarded a 45% scoring penalty (SCP). This amends RRS 63.1.
- 7.4 The RC will allocate a starting handicap in minutes to each boat for the race. A boat shall not start before the Starters Clock has displayed its designated start handicap in minutes.
- 7.5 There will be no recalls. Any yacht deemed to have started prematurely and that has not returned and started correctly shall be penalised 5 minutes plus the difference between her starting handicap applied to her finish time. This amends RRS 29.

8 THE FINISH

- 8.1 The Finish Line is a transit formed by aligning two orange triangles located adjacent to the MHYC Race Official's Box. The transit bears approximately 065°/245° magnetic and is illuminated after dark.
- 8.2 When finishing, boats are requested to centre their mainsail in order to assist in the identification of competitors. Boats that cannot be identified will be scored 'DNF'. This amends RRS 63.1.

8.3 After finishing and before lowering her sails a boat shall proceed immediately to the north of the extension of the D-Arm outer walkway (northern marina arm). When returning to a berth or mooring a boat shall not cross to the south of this transit unless under motor and with her sails stowed and any boat observed to breach this shall be awarded a 45% scoring penalty (SCP). This amends RRS 63.1.

8.4 Boats are reminded of their obligation under RRS 23 and in particular once finishing, to keep clear of boats that are still racing. A boat that is observed to interfere with a boat still racing or with the operation of the Finish Line may be disqualified. This amends RRS 63.1.

9 TIME LIMITS

9.1 The time limit will be 1600hrs on the day of racing.

10 ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

10.1 For an infringement of RRS Part 2, the Two-Turns Penalty (RRS 44.2) shall apply.

10.2 For an infringement of any other rule or requirement, the Scoring Penalties of RRS 44.3 shall apply. The penalty shall be computed as a percentage of the number of entries in the relevant division.

11 ABANDONED RACES

11.1 Abandoned races will not be resailed.

12 RADIO COMMUNICATION

12.1 Yachts shall maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 72 for the duration of the race.

12.2 Skippers approaching the MHYC Marina prior to the race for guest pick-up, shall contact MHYC 'Dockmaster' on VHF Channel 73, for berthing instructions.

13 PRIZES

13.1 Prizes shall be presented at a post-race presentation.

14 RESPONSIBILITY

14.1 Competitors participate at their own risk. 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"***.

14.2 The Organising Authority, Event Sponsors (if applicable), 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 MHYC Race and all services relating thereto will be conducted or rendered with reasonable care and skill is excluded.

14.3 Neither MHYC, nor the event sponsor (if applicable), are responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

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ANNEX A – COURSES

- All marks are to be rounded to Starboard unless suffixed (Port)
- If race is shortened prior to the start, yachts proceed to the finish after having rounded the mark indicated by an asterisk (*).

COURSE 1	
Division 1 – 9.7 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - Fort Denison (Port) Finish at MHYC	Division 2 – 8.4 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - Naval Mark N3 Finish at MHYC
COURSE 2	
Division 1 – 10 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - AS Mark Eastern Channel 2 - AS Mark Shark Island 3 - Shark Island (*) 4 - Fort Denison (Port) Finish at MHYC	Division 2 – 8.7 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - AS Mark Eastern Channel (*) 2 - AS Mark Shark Island 3 - Shark Island 4 - Naval Mark N3 Finish at MHYC
COURSE 3	
Division 1 – 11.0 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - AS Mark Cannae Point 2 - Fort Denison (Port) Finish at MHYC	Division 2 – 9.7 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - Fort Denison (Port) Finish at MHYC
COURSE 4	
Division 1 – 11.8 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - AS Mark Cannae Point 2 - AS Mark Eastern Channel 3 - AS Mark Shark Island 4 - Shark Island 5 - Naval Mark N3 (*) 6 - Fort Denison (Port) Finish at MHYC	Division 2 – 10.6 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - AS Mark Eastern Channel 2 - AS Mark Shark Island 3 - Shark Island 4 - Naval Mark N3 (*) 5 - Fort Denison (Port) Finish at MHYC
COURSE 5	
Division 1 – 12.7 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - Fort Denison (Port) 2 - Sow & Pigs Reef (Port) 3 - AS Mark Cannae Point (*) 4 - AS Mark Lady Bay Finish at MHYC	Division 2 – 11.3 miles (approx.) Start at MHYC 1 - Fort Denison (Port) 2 - Sow & Pigs Reef (Port) (*) 3 - AS Mark Cannae Point Finish at MHYC

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ANNEX B – COURSE CHARTLET



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ANNEX C – MARK DESCRIPTIONS & LOCATIONS

FIXED AUSTRALIAN SAILING (AS) MARKS, NAVAL MARKS & LAID MARKS

Previously Yachting Australia or Yachting New South Wales Marks (YA Marks), these are spar shape and yellow in colour. Locations are approximate and marks may have moved or be absent after heavy weather. All Australian Sailing Marks must be rounded to starboard.

ID	LOCATION	ID	LOCATION
BB	AS Mark Beashel Buoy (previously AS Mark Sow & Pigs) Lat. 33-50-332 Lon. 151-16-185	MW	AS Mark Manly West Lat. 33-48-173S Lon. 151-16-619E
CBN	AS Mark Chowder Bay (North) Lat. 33-50-343S Lon. 151-15-613E	N2	Naval Mark No.2 Approx. 250m NW of Clarke Island Lat. 33-51.628S Lon. 151-14.200E
CBS	AS Mark Chowder Bay (South) Lat. 33-50-533S Lon. 151-15-343E	N3	Naval Mark No.3 Approx. 200m North of Clarke Island Lat. 33-51.571S Lon. 151-14.537E
CP	AS Mark Cannae Point Lat. 33-48-819S Lon. 151-16-955E	NP	AS Mark Nielsen Park Lat. 33-50.945 Lon. 151-15.927
EB	AS Mark Edwards Beach Lat. 33-49-292S Lon. 151-15-299E	OB	AS Mark Obelisk Bay Lat. 33-49-845 Lon. 151-15-981
EC	AS Mark East Channel Lat. 33-50-439S Lon. 151-16-249E	PP	AS Mark Point Piper Lat. 33-51-758 Lon. 151-15-077
GP	AS Mark Grotto Point Lat. 33-49-052S Lon. 151-16-039E	RB	AS Mark Rose Bay Lat. 33-51-742 Lon. 151-15-978
KP	Laid Orange Inflatable Mark approx. 700m East of Kirribilli Point Lat. 33-51-090 Lon. 151-13-618	RP	AS Mark Rocky Point Lat. 33-49-424 Lon. 151-15-299
LB	AS Mark Lady Bay Lat. 33-50-076S Lon. 151-16-620E	SI	AS Mark Shark Island Lat. 33-51-609 Lon. 151-15-572
ME	AS Mark Manly East Lat. 33-48-193S Lon. 151-16-731E	TB	AS Mark Taylor Bay Lat. 33-50-898 Lon. 151-14-922

Note: All coordinates are approximate.

HARBOUR ISLAND MARKS

Harbour Islands Locations as per Chart AUS200.

NAME	LOCATION
Shark Island	West Cardinal Mark on the Western side of Shark Island Port Lateral Mark (lighthouse) on the Northern side of Shark Island
Clarke Island	Starboard Lateral Mark on the Southern side of Clarke Island
Fort Denison	Starboard Lateral mark on Southern side of Fort Denison
Sow & Pigs Reef	Area bounded by Cardinal Marks surrounding Sow and Pigs Reef

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ANNEX D – MARINA MAP

