



Sydney Harbour Combined Clubs Winter Series 2026

Notice of Race

The organising authority is the Royal Australian Naval Sailing Association (RANSA), Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS), and Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club (RPEYC).

The race committee referred to in this notice of race and the sailing instructions shall consist of one representative from each participating club.

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

1 RULES

Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the Special Regulations of Australian Sailing applicable to Category 7 races.

2 ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The series is open to boats of mono hull construction.
- 2.2 No boat shall race unless there is a minimum of 2 persons on board.

3 ENTRY

- 3.1 Eligible boats are invited to enter one or more of the following series;
 - Full Series – 12 races, includes the Short Series.
 - Short Series – 6 Races.
- 3.2 For a valid entry, competitors shall:
 - complete the online entry via the respective Club's online entry system.
 - accept the declaration detailed in the online entry system.
 - include the entry fee.
 - lodge a valid Australian Sailing Special Regulations Equipment Audit Form.
 - lodge a current insurance Certificate of Currency.
- 3.3 Series entries are to be received no later than 1700hrs Thursday 30th April 2026.
- 3.4 Casual entries may enter via the respective Club's online entry process. Casual entries to be received by either RANSA, RPEYC or RSYS office no later than 1700hrs on the Thursday before the Saturday race.

4 ENTRY FEE

Entry fees for 2026 are as follows;

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| • Full Series (12 races) | \$250 |
| • Short Series (6 races) | \$170 |
| • Casual entry for each race | \$50 |

5 DIVISIONS AND HANDICAPS

- 5.1 It is proposed that the following divisions will be formed for the Winter Series;
 - *Mixed Spinnaker Divisions*
 - *Non-spinnaker Divisions*
 - *Sports Boat Division* (Dependent on entries)
- 5.2 Entries will be allocated to divisions at the Combined Clubs' Race Committee's absolute discretion, and such determination will not be grounds for protest or redress.

- 5.3 The Combined Clubs' Race Committee at its discretion may choose to add or delete divisions depending on entry numbers.
- 5.4 Divisions will be advised on the official list of entries available on each clubs' website.
- 5.5 The handicap will be a Time Correction Factor (TCF) which is applied at the finish, except as amended by the Sailing Instructions. Handicaps may be adjusted after each race has been finalised.
- 5.6 (DP) Boats in the Non-spinnaker divisions are not permitted to fly spinnakers. Headsails may be poled out but must be tacked to the foot of the forestay and fully hanked or attached to the forestay by a luff groove device. The forestay is as defined in the current World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing. Cousta boats or similar craft are exempted from this provision where the forestay is integrated in the headsail luff.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Sydney Harbour Combined Clubs Winter Series schedule;

Date	Full Series	Half Series	Host Club
Sat 2 May	Race 1	Race 1	RSYS
Sat 9 May	Race 2		RANSA
Sat 16 May	Race 3	Race 2	RPEYC
Sat 23 May	Race 4		RSYS
Sat 30 May	Race 5	Race 3	RANSA
Sat 6 June	Long weekend no racing		
Sat 13 June	Race 6		RPEYC
Sat 20 June	Race 7	Race 4	RSYS
Sat 27 June	Race 8		RANSA
Sat 4 July	Race 9	Race 5	RPEYC
Sat 11 July	Race 10		RSYS
Sat 18 July	Race 11	Race 6	RANSA
Sat 25 July	Race 12		RPEYC

- 6.2 Scheduled time of the first warning signal will be 1225 hrs.

7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Will be available by Wednesday 22nd April 2026. Race documents will be posted on the official online notice board (ONB) located by clicking on the Sydney Harbour combined clubs winter series (SHCCWS) entries and results tab from any of the participating clubs website www.ransa.com.au , www.rpeyc.com.au , www.rsys.com.au

8 RACING AREA

Racing shall be conducted on Port Jackson Sydney Harbour.

9 COURSES

Courses will be around harbour marks and islands as described in the Sailing Instructions.

10 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 10.1 In addition to penalties at the time of the incident in accordance with rules 44.1 and 44.2, boats may also take a 30% Post Race Penalty in accordance with RRS Appendix T by notifying the race office.
- 10.2 RRS Appendix T Arbitration may be applied by the protest committee. Arbitration may take place promptly after racing or at some other time as advised to the parties. Arbitration may take place by email, telephone, or other electronic means.

11 SCORING

- 11.1 RRS Appendix A including the provisions of A5.3 and the amendments detailed in clauses 11.2 and 11.3 below apply.
- 11.2 Pointscores and the number of races discarded are as follows;
- Full Series (12 races) – a boat shall drop any two (2) races.
 - Short Series (6 races) – a boat shall drop anyone (1) race, except if fewer than six races are completed, no score will be excluded.
- 11.3 All Pointscores are open to series entries only. This changes RRS Appendix A2.2.

12 COMMUNICATION

(DP) All boats shall carry an operating marine band VHF radio capable of receiving normal international channels. The radio must be switched on at all times and tuned to the correct race committee frequency.

13 CHANGES AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

13.1 (DP) Any changes to hull, engine, propeller, trim, spars, sails including any modified, new, or replacement sails, shall be notified in writing to either RANSA, RPEYC or RSYS no later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race affected by the changes. This may result in a change of handicap.

14 RESPONSIBILITIES

14.1 Risk Warning - The Organising Authority advises owners, skippers and anyone who participates in sailing events conducted by the Organising Authority that participation in the sport of sailing, 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 sailing event of whatever nature conducted by the Organising Authority.

14.2 Competitors' Declaration

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:

- (a) and the person who enters the boat with the Organising Authority warranting to the Organising Authority that he or she will draw the attention of any person who competes on the boat the subject of the entry in any event conducted by the Organising Authority to the risk warning above; and
- (b) the person who enters the boat with the Organising Authority acknowledging receipt of the risk warning above and releasing the Organising Authority 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 Organising Authority.

14.3 Disclaimer of Liability

- (a) All those taking part in these races do so at their own risk and responsibility. Specific attention is drawn to RRS 3 which states; "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". The organising authority, sponsors, respective class associations, the Race Committee and other race officials are not responsible for any damage or injury either afloat or ashore.
- (b) The organising authority, sponsors, class associations, 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 these races are reminded of their obligations as set out in the Australian Sailing Special Regulations clause 1.02 Owner's Responsibility of the Person in Charge.

15 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be covered by current Third-Party Property Liability insurance and Third-Party Personal Liability insurance of not less than \$10,000,000 (ten million) for each separate incident. All insurance cover shall be maintained during the period of racing;

16 OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

16.1 RRS 52 is amended so that it does not apply for the adjustment and operation of sails or the adjustment of movable appendages on any boat.

16.2 (DP) Boats shall not carry anchors protruding beyond the bow while racing.

17 PRIZES

17.1 Weekly prizes may be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each division at the discretion of each club in the combined winter series.

17.2 Prizes for overall pointscore winners in each series, will be presented at the annual prizegiving of the participating clubs.

18 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact;

- RANSA email: office@ransa.com.au or telephone: (02) 9363 9939
- RPEYC email: secretary@rpeyc.com.au or telephone (02) 9363 5809
- RSYS email: sailing@rsys.com.au or telephone: (02) 9017 0152