**ROYAL PRINCE EDWARD YACHT CLUB**

# Notice of Race

## 66th Annual Wednesday Afternoon Series 2026/2027

### 7 October 2026 to 21 April 2027

*Amended 27 October 2026*

**The Organising Authority is the Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club (RPEYC)**

## 1 RULES

a) The event is governed by the rules as defined in the World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the Special Regulations of Australian Sailing applicable to races in Category 7 and above as amended.

b) In the event of conflict between any of the rules or regulations, other than RRS, the sailing instructions will prevail. This changes RRS 63.5(c).

## 2 ELIGIBILITY

a) The series is open to all boats of monohull construction.

b) Race results will be determined by Performance Handicaps (PHS). Results will also be calculated under the International Rating Certificate (IRC) for weekly prizes only; there is no IRC series pointscore.

c) PHS will be the default handicapping system applied to all boats entered.

d) PHS will be handicaps that are determined by the Race Committee and will be by a Time Correction Factor (TCF) applied to a boat's elapsed time. Handicaps will be reviewed considering all previous races sailed and may be subject to adjustment.

e) Boats can elect to compete under IRC and:

   i) must hold a valid **IRC Standard** (or endorsed) certificate for the current year.

   ii) the IRC Rules Parts A, B and C current at the time of each race shall apply.

   iii) IRC Rule 22.4 shall not apply.

   iv) Standard certificates rely on owner-declared data, and the Race Committee retains the right to conduct random equipment inspections or event measurements.

f) Classic yachts may compete for the Classics Prize in the Centenary Regatta (Race 7) and shall identify themselves at entry. A 'classic yacht' is defined

as one of monohull displacement construction built to a pre-1975 design or boats with a conventional profile in the spirit of Classic Yachts. Eligibility for the Classics Prize will be determined by the Race Committee.

## 3 EVENT FORMAT AND SCHEDULE

a) The series will consist of 27 Wednesday afternoon races commencing on 7 October 2026 until 21 April 2027, excluding 23 December 2026 and 30 December 2026.

b) Race number 7 on 18 November 2026 will be the RPEYC Centenary Regatta and will include spinnaker divisions, for that race only. The spinnaker divisions will start five minutes before Division 1, with their warning signal at 1345 hrs. A classic yacht sailing without a spinnaker will sail in the non-spinnaker division she would normally occupy; a classic yacht flying a spinnaker shall sail in Division 1S or 2S under the separate sailing instructions for that race. Classic yachts will be eligible for the Classics Prize. All boats in Race 7 will be scored using PHS, and also using IRC if they hold a valid IRC certificate.

c) There will be four divisions:

- Division 1
- Division 2
- Division 3
- Division 4

Division 5 was deleted with effect from Race 3 on 21 October 2026, and boats previously allocated to it were placed into Division 4, as set out in the sailing instructions.

d) The Race Committee will allocate boats to Divisions.

e) The Race Committee may choose to add or delete divisions depending on entry numbers.

f) Except as provided in paragraph 3(b), boats shall not 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. Couta boats or similar craft are exempted from this provision where the forestay is integrated in the headsail luff.

g) Determinations or decisions by the Race Committee about allocation to divisions or handicaps shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.

h) Divisions and handicaps will be advised on the list of entries available from the RPEYC website.

i) Scheduled time of the first warning signal is 1350 hrs, except in Race 7 when the warning signal for the spinnaker divisions will be at 1345 hrs.

## 4 ENTRY

a) Eligible boats may enter for the entire series (27 races) or as a casual entry nominating the date(s) on which the boat intends to race. Enter online by using the RPEYC website Race Entry process into the SailSys system.

b) All boats entering shall upload a copy of a current completed Category 7 (or higher), Equipment Audit Form and a current third-party insurance certificate (refer to paragraph 16 below) to the boat's Compliance page in SailSys, or forward to the RPEYC Office at secretary@rpeyc.com.au by the relevant entry closing date and time.

c) Closing dates and times for entries are as follows:

- Series Entries. 1700 hrs on Friday 2 October 2026.
- Casual Entries. 1000 hrs on the day of the race.

d) Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee.

## 5 ENTRY FEE

Entry fees are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| • Full Series (27 races) | $450 |
| • Casual entry for one race | $60 |

## 6 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available from the RPEYC before 18 September 2026. Separate Sailing Instructions will be issued by 11 November 2026 for the Spinnaker Divisions in the Centenary Regatta on 18 November 2026.

## 7 RACING AREA

Racing will be conducted on Sydney Harbour. The Starting Line and Finishing Line will be between the RPEYC Clubhouse and Shark Island.

## 8 COURSES

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

## 9 PENALTY SYSTEM

Penalties shall be in accordance with RRS 44.1 and 44.2 only. RRS 44.3 shall not apply.

## 10 SCORING

a) The scoring system in RRS Appendix A4 and RRS A5.3 will apply.

b) Pointscores are open to series entries only. Casual entries do not score points but are eligible for the weekly prize presentation.

c) Boats that have not started at least once in the first 8 races will be excluded from the series pointscore. This changes RRS Appendix A2.2.

d) A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst scores in accordance with the following table. The number of races completed is the number of races in the series that are sailed and scored.

| Races completed | Scores discarded |
|---|---|
| 23 or more | 7 |
| 21 to 22 | 6 |
| 19 to 20 | 5 |
| 17 to 18 | 4 |
| 14 to 16 | 3 |
| 11 to 13 | 2 |
| 8 to 10 | 1 |
| 7 or fewer | Nil |

## 11 COMMUNICATIONS

All boats shall carry an operating marine band VHF radio capable of receiving normal marine international channels. The radio must always be switched on during racing and tuned to the correct race committee frequency.

## 12 EQUIPMENT

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

## 13 CHANGES AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

Any changes to the hull, propeller, trim, spars, sails or significant changes to onboard skill level shall be notified in writing to RPEYC via email to secretary@rpeyc.com.au no later than 1500 hrs on the day prior to the race affected by the changes. This may result in a change of handicap.

## 14 RISK WARNING

a) Participants are warned that, regardless of the precautions, which might be taken by reasonable and experienced persons, sailing can be a dangerous pursuit and participants are exposed to significant risk of property damage, physical harm and possibly death.

b) As an indication, these risks may include, but are not limited to:

- The extremes of weather and sea conditions.
- The potential that control of vessels may be lost, resulting in collision with objects and other vessels.
- The sudden movement of the vessel at any time and the possibility that participants may fall or be thrown overboard, resulting in drowning or exposure to injury.
- The possibility that participants may be injured by equipment on the vessel.
- The absence of immediate medical care and the possibility that significant delays may occur before medical care is available.

- Exposure to the elements for extended periods.

c) Participants are also advised that although the Organising Authority is covered by third party liability insurance, this cover does not extend to participants. Any participant who considers they have a need for insurance must make their own private arrangements with an insurer.

d) Owners and persons in charge of boats shall ensure that all participants on their boats are aware of this risk warning.

## 15 DISCLAIMERS

All those taking part in the event do so at their own risk and responsibility. The Organising Authority and its race officials accept no liability for any damage or injury in connection with the event and Owners release the Organising Authority from any claim or liability whatsoever for any harm or personal injury in connection with the event.

## 16 INSURANCES

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 incident. All insurance cover shall be maintained during the period of racing.

## 17 PRIZES

Series prizes shall be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each PHS division.

Weekly prizes may be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each division at the discretion of RPEYC. Weekly prizes for IRC results may be awarded if sufficient entries are received.

The following perpetual trophies will be awarded:

**RPEYC Centenary Cup (*)** – awarded to the overall PHS winner of the Centenary Regatta (Race 7).

**Windward Shield (*)** – awarded to the best PHS handicap performance in the Centenary Regatta (Race 7) for a boat on the RPEYC Boat Register and helmed by a RPEYC member.

**Nettle Gold Cup** – awarded to the best PHS handicap performance in the whole series for a boat on the RPEYC Boat Register and mostly helmed by a RPEYC member.

**Alastair George Memorial Trophy** – First in Division 1 pointscore – PHS

**Vincenza Trophy** – First in Division 2 pointscore – PHS

**John Christie Cup** – First in Division 3 pointscore – PHS

**Christina II Trophy** – First in Division 4 pointscore – PHS

The following prizes will also be awarded in the Centenary Regatta (Race 7):

**Classics Prize (*)** – awarded to the best PHS handicap performance by a classic yacht across all divisions.

**Overall IRC Winner (*)** – awarded to the best IRC performance across all divisions.

**Overall IRC Winner (Classics) (*)** – awarded to the classic yachts placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd on IRC across all divisions, if at least three classic yachts holding a valid IRC certificate start.

(*) Prize winners in the Centenary Regatta for the RPEYC Centenary Cup, the Windward Shield and the Classics Prize will be determined on PHS, and the Overall IRC Winner and Overall IRC Winner (Classics) placings on IRC. As the divisions sail courses of different lengths, each eligible boat's corrected time (elapsed time multiplied by the boat's PHS TCF or IRC TCC) will be standardised to a standard course length, using the course lengths published in the sailing instructions that apply to the division sailed. Ties will be decided in favour of the boat with the better place in her own division and then the boat with the shorter elapsed time.

Prizes for the Centenary Regatta will be presented at the post-race prizegiving and BBQ at the RPEYC clubhouse. The series pointscore awards will be presented at the RPEYC Annual Prizegiving on Friday 14 May 2027.

## 18 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the RPEYC on (02) 9363 5809 or secretary@rpeyc.com.au