

MIDWEEK SERIES SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



SOUTH of PERTH YACHT CLUB (Organising Authority) **MIDWEEK SERIES 2025/2026** **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

[NP] Breaches of the SI's marked [NP] will not be grounds for protest by a boat.

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in:
 - a) The Racing Rules of Sailing (**RRS**).
 - b) The Prescriptions of Australian Sailing (**AS**) including the Special Regulations.
 - c) The SoPYC Performance Handicap Rules (**PHS**) where applicable.
 - d) The ORC Club Measurement System (**ORCC**) where applicable.
 - e) Appendix T – Arbitration shall apply.
- 1.2 **Sails** - Boats may only carry normal working sails tacked in the normal position for working to windward. Boats shall not use asymmetrical spinnakers or the like. A sail may be poled out.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than 2 hours before the scheduled warning signal on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect. 'L' flag shall be displayed as per SI 5.1.

3. COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notice to competitors (**NTC**) will be posted on the official notice board located in the foyer of the main clubhouse and online via the SoPYC website.
- 3.2 The race office is the On Water Group (**OWG**).
- 3.3 On the water, the Race Committee (RC) intends to monitor VHF 16 & 77 and communicate with competitors on **VHF 69**.
- 3.4 The call sign for South of Perth Yacht Club is '**South of Perth Race Control**'.
- 3.5 While racing, from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials and adhere to the AS Code of Conduct.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the signal mast on the main clubhouse north-east lawn.
- 5.2 Signals made at the Start Box are deemed to be made afloat.

5.3 When **Flag AP** is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in Race Signals AP.



6. SCHEDULE OF RACES (Attachment A)

- 6.1 The schedule of races is online and published in the Red Book.
- 6.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least one minute before a warning signal is made.

7. DIVISION/CLASS FLAGS

7.1 The Division/Class flags are:

Division 1 Naval Numeral 1



Division 2 Naval Numeral 2



Division 3 Naval Numeral 3



H28 Class Naval Numeral 7



- 7.2 A Division/Class flag shall be displayed from the backstay or mainsail leech when racing.
- 7.3 The flag shall be removed when no longer racing.

8. RACING AREA

Races will be conducted on Melville Water unless otherwise stated.

9. CLUB COURSES

- 9.1 The Courses for each Division and Class are online and available from OWG.
- 9.2 The Race Committee will display the division/class flag and course flag as the warning signal for each division/race.
- 9.3 The course to be sailed will be designated by an international numeral pennant corresponding to the course number displayed below the division or class flag.
- 9.4 **Pursuit Races only** - Boats shall start in a northerly direction. The displaying of Flag 'D' shall be disregarded.

10. MARKS

10.1 Marks for the Courses will be fixed marks as shown on the 'Midweek Series 2025/26 Courses' sheets.

10.2 All navigation posts carrying top marks (except Outer Dolphin (17), Foam Spit (18) and Deepwater Spit (37)) shall not rank as marks but shall rank as obstructions for the purpose of RRS 19.

10.3 While racing, all navigation posts carrying top marks, except Outer Dolphin (17), Foam Spit (18) and Deepwater Spit (37), shall be passed on their correct navigational side.

10.4 Missing Mark



If a mark is missing and **Flag 'M'** is not in position, boats shall round the marks as if it were in its usual position. This changes RRS 34.

11. OBSTRUCTIONS

The following areas and lines are designated as obstructions:

- a) The area encompassing the northern point of the western hardstand, Heathcote Channel and Heathcote Spit (22).
- b) An imaginary line between Bricklanding buoys (33a) and (33b).
- c) An imaginary line between Smith buoy (35a) and Lucky Bay buoy (35b).

12. THE START

12.1 All Starts:

- a) **[DP]** Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races. (Refer Attachment C)
- b) Boats that are **near the starting line in the last minute of another fleets start** may receive an **[SCP]** without a hearing.
- c) A boat that does not start within five minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (**DNS**) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

12.2 Box Starts:

- a) The **Box Start line** will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Box starting line and the outermost of the two yellow pyramid buoys. The inner yellow buoy will mark the extent but not necessarily the position of the line and shall be left on the same hand as the Start Box.
- b) When a race is scheduled or signalled to start at the Box, boats shall start in a **northerly direction**.
- c) If **Flag 'D'** is displayed no later than the 'on station signal', then boats shall start in a **southerly direction** and leave additional marks, Martin Buoy (69), Weaver Buoy (68), Outer Start Line Buoy all to Port, before continuing on their normal signalled course.



12.3 Pursuit Starts:

- a) Boats shall start in accordance with the following pursuit race signals:

Signal	Flag and Sound	Minutes before starting signal
Warning	Division/Class Flag displayed, '00' displayed 1 sound	5
4 minutes to Start	P Flag displayed '00' displayed 1 sound	4
1 minute to Start	P Flag removed '00' displayed 1 long sound	1
First Start	1 sound Timer begins count up '00' displayed	0

- b) Start times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded. This changes RRS 26.
- c) Pursuit race start times will be displayed in sequence from '00' from the first start signal and increasing in one-minute intervals.
- d) Boats shall start when their start time is displayed.
- e) A boat which starts before its allocated start time will be penalised by adding two minutes to its finish time plus one minute for each full or part minute early.
- f) No recall signals will be made. This changes RRS 29.
- g) Once individual boat start times are published, they may be updated up to 2 hours prior to the 1st warning signal and the affected boats notified by SMS.
- h) Alternative courses may be supplied as part of any SSI.

12.4 General Recall



When a **General Recall** is signalled, the 'First Substitute' flag will be displayed for 1 minute. The warning signal for a new start for the first recalled fleet will be made at the starting signal of the last fleet in the original sequence. New starts for other recalled fleets will follow in the order thereafter. This changes RRS 29.2 and race signal, 'First Substitute'.

12.5 **[NP]** While the regular fleet order is displayed in 'Attachment A: Schedule of Events', the Race Officer at their discretion may; **a)** Change the fleet start order; **b)** Combine the start for multiple fleets; **c)** Cancel a fleet start if no boats are present after the On-Station flag is raised.

13. SHORTENING THE COURSE

13.1 **Before the start** – The RC may shorten a course before the starting signal by flying **Flag 'S'** over the relevant Division/Class flag no later than the warning signal. The marks prefixed * on the Course sheets shall be omitted. This changes RRS 32.

13.2 **After the start**

The RC may shorten a course after the starting signal by flying **Flag 'S'** over the relevant Division/Class flag(s) from the Box. The marks prefixed * on the Course sheets shall be omitted. This changes RRS 32.

14. THE FINISH

The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag from the Box finish line and the outermost of the two yellow pyramid buoys. The inner yellow buoy will mark the extent but not necessarily the position of the line.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM – Refer NoR

16. TIME LIMIT

16.1 The Race Time Limit is 1715.

17. PROTEST HEARING REQUESTS

17.1 The protest time limit is one hour after the last boat finishes.

17.2 Hearing request forms are available online and from OWG.

18. SCORING – refer NoR

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS [DP][NP]

19.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC at its first available opportunity.

19.2 While racing, no anchor shall be carried on the deck forward of the stem or protruding outward of the hull.

19.3 Operable marine VHF radios shall be carried, which may be permanently installed or be waterproof handheld and **shall be turned on** whilst racing.

19.4 All sailors competing as **double-handed shall wear a PFD** Type 1, Level 100 or higher which conforms to AS 4758 or ISO 12402 or AS 1512.

19.5 In addition to the Helmsperson, there shall be **at least one crew member who shall be competent to handle the boat in an emergency.**

20. SIGN ON [NP]

20.1 All boats shall sign on with the TopYacht links supplied at registration, and that are available via the club website.

20.2 It is the Skipper's responsibility to record all other persons on board their boat. Boats that fail to "Sign On" shall receive a **[SCP]** without a hearing.

21. PRIZES – refer NoR

22. RISK STATEMENT - refer NoR

23. INSURANCE - refer NoR