

# STANDARD SAILING INSTRUCTIONS - KEELBOATS

The Standard Keelboat Sailing Instructions apply to Club races conducted by Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club (Inc.). These Sailing Instructions do not apply to events where separate Sailing Instructions are issued. Where Supplementary Sailing Instructions are issued for an event and conflict with these Sailing Instructions the Supplementary Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

## Abbreviations

- AS - Australian Sailing
- ASSR - Australian Sailing Special Regulations relating to safety requirements
- IRC - International Rating Certificate
- AMS - Australian Measurement System
- SMS - Sports Boat Measurement System
- RRS - The current Racing Rules of Sailing as published by World Sailing
- (NP) - denotes that a breach of this rule will not be grounds for protest by a boat
- (DP) - denotes a rule of which the penalty is at discretion of the protest committee and may be less than disqualification

## 1. RULES

- 1.1 Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the RRS.
- 1.2 (DP) The ASSR and relevant Class Rules will apply unless altered by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3 Competitors shall be financial members of their respective Class Associations where this is a requirement in their Class rules.
- 1.4 Appendix T Arbitration shall apply.
- 1.5 Division Boats and Sports Boats may use trapezes and outriggers where these are part of the boat's design. This changes RRS 49.1.
- 1.6 The [IRC Rules 2024](#) Parts A, B and C shall apply where applicable.
- 1.7 IRC Rule 22.4 will apply for Saturday Series races. Rule 22.4 will not apply for Mid-Week Series races. Rule A5.3 will apply to all club championship and consistency series.

## 2. ENTRIES AND ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 Series Nomination (DP)

Boats must nominate prior to competing in a race or series. <https://topyacht.com.au/db/kb2/1799>

This nomination shall include providing proof of insurance required by SI 27 and submission of a completed ASSR Equipment Audit Form. Boats that do not properly nominate may not be included in the results. This changes RRS A5.
- 2.2 Race Sign On
  - 2.2.1 (DP) Before the warning signal of the first race of the day in which the boat participates, all persons on board shall be signed onto that boat via the link provided on the RFBYC webpage.
  - 2.2.2 Boats failing to sign-on in accordance with SI 2.2 will be penalized without a hearing on the third and subsequent occasions. The penalty will be a two-place penalty in both over the line and handicap results. Other places will be adjusted accordingly, and no boat will be scored worse than DNF. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5. (Just A5 from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025)
  - 2.2.3 (DP) Any boat that continually fails to meet this requirement will be subject to a protest by the Race Committee.

- 2.3 Unless otherwise approved by the Yachting Operations Manager, only boats registered at the Club may compete in club races unless the race is designated as an invitation race. Invitation races are open to boats from clubs who are affiliated to Australian Sailing and shall be helmed by members of a club affiliated to Australian Sailing. Boats that do not nominate will not be included in results.
- 2.4 Unless the conditions of the race otherwise specify, a boat competing in Club races shall be helmed either by a financial Ordinary, Life, Special, Senior or Junior Member of the Club or by any other person who the Sailing Committee/Offshore Committee permits but upon such terms and conditions as the Sailing Committee/Offshore Committee may specify.
- 2.5 Notification of any change in registration details (including change of skipper or helm) shall be notified to, and approved by, the Race Committee or the Yachting Operations Office prior to the race in which it will take effect.

### 3. **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

All notices will be published on the official noticeboard (<https://rbyc.asn.au/official-online-notice-board>) and emailed to all registered competitors. Failure for an electronic communication to be received will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62. (RRS 61 from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025)

### 4. **CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 4.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Notice Board, no less than two hours before the scheduled warning signal of the races for which 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.
- 4.2 It is each competitor's responsibility to ensure they have received the change(s) in its entirety.

### 5. **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the mast in front of the Main Clubhouse.

### 6. **SAFETY REQUIREMENT (DP)**

- 6.1 All keel or ballasted boats shall comply with the requirements of the ASSR Part 1 for Category 7. Flying 15s and Contenders competing in races under these Sailing Instructions shall comply with the requirements of ASSR Part 2 Off The Beach Boats. Random inspections will be carried out on race days. Boats found not to be compliant will be penalised at the discretion of the inspector.
- 6.2 No boat shall race with an anchor protruding over its bow.

### 7. **IDENTIFICATION**

- 7.1 7.1 A boat that intends to use any sail number other than its registered number shall notify and receive approval from the Race Committee or the Yachting Operations Office prior to the race in which it will take effect.
- 7.2 A boat that fails to comply with SI 7.1 will be recorded as 'DNS' without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5. (Just A5 from 1st January 2025)
- 7.3 Boats are reminded to comply with RRS G1.2 (a)(2) and ensure that their sail numbers clearly contrast with their sail colours and are easy to read. Redress will not be granted should an error in scoring occur due to sail numbers being unreadable. This changes RRS62.1 (61.1(a) from 1st January 2025)

### 8. **SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 8.1 Scheduled event dates, start times and location of starting lines are shown in Appendix A 'Schedule of Events'. Where Appendix A 'Schedule of Events' includes information of social events or events conducted by other clubs, sailed under alternative special or Supplementary Sailing Instructions, these do not form part of these Sailing Instructions.

8.2 Any changes to the start times in the 2024-25 Appendix A 'Schedule of Events' will be displayed on the Notice Board as specified in SI 3.

## 9. **DIVISION AND CLASS FLAGS**

9.1 A boat shall race in the Division/Fleet to which it is allocated by Sailing Committee.

9.2 Division and Class Flags are shown on the respective course sheets in the 2024-25 Standard Sailing Instruction Appendix B 'Courses'.

9.3 Each keelboat shall display her Division Flag (minimum size 270mm x 190mm) approximately 2m above the deck on either the backstay or starboard shroud.

9.4 When racing as an individual class within a Division (e.g. SS27 within Division II) each keelboat shall also display that particular Class Flag directly below her Division Flag.

## 10. **RACING AREA**

The racing area will be generally within the area of Melville Water, Freshwater Bay and Mosman Bay.

## 11. **COURSES AND COURSE SIGNALS**

11.1 All courses are as detailed under the 2024-25 Standard Sailing Instructions Appendix B 'Courses'.

11.2 The course will be signalled on the Start Box or Start Boat by displaying the corresponding numeral pennant no later than the warning signal for that fleet.

### 11.3 **Shortened Course**

Flag 'S' displayed no later than the warning signal means 'omit marks of the course indicated by an asterisk (\*)'. Courses may also be shortened in accordance with RRS 32.2.

### 11.4 **Mid River Finish**

Flag 'R' displayed below the class flag with the warning signal means 'the fleet shall finish at the mid river finishing line'.

### 11.5 **Multiple Races**

When Flag 'Q' is displayed at the finish, another race will start as soon as practicable. Multiple sound signals will indicate that a new starting sequence will commence within 1 minute.

## 12. **MARKS**

12.1 Marks for club courses will be fixed marks as shown in the 'Guide to Swan River Yacht Racing Course Marks' on the fold out page at the back of the Sailing Handbook. This Guide is for reference only and does not form part of these Sailing Instructions.

### 12.2 **Navigation Posts**

All navigation posts except Outer Dolphin (17) and Deepwater (37) that are not listed as a rounding or passing mark on the course sheet, shall be passed on their correct navigational side. All such navigation posts shall rank as obstructions for the purposes of RRS Part 2 and RRS 19 shall apply.

### 12.3 **Obstructions**

Boats shall not sail through the line joining Bricklanding Buoys (33a) and (33b) or through a line joining Smith Buoy (35a) and Lucky Bay Buoy (35b). These lines are considered to be obstructions for the purpose of RRS Part 2. A boat breaking this rule may accept an alternative penalty in accordance with SI 17.2.

## 13. **FLEET STARTS**

### 13.1 **Standard Starts**

Fleets will be started at 5 minute intervals in accordance with RRS 26.

### 13.2 **Handicap Starts**

Boats will be allocated a start number. Boats shall start on or after the fall of their number as displayed on the light panel above the Start Box or on a display board or both.

- 13.3 **Late Starter**  
A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored 'DNS' without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.
- 13.4 **Individual Recall – Handicap Starts Only**  
One sound signal will be made. Flag 'X' will be displayed until all OCS (on course side) boats have returned to the pre-start side of the starting line or for 30 seconds whichever is earlier. This changes RRS 29.1.
- 13.5 **General Recall**  
When there are other classes yet to start, the warning signal for the first recalled fleet will be displayed at the start signal for the last fleet in the sequence. This changes RRS 29.2.
14. **LINES IN USE**
- 14.1 An orange flag will identify a 'line in use' for starting or finishing.
- 14.2 (NP) Except between her warning and starting signals, or when starting or finishing, a boat shall not cross a 'line in use' in either direction when the orange flag is displayed.
- 14.3 A boat observed breaching SI 14.2 will be penalised without a hearing in accordance with SI 17.2 This changes RRS 63.1.
- 14.4 Club Line 2 will not be 'in use' after the completion of the starting sequence.
15. **STARTING AND FINISHING LINES**
- 15.1 **Club Starting Line No. 1**  
Will be between the triangle above the Start Box and the black and white chequered outer mark placed in an easterly direction from the Start Box. An inner mark will mark the length but not the position of the line.
- 15.2 **Club Starting Line No. 2**  
Will be between the triangle above the Start Box and the black and white chequered outer mark placed in a northerly direction from the Start Box. An inner mark will mark the length but not the position of the line.
- 15.3 **Boat Starting Line**  
Will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the committee vessel at the starboard end and a black and white chequered inflatable buoy at the port end. A clearance mark may be streamed from the committee vessel. This clearance mark is part of the committee vessel for the purpose of RRS 31 and shall be passed on the same side as the committee vessel when starting.
- 15.4 **Club Finishing Line**  
Will be between the triangle above the Start Box and the black and white chequered buoy placed in an easterly direction from the Start Box. An inner mark will mark the length but not the position of the line.
- 15.5 **Boat Finishing Line**  
Will be between a mast displaying a blue flag on the Committee Boat at the starboard end and a black and white chequered inflatable buoy at the port end.
16. **KEEPING CLEAR**
- 16.1 A boat whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of both the starting area and of all boats who are in the starting sequence.
- 16.2 **Club Start Line**  
After the first warning signal of the day, boats shall not pass between the Start Box and the inner mark of Club Starting Line No. 1 when the line is in use. The only exceptions will be boats that are forced between the Start Box and the inner mark at the start or boats returning to start after recall.
- 16.3 **Handicap Starts**  
Boats shall keep clear of the club starting line until their allocated number is displayed on the light panel above the Start Box or on a display board or both.

#### 16.4 **Club Finish**

After finishing and clearing the Club Finishing Line (see SI 15.4 above), boats shall not pass between the Start/Finish Box and an orange outer clearance mark as the extension to the finish line.

16.5 Boats shall at all times give way to support craft identified by a white flag with the words SAFETY in red.

16.6 Boats observed breaching any of SI 16 will be penalized, without a hearing, in accordance with SI 17.2. This changes RRS 63.1.

#### 17. **PENALTIES**

17.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

17.2 Scoring Penalties

Penalties specified in 12.3, 14.3 and 16 will be scoring penalties of 30% calculated in accordance with RRS 44.3(c).

#### 18. **HEARING REQUESTS**

18.1 **Time Limit**

Hearing requests shall be lodged online at <https://rbyc.asn.au/web/pages/protest-hearing-request-form?formId=31> within 60 minutes of the last boat finishing in that class. Requests may also be submitted in writing on forms available from the Yachting Operations Office. For fleets having multiple races, protests for the first race may be lodged within 60 minutes of the protesting boat's finishing time in the last race of the day.

18.2 Hearing requests shall be submitted to the Yachting Operations Office.

18.3 A boat penalised under SI 2.2.2, 6.1, 14.3 or 16.6 may request a hearing.

#### 19. **TIME LIMIT**

The time limit is 1730. Boats that fail to finish by this time will be scored 'DNF'. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

#### 20. **SCORING**

20.1 The Low Point Scoring System of RRS Appendix A will apply to all Consistency, Club Championship and other series. Appendix C to these Sailing Instructions advises of the number of races to count.

20.2 For fleets having multiple "short races", the number of races achieved will be consolidated into a single race day result which will count towards Consistency. The individual races will be scored non-consistency.

20.3 Where a class or fleet is sailing within a division race, a minimum of three boats from that fleet are required to start before a trophy is awarded. A minimum of two boats are required to start before points are scored in their sub-series.

20.4 Rule A5.3 will apply to all club championship and consistency series.

#### 21. **STARTERS**

A minimum of two starters are required to constitute a race.

A minimum of three boats are required to start in any one race before any trophy shall be awarded.

#### 22. **AVERAGE POINTS**

22.1 Boats sailing in official Class, State, National and other significant events may apply for average points to be awarded for Consistency Series and Club Championship Series races held on the same day.

22.2 To be eligible for average points in a Consistency or Club Championship Series race(s), boats must participate in a minimum of 50% of the races in the series for which average points are being requested.

- 22.3 Applications for average points shall be made in writing to the Yachting Operations Office within five days of the race for which average points are requested and shall be accompanied by a results sheet to confirm participation in the alternate event.
- 22.4 Average points shall be calculated from the points accrued in all the races that the requesting boat competed in during the series.
- 22.5 Decision on the award of average points is at the sole discretion of the Yachting Operations Manager.

## 23. **COACHING**

Club appointed/approved coaches may give advice to some or all competitors while they are racing except during designated Club Championship races. This will not be regarded as a breach of RRS 41.

## 24. **BOATS RETIRING (DP)**

- 24.1 A boat retiring shall, where possible, notify the officials at the relevant finish line. This may be done by hailing or by VHF radio Channel 77.
- 24.2 A boat that wishes to retire after coming ashore should advise the Yachting Operations Office.

## 25. **RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 25.1 All boats are encouraged to carry a working VHF radio and the Race Committee will use VHF radio Channel 77 to advise competitors of matters relating to the conduct of racing
- 25.2 (DP) Except in an emergency, competitors shall not transmit via radio or use mobile phones (including the internet) whilst racing.

## 26. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 26.1 All those taking part in Club races do so at their own risk and responsibility.
- 26.2 The Club is not responsible for the sea worthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. The Club reserves the right to refuse an entry.
- 26.3 Attention is drawn to RRS 3 which states 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone' and ASSR 1.02.1 which also states that 'The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the person in charge.'

## 27. **INSURANCE**

All boats sailing in Club races shall have current valid insurance in respect of Third Party Liability and Public Liability of not less than AUD \$10 million. The insurance shall include racing risks.