

# Etchells

## 2026 INTERNATIONAL ETHELLS CLASS AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

22 February to 26 February 2026

# NOTICE OF RACE



*Organising Authority*

**ROYAL FRESHWATER BAY YACHT CLUB INC. (RFBYC)**

Keane's Point, Peppermint Grove

Perth, Western Australia

**In conjunction with**



**INTERNATIONAL ETHELLS  
CLASS ASSOCIATION SWAN  
RIVER FLEET (Inc.)**



**ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB  
INC. (RPYC)  
Supporting Club**

**The Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club Inc (RFBYC), as the Organising Authority (OA) in conjunction with Royal Perth Yacht Club Inc (RPYC), and the International Etchells Class Association Swan River Fleet Inc. will conduct the 2026 International Etchells National Championships on the Swan River.**

## **1 RULES**

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) as modified by the Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- 1.2 [DP]The International Etchells Class Association (IECA) Class Rules will apply.
- 1.3 This event will be conducted in accordance with the Etchells Class Code of Conduct
- 1.4 Competitors will be required to sign and deliver the Code of Conduct Form as part of their weigh-in for the event. Failure by a competitor to sign the Code of Conduct may result in the competitor being ineligible to participate in the event.
- 1.5 Boats shall comply with the Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 1 Category 7 requirements including compliance with AS Variation Approval regarding use of Anchors (Class rules shall apply). Additionally, they shall carry all the required safety equipment specified in NOR Appendix C
- 1.6 A boat shall use only those sails presented in accordance with Class Rule C10, and they shall not be recut or altered during the championship.
- 1.7 Repairs to sails pursuant to all applicable rules are permissible only upon prior approval of the measurer or Protest Committee.
- 1.8 If a boat's hull or spar or sail is rendered incapable of continuing the series, the Skipper may petition the protest committee for permission to substitute a replacement hull or spar or sail for the remainder of the series.
- 1.9 [DP] A boat shall not carry any unreasonable quantities of water or anything else for the purpose of adding ballast. The amount of water that is stored in containers or bottles which is permitted to be carried should be sufficient for the crew for drinking purposes during the day's racing, to this end a maximum of 10 litres of water per boat is acceptable.
- 1.10 In the event of conflict between any of the rules or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.5(c).

## **2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available at Registration and will be posted on the event website by 31 January 2026 [2026 Etchells Australian Championship](#).

## **3 COMMUNICATIONS**

- 3.1 The online Official Notice Board (ONB) is located at the website [2026 Etchells Australian Championship](#) .
- 3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating with the race committee.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee may make broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SIs. Failure to receive any such broadcasts will not be subject to an application for redress.
- 3.4 [DP] Boats shall use the radio to report retirement from racing and may use the radio to request assistance in an emergency.
- 3.5 Unless otherwise requested by the Race Committee, a boat shall not initiate transmissions of any nature from the first warning signal of the day until the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the Race Committee signal led "no more racing today".
- 3.6 [DP] The use of mobile/cell phones, or any device capable of sending and/or receiving external electronic communication and/or connecting to the internet is prohibited after the first Warning Signal on each race day until the boat has completed racing that day, except in an emergency threatening the safety of any member of the crew or the boat.

## **4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

- 4.1 This event is open to all Etchells.
- 4.2 Entries close at 1700hrs on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Late entries will be at the OA discretion.

- 4.3 Each skipper and crew member of each boat shall be weighed prior to racing as indicated on the Schedule and as required by Class Rule C2.
- 4.4 All boats entered for the Corinthian Division shall be automatically entered in the Open Division and shall be eligible for prizes in both divisions. The crew deadline date for entrants to confirm their eligibility for the Corinthian Division is by the close of entries.

## 5 FEES

- 5.1 No Entry fees will be charged for this event.
- 5.2 Each entrant shall pay a non-refundable amount of \$200 per crew member at time of entry for the social events at the event.

## 6 CREW LIMITATIONS

- 6.1 All skippers and crew shall be members of the International Etchells Class Association or their local fleet.
- 6.2 Guest Skippers may enter the event. A Guest Skipper who is a Non-Owner must:
  - a) Be age 29 or under as of 1 January 2026; and
  - b) Borrow or charter a boat from an Owner in good standing in the Fleet; and
  - c) Be at least a Non-Owner Class Member

## 7 [DP] REGISTRATION & MEASUREMENT

- 7.1 The following documents are required to be uploaded during the registration process by close of entries at 1700hrs on Friday, 20th February 2026
- 7.2 A full copy of the International Etchells Measurement Certificate,
- 7.3 A valid insurance certificate as stated in clause 20 of this NOR,
- 7.4 A valid AS Special Regulations Category 7 Equipment self-Audited Form,
- 7.5 A Sail Selection Form shall be uploaded by 1700hrs on Saturday, 21st February 2026 as part of the registration process. The selection may comprise up to 5 sails (one main, two jibs and 2 spinnakers) to be used in the regatta, including sail type, manufacturer and sail label number.

## 8 ADVERTISING

- 8.1 All boats shall comply with Class Rule C.4.
- 8.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organizing Authority in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20.4.1.

## 9 SCHEDULE

- 9.1 Nine races are scheduled for the series and up to three races will be sailed on any one day.

Date	Time	Event
Sunday, 22 February	0800 - 1100	Measurement, Registration and Weigh-In
Monday, 23 February	0800 - 0815 1000	Competitors Briefing <b>Racing</b> – Time of First Warning Signal
Tuesday, 24 February	1000	<b>Racing</b> – Time of First Warning Signal
Wednesday, 25 February	1000	<b>Racing</b> – Time of First Warning Signal
Thursday, 26 February	1000	<b>Racing</b> – Time of First Warning Signal
Friday, 27 February	1700	All boats to be Hauled Out

- 9.2 No Warning Signal will be made after 1555 hrs on the last scheduled day of racing.

## 10 CREW WEIGHT

- 10.1 Each skipper and crew member shall be weighed at the regatta office on Sunday, 22 February 2026 between the hours 0800 and 1100. A timetable for boat crews may be distributed. A separate weigh-in time, prior to the first race, will be advised for crew who have not achieved weigh-in by Sunday, 22 February at 1100.
- 10.2 Requests for substitution of crew members must be made in writing and will be considered by the Race Committee. Requests must set out the reason and detail the crew to be substituted.

Approved substitute crews must weigh in and register on the morning of sailing between the hours 0800 and 0900.

## **11 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION**

- 11.1 Boats may be inspected at any time to ensure they are compliant with the Class rules.
- 11.2 Appendix C (attached) outlines required safety requirements and random checks of the self- audit will be carried out.

## **12 CLOTHING**

- 12.1 See class rule C3.2

## **13 VENUE AND COURSES**

- 13.1 The venue for this regatta will be Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club.
- 13.2 The racing area will be Melville Water East / West.
- 13.3 The Regatta Office will be located in the Dinghy and Training Centre at RFBYC.
- 13.4 Courses will be windward / leeward as described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 13.5 The event will be a dry regatta, however should boats wish to remain afloat limited moorings will be made available during the period of the championships.

## **14 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 14.1 The Penalty System will be as per RRS with any modifications that will be notified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 14.2 RRS Appendix T "Arbitration" shall apply.

## **15 SCORING**

- 15.1 Nine (9) races are scheduled.
- 15.2 Four (4) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 15.3 When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total
- 15.4 of her race scores. This changes RRS A2.1
- 15.5 When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of
- 15.6 her race scores excluding her worst score.

## **16 SUPPORT VESSELS**

- 16.1 [DP] Team leaders, coaches, other support persons and support vessels shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the first Warning Signal of the day until racing has been concluded for the day.
- 16.2 Between races, support persons and support vessels shall not approach, communicate with or transfer provisions or equipment to or from their supported boats unless in a medical emergency threatening the health of the crew or the flotation of the boat and only with the expressed permission of the Race Committee.
- 16.3 [DP] Coaches and other support personnel shall approach no closer than 100m to any racing boat or race committee vessel or mark of the course from the time of the first Prep Signal of the day until racing has been concluded for the day.
- 16.4 All Support vessels shall be registered with the organising authority.
- 16.5 [DP] Support vessels shall be identified whilst on the water by means to be specified in the
- 16.6 Sl's.

## **17 CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS**

- 17.1 [DP] In accordance with RRS Appendix G3, a chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of her class rules, provided that the race committee has approved her sail identification before the first race.

## **18 DIVING AND PLASTIC POOLS**

- 18.1 [DP] Diving on boats afloat and use of plastic pools is not permitted.

## 19 RISK STATEMENT

- 19.1 Competitors' attention is drawn to RRS 3 – Decision to Race.
- 19.2 All those taking part in these races are reminded of their obligations as set out in the AS Special Regulations clause 1.02 Responsibility of the Person in Charge
- 19.3 It is the competitor's decision to enter the Event or to start and continue in any race. Competitors shall accept that their participation in the Event is at their exclusive risk in every respect. By way of entry in the Event competitors must indemnify the Organising Authority their officers, members, staff, and agents in respect to all claims and demands of whatever nature which may be made upon them in connection with or howsoever arising from their participation or intended participation in the Event.
- 19.4 The Organising Authority, their officers, members, staff and agents accept no responsibility in respect of loss of life, personal injury or loss or damage to property which may be sustained by reason of their participation or intended participation in the Event or howsoever arising in connection with the Event.

## 20 INSURANCE

- 20.1 Each participating boat must be insured with current third-party property insurance cover and a valid third-party Personal Liability Insurance cover of not less than AUD10,000,000 (10 million dollars) for any one claim event in Australia.
- 20.2 All owners/competitors shall upload a copy of their Certificate of Currency during the online entry process.
- 20.3 Each Skipper and/or Co-Skipper is liable for any third-party property and personal injury claims.

## 21 MEDIA RIGHTS AND PROTECTION

- 21.1 By lodging an entry, all competitors, including owners, give absolute right and permission for any photographs and/or video footage of their boat and crew to be published in any media stream for editorial, publicity or advertising purposes.

## 22 PRIZES

- 22.1 Prizes shall be awarded as follows:
  - Boats finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the series
  - The Australian Perpetual Trophy shall be awarded to the overall winner
  - The Alex Milledge Corinthian Trophy shall be awarded to the first boat where the skipper and all crew hold a World Sailing Classification Category 1.
  - The Women's Trophy shall be awarded to the first-place female helm.
  - A Perpetual Trophy shall be awarded to the winner of the Masters Division (Helm over 60 years of age).
  - A Perpetual Trophy shall be awarded to the winner of the Grand Masters Division (Combined age of crew not less than 165 years for a 3-person crew and 220 years for a 4 person crew).
  - A Youth Trophy will be awarded to the first-place crew (combined crew age 90 years or less for 3-person crew, 120 years or less for 4-person crew).

All age-related prizes will use the allocated age at 2359 hours on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

## 23 FURTHER INFORMATION

### Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club

Website: [2026 Etchells Australian Championship](https://www.2026etchells.com.au)

Boating Office - Email: [sailadmin@rfbyc.asn.au](mailto:sailadmin@rfbyc.asn.au) Tel: +61 8 8286 8200

Main Office - Email: [rfbyc@rfbyc.asn.au](mailto:rfbyc@rfbyc.asn.au) or Tel: +61 8 286 8200

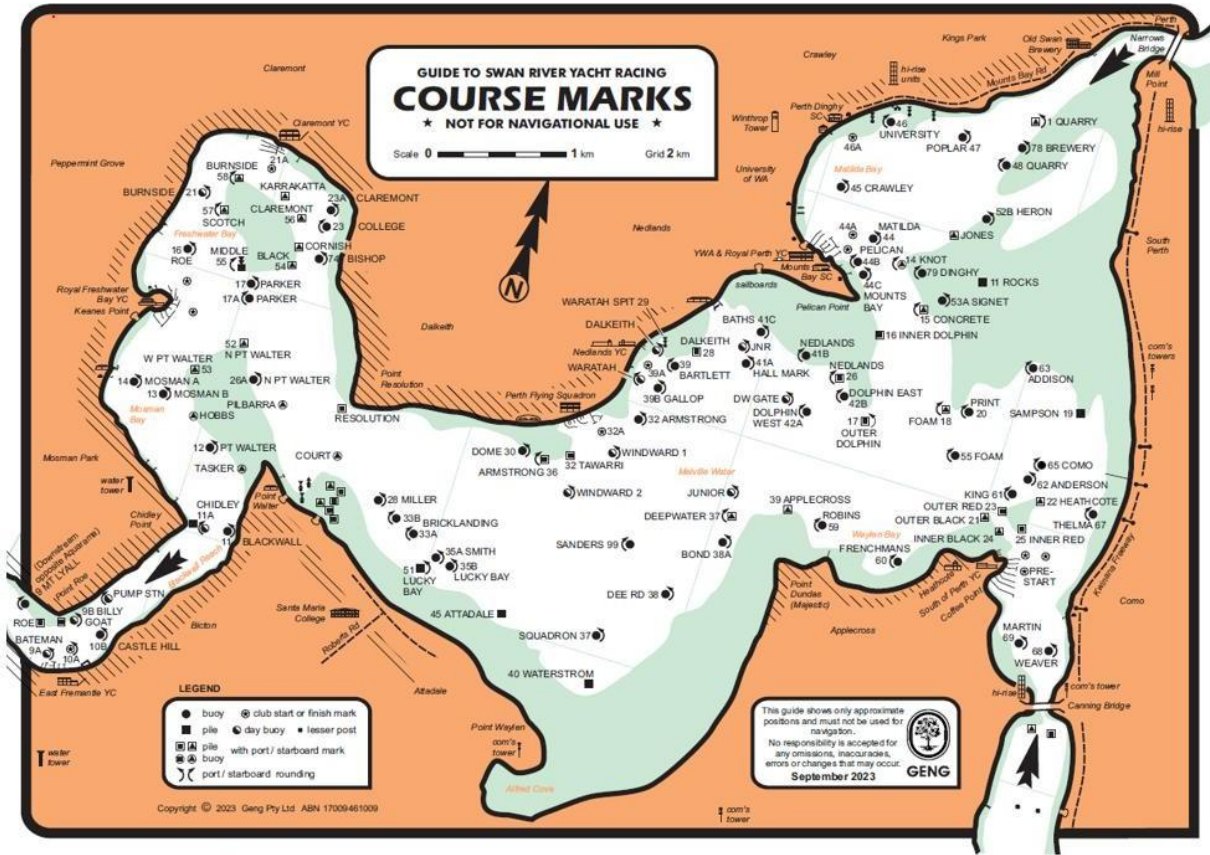
### International Etchells Association Swan River Fleet Inc

Email: [etchellsswanriver@gmail.com](mailto:etchellsswanriver@gmail.com)

# APPENDIX A – EVENT VENUE



# APPENDIX B – RACE AREA



## APPENDIX C –EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Equipment Description	Class Rules	AS Cat 7	Required for Event
PFD for each crew	-	Yes	Yes
Manual bilge pump, at least 1	Yes	Yes	Yes
Anchor, chain, and warp (as per AS exemption)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Buckets with lanyards	2	Yes	Yes
Tow rope, 25-30m not less than 12mm	Yes	-	Yes
2 paddles 1200mm long	Yes	-	Yes
Flashlight or signalling device	Optional	Yes	Yes
Flares	Optional	-	Optional
Heaving line	Optional		Optional
Medical kit	Optional	Yes	Yes
Sound signalling device	Optional	-	Optional
VHF Radio	Optional	-	Yes
Knife, sheathed and secured in or near the cockpit	Optional	Yes	Yes
V Sheet	Optional	-	Optional
Drinking water (Sufficient for crew)	-	-	Yes

*Note: For full descriptions of the equipment details, refer to the International Etchells Class Rules and the Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 1.*