



**WAIDA**

*in conjunction with*

**Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club**

*Presents the*

**International Dragon Class  
2025-26 Western Australian  
State Championship**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

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**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

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The Organising Authority, Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club (Inc), Perth, Western Australia in conjunction with the Western Australia International Dragon Association (Inc) (WAIDA).

**2025-26 Western Australian International Dragon State Championship**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026

*The notation '[NP]' in a rule in these Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.*

*The notation (SP) in a rule in these Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that a standard penalty will be applied by the Race Committee without a hearing.*

*The notation (DP) in a rule in these Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that a penalty is at the discretion of the Protest Committee.*

**1 RULES**

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) as modified by these Sailing Instructions (SIs) and the International Dragon Class Rules.
- 1.2 The Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 1 for Category 7 shall apply.

**2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 7:30 am on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 18:00 on the day before it will take effect.

**3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the Dinghy and Training Centre at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club and the event page of the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club website at <https://rfbyc.asn.au/dragon-state-championship-2026>
- 3.2 All boats may carry a marine band VHF receiver capable of receiving and transmitting Marine VHF channels. Boats may use the radio to report retirement from racing and to request assistance in an emergency. No other transmissions of any other nature are permitted by competing yachts during each racing day from the first warning signal until the completion of each race.
- 3.3 On the water, the Race Committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio Channel 74.
- 3.4 [DP] While Racing, 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 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the main flagpole on the upper lawn area at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club.
- 4.2 When AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in the race signal AP.

**5 SCHEDULE**

- 5.1 The times of racing are as follows:

Day	Date	Time of First Race Warning Signal	Location
Friday	13 March 2026	1630 - 1 <sup>st</sup> heat	Melville Water West
Saturday	14 March 2026	0830 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> heat. 3 <sup>rd</sup> heat to follow	Melville Water West
Saturday	14 March 2026	1600 – 4 <sup>th</sup> heat	Melville Water

			West
Sunday	15 March 2026	0830 – 5 <sup>th</sup> heat. 6 <sup>th</sup> heat to follow.	Melville Water West

- 5.2 A maximum of six (6) races will be conducted for the series.
- 5.3 To alert competitors that another race is to be sailed in a session, code flag Q will be displayed as boats are finishing the previous race. This flag will be removed with multiple sound signals one minute before the warning signal is displayed for the ensuing race.
- 5.4 No warning signal will be made after 1200 hours on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

## 6 CLASS FLAG

- 6.1 The class flag will be International Code Flag D.

## 7 RACING AREA

- 7.1 The racing area will be Melville Water West.

## 8 COURSES

- 8.1 The diagram in Appendix A indicates the course to be sailed, including the approximate angles between the legs and the order in which each mark is to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.

## 9 MARKS

- 9.1 Marks 1, 2, 3s and 3p will be yellow inflatable buoys.
- 9.2 The starting and finishing mark will be White and Black chequered cylindrical buoy.
- 9.3 Change of Course marks provided in 11.2 below will be a yellow inflatable buoy with a red band.

## 10 THE START

- 10.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made five minutes before the starting signal.
- 10.2 Before the first race of each session, the race committee will make multiple sound signals to alert competitors that a warning signal is imminent.
- 10.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a racecommittee vessel at the starboard end and the starting mark at the port end.
- 10.4 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1

## 11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1 In the event of a minor change in wind direction, (less than 10 degrees), the race committee may relocate the existing marks without signaling a Change of Course. Additionally, the race committee can adjust the length of the course by up to 30% without signaling a change of course. This changes RRS33.
- 11.2 If a greater change in wind direction, (equal or more than 10 degrees), to change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 11.3 Except at a gate, boats shall pass between the race committee boat signaling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the race committee boat to starboard. This changes RRS 33

## 12 THE FINISH

- 12.1 For Course 1 the finishing line will be between the staff on the race committee boat displaying a blue flag at the starboard end and the port end finishing mark.
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- 12.2 For Course 2 and 3 the finishing line will be between the staff on the race committee boat displaying a blue flag at the port end and the starboard end finishing mark.

### **13 TIME LIMIT**

- 13.1 The time limit for the first boat will be 100 minutes for the afternoon races and 60 minutes for the morning races.
- 13.2 Target times for afternoon races is 60 minutes and the morning races is 45 minutes. Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a)
- 13.3 The Finishing Window is 15 minutes.
- 13.4 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finish Window and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing.
- 13.5 A boat that scores TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finish Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

### **14 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 14.1 The penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2 shall be a One Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe in the same direction) except that for infringements within the Zone, as defined in the RRS, shall be a Two Turns Penalty (two tacks and two gybes in the same direction). This changes RRS 44.1 and 44.2.
- 14.2 If Mark 2 (offset) is set, a boat may take a penalty for an incident in the Zone around Mark 1, or on the leg between Mark 1 and Mark 2, as soon as possible after leaving the zone around Mark 2. This changes RRS 44.2.
- 14.3 (DP) A boat that has taken a penalty under RRS 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the Regatta Office within the Protest Time Limit.

### **15 PROTESTS AND REDRESS**

- 15.1 Hearing request forms are available on the event website of the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club website at <https://rfbyc.asn.au/dragon-state-championship-2026>.
- 15.2 Hearing request forms shall be submitted online within 60 minutes of the docking time of the race committee boat after the last race of the day or 90 minutes after the last boat to finish the last race of the day, whichever is the later. The protest time limit will be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 15.3 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Aubrey Sherwood room on the day of the protest lodgment (unless otherwise advised) starting as soon as possible after the notice has been posted on the official noticeboard.
- 15.4 Notice of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted on the official notice board to inform boats under RRS 60.2(d).

### **16 SCORING**

- 16.1 Four races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.2 (a) When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- (b) When five or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 16.3 The regatta handicap results will be determined by back calculation using the "Finishing Line" scoring program. Points will be awarded for handicap results in accordance with 16.2 above. A boat that finishes in the first three places in the State Championship will be ineligible to win the handicap trophies.
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## **17 SAFETY REGULATIONS (DP)**

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

## **18 REPLACEMENT OF SKIPPER/HELMSPERSON**

18.1 Except in an emergency helmsperson substitution will not be permitted and may only be substituted by an existing crew member. All crew substitutions shall first be approved by the race committee provided that the total crew weight when substituted does not exceed the weight limit stipulated in the International Dragon Class Rules.

## **19 EQUIPMENT, MEASUREMENT AND CREW WEIGHT CHECKS**

19.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and the sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

## **20 SUPPORT BOATS**

20.1 Unless otherwise advised or requested by the Race Officer team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the warning signal for the start until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

20.2 Unless approved in writing by the Race Committee, no support personnel shall launch or fly a drone from the time of the race warning signal when starting to 10 minutes after the last boat finishes.

## **21 PRIZES**

21.1 Formal presentations of the following trophies will be announced at the post regatta function at RFBYC on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

Overall Winner - Sir Charles Gairdner Trophy.

2<sup>nd</sup> Overall

3<sup>rd</sup> Overall

Winner of Race 1 – The Bun Lynn Trophy

Handicap Winner - Tony Fitzgibbon Trophy.

2<sup>nd</sup> Handicap

3<sup>rd</sup> Handicap

## **22 RISK STATEMENT**

22.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks.

## **23 INSURANCE**

23.1 Each participating boat shall have third-party liability and public liability insurance cover of not less than \$10,000,000. By signing the Entry Form entrants declare that they hold such insurance in respect of this boat and this regatta and that they will continue to do so for the duration of the regatta.

## **24 FURTHER INFORMATION**

24.1 For further information please contact:

**Sharon Skinner**

Sailing Administrator

Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club

**Trish Ford**

WAIDA President

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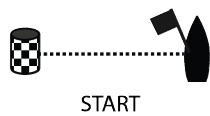
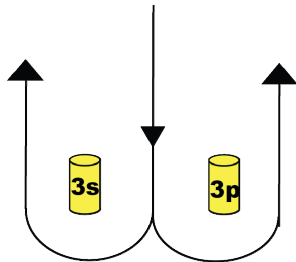
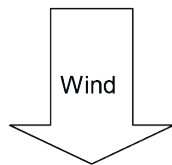
Phone: 0412 924 724

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## APPENDIX A – COURSES

### COURSE 1

Start - 1 - 2 - 3s/3p - 1 - 2 - 3s/3p - Finish



### COURSE 2

Start - 1 - 2 - 3s/3p - 1 - 2 - Finish

### COURSE 3

Start - 1 - 2 - 3s/3p - 1 - 2 - 3s/3p - 1 - 2 - Finish

