

76th Bunbury and Return Ocean Race

BLUE WATER

Organising Authority:	Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club	SISKA
Partner Club:	Koombana Bay Sailing Club	CORINTHIAN
Date:	Saturday 17 February 2024	
Warning Signal:	0855 (all fleets)	
Start Area:	Fremantle start area	
Distance:	170 nautical miles	
Safety	<p>Category 3+ (plus): At least 2 crew must have a valid Sea Safety Survival Course qualification and the following items in the Australian Sailing Special Regulations to comply with Cat 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.24.1 (permanently installed inboard propulsion engine). • 4.19 (Liferafts). • 4.18.2 and 4.18.4 (EPIRB). • 4.20 (Grab Bags to Accompany Liferafts). • 5.01.1 (f) (Spare Lifejacket). • 5.05 (Personal Locator Beacon). 	
Additional:	<p>Crew lists, including PLB HEX ID/UIN must be submitted to the OA by midday on Wednesday 14 February 2024 by signing on all persons on board in the online entry system for the race. All yachts must carry a tracking device supplied by the OA.</p>	
Recommendation:	<p>A personal MOB AIS locator is recommended for all competitors, and we encourage the details to be added to the boats race entry using the online system.</p>	
Trophies	IRC & PHS	
Series	ORWA, 47th Farrawa Cup Series	
Entry Fee	\$250	
Entry Close	1700 Friday 9 February 2024	
Briefing:	1830 Friday 16 February 2024	

Course

START	
DAY BUOY	
WESTERN SOUTH PASSAGE TRANSIT BEACON	PORT
MARK BOAT BUNBURY	STARBOARD
WESTERN SOUTH PASSAGE TRANSIT BEACON	STARBOARD
HALL BANK BEACON	STARBOARD
SOUTH MOLE FINISH	

MARK BOAT BUNBURY

The approximate location 33° 18.703'S 115° 38.883'E

RACE CONTROL RFBYC Radio Room, 9286 8204

Email offshore@rbyc.asn.au

RACE RECORD the current race record is held by *CRUSH*

2023 Crush D.Davenport 16h 26m 21s

The Bunbury & Return was first raced on 24 February 1948. The start line was inside Fremantle Harbour, opposite 'B' shed on Victoria Quay. The course was around Bell and Fairway Buoys, then the west end of Rottnest with its two light-houses, one manned, then south to Bunbury. Moorings, tenders and a mayoral reception at the golf club awaited them. Fifteen yachts entered for this initial overnight offshore race. From 1949 onwards the race became Bunbury and return, along with a mid-morning start.

The 169nm race grew steadily in popularity. By the 1960's this major offshore event was attracting considerable media coverage. From 2016 there was a lap in Koom-bana Bay and a Friday evening start which saw most of the fleet turning in Bunbury during daylight hours to connect the race with the locals. In 2018, a spectacular Fremantle Harbour start celebrated the 70th race.

The Bunbury and Return is not the longest but it is the oldest offshore race in Western Australia, it will always have a special place in history.