

2025

77th Bunbury and Return Ocean Race

Saturday, 8 February 2025



Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club

SUPPLEMENTARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Supplementary Sailing Instructions

1. Race Details

77TH Bunbury and Return Ocean Race

Saturday, 8 February 2024

Organising authority	NoR 9.6	Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club
Race category	NoR 9.6	Category 3+
Race channel	SI 7.3	VHF CH 82 (R) as specified in 12.3
Rounding reports	SI 16.1	As specified in item 12 as additional mandatory reports.
Schedule position report (SKED)	SI Appendix B	Required and specified in item 12.
Radio Room	SI 7.3.2	RFBYC. Open for pre-race checks from 07:30 on 8 February.
Trackers	SI 7.3.2	Provided by OA and required.
Notice to competitors	SI 7.3.1	Will be displayed on the Official Notice Board located on the event website at: https://rfbyc.asn.au/web/pages/bunbury-and-return-ocean-race
Event website		www.rfbyc.asn.au Navigate to 'On Water / Offshore / Bunbury and Return' https://rfbyc.asn.au/web/pages/bunbury-and-return-ocean-race
Race Briefing		Thursday 6 February 2025, 6:30pm at RFBYC.

2. Divisions/Class Warning Signal

2.1 Scheduled time of the first warning signal for all boats:

	First warning signal	Flag
Blue Water Division – all yachts	0855	Bunbury and Return flag

2.2 The Class flag for all divisions shall be the Bunbury and Return Ocean Race special event flag. The Class flag shall be displayed from a boat so that it is clearly visible. This changes SI 7.6.

3. Post Race Declaration

After finishing, the person in charge shall sign the post-race declaration form and send to the Organising Authority as described on the form. This shall be sent to the Organising Authority within the protest time limit for the race. A form is available for download on the event website and a copy will be provided to all yachts at the race briefing.

4. Safety Requirements and Crew Lists

4.1 Attention is drawn to the Australian Sailing Special Regulations (ASSR) requirements for Category 3 and the additional requirements listed in the ORWA Handbook 2024-2025 for the race. Including:

- At least 2 crew must have a valid Safety & Sea Survival Course qualification.
- The following items in the Australian Sailing Special Regulations to comply with Cat 2:
 - 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)

4.2 Crew lists must be submitted to the Organising Authority (OA) by midday on Wednesday 5 February 2025 by attaching details of all persons on board to their race entry online.

The minimum information required for each crew person is:

- First name
- Surname
- Phone number
- PLB Hex ID
- Emergency contact name
- Emergency contact phone number

Changes made after this deadline will be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority although no changes shall be made to the information in a yachts online entry after the deadline without prior approval from the Organising Authority.

4.3 All yachts must have the following documents attached to their race entry online by midday on Wednesday 5 February 2025:

- Australian Sailing Equipment Audit Form for Cat 3 or above. The form must be in date, signed by the person in charge, signed by a valid auditor and have a valid audit form number allocated by the yachts club for the current season.
- Cat 3+ declaration form, 2024-2025 season, signed by the person in charge (not required if a valid Cat 2 or above form has been supplied).
- Life raft certificate of reinspection (valid and for each life raft carried onboard).
- At least one team shore contact added to the online race entry (two contacts may be provided).
- ORWA radio declaration form, signed by the person in charge.

Changes made after this deadline will be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority although no changes shall be made to the information in a yacht's online entry after the deadline without prior approval from the Organising Authority.

4.4 All yachts must carry a tracking device supplied by the OA. Attention to SI 7.3.2.

5. The Start

5.1 The Vessel "Tam Thompson" flying the RBYC burgee will be the Committee Boat and will start the race.

5.2 The start will be in the vicinity of Port Beach. This changes SI 7.9.2.

5.3 The Start Line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat mast at the starboard end and a black and white chequered buoy at the port end. A clearance mark may be streamed from the Committee Boat. This clearance mark is deemed to be part of the Start Boat for the purpose of RRS 31 and shall be passed on the same side as the Committee Boat when starting. This changes SI 7.9.2.

6. Courses & Description of Additional Marks

6.1. Course

All marks shall be rounded unless otherwise listed as a pass or gate.

Mark/waypoint	Coordinates		Comments	Rounding to
	(unless listed in Appendix A of the Sailing Instructions)			
Start			As per SSI 5	
Day Buoy				
Western South Passage Transit Beacon				Port
*Mark Boat Bunbury	33°18.703'S	115°38.883'E	Report on approach SSI	Starboard
Western South Passage Transit Beacon				Starboard
Hall Bank Beacon				Starboard
South Mole finish				

6.2 **Day Buoy** is described as a yellow cylindrical shaped inflatable mark. It will be situated approximately one nautical mile to windward of the start line. Prior to the warning signal, the Committee Boat will display a red or green flag. A red means the mark is to be left to Port. A green flag means the mark is to be left to Starboard. This changes SI 7.9.4.

6.3 Mark Boat Bunbury is a Farr IMS yacht names “*Courtesan*”. She has a white hull and deck and a black mast. There is a 200mm dark blue line at her sheerline and she wears a dark blue boom cover. “*Courtesan*” will be identified during the day by Int Code Flag “M” and at night by an orange flashing light.

Her approximate location is 33°18.703’S 115°38.883’E

7. Bunbury Harbour

Southern Ports have requested that competing yachts keep well clear of merchant ships which are to be regarded as “restricted in their ability to manoeuvre” in the channel, port area and in the approaches to the port.

Koombana Bay has a narrow shipping channel clearly marked on navigation charts. Competitors are not to pass closer than two ship lengths in front of any moving ship inside this channel. Yachts passing astern of a ship should allow enough room to pass safely. A ship mooring area is located approximately two miles due west of the Bunbury Port.

Offshore Race Control may broadcast shipping movements to the fleet on VHF CH 82 (R).

8. The Finish

The South Mole finish line is a line running approximately north south between FSC B (passed to Starboard) and an inner waypoint (passed to Port).

The inner waypoint is located at 32 03.401’S 115 44.066’E

Boats shall collect evidence of finishing by either:

- a screen shot or photo of the primary navigation system of the boat’s location, track and finish time (internet/GPS) as it finishes, or
- a photo of the finish buoy (FSC B) in the background including the internet/GPS time as it finishes.

Competitors shall provide this evidence of finishing time to the Race Committee if requested.

The South Mole finish will not be attended, and the race finish times will be calculated by the race tracking system.

This changes SI 7.10.

9. Clearing Weed from the Keel

Weed shall not be cleared from keels, rudders, propellers, or any other appendage by crew going into the water whilst the boat is under way.

10. Anchors

No anchor shall be carried on deck forward of the stem or with any part protruding outboard.

11. Penalty System

RRS 44.1 applies.

12. Scheduled Position Reports

12.1 Sailing Instruction Appendix B Option 1 is deleted.

12.2 VHF radio will be used to conduct scheduled position reports. This changes Appendix B.

- 12.3 Position reports by VHF radio on the designated race channel (VHF CH 82(R)) shall be made daily at the following times starting with the first time after the commencement of the race:
- 0815 hours
 - 1615 hours
 - 0015 hours
- 12.4 The position reporting schedule shall be:
- Boats will be called by the Offshore Race Control for position reports in alphabetical order (the sked).
 - A boat, when called, shall reply with the blocks of figures representing their latitude and longitude (degrees and minutes only) at that time.
 - i.e. **“32 01 115 38”** for 32° 01’S 115° 38’E
 - Boats failing to answer will be called again at the end of the sked.
 - If a boat is unable to contact Offshore Race Control during the sked by VHF radio, at the end of the sked she must try to contact another boat in the race by radio to relay their position.
 - If this fails, a boat may use a mobile telephone or satellite communications device to contact Offshore Race Control by voice call. Then, Offshore Race Control will announce the boats position to the fleet over VHF radio.

13. Additional Mandatory Radio Position Reports

Boats shall call Mark Boat Bunbury “Courtesan” on VHF CH 82(R) approximately 10 minutes prior to rounding her.

14. Race Officials

The Organising Authority for this race appoints the following to carry out specific functions in the management of the race:

Role	Name
Race Officer	John McKechnie
Race Committee	Commodore Tim Cummins
Race Committee	Rear Commodore Sail Ken Stevenson
Race Committee	Rob Hubbard

15. Race Contacts

Role	Name	Contact
RFBYC Radio Room	Offshore Race Control (RFBYC)	08 9286 8204
RFBYC Radio Room	RFBYC Radio Room (additional)	08 9286 8209
Organising Authority	RFBYC Club office	08 9286 8200

16. Scoring and Prizes

The results for the 77th Bunbury and Return Ocean Race will be published as soon as reasonably possible following the completion of the race. Provisional results will be displayed on the YB Tracking race viewer for the race.

Trophies and prizes will be presented at an informal gathering in the Members’ Bar at RFBYC on Thursday 13 February at 6:30pm.

17. Compulsory Briefing

The Welcome, Race and Weather Briefing will be held at 1830 on Thursday, 6 February at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club.

It is mandatory for at least two representatives from each yacht who are in the role for the race of: Owner, Skipper, Person in Charge, Second in Charge or Navigator to attend. Sign in will be required.

Teams who cannot meet this requirement must contact offshore@rfbyc.asn.au prior to 1800 on that day to request a dispensation from the Race Committee.



Event website

<https://rfbyc.asn.au/web/pages/bunbury-and-return>