

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS - 2019

1 RULES

- 1.1. The Organising Authority is Whitsunday Sailing Club Limited.
- 1.2. All Races will be governed by the current versions of:
 - 1.2.1. The rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing (WS).
 - 1.2.2. The prescriptions of Australian Sailing (AS).
 - 1.2.3. Australian Sailing Special Regulations (Part 1 for Racing Boats).
- 1.3. The notice of race and these sailing instructions, as required by rule 89.2 and 90.2
- 1.4. Between the hours of sunset and sunrise, as defined in the Queensland tide tables, part 2 of the RRS will be replaced by the International Rules for the Prevention of Collision at Sea.
- 1.5. Competitors are reminded of the provisions of Fundamental Rule 4 - DECISION TO RACE which states "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".
- 1.6. These sailing instructions apply to all events marked as "WSC club event" in the calendar in the 2019 Racing Guide and to Twilight Races. Separate sailing instructions will be provided for other events.
- 1.7. Boats shall NOT carry anchors protruding from the bow whilst racing.
- 1.8. For all races, a boat may make a one turn penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing. This changes RRS 44.1.

2 CATEGORY OF EVENTS

- 2.1. All club races in the Offshore Sailing Calendar and all Twilight Races are classified as Category 5 races. Any boat racing after official sunset shall comply with Category 5N.
- 2.2. The Race Committee may at any time inspect a boat's equipment to verify compliance with the AS Special Regulations.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official noticeboard located at the western end of the balcony of the Clubhouse.

4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than two hours before taking effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 hours on the day before it will take effect.

Changes to sailing instructions may also be published on the WSC website (www.whitsundaysailingclub.com.au)

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff located on the balcony of the Sailing Club. Repeats of these signals may be displayed on the race committee boat.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

The Offshore Race Calendar as published in the Whitsunday Sailing Club Offshore Sailing Guide 2019, will define the schedule of races. Any change to the schedule will be treated as a Change to Sailing Instructions.

Twilight races will be conducted every Wednesday from 5-Dec-2018 to 27-Nov-2019 except 26-Dec-2018 and 14-Aug-2019.

7 ENTRIES

- 7.1. By lodging an entry, the owner / charterer agrees to be bound by all the rules and conditions of the race.
- 7.2. Entries may be accepted from eligible boats until 1900 hours the day preceding a race. Entry shall be by lodgement of a completed entry form, available at the club. Boats pre-registered with the club for online entry may enter by phone or internet. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee
- 7.3. Boats shall, prior to their warning signal, notify the Race Committee of their intention to race, together with the number of people on board (POB).

- 7.4. To be eligible to enter a race a boat shall lodge or have held on file at WSC the following documentation
- 7.4.1. A completed, current AS Special Regulations compliance form appropriate to Category 5 for daytime, 5N for racing after sunset; and
- 7.4.2. A copy of current insurance policy endorsed for racing and having a minimum Public Liability cover of \$10 million; and
- 7.4.3. For any crew under the age of 18 years, written permission from their parent or guardian;
- 7.5. A boat failing to comply with SI 7.1 and SI 7.4 starting a race may be scored DNC without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.
- 7.6. The Race Committee will post a list of handicaps, prior to the start of a race.

8 DIVISIONS

There may be three divisions (1, 2, and 3) dependent upon the number of entries

DIVISION	FLAG	CLASS
1	White Flag	Multihulls
2	Purple Flag	Faster Monohulls
3	Pink Flag	Slower Monohulls

Divisions may be combined at the discretion of the Race Committee.
If fewer than six entries are accepted the race may be abandoned.

9 RACING AREA

Racing will be conducted within the areas defined on charts AUS 825 & 252.

10 COURSES

- 10.1. Courses are described in Appendix "A": TWILIGHT COURSES; SHORT OFFSHORE COURSES; LONG OFFSHORE COURSES; and BAY COURSES.
- The notes provided in each of the course descriptions published in Appendix "A" are deemed to be included as part of these sailing instructions and apply when the relevant course is in operation. Long and Short Offshore Courses may be sailed in reverse. The Committee Boat shall display code flag "R" to indicate that all boats should "Go to Windward Mark (if listed), then all other marks in reverse order" and "All other marks indicated as rounded to starboard will be rounded to port and vice versa" Twilight races will be one of Twilight Courses.
- Short Offshore races will be one of Short Offshore Courses
- Long Offshore races will be one of either Short Offshore or Long Offshore courses.
- Interclub Challenge Series races will be either Short Offshore or Long Offshore courses and two Bay Courses.
- Challengers Cup races will each be one of Bay Courses.
- Great Northern Series races will be one each of Short Offshore, Long Offshore Courses and Bay Courses.
- Lady Skippers races will be either Bay courses or Short Offshore Courses.
- Two-Handed races will be either Bay courses or Short Offshore Courses.
- 10.2. The course to be sailed will be displayed on a course board on the committee vessel with or prior to a division's warning signal.

11 MARKS

The start, finish and windward marks will be orange or yellow inflatable buoys, other marks may be islands or navigation aids. An inner limit mark, being a yellow pencil buoy with its own ground tackle, may be laid in the vicinity of the committee vessel. The inner limit mark shall be considered as an extension of the committee vessel and left to starboard.

12 THE START

- 12.1. The start and finish will be located in Pioneer Bay in the vicinity of Whitsunday Sailing Club.
- 12.2. For Short Offshore and Long Offshore races a boat shall, before the first warning signal, report to the committee vessel on VHF 73 and advise intention to race and count of persons on board (POB).

- 12.3. The start sequence will be conducted in accordance with RRS 26, except designated Sternchaser (handicap start) races.
- 12.4. In the event of a general recall, recalled divisions will be re-started after the last division start.
- 12.5. The Starting line will be an imaginary line between the Flag mast on the committee vessel displaying a club burgee and a buoy set at approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the first mark.
- 12.6. The committee vessel will be located at the starboard end of the starting line.
- 12.7. The committee vessel may display a red or green flag to indicate the rounding direction of a windward mark or the orientation of the course as defined in the relevant course notes. A red flag indicates port, and a green flag indicates starboard.
- 12.8. The first warning signal for Twilight races will not be before 16:25 hrs.
For other races the scheduled warning signal is as indicated in the Offshore Race Calendar.
- 12.9. A boat shall keep clear of the start line area after the first warning signal until her warning signal has been made.
- 12.10. For Twilight Races, a “Sternchaser” race may be declared seven days prior to the start. Boats will be allocated a starting time according to their Twilight handicap. Individual start times for existing competitors in the series will be posted on the official notice board and website and may be emailed to all skippers. Boats starting in the series for the first time must be entered by noon on the day of the race and their start time will be advised by text or radio from the Race Committee. Boats will start at their designated start time using GPS time. To assist time keeping, the start boat will hoist White flag at 16.25hrs, this will be lowered and purple flag raised at 16.30hrs, purple flag will be lowered and pink flag raised at 16.35hrs. Radio signals will also be given during the start sequence to assist boats timing. Boats starting closest to their scheduled start time will be awarded Best Start.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1. The committee vessel will display a club burgee and a blue “On station” flag.
- 13.2. For Bay and Twilight Races the Finish is shown in Appendix “A”.
- 13.3. For Short or Long Offshore Races the Race Committee will determine whether the committee vessel will be on station and will attempt to notify all boats prior to the start or by radio during the race.
 - 13.3.1. **COMMITTEE VESSEL ON STATION**

The finish will be an imaginary line between the flag mast on the committee vessel and the adjacent orange or yellow inflatable buoy. The committee vessel will be on the starboard end of the finishing line. Between official sunset and sunrise, the committee vessel may display a blue flashing light.
 - 13.3.2. **COMMITTEE VESSEL NOT ON STATION**

The finish will be an imaginary line between an orange or yellow inflatable buoy and the flagstaff on the balcony of the club. Finishers may be acknowledged by radio on VHF 73. If not so acknowledged a boat shall record its own finish time and lodge a declaration. The finishing line shall be crossed from the course side (see RRS definition finish). Between official sunset and sunrise, the finish mark may display a blue flashing light.

14 TIME LIMIT

- 14.1. The time limit for each category of course is defined in the appropriate Courses section of Appendix “A”.
- 14.2. A boat not finishing within the time limit will be scored DNF.

15 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 15.1. For races outside the bay in progress after 1730 hours, the WSC will conduct a radio schedule at 1735 hours on VHF Channels 73, 72, 81 and 82, and then at (4) hourly intervals until all boats have finished or returned to port. When called, a boat shall provide its latitude and longitude and any other information requested.
- 15.2. When entering Pioneer Bay (crossing an imaginary line between Pioneer Point and Grimstone Point) a boat shall advise the committee vessel on VHF Channel 73.
- 15.3. In the event of a boat being unable to contact WSC on the stated channels, the boat shall use all available means to contact WSC, including radio relay or mobile phone.
- 15.4. A 2% time penalty may be applied to any vessel not complying with this SI or pre-race reporting (SI 12.2) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

16 HANDICAPS

Handicaps are based on the Performance Handicap System (PHS) calculated and tabulated by the "TOP YACHT" computer system. The club reserves the right to adjust handicaps. Any alteration to handicaps will not be grounds for a request for redress. In addition, for Club Championship events, results will be calculated using a fixed handicap for each boat, based on long term historical data. Fixed handicaps may be reviewed by a handicap committee on a regular basis.

17 SCORING

- 17.1. The Low Point Scoring System, RRS A9 will apply, except that the last sentence of A9 is replaced with "A boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place three more than the number of boats that came to the starting area." This changes RRS A9
- 17.2. To qualify for the Club Championship Series, boats must start a minimum of (5) races defined in the offshore calendar as Club Championship races.
- 17.3. To qualify for the Club Twilight Championship, boats must start a minimum of (5) Club Twilight races.
- 17.4. A Monthly Twilight Point score will include the first four races for that month.
- 17.5. A boat's best results in a series excluding the number of drops indicated in the Offshore Racing Calendar will be used to determine a series score.

18 PROTESTS

For all races other than Long Offshore races, Protests shall be submitted to the WSC office and received within two (2) hours after the last boat in the division finishes the last race of the day. Protests shall comply with RRS 61.3. Protest forms are available at the WSC office.

For Long Offshore races only, the protest time limit is 12 noon of the day following the race. This changes RRS 61.3.

19 PRESENTATION

Where possible, the presentation of prizes will be as soon as practicable after the finish of the race, unless otherwise notified on the official notice board.

20 LIABILITY

Competitors participate in a race entirely at their own risk and are responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted and for the sufficiency and adequacy of its equipment. Neither the Whitsunday Sailing Club Ltd, their servants nor volunteers shall accept liability or responsibility whatsoever for death or any personal or material damage sustained by participants before, during or after a race, see RRS 4, Decision to race.

21 INCIDENT REPORTS

A skipper involved in an incident involving significant injury, grounding or collision is required to lodge an incident report with the club and Maritime Safety Queensland.

22 RETIREMENTS

Any boat retiring from a race shall use all available means to promptly advise the WSC race committee of such retirement.

23 AUTOPILOTS

For Two-Handed Series races only, the use of autopilots/self-steering systems is permitted during hoisting and retrieving spinnakers and in emergency situations.

24 SPINNAKERS

Spinnakers are not permitted for Lady Skippers races or Junior Skippers races. Where a spinnaker is hoisted in a twilight race, the boat will be subjected to a 3.5% elapsed time penalty prior to the application of handicap.