



**Drummoyne Sailing Club, Balmain Sailing Club and Greenwich Flying Squadron
2015 Combined West Harbour Winter Series**

Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

The races will be governed by the *rules*, as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2013 - 2016 (“RRS”) of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF), and the prescriptions and regulations of Yachting Australia (“Special Regulations”) these may be amended by the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

2. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Month	Date	Race
May	17	WHWS Race 1
	31	WHWS Race 2
June	14	WHWS Race 3
	28	WHWS Race 4
July	12	WHWS Race 5
	26	WHWS Race 6
August	9	WHWS Race 7

3. WARNING SIGNALS AND TIMES (to be read in conjunction with RRS 26)

- a. Scheduled Warning and Start time for each division:

Scheduled Time	Division Warning	Division Start	Pennant Displayed	Pennant Dropped
12:55	1		1	
13:00	2	1	2	1
13:05	3	2	3	2
13:10	4	3	4	3
13:15		4		4

b. Divisions

Division	Backstay Pennant
1	Yellow
2	Blue
3	Black
4	Green

- c. Division Pennants – Each participant must fly a backstay pennant appropriate to its division as indicated in 3.2 (above). Backstay pennants will be available at each participating club.
- d. The Race Committee will inform all entrants in which division they will compete. This will not be subject to protest or dispute.
- e. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the start sequence for other divisions. 100metres clear of the start line is the minimum distance. The Race Committee may disqualify any boat not complying with this rule

4. COURSES

4.1 The diagram in Attachment A shows the course area and a course table, including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

4.2 The course to be sailed will be indicated by numbered pennants (1, 2 or 3) flown from the Drummoyne Sailing Club Start Boat and announced on VHF Channel **72**.

4.3 Boats shall proceed to all marks of the relevant course in the order listed and leave each mark on the required side

4.4 All marks are to be passed to STARBOARD unless the mark is suffixed (P), which indicates the mark is to be passed to PORT.

5. SHORTENED COURSE

5.1 The Race Committee may display 'Flag S' before, with, or shortly after, the warning signal.

5.2 When a Short Course 'Flag S' signal is displayed with a Division pennant it is to apply to that division only. (Amends RRS 27.1, 40 and Race Signals)

5.3 Courses may also be shortened after the start in accordance with RRS 32.

6. MARKS

6.1 All laid marks will be a red chequered flag mark.

6.2 Unless otherwise specified, all rounding marks are to be passed on starboard hand. For a detailed description of the rounding marks, see "Chart of Marks" - Attachment A.

7. THE START

7.1 The Starting Line will be determined by reference to the wind direction and the associated courses (see 4.1).

7.2. The Starting line will be between the orange flagstaff on the starting boat and a mark displaying an orange flag. An Inner Distance Mark (IDM) displaying Flag U, may be positioned near the start boat. When the IDM is laid, boats shall leave it to starboard when starting. No boat shall pass between the IDM and the Committee Vessel from the course side of the line during its starting sequence.

7.3 The Race Committee may change the line by moving one of the Starting Line marks up to the lowering of the preparatory signal. This amends RRS 27.2

8. RECALLS

8.1 Subject to 9.4 below individual and general recalls shall be in accordance with RRS 29.

8.2 To assist competitors, the Race Committee may advise individual and general recalls over **VHF 72**. (Amends RRS 29.2 & 29.3)

8.3 Any error or omission in the advice referred to in clause 9.2 below will not be grounds for protest or redress.

8.4 In the case of a general recall the re-start for that division will follow the start of all other divisions with the warning signal for the re-starting division corresponding with the start time of the previous division. This amends RRS 29.

9. THE FINISH

9.1 The Finishing Line will be between a laid mark and the Drummoyne Sailing Club boat in the vicinity of Balmain Sailing Club.

9.2 Boats are requested not to maneuver in the area of the Finish Line after finishing.

10. TIME LIMIT

10.1 The absolute time limit for each race will be 1600 hours.

10.2 If one boat finishes within the time limit, all boats that have started and not finished by the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). (Amends RRS 35)

11. SCORING

11.1 Scoring System - The Low Point scoring system, RRS Appendix A, applies subject to the following amendments:

11.1.1 Non Starting - A boat scored Did Not Start (DNS) shall be awarded points equal to the number of point score entries in that race plus one point.

11.1.2 Non Finishing - Boats which start and retire (RAF) or are otherwise scored Did Not Finish (DNF) shall be awarded points equal to the number of point score finishers in the race plus one point.

11.1.3 Disqualification - Boats which are disqualified (DSQ) shall be awarded points equal to the number of point score entries in the race plus one point.

11.1.4 Abandonment - When a race is abandoned after the start and not re-sailed, boats that started shall be awarded zero points. When a race is abandoned before the start, all boats entered shall be awarded zero points.

11.2 Races Dropped - Boats shall drop one (1) race (amends RRS Appendix A).

12. PRIZES

12.1 Prizes for each race will be presented to eligible place-getters at DSC, GFS and BSC according to each club's participating yachts. Combined events will be held at GFS (June 14), BSC (July 12) and DSC (August 9)

12.2 Prizes for series point-scores will be awarded at the Winter Series Prize-giving ceremony at Drummoyne Sailing Club following the race on August 9.

13. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND NOTICES

13.1 Any change to the sailing instructions and notices to competitors will be circulated to skippers via email or by text (mobile phone) and will be posted on club notice boards no later than 3 hours before the race.

13.2 Signals made ashore (weather abandonment) will be displayed on flag masts at Drummoyne Sailing Club, Balmain Sailing Club and Greenwich Flying Squadron.

14. RACE ENTRY

14.1 Racing is open to boats registered to race at each participating club. It is the responsibility of each skipper/owner to maintain their boat to the required standard of safety and keep all safety equipment on board and in working order.

14.2 All races are designated Category 7. Entrants must lodge a current equipment audit form signed by an accredited equipment auditor before racing. Owners are responsible for ensuring that all equipment is kept up to date and in good condition throughout the season.

14.3 Boats will have a minimum crew of two.

14.4 Prior to racing, entrants shall lodge a fully completed Race Entry Form with the Sailing Office or Race Committee of the Balmain Sailing Club, Drummoyne Sailing Club or the Greenwich Flying Squadron, accompanied by the relevant entry fee and a minimum Category 7 Safety Certificate (keelboats).

14.5 All entrants are required to display legible sail numbers.

14.6 Late Starters. If a boat is towed, or under motor, to make the start line after the preparatory signal, it can exonerate itself by completing a one turn penalty before crossing the start line. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS rules A4 and A5.

15. RACING AREAS

Races will be conducted from Goat Island on Sydney Harbour and East of Iron Cove and Gladesville Bridges in waters surrounding Cockatoo Island, Spectacle Island and Snapper Island.

16. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

16.1 Moorings - The area of water between swing moorings and the shoreline shall be considered as prohibited water for all boats after the preparatory signal and throughout the race. All navigation marks rank as obstructions and shall be passed on their designated side. The water between a navigation mark and the adjacent shore or hazard shall be considered Continuing Obstruction.

16.2 The area of water bounded by Snapper Island, Spectacle Island, and the barges and their pylons shall be considered as prohibited water (a continuing obstruction).

16.3 Infringements under this rule cannot be exonerated. The penalty for breaking this rule will be disqualification.

17. RACE CANCELLATION

The Race Committee may cancel any race (prior to or after the start) for any reason.

18. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

18.1 Protests and Requests for Redress must be in writing.

18.2 Protest shall be delivered as follows:

18.2.1 Within 60 minutes after the time limit for that race to the DSC, BSC or GFS Sailing Offices.

18.2.2 By 10am of the day after the race by email (to info@balmainsailingclub.com). Receipt of protests delivered by email will be acknowledged by the Protest Committee within 12 hours.

18.2.3 Protest mediation may be used prior to a formal protest hearing. Procedures for mediation can be found on the BSC website at <http://www.balmainsailingclub.com/racing/entry>

19. HANDICAPS

19.1 This series will use a Performance Handicap System (PHS) applied as a Time Correction Factor (TCF). A boat's handicap may be adjusted based on race performance or for changes in equipment, skipper, crew or ownership.

19.2 Handicaps and changes to handicaps shall be determined by the results co-ordinator. Disputes may be submitted to the results co-ordinator at BSC.

20. EQUIPMENT

20.1 This is a spinnaker series. Extras may be carried (spinnakers, bloopers, ringtails, tallboys, etc. allowed).

20.2 Anchors shall not be carried at the bow or on the deck of any racing keelboat. The penalty for this will be disqualification.

20.3 The use of a trapeze is not permitted on any keelboat.

20.4 All yachts with moveable keels must have their centreboard or swing-keel locked down at all times when racing.

21. SAFETY REGULATIONS

21.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Starter, either by radio (Channel 72), phone (0448 236 198) or in person as soon as possible after the retirement.

21.2 It is a requirement of NSW RMS that all boats competing keep 200 metres from the bow and at least 30 metres from the sides or stern of any ferry underway and 500 metres from the bow and at least 60 metres from the sides or stern of any large commercial vessel underway.

22. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in all races entirely at their own risk - see rule 4, Decision to Race. The Drummoyne Sailing Club, Balmain Sailing Club and Greenwich Flying Squadron will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after any racing.

23. INSURANCE

Each participating keelboat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000.

Attachment A

Chart of Marks



List of Marks

MP	Laid mark S of Manns Point
CI	Cockatoo Island
DM	Laid mark NW of Spectacle Island
GB	Laid mark W of Goat Island
GI	Goat Island
SB	Laid mark E of Snapper Island
SI	Spectacle island
WW	Laid mark approximately 150m E of Woolwich Dock
CM	Laid mark E of Cockatoo Island

Courses

Division 1 (Yellow) and 2 (Blue)

Course 1	Start - GI(P) - MP(P) - DM(P) - SB(P) - GI(P) - MP(P) - DM(P) - SB(P) - Finish
Course 2	Start - DM(P) - SB(P) - GI(P) - MP(P) - DM(P) - SB(P) - GI(P) - MP(P) - CI(P) - Finish
Course 3	Start - CM - SB - DM - WW - GI - CM - WW - CM - SB - DM - WW - CM - Finish

Division 3 (Black) and 4 (Green)

Course 1	Start - GB(P) - MP(P) - SI(P) - SB(P) - GB(P) - MP(P) - SI(P) - SB(P) - Finish
Course 2	Start - SI(P) - SB(P) - GB(P) - MP(P) - SI(P) - SB(P) - GB(P) - MP(P) - CI(P) - Finish
Course 3	Start - CM - SB - SI - WW - GB - CM - WW - CM - SB - SI - WW - CM - Finish

(P) Leave mark to port when rounding

Some Emergency Contacts

Emergency Services	000 or VHF Ch16
Marine Area Command (Water Police - Balmain)	02 9320 7499
Marine Rescue Middle Harbour	02 9969 3270
North Sydney Police	(02) 9956 319