

An aerial photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sky is filled with warm, golden light, and the sun is low on the horizon, casting a glow over the buildings. In the foreground, a large body of water is filled with numerous sailboats of various sizes and colors, including white, yellow, and dark sails. The city skyline in the background features a dense collection of skyscrapers and modern buildings, some with cranes visible on top. The overall scene is a vibrant and scenic urban landscape.

Greenwich Flying Squadron Safety Briefing 11 September 2024

Agenda (7.30 - 9.00)



Introduction	John Veale	
Boating Services Officer	Ben Brewer	15 mins
Sailing Secretary	Phil Hare	10 mins
Twilight Captain	Leigh McLaughlin	5 mins
Safety Briefing	Steve Bradley	15 mins
Outside Starts	John Veale	15 mins
Spirit of Racing	Steve Bradley	5 mins
Questions	All	10 mins



Highlights from the presentation by Boating Services Officer – Ben Brewer

- Wear lifejackets in a tender - no other safety equipment required - (applies within 200m of shore only) Further from shore extra safety equipment is required.
- Inflatable Lifejacket servicing is mandatory - (should put purchase date on inner jacket) – servicing method see Maritime website
- RRS (between yachts racing) and Col Regs (between non-racing vessels) – overlapped or not overlapped (racing) vs overtaking (non-racing)
- Orange Diamonds – Big Ships – be aware of distances 500m, 200m, 30 m. Kayaks be vigilant
- Safe Water Mark at Bradleys Head may be relocated - VHF Channel 13 on the hour will inform if it has. Testing various locations
- Do not sail (race) through Moorings – see GFS SI 25 n(i) prohibits this
- When under motor – motorised vessel rules apply
- Must report damage following and incident where damage exceeds \$5K.
- Greenwich Wharf rebuild - keep outside yellow buoys when they are present (see GFS SI 25 n (ii)
- Alcohol limit rules apply as with cars (under 0.05)
- Expired flare disposal check the Maritime website.

[Boating and marine | NSW Government](#)

Sailing Secretary - Phil Hare



Entries

Race Documents - see Website - Sailing - Race Information page

- Sailing Program
- Sailing Instructions - changes in red and green
- Course Sheets - re-numbered from last season

Greenwich Wharf upgrade – Be vigilant

Web site - check regularly for updates and vital information

Twilight Captain - Leigh McLaughlin



1. Club Membership
2. Racing reminders
3. Duty Roster
4. Feel free to contact me

twilightcaptain@gfs.org.au

0412 234 832

Crew Membership



RRS 46: All persons on board a boat while racing shall be members of a Club affiliated to Australian Sailing and have an AS number or hold a valid Sail Pass.

This rule concerns duty of care, safety and insurance; offers clubs the opportunity to grow their membership base; and create clearer lines of communication with potential members. (Aust. Sailing)

Also a requirement of the GFS Sailing Instructions.



Responsibility of Skippers

1. Ask Regular Crew to join or rejoin the Club

- \$145 pa, apply through GFS website
- gives (top-up) insurance from Australian Sailing, makes crew feel part of GFS community, helps club finances.

2. Financial members of another club affiliated with Sailing Australia are covered for GFS events

- please check your crew members are financial.

3. Occasional crew need a Sail Pass

- crew who sail 1 to 3 times a Season need a Sail Pass (free);
- apply via website, or have QR code on board so they can apply via phone.



Reminders for Twilight Racing

- Safety Audit to be completed and uploaded, also proof of insurance docs
Let the Starters know if you retire from a race
- If you finish in the dark, shine a bright torch for a several seconds on your sail number or radio the Starters
- Respect the Starters - young people doing their best
- Outside starts mean Club members will be driving the Club Launch – acknowledge their contribution. In time, Club members will be asked to volunteer for this role.



Duty Roster

- Ensures Clubhouse clean, tidy and locked up after Twilights.
- Roster will be emailed soon. If you can't make the date you've been rostered on, it's your responsibility to swap with someone else.
- Agreement to share contact details.
- Once you've confirmed a swap, please advise Leigh McLaughlin of the revised dates twilightcaptain@gfs.org.au
- Updated Duty Crew Jobs List will sent out with Roster and on website.

Decision to Race



The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.

This is the fundamental duty of care for each skipper

Duty of Care Considerations

- Weather
- Skipper Capability
- Crew Capability
- Vessel Capability





Rules of Racing (Most relevant at GFS)

On Course Side at start	Rule 21.1
On Opposite Tacks	Rule 10
Overlapped	Rule 11
Not Overlapped	Rule 12
Obstruction	Rule 19, 20
Penalty turns	Rule 21.2

Collision Regulations



Applies to interaction with all vessels not in the race

Give way to large vessels with limited ability to manoeuvre

Keep clear of ferries, including Bay St wharf

Overtaking vessel must keep clear

Communication



Communication is an important part of safety

VHF channel 72 on at all times during race

Some crew trained in operation of radio

GFS Safety Card accessible

Rescue locations

Contact Numbers

Man Overboard



Man overboard is a serious risk to life

Skipper defines man overboard procedure

Skipper agrees with crew, man overboard recovery process

Crew aware of process in case of skipper overboard

Conduct a man overboard drill on a regular basis with dedicated roles.

Emergency Preparation



Skipper conducts safety briefing for all new crew

GFS safety card readily available to all crew

Crew briefed on location of

- radio,
- first aid kit,
- lifejackets
- man overboard equipment



Outside Starts (1) John Veale

The first 4 and last 4 races in the 2024/25 series will start and finish outside the Laine Cove River. (GFS SI 9)

The general area of the start and finish lines for these races is shown in the attached diagram. (GFS SI Appendix)

Because it is dark soon after 7.00pm during these early and late races, appropriate courses will be set and the cut-off time will be 7.45pm. (GFS SI 18)

When strong southerly winds are forecast, starts may be outside. In this case the finish will also be outside. Skippers will be advised by text if this is the case. (GFS SI 9)

All outside starts will be signalled by Code Flag Q (plain yellow) flown at the GFS clubhouse. (GFS SI 9)



Outside Starts (2)

The start and finish lines will be between the large yellow GFS inflatable mark and the GFS Burgee on the club launch. The club launch will be at the starboard end of the line. (GFS SI 7)

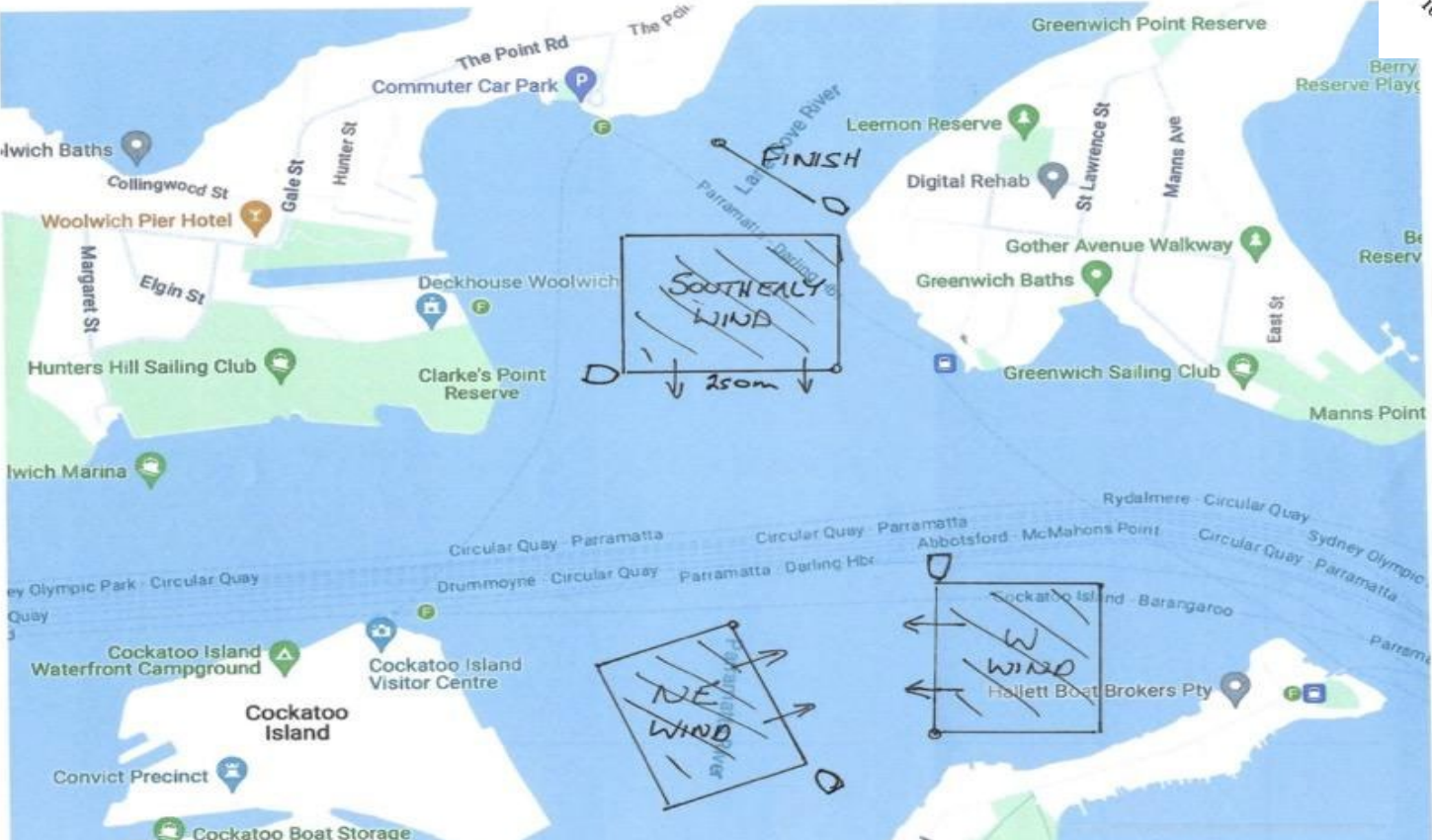
Some new courses have been added. Course numbers will be displayed on the club launch. (GFS SI 9)

Start times will be the same as for conventional starts from the clubhouse. (GFS SI 10)

Only Division Flags will be used for all twilight starts. The drop of a Division Flag signals the start of that division. Starts will also be signalled by sound signals and VHF transmission on Channel 72. (GFS SI 9v)

All yachts not within 5 minutes of their start must keep clear of the start area. Failure to do so may result in disqualification. (GFS SI 11)

Outside Start and Finish Lines





In the event of a Collision

Ensure crew are safe

Request assistance if needed from nearby yachts or on Channel 72

Assist the other vessel

Retire from race

Report collision to GFS Race Control

Lodge protest form with GFS

Report incident to T f NSW if death / injury or more than \$5,000 damage,
within 24 hours

Spirit of Racing



*We all return **SAFELY** after an **ENJOYABLE** race*

- Know the rules and abide by them
- If you infringe, take your penalty
- Be considerate of others
- Leave a good margin of error, appropriate to conditions
- Be friendly, no abuse
- Help others in need