

BALMORAL SAILING CLUB INCORPORATED

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS Season 24/25

1. RULES

1.1 The racing will be governed by the "rules" as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.

1.2 For Windsurfers, the only rules that apply from Racing Rules of Sailing -Appendix B Windsurfing Fleet Racing Rules, are;

31 TOUCHING A MARK Rule 31.

42 PROPULSION Rule 42 as amended by IWCA rule C.1(b)

44 PENALTIES AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT Rule 44.

1.3 Class rules will apply for each class.

1.4 Where there is conflict between the Class rules and these sailing instructions, these sailing instructions will apply.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official noticeboard before 12.00 hours on the day it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

Each week a communication will be sent from the Club Captain to Class Captains. This will include information about the racing for the following Saturday. Class captains are to forward this communication to their class sailors.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag mast located on the North West corner of the Sailing Club

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Racing is scheduled as detailed in the official club programme.

5.2 Alternative days may be used if races are not completed as scheduled.

5.3 The scheduled time for the Warning signal for the first race is 14.00 hours for races from October – April. The Warning signal for the Sprint Race Series in September and May will be at 13.00 hours.

5.4 For the Spring Point Score, Autumn Point Score and Club Championship days, two races are scheduled for boats sailing the short course and one race is scheduled for boats sailing the long course. Windsurfers may sail three races. The warning signal for the second and or third race will be as soon as practical after the completion of the previous race.

5.5 Four races are scheduled for the Sprint race days.

5.6 The scheduled time for the warning signal for the Marathon race is 13.30 hours AEDT.

5.7 No warning signal will be made after 15.30 hours.

6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1 Class flags are as shown on Addendum A

7. RACING AREA

7.1 Racing will be conducted in the area of Middle Harbour, Hunter Bay and The Sound.

7.2 Boats shall pass the Bombora Danger Marks on the seaward side. Failure to observe these marks shall result in disqualification.

7.3 Sailing is not permitted in NAVAL WATERS or in DESIGNATED SECURITY AREAS.

8. COURSES

8.1 The SHORT and LONG courses, the SPRINT Race courses and the Marathon course are displayed on the notice board and the club website. The diagrams show the courses and the order in which marks are to be passed.

8.2 The race committee boat will display the course number for the long course and a red or green flag to indicate the direction of rounding the top mark for the short course before the warning signal.

8.3 When the Race Committee displays a board with the SC prior to the start, all classes will sail the SHORT course.

8.4 If a board with the letters W/L is displayed before or with the warning signal the course for all classes will be the Windward Leeward course as shown in the Course Diagrams (both marks are rounded to port). The number of laps to be sailed by each class will be signalled by displaying a numeral pennant with the class flag.

8.5 Competitors shall not sail through the finish line in an upwind direction or a downwind direction once they have started unless finishing.

A competitor that breaks this rule shall not correct their error. However, they will be exonerated if they take a One-Turn Penalty (see RRS 44.2).

A competitor that breaks this rule and doesn't take a One-Turn Penalty will be scored their finishing place plus an additional 3 places for each infringement. This penalty will be imposed without a hearing. (This changes RRS 44)

8.6 All courses may be shortened as per RRS 32. With the variations below and the addition that this will be indicated by a Balmoral Race Management Boat near the mark flying code flag S with 2 sound signals along with any of the following flags. "LC" meaning the course is shortened for all classes sailing the LONG Course or "SC" meaning the course is shortened for all the classes sailing the SHORT course. If the course is being shortened for only some classes then those class's flag will be displayed. The Balmoral Race Management Boat will also make repeated sound signals.

If the course is shortened at the top mark (mark 1 or 5) or the first wing mark (mark 2 or 6), boats are to round the mark and go straight to the finish line to finish.

If shortened at any other mark, boats are to round the mark as required and you will be recorded as finishing at that mark.

8.7 The default SHORT course is 2 laps (one figure 8 lap and one Windward/leeward lap). The SHORT course may be shortened before the start to one lap by signalling with numeral pennant 1. Or may have an extra lap, signalled by numeral pennant 3. The extra lap can be a figure 8 or windward/leeward as agreed between the Race Officer and the Class Captain for each class.

9. MARKS

9.1 Marks 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be pink inflatable buoys. Marks 5 and 6 will be blue inflatable buoys.

9.2 The starting mark will be a black and white checked inflatable buoy. The finishing mark will be a black and yellow checked inflatable buoy. (This changes race signals)

10. THE START

10.1 The Start line shall be between the nearby starting mark and the orange flag flying from a mast on the Race Committee boat.

10.2 For Scratch Starts, multiple sound signals will be made to indicate the start sequence is about to commence for the first class

3 minutes before start - Class Flag up with 1 sound signal

2 minutes before start - P flag up with one sound signal

1 minute before start - P flag down with one sound signal

Start - Class flag down race starts

Next class to start flag is raised simultaneously with starting class's flag removal – sharing one sound signal.

10.3 The class starting order for the first start will be detailed at the briefing.

10.4 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall AVOID the starting area. (50m at either end of the starting line, 50m in front of the starting line and 50m behind the starting line).

10.5 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored "DID NOT START".

10.6 General Recall.

After a General Recall the class that has been recalled will restart 3 minutes after all other classes have started. If the last class to start has a general recall a new warning signal will be made 30 seconds after the general recall flag has been lowered. (This changes RRS 29.2)

10.7 For Handicap Starts, the first handicap number may be 20 or if different will be confirmed at the pre-race briefing.

Multiple sound signals will be made to indicate the start sequence is about to commence for the highest handicap.

3 minutes before start – W Flag up with one sound signal

2 minutes before start - P flag up with one sound signal

1 minute before start - P flag down with the highest handicap number raised simultaneously with one sound signal

Start – The highest handicap number will drop and the next handicap number will be raised simultaneously. This will continue each minute down to the scratch handicap of 0.

Each boat is to start on the drop of their handicap number.

11. THE FINISH

11.1 The finishing line will be between the finishing mark and a blue flag on the Race Committee boat.

11.2 Boats who have just finished are to AVOID the finishing area. (50m at either end of the finishing line, 50m in front of the finishing line and 50m behind the finishing line)

12. TIME LIMITS

12.1 Time limits for all classes sailing the Short course are 80 minutes or 15 minutes after the first boat in the class finishes, whichever is the shorter. For classes sailing the LONG course the time limit is 120 minutes or 30 minutes after the first boat in the class finishes, whichever is the shorter.

12.2 Boats failing to finish within the time limits may be scored the position they were in when the time limit was reached, however no finish time will be recorded. Boats finished this way will be advised in real time on water this has occurred. This changes rule 35, A4 and A5.

12.3 Boats sailing on the short course in small fleets may be recorded as finished and scored the position they were in anywhere on the course if larger fleets are finished, however no finish time will be recorded. Boats finished this way will be advised in real time on water this has occurred. If this happens in the first race of the day, these boats are to go to the starting area and prepare for the second race of the day.

12.4 Boats not finished and scored as per 12.2 or 12.3 and failing to finish within the time limits will be scored "DID NOT FINISH" without a hearing. This changes rule 35, A4 and A5

13. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

13.1 Protest forms are available at the Race office. Protests shall be delivered there within the time limit.

13.2 For each class the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the Race committee and the Protest Committee and to requests for redress. This changes rule 61.3 and rule 62.2.

13.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of the location and time of hearings in which they are parties or are named as witnesses.

13.4 Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b).

13.5 For the purpose of Rule 64.4(b) the "authority responsible" is the measurer appointed by the Class Association.

13.6 RRS APPENDIX T - ARBITRATION

Appendix T applies to Balmoral Sailing Club races.

Arbitration adds an extra step to the protest resolution process but can eliminate the need for some protest hearings, thus speeding up the process Arbitration as defined in the RRS Appendix T may be offered to the protestor and protestee as an alternative to a full protest hearing.

14. SCORING

14.1 The Low Point scoring system of Appendix A / A4 will apply.

14.2 FOUR (4) races are required to be completed to constitute a series for the Point Score, Club Championship series AND Sprint Course Race series.

14.3 When fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

When from 5 to 6 races have been completed, a boats series will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

When 7 to 9 or more races have been completed, a boat's series will be the total of her race scores excluding her 2 worst scores.

When 10 to 13 or more races have been completed, a boat's series will be the total of her race scores excluding her 3 worst scores.

When 14 to 16 or more races have been completed, a boat's series will be the total of her race scores excluding her 4 worst scores.

When 17 or more races have been completed, a boat's series will be the total of her race scores excluding her 5 worst scores.

15. SAFETY REGULATIONS

15.1 All boats intending to race shall SIGN ON with electronic sign on sheet located on the website, www.balmoralsc.com.au no later than 10 minutes before that boat's start time.

15.2 All boats must SIGN OFF with the electronic sign off sheet located on the website www.balmoralsc.com.au no later than 30 minutes after returning to the club. If sailors do not sign off within 30 minutes of the last boat returning to shore they will be scored DSQ for their last race that day without a hearing.

15.3 A PRE-RACE meeting will be conducted for all sailors, in the Clubhouse or in the park, approximately 1 hour before the scheduled start of the race.

16. EQUIPMENT, MEASUREMENT CHECKS

16.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

16.2 All boats shall be fitted with a towing ring of not less than 40mm diameter or a towing fairlead or in some classes crews must be able to demonstrate how to attach a towline to their craft.

16.3 An Approved Personal Flotation Device is to be worn at all times while afloat as per RRS 40.1.

17. OFFICIAL VESSELS.

Official boats will display the Club Burgee. When on station at the start or finish line, the Race committee vessel will display an orange flag and or a blue flag.

18. SUPPORT TEAMS

18.1 Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing, from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATION

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to Mobile Phones.

20. PRIZES

Prizes will be given as determined by the Race Committee.

21. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in Balmoral Sailing Club races each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.

Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma hypothermia or other causes.

22. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the sailing events organised by Balmoral Sailing Club entirely at their own risk. (See RRS rule 4) They realise and accept that sailing is a strenuous activity and understand the risks involved in outdoor and on water activities. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after any event organised by Balmoral Sailing Club.

23 RACE POSTPONEMENT OR ABANDONMENT

23.1 If wind gusts are greater than 25 knots for 30 secs or wind gusts are 30 knots or above, the committee boat will abandon the race. The safety boats will inform sailors to return to shore.

23.2 The Race Officer can postpone or abandon racing for safety reasons such as but not limited to electrical storms, air quality or poor visibility.

24. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party personal and property liability insurance with a minimum cover of **ten** million dollars. The race committee reserves the right to sight evidence that a boat's insurance is current at any time.

25. ELIGIBILITY

25.1 All competitors and crew shall be financial members of Balmoral Sailing Club, or an Australian Sailing affiliated club if sailing an interclub event.

25.2 All competitors will have an Australian Sailing number.