SYDNEY HARBOUR SPRINT SERIES

Sydney Harbour Sprint Series 2026-2027

NOTICE OF RACE

The Organising Authority (OA) is the Middle Harbour Yacht Club. The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the NoR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the NoR or Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1 RULES

1.1 The Series will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and the Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (Special Regulations) as amended.

1.2 All boats shall have a valid Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations Category 7 (or higher) Equipment Audit. Any boat failing to comply with equipment requirements may be subject to protest by the race committee.

1.3 RRS 51 is amended so that boats with movable or variable ballast (within the meaning of those terms in the Special Regulations) may move that ballast for the purpose of changing trim or stability.

1.4 RRS 52 is amended so that electric winches and canting keels may be adjusted using the boat's electrical system.

1.5 In the event of conflict between any of the rules or regulations, other than RRS, the sailing instructions will prevail. This changes RRS 63.5(c).

2 ADVERTISING

2.1 All races governed by this notice of race are subject to the advertising code as set out in World Sailing Regulation 20 (World Sailing Advertising Code) and any restrictions stated in class rules. [DP] [NP]

2.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority (OA). If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies. [DP] [NP]

3 COMMUNICATION

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Keelboat Racing Noticeboard online.

3.2 Competitors may be advised of the intended race area via email or text.

3.3 The race committee intends to monitor VHF channel 72 and will use the radio to advise competitors of race information.

3.4 Boats which retire from a race before finishing are required to notify the race committee on VHF 72, or by phoning 8969 3103. [DP]

3.5 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. [DP]

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 The series is open to self-righting single hull displacement yachts.

4.2 Boats shall have an overall length (LOA) not less than 6 metres unless an exemption is granted by the OA.

4.3 Boats shall be on the register of a Yacht Club affiliated with its National Authority.

4.4 No boat shall start unless there is a minimum of two (2) persons on board.

4.5 The helmsperson nominated on the entry form shall be deemed to be the person in charge of the boat. No change of helmsperson shall occur without the prior written consent of the race committee.

4.6 All competitors helming or crewing shall comply with RRS 46 and the Australian Sailing Prescription. Any person who is not a financial member of a club affiliated with Australian Sailing shall obtain a Sail Pass before racing.

4.7 Eligible boats may enter online via SailSys.

4.8 Summer Series entries are to be received no later than Saturday 14 November 2026.

4.9 Winter Series entries are to be received no later than Saturday 5 June 2027.

4.10 Casual entries will be accepted no later than 1700hrs on the Friday before the race.

4.11 Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA.

5 FEES

5.1 Entry Fees are as follows (including gst):

Sprint Series	Casual Race Entry	Casual Race Entry (online)	Non-Member Series	MHYC Member Series
Summer	$70	$65	$195	$137
Winter	$70	$65	$195	$137

6 Divisions & Handicaps

6.1 The series will be conducted in three divisions:

- Division 1 – ORC, IRC & PHS
- Division 2 – ORC, IRC & PHS
- Division 3 – ORC & PHS

6.2 Entries may be allocated or re-allocated into divisions at the race committee's discretion. [NP]

6.3 The Organising Authority may, at its absolute discretion, alter, amalgamate or divide any divisions as required. [NP]

6.4 A boat's Performance Handicap TCF will be determined by the race committee and may be adjusted after each race. The TCF will not be subject to protest or request for redress. This amends RRS 60.1 and 61.1.

6.5 ORC handicaps will be calculated by the application of the Single Number Time-on-Time Windward-Leeward Scoring Option on a boat's ORC International or ORC Club certificate.

6.6 A one-design sub-series score may be provided where four or more entries of the same class are received.

7 SCHEDULE

7.1 **Sydney Harbour Sprint Series – Summer**

- Saturday 17 October 2026 (3 races)
- Saturday 14 November 2026 (3 races)
- Saturday 6 February 2027 (3 races)

7.2 **Sydney Harbour Sprint Series – Winter**

- Saturday 8 May 2027 (3 races)
- Saturday 5 June 2027 (3 races)
- Saturday 10 July 2027 (3 races)

7.3 A maximum of 9 races may be sailed in each series.

7.4 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 1155hrs each day.

7.5 No warning signal will be made after 1600hrs.

8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available by 1 September 2026 on the series webpage.

9 VENUE

Attachment A shows the approximate location of the racing areas.

10 THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be windward-leeward as described in the sailing instructions.

11 SCORING

11.1 RRS Appendix A5.3 will apply.

11.2 3 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

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

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

12 CHANGES AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

Any changes to hull, engine, propeller, trim, spars, sail area or significant changes to on-board skill level should be notified via email to the race committee no later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race affected by the changes. This may result in a change of handicap and a boat failing to comply may be protested by the race committee [DP]

When rating changes apply, the altered rating certificate shall be notified via email to the race committee not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race affected by the change. [DP]

13 MEDIA RIGHTS

Participants automatically grant to the Organising Authority and the series sponsors of the Event, the right in perpetuity to make use and show from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or film television and other reproductions of them during the period in which they participate, and in all material related to the series without compensation.

14 SERIES PRIZES

Divisional prizes will be awarded as follows subject to six series entries being received:

- ORC – First, Second & Third Places
- IRC – First Place
- PHS – First Place

Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority

15 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the series entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta. Refer to the MHYC 2026-2027 Notice of Race section 28 - RISK WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY.

16 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of AUD $10 Million per incident or the equivalent.

17 **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information please contact the Organising Authority.....
Phone: (02) 9969 1244
Email: sailing@mhyc.com.au
Web: mhyc.com.au/sailing/regattas-championships/sydney-harbour-sprint-series

Attachment A

