MHYC

Harbour Trek

Saturday 24th October 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

www.mhyc.com.au

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1.0 RULES

1.1 The races will be governed by the current versions of:

- the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing ("RRS")
- the prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing ("Special Regulations");
- the Middle Harbour Yacht Club Requirements ("MHYC Requirements")
- the Notice of Race (NoR),

except as any of these are modified by these Sailing Instructions.

1.2 The attention of competitors is drawn to the MHYC Requirements which are referenced throughout the NoR and these SIs including their responsibilities under the applicable NSW Roads & Maritime legislation.

1.3 Fixed and retractable spinnaker poles and bowsprits will be permitted for the purpose of setting asymmetrical spinnakers.

1.4 Boats with movable or variable ballast (within the meaning of those terms in the AS Special Regulations) may move that ballast for the purpose of changing trim or stability. This amends RRS 51.

1.5 RRS 52 does not apply the adjustment and operation of sails or the adjustment of movable appendages on any boat.

1.6 Each yacht is required to confirm the number of persons on board (POB) prior to the boat's start time. This must be provided by completing crew registration via SailSys or completing the POB register online.

2.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board online on the Keelboat Racing Noticeboard.

3.0 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Changes to these sailing instructions, if any, will be posted not later than 2 hours prior to the attention signal.

4.0 SIGNALS

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the MHYC Race Management Vessel berthed near the B-Arm T-Head or the Clubhouse Flagmast .

4.2 Signals will be as follows:

1220 Hrs - Attention Signal & Course Number Displayed
1230 Hrs - Start Count-up Sequence Commences

4.3 The display of the course board and the start of the count-up sequence may each be accompanied by a sound signal..

5.0 THE COURSE

5.1 The Courses are described in Appendix A. The Race Committee will display a Course Number and competitors may choose to sail Option Alpha or Option Bravo for that course.

5.2 Courses may be shortened prior to the Start at the discretion of the RC. Should Code Flag "S" be displayed with or prior to the display of the Course, the race will be shortened and all yachts should proceed to the finish line after having rounded the mark indicated by an asterisk (*).

5.3 If a Committee Vessel displaying Code Flag "S" is stationed to the West or South of Grotto Point Lighthouse, AS Mark Edwards Beach shall be omitted (if applicable) and boats shall finish between the Committee Vessel and Grotto Point Lighthouse.

5.4 Courses may be shortened in accordance with RRS 32.

5.5 The attention of competitors is drawn to NOR 13 & 15 and those areas which are designated obstructions and prohibited areas in the vicinity of the Start and Finish lines, the Gowlland Bombora, the Sow and Pigs Reef and Shark Island. A boat shall not sail into an area designated a prohibited area.

6.0 DIVISIONS

6.1 Divisions may be formed or abandoned at the discretion of the Sailing Manager or their nominee.

6.2 Two-Handed and Non-Spinnaker entries may be included in any division.

6.3 For boats entered as non-spinnaker, only a mainsail and headsails as defined in the Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS) shall be used. Headsails shall not be set flying. (No sail shall be set forward of a point of attachment of the permanent forestay).

6.4 Class Flags shall be:

Division 1 Code Flag D
Division 2 Code Flag E

7.0 HANDICAP PURSUIT RACE

7.1 Starting times will be allocated at the discretion of the Sailing Manager or their nominee based on PHS calculation.

7.2 The Sailing Manager or their nominee may at their absolute discretion review any boat's time handicap where they are of the opinion that due to anomaly, error or change of racing trim or equipment, the handicap is considered unfair or unreasonable.

7.3 Allocated handicaps shall not be the subject of protest or dispute. This amends RRS 60 & 61.

7.4 Handicaps and starting times are published on the day of racing on the MHYC website and noticeboard.

7.5 Entrants will be allocated to racing divisions appropriate to the number of entries and the relative speed of entries. Division allocation is subject to the receipt of entries and shall be structured by the Sailing Manager at their absolute discretion.

7.6 Allocation to divisions shall not be the subject to protest or constitute grounds for redress. This amends RRS 60 & 61.

8.0 THE START

8.1 The Start Line shall be as MHYC NOR 16 - Clubhouse Start.

8.2 The RC will allocate a starting time for each boat. A boat shall not start before the display of its designated start time.

8.3 The race committee may provide a countdown to the attention signal and start signals, or announce start times, via VHF on Channel 72.

9.0 THE FINISH

9.1 The Finish Line will be the Clubhouse Finish Line in MHYC NOR 17 unless shortened in accordance with SI 5.

9.2 A boat's finish time shall be used for the calculation of its racing division results. The boat with the earliest finish time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first.

9.3 All times will be recorded in minutes and whole seconds. Boats with equal finishing times shall be scored as dead heated.

9.4 If Code Flag "S" is displayed at the finish (when the course is shortened after the start), results will be based upon each boat's current PHS handicap applied to its elapsed time.

9.5 All results will be subject to the application of Alternate Penalties, if any.

10.0 TIME LIMITS

10.1 The time limit for the first boat to finish will be 1600 hours on the day of racing. If the leading yacht finishes within the time limit, then the finish for other yachts will be recorded until 1630 hours.

10.2 A boat that does not finish within the time limit shall be scored DNF (amends RRS 35).

11.0 ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

11.1 For an infringement of RRS Part 2, the Two-Turns Penalty (RRS 44.2) shall apply.

11.2 For an infringement of any other rule or requirement, the Scoring Penalties of RRS 44.3 shall apply.

11.3 The penalty shall be computed as a percentage of the number of entries in the relevant division.

12.0 ABANDONED RACES

12.1 Abandoned races will not be resailed on a later date.

13.0 PROTESTS

13.1 Protests shall comply with MHYC NOR 24.

14.0 ADVERTISING

14.1 Boats may be required to display bow and/or boom stickers and/or backstay flags provided by the RC.

15.0 RADIO COMMUNICATION

15.1 Yachts shall maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 72 for the duration of the race.

15.2 Except in an emergency, while racing a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio transmissions not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

16.0 PRIZES

16.1 Prizes shall be presented at a post-race presentation.

17.0 RESPONSIBILITY

17.1 Competitors participate in the race at their own risk. Special attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3, which states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

17.2 The Organising Authority, Event Sponsors (if applicable), and their respective officers, employees, volunteers and members accept no liability for any injury, loss or damage that may be suffered by any competitor, and any liability for harm to persons that results from breach of an express or implied warranty that the MHYC Feature Race Program and all services relating thereto will be conducted or rendered with reasonable care and skill is excluded.

17.3 Neither MHYC, nor the event sponsor (if applicable), are responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

APPENDIX A – COURSES

The Race Committee will designate the Course Number to be sailed.
Yachts may choose to sail **EITHER** of the two course options (Alpha or Bravo).

COURSE 1 (Div 1 approx. 14.5nm / Div 2 approx. 11.5nm)

Option ALPHA

START	MHYC
1	(X) AS MARK CANNAE POINT
2	AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
3	SHARK ISLAND
4	* NAVAL MARK N3
5	(X) FORT DENISON (P)
6	AS MARK MANLY WEST
7	AS MARK MANLY EAST
FINISH	MHYC

Option BRAVO

START	MHYC
1	(X) AS MARK MANLY WEST
2	(X) AS MARK MANLY EAST
3	AS MARK CANNAE POINT
4	AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
5	SHARK ISLAND
6	* NAVAL MARK N3
7	(X) FORT DENISON (P)
8	AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
9	SHARK ISLAND
FINISH	MHYC

COURSE 2 (Div 1 approx. 15.5nm / Div 2 approx. 12.5nm)

Option ALPHA

START	MHYC
1	AS MARK LADY BAY
2	NAVAL MARK N3
3	AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
4	SHARK ISLAND
5	(X) FORT DENISON (P)
6	* AS MARK TAYLORS BAY
7	AS MARK MANLY WEST
8	AS MARK MANLY EAST
9	AS CANNAE POINT
FINISH	MHYC

Option BRAVO

START	MHYC
1	(X) AS MARK MANLY WEST
2	(X) AS MARK MANLY EAST
3	AS CANNAE POINT
4	NAVAL MARK N3
5	AS MARK TAYLORS BAY
6	* AS MARK SHARK ISLAND
7	SHARK ISLAND
8	NAVAL MARK N3
9	(X) FORT DENISON (P)
FINISH	MHYC

COURSE 3 (Div 1 approx. 15.5nm / Div 2 approx. 13.0nm)

Option ALPHA

START	MHYC
1	AS MARK MANLY WEST
2	AS MARK MANLY EAST
3	(X) AS MARK LADY BAY
4	(X) AS MARK CANNAE POINT
5	AS MARK LADY BAY
6	AS MARK ROCKY POINT
7	* AS MARK EDWARDS BEACH
8	AS MARK CANNAE POINT
9	AS MARK NIELSEN PARK
FINISH	MHYC

Option BRAVO

START	MHYC
1	AS MARK NIELSEN PARK
2	AS MARK CANNAE POINT
3	(X) AS MARK LADY BAY
4	(X) AS MARK CANNAE POINT
5	AS MARK ROCKY POINT
6	* AS MARK EDWARDS BEACH
7	AS MARK LADY BAY
9	AS MARK MANLY WEST
10	AS MARK MANLY EAST
FINISH	MHYC

Notes:

- All Marks are to be rounded or passed to Starboard excepting those suffixed (P) which shall be rounded or passed to Port
- Division 2 boats shall omit each mark prefixed (x)
- If Code Flag "S" is displayed prior to or with the warning signal all yachts should proceed directly to the finish after having rounded or passed the mark prefixed *
- If a Committee Vessel displaying Code Flag "S" is stationed to the West or South of Grotto Point Lighthouse, boats shall finish between the Committee Vessel and Grotto Point Lighthouse