NAUTILUS MARINE INSURANCE

SYDNEY SHORT OCEAN RACING

CHAMPIONSHIP

28 & 29 November 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

Revised 11 November 2026

Nautilus Marine
INSURANCE

mhyc.com.au/ssorc

Organising Authority
Middle Harbour Yacht Club
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MHYC

NOTICE OF RACE

Middle Harbour Yacht Club invites eligible boats to compete in the 49th Sydney Short Ocean Racing Championship in 2026.

The Organising Authority is the Middle Harbour Yacht Club (MHYC). Racing will be conducted with the assistance and support of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA).

1.0 RULES

1.1 The Championship will be governed by the following:

- the current Rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)
- the current Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS),
- the IRC Class Rules 2026, Parts A, B and C (if applicable) as amended by 1.2 below,
- the ORC Class Rules 2026 (if applicable),
- the Class Rules of any One Design Class or Association, if applicable,
- the current MHYC Conditions of Entry, and by
- this Notice of Race or as amended by the Sailing Instructions and the Sailing Instructions.

1.2 IRC Rules 21.1.5(d) and 21.1.5(e) shall not apply. On a scheduled race day, boats shall carry no more sails than allowed on her certificate. These sails shall remain the same for all races on that day. Excluded from the number of headsails are one storm jib and/or one heavy weather jib as defined by the Offshore Special Regulations.

1.3 The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) will be changed as follows:

RRS 52: Does not apply to the adjustment and operation of sails or to the adjustment of movable appendages on any boat.

RRS 78.2: Valid Rating / Class certificates shall be produced by the date specified in Notice of Race section 6.

1.4 Competing Crew are reminded of RRS 46 and the Australian Sailing Prescription that requires all crew to be Members of a Club affiliated to a World Sailing Member National Authority (MNA).

2.0 ADVERTISING

2.1 Advertising on a boat shall comply with the requirements of World Sailing Regulation 20 (Advertising Code).

2.2 The Organising Authority may provide sponsor's decals and / or backstay flags. A boat shall display the sponsor's name and or backstay flag in accordance with this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

3.1 General Requirements

3.1.1 The Championship is open to all boats that meet the general eligibility requirements and shall be as follows:

- boats shall be of a self-righting and single hulled design;
- boats shall have an overall length (LOA) not more than 30.48 metres and not less than 9.0 metres and a waterline length (LWL) not less than 7.3 metres. Boats with LOA less than 9.0 meters but more than 8.5 metres may be eligible at the discretion of the Organising Authority;
- boats shall be on the register of a Yacht Club affiliated with its National Authority;
- boats shall hold and also submit a Category 4 (or higher) AS Special Regulations 'Equipment Audit' Certificate;
- boats shall hold current public liability cover of no less than $10,000,000 AUD.

3.2 Premier Class Boats (IRC)

3.2.1 IRC Class Boats eligibility requirements shall be as follows:

- boats shall hold and also submit a current IRC Certificate, being an Endorsed or Unendorsed Certificate issued by RORC or UNCL, and advising if the secondary certificate shall apply;
- boats shall have been weighed on scales by a RORC/UNCL approved measurer, and;
- comply with all of the current IRC Rules and Regulations, except to the extent they are specifically amended or excluded in this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions (refer RRS 78.1).

3.3 Premier Class Boats (ORC)

3.3.1 ORC Class Boats eligibility requirements shall be as follows:

- boats shall hold and also submit a current ORCi or ORC Club Certificate, and
- comply with all of the current ORC Rules and Regulations, except to the extent they are specifically amended or excluded in this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions (refer RRS 78.1).

3.4 Performance Class Boats (PHS)

3.4.1 Performance Class Boats eligibility requirements shall be those as outlined in the General Requirements.

3.5 One Design Class Boats

3.5.1 One Design Class Boats eligibility requirements shall be those as outlined in the General Requirements and as follows:

- boats shall hold and also submit a current One Design Class Certificate, and
- comply with all of the current One Design Class Rules and Regulations, except to the extent they are specifically amended or excluded in this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions (refer RRS 78.1).

3.5.2 The Organising Authority may require re-measurement of any boat prior to the boat racing.

3.5.3 The Organising Authority may, at its discretion, vary these eligibility requirements if it deems that the entry of a boat in the Championship has the potential to advance the quality of racing in the Championship.

4.0 CLASSES & HANDICAP CATEGORIES

4.1 The Championship will be conducted in the following Classes using the nominated Handicap Category:

- Premier Class Divisions 1 & 2 - IRC, ORC & PHS
- Premier Class Cruiser Racer Division - IRC, ORC & PHS

4.2 The Organising Authority may, at its discretion, alter, amalgamate or divide any Class as required.

4.3 One Design Classes may be eligible for their own 'Start' if a minimum of six (6) entries have been received by the closing date of entries.

4.4 The Organising Authority may cancel any Class or Division if a minimum of six (6) entries have not been received by the closing date of entries. In this event, boats that have entered will have the option of transferring to another Class (if eligible) or having their entry fee refunded.

5.0 ENTRY PROCEDURE & FEE

5.1 Eligible boats shall enter one (1) Class, by completing the online Entry Form on the event Website mhyc.com.au/ssorc and by agreeing to the 'MHYC Conditions of Entry'.

5.2 The Championship entry fee will be $350.00 (incl. GST).

5.3 Late entries shall be subject to an additional 'Late Entry Fee' of $50.00 (incl. GST).

5.4 Close of 'standard' entries will be 2359 hours on Friday 20th November 2026.

5.5 Close of 'late' entries will be 2359 hours on Wednesday 25th November 2026. Entries after this date may be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

5.6 All entry fees are non-refundable after Wednesday 25th November except in the case of NoR 4.4.

5.7 A Final List of Entries and Starting Handicaps will be published by the Organising Authority and available from the event Website mhyc.com.au/ssorc by 1700hrs on Friday 27th November.

5.8 Club Pointscore (MHYC)

5.8.1 Races in this Championship form part of the MHYC Ocean Pointscore Series 2026-2027. Boats that have paid and entered the MHYC Series are exempt from paying an entry fee for this Championship but are required to complete the online Entry Form as detailed in NoR 5.1.

5.8.2 NoR 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 shall still apply.

5.9 Club Pointscore (CYCA)

5.9.1 A Race in this Championship forms part of the CYCA Summer Short Offshore Series 2026-2027. Boats that have paid and entered the CYCA Series are exempt from paying an entry fee for this Championship but are required to complete the online Entry Form as detailed in NoR 5.1.

5.9.2 NoR 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 shall still apply.

6.0 DOCUMENTATION

6.1 Evidence of the documentation as described in NoR 3.1, shall be submitted to the Organising Authority by 1700 hours on Wednesday 25th November 2026. Documentation shall be submitted to the MHYC Sailing Office by email sailing @mhyc.com.au.

6.2 A boats rating certificate shall not be changed after Wednesday 25th November 2026 except as a result of a rating protest or to correct a rating error.

6.3 Online Crew Registration via SailSys is encouraged.

7.0 SCHEDULE

7.1 Schedule of Events

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
Friday 20th November	Sailing Instructions published	mhyc.com.au/ssorc	1700 hrs
Wednesday 25th November	'Standard' Entries Close	mhyc.com.au/ssorc	2359 hrs
	Submission of documentation closes	Sailing Office MHYC	1700 hrs
Friday 27th November	Final List of Entries & Starting Handicaps published	mhyc.com.au/ssorc	1700 hrs
Sunday 29th November	Post-Race Presentation	Harbour View Room MHYC	1700 hrs

7.2 Schedule of Racing

DATE	CLASS(ES)	RACE FORMAT	WARNING SIGNAL
Saturday 28th November	Premier & Performance Class Divisions 1, 2, & Cruiser Racer Divisions	Ocean Race (SSOS)	0955 hrs
Sunday 29th November	Premier & Performance Class Divisions 1 & 2 Cruiser Racer Division	2 x Short Offshore / Inshore Windward / Leeward Races 1 x Offshore / Inshore Passage Race	1055 hrs

8.0 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

8.1 Sailing Instructions will be published by the Organising Authority and will be available from the event Website mhyc.com.au/ssorc by 1700hrs on Friday 27th November 2026.

9.0 RACING VENUE

9.1 Racing will be conducted on the waters of Sydney Harbour and the Tasman Sea.

10.0 COURSES

10.1 Courses will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions. A summary is as follows;

COURSE	START LOCATION	FINISH LOCATION
Saturday Ocean Passage Race	Inshore – Steele Point	Inshore – Watsons Bay
Sunday Windward / Leeward Races	Inshore – Watsons Bay or The Sound	Inshore – Watsons Bay
Sunday Cruiser Racer Passage Race	Inshore – Watsons Bay or The Sound	Inshore – Watsons Bay

11.0 SCORING

11.1 IRC Handicap Categories

11.1.1 Scores will be calculated by the application of the IRC Time Corrector (TCC) as a multiplier of elapsed time.

11.1.2 The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first and the other boats ranked accordingly.

11.1.3 Three (3) races are scheduled of which one (1) race shall be completed to constitute a series. No scores will be excluded.

11.2 ORC Handicap Categories

11.2.1 Scores will be calculated by the application of the Time-on-Time Simplified Scoring Option.

11.2.2 For the Saturday Passage Race, the ToT All Purpose rating as printed on each boat's ORCi or ORC Club Certificate will be applied as a multiplier of elapsed time.

11.2.3 For the Sunday Windward-Leeward Races, the ToT Windward-Leeward rating as printed on each boat's ORCi or ORC Club Certificate will be applied as a multiplier of elapsed time.

11.2.4 The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first and the other boats ranked accordingly.

11.2.5 Three (3) races are scheduled of which one (1) race shall be completed to constitute a series. No scores will be excluded.

11.3 PHS Handicap Categories

11.3.1 Scores will be calculated by the application of Time Correction Factors (TCFs) as a multiplier of elapsed time. A boat's TCF will be determined by the Race Committee or its nominee and may be adjusted after each race. The TCF will not be subject to protest or dispute (amends RRS 60.1 and 62.1(a)).

11.3.2 The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first and the other boats ranked accordingly.

11.3.3 Three (3) races are scheduled of which one (1) race shall be completed to constitute a series. No scores will be excluded.

12.0 PRIZES

12.1 Official Presentation & Prize Giving

The Official Presentation and Prize Giving will be at 1700 hours on Sunday 29th November 2026 at MHYC. Trophies will be awarded to the overall winners and divisional place getters in each Class depending on entry numbers. Additional sponsor prizes may be awarded. All competitors are invited to attend.

12.2 Perpetual Trophies

The following Perpetual Trophies will be awarded at the Official Presentation:

- Bruce & Walsh Short Ocean Racing Championship IMS Trophy - 1st overall in IRC Division 1
- Bruce & Walsh Short Ocean Racing Championship IOR Trophy - 1st overall in IRC Division 2
- Bruce & Walsh Short Ocean Racing Championship JOG Trophy - 1st overall in the Cruiser Racer Division
- John Hurley Memorial 'Gun Boat' Trophy' - Awarded to the fastest elapsed time in the Saturday Ocean Race

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

13.0 BERTHING & MOORINGS

13.1 Limited casual berthing and moorings are available to boats competing. All requests for casual berthing and moorings shall be made by completing the Berthing Request Form available from the MHYC Website www.mhyc.com.au

14. RISK WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

This risk warning is issued by the Middle Harbour Yacht Club (the Club) pursuant to the Civil Liability Act 2002 to all persons participating in events and activities at the club, both on land and on water (activities). All persons participating in events and activities at the club shall agree as follows:

14.1 In the case of an emergency, authorise the club, where it is impractical to communicate with me, to arrange for me to receive such medical or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary. I also undertake to pay or reimburse costs which may be incurred for medical attention, ambulance transport and medication while I am attending the club.

14.2 I understand that although the club and its officers, volunteers and service providers attempt to minimise any risk of personal injury within practical boundaries, accidents do happen and all physical activities carry the risk of personal injury. I acknowledge that there is an inherent risk of personal injury in the activities undertaken at the club.

14.3 I acknowledge and accept that regardless of the precautions which might be taken by reasonable and experienced persons, sailing can be a dangerous pursuit and participants are exposed to a significant risk of property damage, physical harm and possibly death. These risks may include, but are not limited to:

a. the extremes of weather and sea conditions;
b. the potential that control of vessels may be lost, resulting collisions;
c. the sudden movement of the vessel at any time and the possibility that participants may fall all be thrown overboard;
d. the possibility that participants may be injured by the equipment on any boat or vessel;
e. the absence of immediate medical care and the likelihood that significant delays may occur before medical care is available;
f. exposure to the elements for extended periods.

14.4 I acknowledge and accept that the club warns participants that regardless of its best intentions, the club, its officers, volunteers and service providers may be unable to attend and render any assistance to participants who are in distress. Participants are warned to consider all risks before deciding to participate in any on water event.

14.5 I acknowledge and agree that:

a. I have read and understood this Risk Warning and Disclaimer of Liability, and I accept it;
b. I participate in activities entirely at my own risk and responsibility;
c. the decision to participate in any activity at the club, including activities on the water, is mine and mine alone;
d. the club, its officers, volunteers and sponsors will not accept any liability for damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after any activity including any on water event;
e. the club, its officers, volunteers and sponsors shall not be responsible for the seaworthiness of any boat used by me, the adequacy of its equipment or its insurance arrangements.

14.6 Competitors attention is drawn to RRS 3.0 'Decision to Race'. *"The responsibility for a boats' decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."*

15. PERMISSION FOR USE OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO

The Club uses photographic images (including video and sound recording) of members and event participants, including children, to promote the Club. This may include illustrations for printed materials as well as on the Club website or in social media utilised by the Club.

By participating in an MHYC event, competitors automatically grant to the Club and its sponsors, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any still or motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of the competitor during the period of the event without compensation.

If a photograph, video or sound recording is published on the Club's website or in social media you need to be aware that the image can be copied and used by other web users and therefore the Club has no control over its subsequent use and disclosure. You are not required to grant permission. This is a matter entirely within your discretion. If you do not give the Club permission to use photographs or video of you and/or your child in this manner, please notify the Club in writing at the earliest opportunity.

16.0 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information visit mhyc.com.au/ssorc or contact:

Middle Harbour Yacht Club:

Address	75 Lower Parriwi Road, The Spit, Mosman, NSW 2088
Postal	PO Box 106, Seaforth, NSW 2092
Phone	02 9969 1244 Email sailing@mhyc.com.au

Sailing Office:

Sailing Manager	David Staley
Phone	02 8969 3102 Email sailing.manager@mhyc.com.au
Sailing Administrators	Catherine Rofe & Kathy Johnston
Phone	02 8969 3103 Email sailing@mhyc.com.au

Race Committee:

Denis Thompson	Principal Race Officer
Rob Aldis	Commodore, MHYC
Ian Box	Chairman Special Events, MHYC
David Staley	Sailing Manager, MHYC