NAUTILUS MARINE INSURANCE

SYDNEY SHORT OCEAN RACING

CHAMPIONSHIP

28 & 29 November 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Revised 27 November 2026

Nautilus Marine
INSURANCE

mhyc.com.au/ssorc

Organising Authority
Middle Harbour Yacht Club
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MHYC

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Premier Class Series - IRC / ORC
Performance Class Series – PHS

(Incorporating races in the MHYC Ocean Pointscore Series & CYCA Summer Short Offshore Series)

The Organising Authority is the Middle Harbour Yacht Club (MHYC). Racing will be conducted with 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.

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).

1.5 Online Crew Registration via SailSys is encouraged.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board on the SSORC Website. Copies of the notice may be posted to the Club Electronic Noticeboard located adjacent to reception, may be available from the MHYC Office and the CYCA Sailing Office or forwarded via SMS.

2.2 The Race Committee may broadcast the course to be sailed, names/sail numbers of OCS boats, and/or other information of interest to competitors on the designated VHF Channel (VHF 72). Any failure of, or defect in, such a broadcast will not be grounds for redress. This alters RRS 60.1 and 62.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0830hrs on the day it will take effect except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted prior to 1800hrs on the day before it will take effect.

3.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions made 'afloat' will be indicated by the display of 'Code Flag 3rd Substitute' and accompanied by two sound signals. The change will be communicated on the designated course VHF channel and/or displayed on the committee boat.

3.3 A notice will be posted before 0830hrs on Saturday and before 0900hrs on Sunday to confirm the location of the day's racing.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Signal Mast adjacent to the MHYC Starters Box, located in the North-Eastern corner of the Club premises.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

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	2 x Short Offshore / Inshore Windward / Leeward Races	1055 hrs
	Cruiser Racer Division	1 x Offshore / Inshore Passage Race	

5.1 Three (3) races are scheduled for each division except Cruisier Races Division which sail two(2) races. The Race Committee may amend this schedule at any time

5.2 On Sunday 29th November, no Warning Signal shall be made after 1530 hours.

6 CLASS FLAGS

6.1 The Class flags will be:

CLASS	*CODE FLAG*
Combined Divisions - Premier & Performance Class Divisions 1, 2 & Cruiser Racer Division, MHYC Ocean Pointscore	W
Premier & Performance Class Division 1	D
Premier & Performance Class Division 2	E
Premier & Performance Class Cruiser Racer Division	F

7 RACING AREA

7.1 Racing will be conducted on the waters of Sydney Harbour and the Tasman Sea between Pittwater and Port Hacking.

7.2 The starting area on Saturday 28th November will be in the vicinity of Steele Point, with the finish area in the vicinity of Watsons Bay.

7.3 The start and finish area on Sunday 29th November will be in the vicinity of The Sound.

7.4 In the likelihood of adverse weather, an alternative starting area may be advised by a Notice posted by 0900hrs on the Official Notice Board and website.

8 COURSES

8.1 Courses for each race are described in the Appendices attached.

8.2 Charts AUS200, AUS197 and AUS198 cover the Course Areas for this Regatta.

9 CREW REGISTRATION, REPORTING & RETIRING

9.1 Online Crew Registration via SailSys is recommended.

9.2 Prior to the Warning Signal each day, competing boats shall report to the Committee Vessel on starboard tack with mainsail hoisted, to confirm their intention to race and number of Persons on Board (POB). Boats which cannot be identified prior to the Warning Signal may be scored DNC.

9.3 A boat that retires shall notify the Committee Vessel of its retirement as soon as possible, via the designated VHF Channel (VHF 72).

10 THE START

10.1 The Start Line will be between the Committee Vessel Flag Mast displaying an Orange Flag and a laid mark.

10.2 A boat shall not start later than ten (10) minutes after her starting signal.

10.3 A boat may use prohibited propulsion after its Preparatory Signal to arrive at the Start Line, provided it shall cease using such propulsion 100 meters prior to the pre-start side of the Start Line. It shall immediately carry out a 360˚ turn while keeping clear of all other boats.

10.4 The Committee Vessel may hold position using engines. This shall not be grounds for redress and amends RRS 60, 61, 62, 63 & 64.

10.5 An inner distance mark (IDM) may be laid. When laid, no boat shall pass between the IDM and the Committee Vessel.

10.6 An additional Committee Vessel may be positioned on the start line extensions at the port end and/or the starboard end

11 THE FINISH

11.1 The Finish Line will be between the Committee Vessel Flag Mast flying a Blue Flag and a laid mark.

11.2 The Committee Vessel may hold station using engines. This shall not be the subject of Protest, Redress or Appeal. This shall not be grounds for redress and amends RRS 60, 61, 62, 63 & 64.

12 TIME LIMIT

12.1 The Time Limit for the passage race on Saturday 28th November shall be sunset (1948hrs) or nine (9) hours, whichever is the earliest.

12.2 Time limits for windward-leeward races on Sunday 29th November are as follows:

Time limit	*180 minutes*
Mark 1 Time Limit	*120 minutes*

If no boat has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit, the race will be abandoned.

12.3 The Time limit for the Cruiser Racer passage race on Sunday 30th November is 1500hrs.

12.4 Any boat still racing when her time limit expires will be scored points equal to the number of boats finishing within the time limit plus 30% of the number of starters rounded to the nearest whole number, but no more points than the number of starters. Such boats will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). This changes RRS 35 and A5.

13 PROTESTS

13.1 Protests shall be lodged with or emailed to MHYC (sailing@mhyc.com.au) no later than two (2) hours after the last boat's finish time. Forms are available from the MHYC or CYCA Race Offices.

13.2 The Protest Committee will hear protests in the approximate order of receipt as soon as possible.

13.3 Protest notices will be posted on the Event Website within 30 minutes of the end of protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses. This notice fulfils the requirements of the RRS 61 to notify parties to a protest of the hearing time.

13.4 RRS 66 is changed by adding: "On the last day of racing, a party to the hearing may ask for a reopening no later than 20 minutes after being informed of the decision. If the party was informed of the decision on the previous day it shall ask for a reopening no later than the time limit for protests."

13.5 In accordance with RRS 64.1(a), for a breach of a rule of RRS Part 2, the Jury may award a disqualification or a points penalty. For all other rules the penalty shall be at the discretion of the Jury which may include no penalty.

14 ARBITRATION

14.1 For protests involving an alleged breach of a rule of RRS Part 2, a short arbitration hearing may be held prior to a protest hearing. This changes Part 5, Section B.

14.2 Arbitration will be conducted in accordance with RRS Appendix T.

15 SCORING

15.1 The Low Point Scoring System, RRS Appendix A will apply. Three (3) races are scheduled for each division except Cruiser Racer where two (2) races are scheduled. One (1) race shall be completed to constitute a series. There shall be no discards and a boat's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races completed.

15.2 IRC Class: results shall be decided by the application of Time Correction Factors (TCFs) to elapsed times. Each boat's corrected time shall be established by multiplying its appropriate TCF by its elapsed time. The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first and so on.

15.3 IRC Handicaps will be the TCC recorded on each boat's current IRC Certificate.

15.4 ORC Class: results shall be decided by the application of Time on Time Correction Factors (ToT) to elapsed times. Each boat's corrected time shall be established by multiplying its appropriate ToT by its elapsed time. The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first and so on.

15.5 For the Saturday passage race, ORC Handicaps will be the All Purpose Time on Time number recorded on each boat's current ORCi or ORC Club Certificate. For the Sunday windward-leeward races, ORC Handicaps will be the Windward-Leeward Time on Time number recorded on each boat's current ORCi or ORC Club Certificate.

15.6 PHS Class: results shall be decided by the application of Time Correction Factor (TCF) to elapsed times. PHS Handicaps shall be allocated by the Organising Authority and may be altered at any time. The decision of the handicap committee or their representative on any handicap matter will be final and will not be grounds for requests for redress. This alters RRS 60.1 (b). The boat with the lowest corrected time (after application of scoring penalties, if any) will be scored first and so on.

16 RESULTS

16.1 Results will be posted on event website as soon as practicable.

17 PRIZE GIVING

17.1 The Official Presentation and Prize Giving will be held at MHYC as soon as practical after the conclusion of racing (as close to 1700hrs on Sunday 29th November as possible).

17.2 Trophies will be awarded to the overall winners and place getters in each Division subject to entry numbers.

17.3 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
- John Hurley Memorial 'Gun Boat' Trophy' - Awarded to the fastest elapsed time in the Saturday Ocean Race

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

18 BERTHING & MOORINGS

18.1 Limited casual berthing and moorings may be available to boats competing. All requests for casual berthing and moorings shall be made by completing the Casual Berthing Registration form available from the MHYC Website www.mhyc.com.au.

19 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

19.1 Competitors participate in the Championship entirely at their own risk. The Organising Authority and their respective officers, employees, volunteers and members, will not accept any liability for any loss, material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the race.

19.2 The Organising Authority is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

19.3 Competitors attention is drawn to RRS 3 'Decision to Race'. *"The responsibility for a boats' decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."*

20 MEDIA RIGHTS AND RESTRICTIONS

20.1 Each entrant for the Championship consents to the Organising Authority distributing information to the entrant and crew regarding racing, marketing and associated event information including social events. This information may be distributed by email, web, mail, mobile phone messaging and telephone.

20.2 Conditions of entry include a requirement that the owner or charterer of the boat and crew:

- Acknowledge that the Organising Authority owns all media rights to the Regatta and may exercise those rights as it sees fit,
- Grant the Organising Authority and Event Partners the unconditional and perpetual right and authority to publish and broadcast anywhere in the world, for any purpose and in any media, the names, images and biographical information relating to the crew and photographs, video footage and audio recordings taken of the boat and its crew prior to, during and after the race. Crew members of boats may, prior to, during and after the Regatta, speak or provide material to any media representatives accredited by the Organising Authority, regarding the race and the prospects, performance and strategy of boats entered or participating in the Regatta, subject to any comments and material not undermining or interfering with, or having a detrimental impact on, the Organising Authority and its Officers and Employees, the Race Committee, Measurers or Current Sponsors of the Championship or Organising Authority in respect of a boat or media representative at any time.

APPENDIX A

Ocean Passage Race on Saturday 28 November (SSOS)

A1 START AREA

A1.1 The Start Line will be in the vicinity of Steele Point.

A2 FINISH AREA

A2.1 The Finish Line will be in the vicinity of Watsons Bay.

A3 DESCRIPTION OF COURSES

A3.1 The course to be sailed will be signalled by a Numeral Board displayed from the Committee Vessel at or prior to the Warning Signal. The course to be sailed may also be broadcast on VHF Channel 72.

A3.2 In a Course Description, the designation (p) indicates the mark is to be rounded to port. **All marks are to be rounded to starboard unless otherwise stated**.

OFFSHORE COURSES	COURSE DESCRIPTION
1	Start - LB - Lion Island - Finish
2	Start - LB – Cape Baily - Finish
ALTERNATIVE HARBOUR COURSES	**COURSE DESCRIPTION**
3	Start - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - SI - CP - Finish
4	Start - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - SI - CP - Finish
5	Start - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - Finish
6	Start - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - Finish
7	Start - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish
8	Start – CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish

4 DESCRIPTION OF MARKS

All positions and distances are approximate.

MARK	DESCRIPTION
Lion Island	Large Yellow Laid mark with the letters RPAYC off Lion Island in Broken Bay Lat 33^0 33.6'S Lon 151^0 20'E
Cape Baily	Cape Baily Waverider Buoy (Yellow Spherical Buoy with aerial) Lat. 34-02-43' Lon. 151-15-18'
CI	Clarke Island
CP	AS Mark Manly Cannae Point Lat. 33-48-847 Lon. 151-16-895
LB	Red port lateral mark at Lat 033-050.0 'S Long 151-016.621'E 0.2nm west of Inner South Head (Please note LB is a passing mark, not a rounding mark. Boats are to pass LB to starboard before proceeding to the next mark)
ME	AS Mark Manly East Lat. 33-48-196 Lon. 151-16-726
MW	AS Mark Manly West Lat. 33-48-176 Lon. 151-16-625
SI	AS Mark Shark Island Lat. 33-51-626 Lon. 151-15-541 *(Note the area between the Shark Island AS Mark and Shark Island is a continuing obstruction and no boat shall pass between them)*

APPENDIX B

Windward Leeward Ocean Races and Passage Races on Sunday 29 November

B1 RACING AREA

B1.1 The racing area will be advised by a Notice posted by 0900hrs on the Official Notice Board and website.

B1.2 The start and finish location will be in the vicinity of The Sound, Port Jackson.

B2 DESCRIPTION OF COURSES

B2.1 The course to be sailed for each class will be signalled by a Numeral Board displayed from the Committee Vessel at or prior to the Warning Signal. The course to be sailed may also be broadcast on VHF Channel 72.

B2.2 A board displaying the approximate compass bearing from Mark 2 to Mark 1 will be displayed from the Committee Vessel. The approximate compass bearing and range from Mark 2 to Mark 1 may also be broadcast on VHF Channel 72.

B2.3 Mark 2 may be laid approximately 1.5nm east of North Head or, alternatively, approximately 1.5nm south-east of South Head. The location of Mark 2 will be advised by the Committee Vessel prior to the Warning Signal.

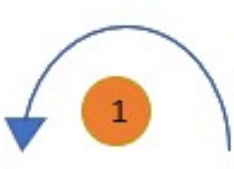
B2.4 In an easterly breeze, Mark 1 will be laid to windward of Mark 2. In a westerly breeze, Mark 1 will be laid to leeward of Mark 2.

B2.5 All Windward-Leeward Course Marks are passed to PORT.

B2.6 For a change of course, the Race Committee will lay a single mark with a black band and all divisions will round this mark. A change of course may be notified solely via the VHF Race Management Channel 72. This changes RRS 33.

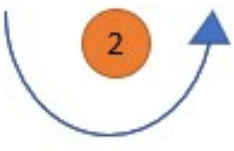
B3 DESCRIPTION OF MARKS

MARK	*DESCRIPTION*
Start / Finish Mark	Yellow inflatable buoy
Mark 1	Orange inflatable buoy
Mark 2	Orange inflatable buoy
Change Mark	Orange inflatable buoy with black band



B4 WINDWARD-LEEWARD COURSES (All Classes)

COURSE	*DESCRIPTION*
COURSE 1 Divisions 1 & 2	Start – 1 – Finish
COURSE 2 Divisions 1 & 2	Start – 1 – 2 – 1 – Finish
COURSE 3 Divisions 1 & 2	Start – 1 – 2 – 1 – 2 – 1 – Finish
All Marks to Port	



B5 CRUISER RACER COURSES (Cruiser Racer Class Only)

COURSE	DESCRIPTION
COURSE 4 Cruiser Racer	Start – 1 – 3 – 1 – MW - ME - SI - CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish
COURSE 5 Cruiser Racer	Start – 1 – 3 – 1 –SI - CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish
COURSE 6 Cruiser Racer	Start – 1 – 3 – 1 – MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish
All Laid Offshore Marks to Port. All AS Harbour Marks to Starboard.	

B6 ALTERNATIVE HARBOUR COURSES (All Classes)

All Marks to Starboard

COURSE	DESCRIPTION
COURSE 7	
Cruiser Racer	Start - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish
Division 1	Start - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - Finish
Division 2	Start - MW - ME - SI - CP - SI - CP - Finish
COURSE 8	
Cruiser Racer	Start - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish
Division 1	Start - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - Finish
Division 2	Start - SI - CP - SI - CP - Finish
COURSE 9	
Cruiser Racer	Start – CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish
Division 1	Start - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - Finish
Division 2	Start - SI - MW - ME - SI - CP - SI - CP - Finish
COURSE 10	
Cruiser Racer	Start – CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - CI - MW - ME - Finish
Division 1	Start - SI - MW - ME - SI - MW - ME - Finish
Division 2	Start - SI - CP - SI - CP - Finish

B7 DESCRIPTION OF HARBOUR MARKS

All positions and distances are approximate.

MARK	DESCRIPTION
CI	Clarke Island
CP	AS Mark Manly Cannae Point Lat. 33-48-847 Lon. 151-16-895
ME	AS Mark Manly East Lat. 33-48-196 Lon. 151-16-726
MW	AS Mark Manly West Lat. 33-48-176 Lon. 151-16-625
SI	AS Mark Shark Island Lat. 33-51-626 Lon. 151-15-541 *(Note the area between the Shark Island AS Mark and Shark Island is a continuing obstruction and no boat shall pass between them)*