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# **RQYS School Fleet Racing Term 1 2026**

1 February – 15 February 2026 (3 weeks)

# **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI)**

Organising Authority

**ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT SQUADRON LTD**

578 Royal Esplanade, Manly, QLD 4179

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

The notation '[DP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SI's) means that a protest committee can award a penalty less than disqualification (including no penalty) at their discretion. This changes RRS 60.5 and RRS 64.

The notation '[SP]' in a rule of the NoR and/or SIs means that a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee without a hearing per RRS60.5(b)(3).

## 1. RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 Where there is a difference between the Notice of Race (NoR) and the Sailing Instructions (SI) the SI take precedence.
- 1.3 RRS Appendix P (Special procedures for rule 42) may apply.
  - 1.3 (a) RRS Appendix P2.2 is amended as follows: When a boat is penalized more than once during the regatta, she shall promptly retire from each race in which she has been penalized. If she fails to do so she shall be disqualified without a hearing and her score shall not be excluded.
  - 1.3 (b) RRS Appendix P2.3 is deleted.
- 1.4 RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) will apply.
- 1.5 RRS 90.3(e) shall apply (Time Limit for changes to race scores) and is amended to "... more than 72 hours after...".
- 1.6 [DP][NP] Schools must provide one (1) volunteer per school for each day of racing.

## 2. SCHEDULE

2.1.

DATE	EVENT	FIRST WARNING SIGNAL or TIME
Sunday 01 February 2026	Coaches and Competitors Briefing on the Rigging Lawn	0830 hrs
	First Warning Signal (8 Races)	0930 hrs
Sunday 08 February 2026	Coaches Briefing on the Rigging Lawn	0830 hrs
	First Warning Signal (8 Races)	0930 hrs
Sunday 15 February 2026	Coaches Briefing on the Rigging Lawn	0830 hrs
	First Warning Signal (8 Races)	0930 hrs
	Presentation on the Rigging Lawn	ASAP After Racing

- 2.2. There will be no warning signal made after 1230 hrs.
- 2.3. School Volunteers meet immediately after Briefing.

## 3. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 3.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the official flagpole located at the top of the Eastern Gangway of the Bill Kirby Docks.
- 3.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

## 4. CLASS FLAGS

- 4.1. The Class flag will be the Pacer Class Flag

## 5. COURSES

- 5.1. The diagram in SI Attachment A shows the course, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 5.2. No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

## 6. MARKS

- 6.1. Marks are as described in SI Attachment A.

## 7. THE START

- 7.1. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 7.2. The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 7.3. A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and RRS A5.2.

## 8. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 8.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark or the finishing line to a new position.

## 9. THE FINISH

- 9.1. The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing mark at the port end and the course side of the starboard end finishing mark.

## 10. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 10.1. The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
20 minutes	40 minutes	15 minutes

- 10.2. [NP] The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Upon the closure of the finishing window, boats may be scored a finish position equivalent to their on-course position.
- 10.3. The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized, given redress or finished on course, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, RRS A5.1, RRS A5.2 and RRS A10.
- 10.4. Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).

## 11. HEARING REQUESTS

- 11.1. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 11.2. Hearing request forms are available from and shall be lodged with the race office at <https://www.rqys.com.au/documents-auditing/> or adjacent to the Main Rigging Lawn.
- 11.3. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held at a time and place advised on the hearing notice.

## **12. [NP][DP]SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 12.1. Competitors shall SIGN ON before leaving shore and SIGN OFF upon returning to shore, before the end of protest time.
- 12.2. [SP] Failure to SIGN ON shall result in the competitor receiving a Sign On/Off Penalty (SOP) of two (2) points for the first race of the day, but not worse than a DNF score.
- 12.3. [SP] Failure to SIGN OFF shall result in the competitor receiving a Sign On/Off Penalty (SOP) of two (2) points for the last race of the day, but not worse than a DNF score.
- 12.4. All Maritime Queensland Aquatic Event conditions must be followed including:
  - 12.4.1. All Participating ships are not to impede power driven vessels traversing Manly Boat Harbour and associated channels.
  - 12.4.2. All Participating ships are to obey the gazetted speed limit in Manly Boat Harbour (6 knots).
- 12.5. No sailing vessel shall berth on or impede traffic to/from the RQYS fuel dock without permission from the RQYS Sailing or Marina Office.
- 12.6. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **13. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 13.1. Skippers intending to race with a sail number or crew other than stipulated on their entry shall complete the Change of Details form and lodge with the Sailing Office prior to racing. Skippers must also sign-on for the day with the correct sail number and crew. Failure to comply may result in the skipper being scored DNC without a hearing for all races on that day. This changes RRS 60.5(b), RRS A4 and RRS A5.
- 13.2. [DP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorized in writing by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

## **14. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

- 14.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.
- 14.2. [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

## **15. OFFICIAL VESSELS**

- 15.1. Official vessels will be identified by displaying a white flag or sticker with black letters 'RC' or 'J' or while flag with red letters 'MEDIA' or 'M'.

## **16. [NP][DP] SUPPORT TEAMS**

- 16.1. Team leaders, coaches and other support persons shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
- 16.2. If code flag "V" is flying from the committee boat, all Patrol and Support boats are to follow the requests of the Race Committee for their course on VHF Channel 77 (as per RRS 37).
- 16.3. Speed around the course shall be kept to a minimum with the boats engine to be in NEUTRAL when around sailors/people in the water.
- 16.4. Maximum speed whilst in the Harbour shall be 6 knots except in emergency situations.
- 16.5. In the case of a medical emergency, the vessel offering the First Aid, shall report the details to the Sailing Office on VHF Channel 77 "RQ77" and proceed to the "Fuel Pontoon" where RQYS Staff shall be on hand to assist.

## **17. TRASH DISPOSAL**

- 17.1. Trash may be placed aboard official or support person vessels.

## **18. RISK STATEMENT**

- 18.1. 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 this event 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.**
- 18.2. All participants are required to comply with any safety provisions as mandated under the Racing Rules of Sailing, the Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 2 for Off The Beach Boats, and any Class Rules that may apply. The Squadron encourages and supports competitors who believe it is appropriate to exceed the above requirements (such as the wearing of helmets, body armour, impact vests, etc.) if they or their guardian believe that conditions and their personal circumstances warrant. All competitor's attention is drawn to the Risk Statement - Section 18.1 of the Notice of Race.

## **19. INSURANCE**

- 19.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000AUD per incident or the equivalent.

## SI ATTACHMENT A

CODE	COURSE	MARKS DESCRIPTION
L1	Start – 1 – Finish	Marks 1: Yellow Inflatable
L2	Start – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – Finish	Marks 4s & 4p: Purple Inflatables
L3	Start – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – Finish	Start Pin, Finish Pin: Orange Teardrop

