



QUEENSCLIFF-LONSDALE YACHT CLUB INC.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS & NOTICE OF RACE

SEASON 2016-2017

1. RULES

All races will be governed by the *World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing*, their prescriptions and the Sailing Instructions issued by the Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club Inc ("QLYC").

Yachts will comply with Addendum "A", Australian Sailing/Australian Yachting Federation (AS/YF) Special Regulations Section, Part 1, Section 2, (pp203), Category 5 (Keel Boats and Trailables), Category 7 (Couta Boats) and the appropriate class rules or as modified by these Sailing Instructions.

2. ENTRIES

- a. Eligible yachts should be entered at briefing by completing the crew sheet and signing the "Sign on Sheet", and the payment of the relevant fee per crew member.
- b. All competing yachts will fly the QLYC burgee and carry a functioning VHF radio.
- c. Yachts will declare on the "Sign on Sheet" the class and/or club handicap currently applicable to that yacht and shall sail to that handicap which may be modified for the purposes of any race forming part of this programme in the sole and unfettered discretion of the QLYC Race Committee.
- d. Yachts shall comply with their respective class rules and shall be disqualified for non-compliance upon protest unless alterations were declared on the entry form.
- e. Where team racing applies, a team shall consist of not less than three yachts subject to the discretion of the QLYC Race Committee with the best three results from yachts in the team to count to the team's placing
- f. QLYC reserves the right to reject any entry.
- g. It is the responsibility of the skipper to ensure that crew members comply with the prescription that any crew member (as affiliated with AS/YF), that sails in more than 3 races in one sailing season shall be a current Australian Sailing Member Number under RRS Part 4, Rule 56 (pp48).
- h. All those taking part in QLYC races do so at their own risk and responsibility. QLYC is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

Attention is drawn to Section 1. Fundamental Rules and Definitions: (pp197)

Fundamental Rule 4. Decision to race:

The responsibility for a yacht's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.

Fundamental Rule 4. Acceptance of the rules:

By participating in a race conducted under these racing rules, each competitor and yacht owner agrees:

- i. to be governed by the rules;

- ii. to accept the penalties imposed and other action taken under the rules, subject to the appeal and review procedures provided in them, as the final determination of any matter arising under the rules; and
 - iii. with respect to any such determination, not to resort to any court of law or tribunal.
- i. Each yacht must be insured with an appropriate insurer against 3rd party liability with current cover for such liability of not less than \$10 million.

3. RACE SCHEDULE & DIVISIONS

The racing program is posted on the QLYC website (www.qlyc.org.au) and distributed prior to the first race of the year. Copies may be available at the race briefing.

4. BRIEFING

Race briefing will be held 1 ½ hours before the scheduled start time for any QLYC race, in the area adjacent to the Queenscliff Harbour Office or nominated place.

Notices to competitors and any changes to sailing instructions shall be advised at briefing and posted on the QLYC website.

Skippers shall sign on and complete a crew declaration sheet prior to, or before leaving the briefing area.

At briefing, any modifications or amendments or details re possible courses will be announced and given to skippers.

The number and composition of divisions will be announced at briefing.

A confirmation “sign on” by skippers with crew numbers once a yacht is within the start area will be made prior to the countdown start, by contacting the “Swan” (OOD) by radio on **VHF Channel 72**.

5. SINGLE HANDED SAILING

Where a yacht is sailed single handed, the skipper must wear a PFD 1 and use a safety harness connected to the yacht at all times.

6. THE START

The start shall be between the committee boat “Swan” or nominated committee boat for the day, positioned on the starboard end of the start line, and a mark of course or buoy positioned at right angles to both the true wind (where possible) and the first mark of course. When on station “Swan” will fly a Blue Flag.

The Starting Procedure – Racing Rules of Sailing Part 3, Conduct of a race, Rule 26 applies, (refer pp37)

7. RECALL

- a. Individual recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS rule 29.1.
- b. General recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS rule 29.2.

8. THE FINISH.

The finishing line shall be between the Committee Boat mast displaying the Club Burgee and a buoy or mark of the course.

If a competing yacht reaches the finishing line and the committee boat is not on station competitors must record their own finish time at a position not more than 30 metres from the finish buoy and square to the last mark of course and advise the OOD subsequently.

Yachts are not to re-cross the finish line following their finish in any direction.

9. SHORTENED or ABANDONING RACE AFTER THE START

A Shortened Course and/or Abandoned Course will be signalled in accordance with RRS rule 32 and Race Signals at a mark of the course.

10. TIME LIMIT AND SCORES

Both Time Limit and Scores for any race held by QLYC under these instructions will be in accordance with RRS rule 35 (pp 41).

Additionally yachts that have not crossed the finish line by 1700 or within 1 hour after the first yacht to do so will be regarded as **“Did Not Finish” (DNF)**.

11. RETIRING AND SIGNING OFF

Yachts which cross the finish line will be deemed to have signed off.

Yachts retiring **MUST** notify a race official prior to leaving the racecourse. Advice can be by hailing the committee boat or other official boats on course, or by radio on **VHF channel 72**.

12. HAZARDS

- a. Hazards in the form of sandbars, reefs, etc. occur over the course with extensive sandbars and tidal flats in the vicinity of Swan Island, Shoaling in some areas including in shore of the westerly most point of Queenscliff Pier may mean the location and depth of sandbars may not be as exactly indicated on the chart. **Skippers are responsible to ascertain there is adequate water depth for their yachts.**
All competing yachts must pass to the east or seaward of the red pile at the entrance to the Queenscliff cut.
- b. The course is in an area which experiences strong tidal currents. This can be a particular hazard in the vicinity of fixed structures and piles. **It is each skipper’s responsibility to ascertain the tidal conditions on race days.**
- c. **Wearing of PFD 1 life jackets is mandatory in “Hazardous Waters” which include the area of Port Phillip Heads and 3 Nm to seaward centred on Point Lonsdale Lighthouse plus the area seaward of a line from Point Nepean to Queenscliff Black Lighthouse on Shortland’s Bluff.**
- d. When the **Wedge** and/or the **Caisson** are named as marks of course **both the structure and the pile must be rounded.**
- e. **Drapers Reef lays approximately 100m inshore of Drapers Pile.**
- f. **The Sorrento-Queenscliff car ferry has right of way.** It approaches Queenscliff at approximately 10:40; 11:40; 12:40 etc. and is scheduled to depart on the hour at 11:00; 12:00; 13:00 etc. The skipper of a yacht disadvantaged by the movement of the ferry may request consideration by lodging a protest.
- g. Moored fishing boats must be avoided in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-16,

- h. The Committee Boat “Swan”, including any barging buoy or its anchor including rode, will form part of the Committee Boat and must not be interfered with or touched by yachts racing in QLYC races. Any such interference by yachts will result in a penalty with a possible DSQ or protest of the yacht concerned.
- i. All skippers should be aware of Part 4 of the racing rules “*Racing Rules of Sailing* of the ISAF” and in particular 42 “Propulsion” with the following provided for the purposes of QLYC racing. QLYC acknowledges that the use of propulsion is restricted to a skipper or crew(s) to remove their yacht from grounding or any danger with regard to other objects, marks or yachts during the course of racing. Propulsion will be by wind alone and use of an engine will disqualify the yacht and any such use must be notified to the OOD on course.
- j. Yachts must remain a safe distance from Dive Charter boats. They often operate in the area with snorkel groups common around the Caisson and the Annulus (the rocks SW of the Wedge.)

13. INCIDENTS WHILST ON THE WATER – MANDATORY REPORTING

Incidents can occur in any form of sailing and particularly racing.

If an incident involves a protest, the protest will act as a precedent to any further investigation which follows to enable lessons to be learned for the Club and its members.

An important role in administrating the sport is the review of incidents to ensure any lessons learned are captured. Information provides for an improvement with better safety outcomes. The value of gaining data/information and the Club’s ability to quantify safety cannot be understated and identification of trends or specific issues requiring some remedial action will ideally prevent reoccurrence or further incidents.

Reporting of on water incidents is now mandatory for all QLYC skippers and will be accepted in accordance with Appendix R. of the RRS.2013-16 (pp168)

- a. Any incident which causes damage, injury or near injury albeit between boats or singularly by a boat and its crew, will be reported on the forms available from the OOD or Club Captain as soon as possible.

Such reports may be initially verbal as notification, but should be lodged with the OOD within two hours after the finish time of the last yacht.
- b. The OOD will give notice of the incident to the Club Captain and all affected skippers. This shall constitute official notice to all parties that an investigation will take place.
- c. Skippers and crew will be notified by the Club Captain of the initial requirements of QLYC Sailing Committee with a schedule for presentation of an initial detailed report.

14. PROTESTS

Will be accepted in accordance with Appendix R. of the RRS.2013-16 (pp168)

- d. Protests shall be written on forms available from the OOD.
They should be lodged with the OOD within one hour after the finish time of the last yacht.
- e. The OOD will give notice of the hearing to all affected skippers. This shall constitute official notice to all parties.
- f. Protests shall be heard in approximately the order of receipt.

15. SCORING

- a. At the absolute discretion of the QLYC Race Committee, the class and/or club handicap currently applicable to any particular yacht or such modified handicap as the QLYC Race Committee in its sole and unfettered discretion may determine shall apply.
- b. Provisional results will be advised as soon as possible after the race and displayed on the QLYC website. (www.qlyc.org.au).

16. ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES , COUTA BOATS

Rules 44.1 and 44.2 shall apply to any on water penalty however Coua Boats shall be deemed to have complied with such rules if the yacht completes a 360° turn to include one tack and gybe.

17. CANCELLATION / POSTPONEMENT

Will be signalled in accordance with RRS Part 3.32. In the case of adverse weather, the Abandonment and Re-sail signal shall be flown by the committee boat or at briefing on race day. Early notification of cancellation may be made by email or text message to skippers who have registered their details with the Club Captain.

18. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

Presentation of trophies will be made at the QLYC presentation night at the end of the sailing season as advised on the Racing Program.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- a. Competing yachts must complete an annual Australian Sailing Safety Compliance Declaration and Check Sheet prior to racing in the season which may be inspected for compliance with the safety regulations. (Trailable and Keel yachts Category 5 or better. Coua Boats Category 7 or better.)
- b. Crew should include at least one adult and one person over 14 years of age unless Rule 5 of these sailing Instructions is complied with.
- c. Crews of yachts without lifelines or crew under the age of 12 years shall wear buoyancy vests or life jackets.
- d. Coua Boats are exempted the need to carry heaving lines. RRS rule 4.23 (pp255)
- e. Weather reports are available from Bureau of Meteorology via the internet, smart phones or tablets.
- f. Skippers are reminded of ISAF Fundamental Rule Part 1, 1.1, Helping those in Danger (pp29). Any time so lost may be claimed in writing using a protest form.

20. RADIO

The QLYC committee boat "Swan", and/or other rescue craft will maintain radio watch on channel **VHF Channel 72**.

21. CONTACT NUMBERS

POSITION	NAME	HOME	MOBILE
Commodore	Jill Golland	03 5256 2176	0409 562 976
Club Captain	Brian Golland	03 5256 2176	0417 772 220
OOD	Ian Lee	03 5258 4559	0407 524 865