SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB

GOLD COAST | AUSTRALIA

COOK ISLAND 2025



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2nd NOVEMBER 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS 2

1. IMPORTANT CONTACTS 3

2. RULES 4

3. ALTERNATIONS OF RACING RULES 5

4. DIVISIONS 5

5. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS 5

6. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 5

7. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE 5

8. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 5

9. CLASS FLAGS 5

10. RACING AREA 6

11. THE COURSE 6

12. MARKS 6

13. THE START 7

14. SHORTENED COURSE 7

15. THE FINISH 7

16. PENALTY SYSTEM 8

17. TIME LIMIT 8

18. RETIREMENT 8

19. PROTESTS AND REDRESS 8

20. SAFETY & COMMUNICATIONS 9

21. TRACKING UNIT 9

22. SCORING AND HANDICAPPING 10

23. PRIZES 10

24. INDEMNITY 10

25. INSURANCE 11

26. FURTHER INFORMATION 11

ATTACHMENT A – SKIPPER'S DECLARATION 12

PARENTAL CONSENT & INDEMNITY FORM 13

1. IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Southport Yacht Club	**(OA)**
Ph.	(07) 55 913 500
Race Committee contact:	Kayla Boothby
Mobile:	+61 481711950 (during the Race)
Email:	headofracing@sycgc.com.au
Website:	www.southportyachtclub.com.au
Race Communications Channel	VHF09

First Aid & Emergency Services

Seaway Tower	CH16,22,67,73,82	0755 912 948
Coast Guard Southport VMR440,	CH16,21,22,67,73,81,82	0755 311 421
VMR Southport VMR400,	CH16,67,73,22,81,82	0755 323 417
Water Police Qld	CH16, 73	0755 095 700
VMR Point Danger	CH16, 88	0755 369 333
Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)		1800 641 792

Southport Yacht Club Race Committee

Vice Commodore Sail	Wayne Kirby
Principal Race Officer	Kayla Boothby
S.C. Divisional Representative	Barry Berg

Management & Support Team

Commodore	Glenn Burrell
General Manager	Brett James

2. RULES

2.1 The Race will be governed by the current rules, as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025 - 2028

2.2 The Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS).

2.3 All boats shall comply with the Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994 and Regulation. In the event of a reportable Marine Incident the SYC Sailing Officer is to be notified as soon as practical; but no later than 1 hour after the last boat has finished, a copy of the MSQ Marine Incident Report is required to be lodged with the OA at the same time it is lodged with Maritime Safety Queensland

2.4 The *International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea 1972* (COLREGS) shall apply at all times. RRS will apply only between those ships that are participating in the event, for the duration of the event. Should interaction occur with non-participating ships, then COLREGS shall apply to all ships and shall over-ride all other rules.

2.5 All competitors are reminded of RRS 1.1 Helping Those in Danger: "A boat, competitor or support person shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger".

2.7 All competitors are reminded of RRS 3 Decision to Race, "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

2.8 When conflict occurs between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the rules of the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7

2.9 RRS Appendix T – Arbitration applies

2.10 IRC International Rating Certificate (IRC) Parts A, B & C (including AS Prescriptions) where applicable.

2.11 ORC Offshore Racing Congress (ORC) Rating Rules where appliable.

2.12 OMR Offshore Multihull Rating (OMR) Rules where applicable.

2.13 As applicable, the relevant One Design Class Rules.

2.14 RRS Appendix WP – Rules for Racing around Waypoints applies

2.15 RRS 52: RRS 52 does not apply.

2.16 Where lifelines complying with AS SR Part 1 Section 3 Rule 3.12 have not been fitted, all crew while racing shall wear a visible personal floatation device as per AS SR Part 1 Section 5.

2.17 IRC Division:

(a) The current IRC Rules shall apply for boats competing in IRC Division.

(b) Boats competing in IRC Shall submit a copy of their current IRC Certificate.

2.18 [NP] denotes that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

2.19 [DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee.

2.20 [SP] denotes a rule for which a standard penalty will be applied by the Race Committee without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.

2.21 For crew younger than 18 years of age, a Parental Consent Form signed by a parent / guardian is required with the Boats Entry together with evidence of past sailing experience. The Organising Authority may, in its absolute discretion, refuse to allow any crew member aged under 18 years of age to participate in the race.

2.22 All crew shall meet the requirements of World Sailing Regulation 19 (World Sailing Eligibility Code). Crew who do not hold a current Australian Sailing Identification Number may apply to the Organising Authority for short term membership – "Sail Pass".

3. ALTERNATIONS OF RACING RULES

RRS 55.2 and 55.3 is amended to allow fixed and retractable spinnaker poles and bowsprits for the purpose of setting asymmetrical spinnakers

4. DIVISIONS

The Race will comprise of one (1) Division. Other sub-Divisions may be made at the discretion of the Race Committee

5. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board, located near reception at Southport Yacht Club Main Beach Clubhouse. Notices will also be published online at https://southportyachtclub.com.au/events/cook-island-yacht-race-2025/ .

6. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0700 hours on the day of the Race, except that any change which affects the schedule of the Race will be posted before 1900 hours on the day before it will take effect.

7. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

7.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located at The Quarterdeck, Southport Yacht Club Main Beach.

7.2 When the Answering Pennant (AP) flag is displayed ashore, 'one minute' is replaced with 'not less than ninety minutes'

8. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE	START TIME	EVENT
Sunday 2nd November	0800hrs	Compulsory Skippers Briefing @ SYC Main Beach
	0955hrs	Warning Signal (not before)
	ASAP after racing	Presentation @ SYC Main Beach

9. CLASS FLAGS

The Warning Signal for all boats shall be Code Flag 'T'.

10. RACING AREA

10.1 The Racing Area will be the region offshore between the Gold Coast Seaway Qld and the Cook Island Laid Mark.

10.2 When entering or departing the Gold Coast Seaway, the Organising Authority strongly encourages all skippers to carefully observe the prevailing conditions and wave patterns. During the crossing of a designated coastal bar in an open boat, as well as in any open area of a boat of any length, and on certain craft, wearing a lifejacket is **compulsory** as per Maritime Safety Queensland regulations.

11. THE COURSE

Course Mark	Description	Location
Starting Line	As described in SI 13	27° 56.400'S, 153° 27.230'E
Clearing Mark	As described in SI 13.7	
COOK ISLAND LAID MARK	Laid Mark – Yellow cylindrical buoy	28°11.200S, 153°34.300'E to port (approx.)
Finishing Line	As described in SI 16	27º56.315'S, 153º 26.500'E

12. MARKS

12.1 The Starting Mark will be a Red with Black Top cylindrical buoy.

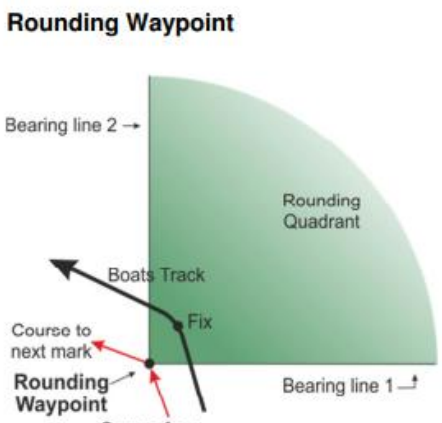
12.2 Clearing Mark will be a Yellow cylindrical buoy

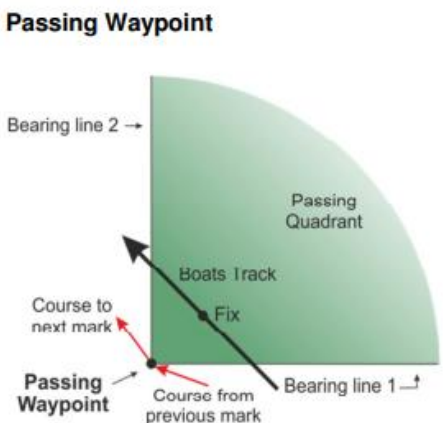
12.2 The Cook Island Laid Mark shall be a Yellow cylindrical buoy.

12.3 If a mark is missing/ not in the vicinity of the GPS coordinates Yachts may round the GPS coordinate of the mark in accordance with 12.3.1

12.3.1

Rounding or Passing Waypoint Marks have an associated rounding quadrant defined as the area enclosed between the two bearing lines (with 90 degrees between them) extending from the waypoint. A boat that provides a valid GPS fix within this quadrant is deemed to have rounded or passed the Waypoint Mark on the correct side.





13. THE START

13.1 The Race will be started using RRS 26, with the Warning Signal given five minutes before the Starting Signal.

13.2 The starting line will be approximately 1 Nautical Mile ESE of the Sand Bypass Jetty.

13.3 The Starting Line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Vessel to Starboard, and the Starting Mark to Port.

13.4 Any boat which starts later than Ten (10) minutes after their Starting Signal will be scored as Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing.

13.5 Individual Recalls will be signalled according to RRS 29.1, except that in the event of an Individual Recall the Race Committee Vessel will attempt to contact the recalled boat on VHF09 as soon as possible but no later than five (5) minutes after the Starting Signal. This changes RRS 29.1.

13.6 General Recalls will be signalled according to RRS 29.2

13.7 A Clearing Mark may be laid as part of the course. The Clearing Mark will be approximately 0.5 mile upwind of the start line. All yachts are to take the Clearing Mark to starboard.

14. OBSTRUCTIONS & PROHIBITED AREAS

14.2 All coastline "Shark Nets" are to be passed to seaward and are designated obstructions.

14.3 For the purposes of RRS 19 & 20, "Wonder Reef" – the Gold Coast dive attraction which is located 2.5 km east of Main Beach at approximately 27° 57.70' S, 153° 27.30' E is a continuing obstruction and a prohibited area. This area is defined with four (4) yellow special marker buoys with the following co-ordinates, should they be missing:

NE	Latitude:	27° 57.459'S	Longitude: 153°27.432'E
NW	Latitude:	27° 57.453'S	Longitude: 153°27.188'E
SE	Latitude:	27° 57.742'S	Longitude: 153°27.431'E
SW	Latitude:	27° 57.749'S	Longitude: 153°27.187'E

14.4 All Queensland wave monitoring sites have an enforceable 100 metre exclusion zone around each wave buoy which is a prohibited area. Wave monitoring sites are located at:

- Brisbane: Latitude: 27° 29.230' S Longitude: 153° 37.900' E
- Gold Coast: Latitude: 27° 57.914' S Longitude: 153° 26.555' E
- Palm Beach: Latitude: 28° 05.956' S Longitude: 153° 29.073' E
- Bilinga: Latitude: 28° 08.581' S Longitude: 153° 30.646' E

A boat shall not sail into a prohibitive area.

15. SHORTENED COURSE

There is no provision for the Race Committee to shorten the course.

16. THE FINISH

16.1 The Finishing Line shall be a line formed from the seaward end of the Sand Bypass Jetty and the finish boat anchored at approximately 27º56.315'S, 153º 26.500'E. Boats shall cross the finishing line in a northerly direction.

17. PENALTY SYSTEM

17.1 Between the hours of sunrise and sunset, the 720° penalty, Rule 44.2 of the World Sailing RRS shall apply for infringement of the rules of Part 2 of the RRS.

17.2 Rule 44.3a is amended so that a boat need not display a yellow flag, however a boat that takes a scoring penalty shall submit a declaration (attached to the Sailing Instructions) to the race committee as soon as practical but no later than 1650hrs on Sunday 2nd November 2025.

17.3 Rule 44.3c is amended so that a boats scoring penalty for a breach of RRS Part 2, will be ten (10) minutes added to the their actual finish time.

17.4 Boats who failure to comply with SI(s) 21 will have a ten (10) minute scoring penalty added to their actual finish time for each infringement incurred without hearing and shall not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1 & 63.1

17.5 Boats that have infringed a rule shall submit the Skippers Declaration Form (Attachment A) as soon as possible but no later than 90 minutes after their finish time and SMS to RO on 0481711950.

18. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the race will be seven hours from the time of the starting signal. Boats which have not finished by this time will be scored DNF

19. RETIREMENT

Yachts which retire from the race shall inform via text to RO on 0481711950 providing:

i. Yacht Name
ii. Current GPS Lt Long Position
III. General direction of travel
iv. POB #
v. Destination
vi. (ETR HRS:MIN:SEC) approx. Estimate Time of Return to Destination

20. PROTESTS AND REDRESS

20.1 RRS Appendix T – ARBITRATION applies.

20.2 Boats intending to protest shall inform the RO immediately after finishing the race via text message and advising of their intention to protest. This changes RRS 61 and is in addition to the requirements of RRS 61.1.

20.3 Protests shall be submitted on a Hearing Request Form, available from the SYC Sailing Office or from the Reception Desk at SYC Main Beach. The completed Hearing Request Form must be mms texted to the RO within 90 minutes after finishing.

20.4 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt and as soon as possible.

20.5 Boats, which divert from their optimum course for the purposes of search and/or rescue, or alternatively when carrying out their obligations under RRS 1.1, are strongly advised to keep a detailed log of their movements and are invited to make an application to the Race Committee for redress. The granting of and the extent and method of calculating redress shall be at the absolute discretion of the Race Committee, except that the

outcome of a successful application for redress shall not result in the abandonment of the race. This amends RRS 64.2.

21. SAFETY & COMMUNICATIONS

21.1 The Race Officer (**RO**) mobile number for boats to call, text, mms messages to is **0481 711 950.**

21.2 All boats shall via VHF73, Log-On with Gold Coast Seaway Tower prior to departing the Gold Coast Seaway and Log-Off upon returning through the Gold Coast Seaway after finishing or retiring from the race.

21.3 All boats shall via VHF09, Sign On with the Race Committee Vessel prior to the Warning Signal, confirming their Boat Name, total Persons on Board (POB) and confirming her Sail Number.

21.4 A boat that retires from the race shall notify the RO via text as soon as possible on **0481 711 950**.

21.5 All times shall be notified to the RO in (HRS:MIN:SEC) format (example 15:00:45).

21.6 Within 15 minutes after rounding the COOK ISLAND LAID MARK announced at briefing, all competing boats shall notify the RO via text, detailing the Boat's Name, confirming POB and *may also provide their Estimated Time of Finishing (ETF) within this text message in order to compete for the Navigators Prize*.

21.7 Within 30 minutes of crossing the Finish line, boats shall notify the RO via text on **0481 711 950**, detailing their Finish time.

21.8 All skippers shall complete and submit via SMS text to the RO **0481 711 950** within 30 minutes after finishing, a Skippers Declaration Form (Attachment A) detailing the finishing time of the boat and any of their infringements of RRS if applicable.

21.9 Failure to comply with these Safety Regulations, a boat will be scored ENP (Event Nominated Penalty). The penalty shall be an additional 20% of the score for Did Not Finish, rounded to the nearest whole number (0.5 rounded upward). This changes RRS A4.

21.10 Competitors must provide a clearly identifiable Sail Number on their mainsail as noted in the Yachts Race entry in accordance with RRS Appendix G. A failure to carry clearly distinguishable Sail Numbers may result in a yacht being scored a 30% additional time penalty, Discretionary Penalty Imposed (DPI) without a hearing. This shall not provide ground for redress. This changes RRS Rule 63.1, A4 and A5.

22. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

22.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Sailing Instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a Race Committee Equipment Inspector, Safety auditor or Measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

22.2 RRS 52 is not applicable.

23. OFFICIAL BOATS

23.1 Official boats will be marked with the SYC Burgee.

24. TRACKING UNIT

A boat shall carry a tracking device if so required by the Organising Authority. The device will be supplied by the Organising Authority

25. SCORING AND HANDICAPPING

25.1 The Low Point Scoring System, Appendix A.2 will apply.

25.2 A boats ORC All Purpose (A/P) time on time rating will be used from a boats valid ORC Certificate.

25.3 PHS Results will be decided by application of the Performance Handicap System (PHS) Time Correction Factor (TCF), expressed as three (3) decimal places and applied as a multiplier to elapsed times. The PHS TCF will be allocated by the Race Committee or its nominee, will be performance based and will not be subject to protest, redress or dispute. This changes RRS 62.1(a)

26. PRIZES

26.1 Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, & 3rd on corrected time for ORC (A/P), IRC and PHS results.

26.2 The Cook Island Line Honours Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the 1st monohull and multihull through the finish line.

26.3 A Navigators Prize will be awarded to the boat which has the closest actual finishing time to their Estimated Time of Finishing in accordance with SI 21.6.

26.4 The ORC (A/P) winner will be presented with the Southport Yacht Club Cook Island Yacht Race Perpetual Trophy at the Presentation.

26.5 Other Prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority

27. INDEMNITY

27.1 Any entrant found to be deliberately invalidating certificates, falsifying documentation or otherwise misleading the Race Committee may be subject to action under RRS 69.1. If the Protest is upheld the boat may be subject to disqualification from any future SYC event and the incident will be reported to Australian Sailing.

27.2 Participant's attention is drawn to:

27.2.1 RRS Fundamental Rule 3, which states, "The responsibility for a boats decision to participate in a race or to continue racing 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.**

27.2.2 AS Special Regulation 1.02.1 which states, "The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner, or the owner's representative who must do their best to ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are physically fit to face bad weather. He must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. He must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used."

27.3 All those taking part in Southport Yacht Club events do so at their own risk and responsibility. The SYC is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

28. INSURANCE

All Competitors must comply with the requirements of Australian Sailing Special Regulations Category Four (4), hold current third party and public liability insurance (minimum) AUD$10Million, comply with the requirements of registration according to the State, Territory or Country from which it hails, be listed on the register of a Yacht Club affiliated with their National Authority, be sailed by a minimum of two (2) crew who have attained 18 years of age on or before Friday 31st October 2025, and be entered by a Person-In-Charge who is a member of a Yacht Club affiliated with their State or National Authority, in accordance with Australian Sailing Prescriptions

29. FURTHER INFORMATION

SYC Offshore Division Sailing Committee Divisional Representative:
Barry Berg
Email: barry.wildstyle@gmail.com
Phone: 0400 110 555

SYC Sailing Office:
Email: racing.admin@sycgc.com.au
Phone: 07 5537 7030

ATTACHMENT A – SKIPPER'S DECLARATION

To the Sailing Administrator, 2025 Cook Island Yacht Race.

Southport Yacht Club, 1 Marina Crescent Hollywell Qld 4216.

Phone (07) 5537 7030, Race Officer (RO) Mobile **0481711950**

During the 2025 Cook Island Race, organised by Southport Yacht Club and starting on Sunday 2nd November 2025 I was on board and in charge of the boat:

BOAT NAME		SAIL NUMBER	

I declare that during the race the following Rules were NOT observed by **my** boat and / or we incurred the following infringements, with an explanation given as follows:

Name of Person-In-Charge: _____ Date: ___/___/2025

Signature of Person-In-Charge: _____

Witnessed by: (Crew Member) _____ Member of: _____

PARENTAL CONSENT & INDEMNITY FORM

For Participants under the age of 18

Event Details/Name:	COOK ISLAND YACHT RACE 2025

Participant Details:

First Name: _____ **Surname:** _____

Email: _____ **Mobile:** _____

Please note any medical conditions which are relevant for this event:

_____

Parent/Guardian Details:

Full Name:_____ **Relationship to the Child:**_____

Email:_____ **Phone:**_____

Address:_____**State:**_____**P/Code:**_____

PARENTAL CONSENT & INDEMNITY

Parental Consent: I give permission for my child to attend and participate in the abovementioned Southport Yacht Club event. **Indemnity:** I understand that while every reasonable precaution will be undertaken to ensure the protection of my child, I hereby release Southport Yacht Club, authorised staff and volunteers from any and all liability in the event of any injury, accident, misfortune, damage or loss that may occur to my child and/or their property while present at the aforementioned Southport Yacht Club event. Further, I indemnify Southport Yacht Club, authorised staff and volunteers from and against all loss, including legal expenses, connected with or arising from any claims or demands in relation to my child's attendance at the event. I agree and understand that Southport Yacht Club, authorised staff and volunteers reserve the right to exercise discretion to refuse to register any participant upon medical and/or other grounds without providing a detailed reason for doing so. **Medical Treatment Consent:** I give permission for Southport Yacht Club to obtain emergency medical, hospital or ambulance assistance and/or treatment for my child at any time they consider necessary. I understand that every effort will be made for myself to be notified before instituting such procedures. I acknowledge that I will be liable for any medical, hospital or ambulance expenses incurred in my child's treatment and I agree to pay those expenses. **Privacy Declaration:** I understand that Southport Yacht Club may collect information about my child in accordance with their Privacy Policy, and that this information may be disclosed to certain parties it engages in this event. I consent to these details being used by Southport Yacht Club for the promotion of future events and resources.

Full Name:_____ **Signature:**_____ **Date:**_____