

JULIAN ROCKS

MARCH 14-15 2026



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

93NM

CAPE BYRON

JULIAN ROCKS

XXXXX



SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB



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Definitions:

[NP] indicates a rule for which a breach shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a)

[DP] indicates a rule for which the penalty for a breach is at the discretion of the Protest Committee and may be less than disqualification.



1. RULES

- 1.1. The race will be governed by the rules, as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 ("RRS") of World Sailing, including;
 - 1.1.1. The current IRC Rules Parts A, B and C;
 - 1.1.2. The current ORC Rating Rules;
 - 1.1.3. The current OMR Rating Rules;
 - 1.1.4. The Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing ("AS Special Regulations")
 - 1.1.5. Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 1 Category 3N shall apply.
 - 1.1.6. IRC Rule 11.2, 21.6.1 and ORC Rule 206.1 are changed to allow a boat to carry one more spinnaker than shown on the boat's Certificate without an increase of rating.
- 1.2. A compulsory skippers' briefing will be held at SYC Main Beach on Thursday, 12th March 2026 at 1900hrs.
- 1.3. When conflict occurs between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the rules of the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.
- 1.4. [NP] All yachts shall carry, as a minimum, a GPS-capable 406 MHz Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) for each crew member, registered with a national registration authority. Each PLB shall be carried on the person when on deck. A detailed crew list, including each crew member's PLB HEX ID and, where an AIS-MOB/DSC-MOB device is carried, the device MMSI, shall be provided to the Organising Authority prior to the race.
- 1.5. Changes to the RRS occur in SI 13, SI 17 and SI 24.
- 1.6. Changes to rating rules are as set out in NoR 9.
- 1.7. The International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) 1972 shall apply at all times. RRS will only apply between those boats that are participating in the event, for the duration of the event. Should interaction occur with non-participating boats, then COLREGS shall apply to all boats and shall override all other rules. COLREGS replace RRS Part 2 between sunset and sunrise
- 1.8. For crew younger than 18 years of age, a Juvenile Consent Form signed by a parent/guardian is required with the boat's entry together with evidence of past sailing experience. The Organising Authority may, in its absolute discretion, refuse to allow any crew member under 18 years of age to participate in the race.
- 1.9. 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".

2. CHANGE TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions made ashore will be posted at least one (1) hour before the race affected, and the Notice to Competitors will be signaled by the display of Code Flag "L" ashore.

3. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1. All race documents will be uploaded to the Southport Yacht Club website – Julian Rocks Yacht Race event page: <https://southportyachtclub.com.au/events/julian-rocks-yacht-race-2026/>
- 3.2. The race office is located at 1 Marina Crescent, Hollywell, (07) 5537 7030, racing.admin@sycgc.com.au.
- 3.3. On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 09.



- 3.4. Except in an emergency or when complying with these Sailing Instructions (including SMS Position Reporting Schedules and Race Committee safety communications), a yacht shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive communications not available to all boats.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1. Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.
- 4.2. Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment or place advertising provided by the organising authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located on the Quarterdeck of Southport Yacht Club, Main Beach.

6. SCHEDULE

The following is the schedule of events (Australian Eastern Standard Time – Qld):

2026 KEY DATES	EVENT	TIME
Wednesday 11 th March 2026	- Entries Close	23:59hrs
Wednesday 11 th March 2026	- Sailing Instructions published	17:00hrs
Thursday 12 th March 2026	- Registration & Compulsory Skippers Briefing @ SYC Main Beach	19:00hrs
Saturday 14 th March 2026	- BBQ Breakfast Available to Purchase - Warning Signal Not Before	06:30hrs 09:55hrs
Thursday 19 th March 2026	- Presentation of Prizes @ SYC Main Beach	19:00hrs

7. DIVISIONS

The Race will comprise one (1) division. Handicap categories included for scoring and prizes are: IRC, ORC, OMR, and PHS.

8. CLASS FLAGS

The Class Flag for the Warning Signal for all yachts shall be International Code Flag ‘T’.

9. RACING AREA

The Racing Area will be the offshore waters between the Gold Coast Seaway and Julian Rocks, located in the vicinity of Byron Bay. 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.



10. THE COURSE

- 10.1. The course will be a coastal passage race, as follows:
- 10.2. Start in the vicinity of the Gold Coast Seaway Sand Bypass Jetty, between the Starting Mark (Port) and the Race Committee Vessel (Starboard).
- 10.3. Proceed in a Southerly direction towards Byron Bay, leaving Cook Island to Starboard.
- 10.4. Round Julian Rocks (approximately 28°36.6'S 153°37.8'E) to Starboard.

All yachts shall not at any time be within 200 m of the Julian Rocks trigonometric station.

- 10.5. Proceed in a Northerly direction towards the Gold Coast, leaving Cook Island to Port.
- 10.6. Proceed to the Finish Line in accordance with SI 16.
- 10.7. The Course will be as shown in Illustration A, attached.

11. MARKS

- 11.1. The Starting Mark will be an Orange with a black top and bottom inflatable cylinder.
- 11.2. Julian Rocks (approximately 28°36.6'S 153°37.8'E) forms the turning point and shall be rounded to starboard.

12. [NP] AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS & PROHIBITED

The following areas are designated as obstructions:

- 12.1 All yachts shall not at any time be within 200 m of the Julian Rocks trigonometric station. All yachts are reminded that the 200 m exclusion zone around Julian Rocks is legally enforced by Parks NSW, and breaches may result in penalties imposed by both the Organising Authority and statutory authorities.
- 12.2 All coastline “Shark Nets” are to be passed to seaward and are designated obstructions.
- 12.3 For the purposes of RRS 19 & 20, “Wonder Reef” – the Gold Coast dive attraction which is located 1.35 NM 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. Should any of the four (4) yellow special marker buoys be missing, a boat is still not permitted into the prohibited area.
- 12.4 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
 Tweed Offshore: Latitude: 28° 12.72' S Longitude: 153° 40.81698' E

A boat shall not sail into a prohibited area.



13. THE START

- 13.1. The Race will be started according to RRS Rule 26.
- 13.2. The Starting Line shall be between a staff displaying an Orange flag or shape on the Race Committee Vessel at the Starboard end of the line, and the Starting Mark at the Port end, located approximately 1 nautical mile to the East of the seaward end of the Sand Bypass Jetty, at approx. 27°56.4'S 153°27.0'E.
- 13.3. [DP] A yacht starting later than twenty (20) minutes after her Starting Signal will be scored Did Not Start without hearing.
- 13.4. Individual Recalls will be signalled according to RRS 29.1. The Race Committee may attempt to contact the recalled yacht on VHF 09 as a courtesy; failure to do so shall not be grounds for redress.
- 13.5. General Recalls will be signalled according to RRS 29.2
- 13.6. All yachts must comply with SI 22.2 in order to start.

14. CHANGE OF COURSES AFTER THE START

There is no provision for a change of course after the start.

15. SHORTENED COURSE

The Course will not be shortened by the Race Committee.

16. THE FINISH

- 16.1. The finishing line is a transit between;
 - (a) the southern end post of the Sand Bypass (Sand Pumping) Jetty and
 - (b) 27°56.315'S 153°26.500'E. Boats shall cross the line on a northerly heading.
- 16.2. Within 30 minutes of finishing, each yacht shall SMS the Race Officer (0481 711 950) with:
Boat Name; Finish time (HH:MM:SS AEST); Persons on Board (POB).
- 16.3. All Skippers shall complete and submit a **Skippers Declaration Form** (attached to these Sailing Instructions as Appendix A) as soon as possible after finishing, but no later than 1600 hours on Sunday, 15th March 2026. Skipper Declarations shall be submitted via SMS to 0481 711 950 or via email to racing.coordinator@sygc.com.au.



17. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 17.1. Between the hours of sunrise and sunset, the Two-Turns Penalty in RRS 44.2 is changed to a One-Turn Penalty for infringements of RRS Part 2
- 17.2. Between the hours of sunset and sunrise, the requirement in RRS 44.3(a) to display a yellow flag is deleted. 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 1600hrs on Sunday 15th March 2026.
- 17.3. RRS 44.3(c) is amended so that a boat's scoring penalty for a breach of RRS Part 2 will be ten (10) minutes added to their actual finish time.
- 17.4. Yachts failing to comply with SI 16.2 (finish SMS), SI 16.3 (Skipper's Declaration), SI 21 (Scoring data as required), or SI 24 (PRS/communications) will have a 30-minute scoring penalty added to their elapsed time for each infringement without a hearing.

18. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the race will be thirty (30) hours from the start signal. Yachts that have not finished by this time will be scored DNF without a hearing.

19. RETIREMENT

[DP] Yachts which retire from the race shall inform the RO via text to 0481 711 950 providing:

- a) Yacht Name
- b) Current GPS Lt Long Position
- c) General direction of travel
- d) POB #
- e) Destination
- f) (ETR HRS:MIN: SEC) approx. Estimate Time of Return to Destination

20. PROTESTS & HEARING REDRESS

- 20.1. Protests shall be submitted on the Hearing Request Form, available from the SYC Sailing Office at the Hollywell Sailing Squadron, the Main Beach Reception Desk, or online at <https://southportyachtclub.com.au/forms-sailing>. Completed forms shall be delivered to the Race Committee no later than 1600 hours on Sunday, 15th March 2026.
- 20.2. Hearing Notices will be posted within two hours (120) minutes of the Protest Time Limit to inform competitors when and where there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses.
- 20.3. Hearings will be heard in approximately the order of receipt and as soon as possible.
- 20.4. Yachts, 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.



21. SCORING

The Low Point System, RRS Appendix A, will apply. Ties will be broken per RRS A8.

Results will be calculated for IRC, ORC, OMR and PHS (including Double-Handed PHS) in accordance with the rating or handicap system applicable to each category.

22. [NP] SAFETY REGULATIONS

22.1. [NP] Prior to the race, and no later than 2359 hrs (AEST) on Thursday 12th March 2026, each yacht shall provide the Organising Authority with a complete and accurate crew list via their **Top Yacht entry**. All crew details shall be correct and up to date by this deadline. Any changes after this deadline must be communicated directly to the Sailing Office.

The crew list shall include each crew member's:

- Full name
- Australian Sailing number
- Qualifications
- Emergency Next-of-Kin contact details
- PLB HEX ID
- Where an AIS-MOB and/or DSC-MOB device is carried, the device MMSI
- Relevant experience
- Required contact information

Each crew member shall carry a GPS-capable 406 MHz PLB when on deck.

Each crew member is also strongly recommended to carry an AIS-MOB and/or DSC-MOB device integrated with their PFD; where applicable, the device MMSI shall be provided in TopYacht.

A yacht that fails to provide a complete and accurate crew list by this deadline shall be ineligible to start until the deficiency is rectified.

22.2. [NP] All yachts shall report to the Race Committee vessel at the starting area for a visual inspection Sign On no later than 10 minutes before the first warning signal. All crew are required to be on deck, each wearing their PFD and carrying their compliant safety harness and tether (per AS Special Regulations 5.01 & 5.02) for visual inspection. Upon visual inspection by the Race Officer, each yacht shall confirm the number of Persons on Board (POB) via VHF Channel 09 when requested. The Race Officer will acknowledge the POB confirmation by VHF. A yacht is not considered signed on until this confirmation has been completed.

22.3. [NP] All yachts shall observe the mandatory Position Reporting Schedules (PRS). Failure of a yacht to report for two (2) consecutive PRS will automatically initiate Search and Rescue (SAR) actions. In the event that an unnecessary SAR is launched, any associated costs may be incurred by the yacht owner or their representative.

22.4. Yachts which retire from the race shall inform 'SYC RACE CONTROL' as soon as possible and are to maintain observance of the SMS Position Reporting Schedules until they enter the Gold Coast Seaway and log-off with Volunteer Marine Rescue Seaway Tower (Call sign "V.M.R. 414 SEAWAY TOWER", VHF73 or Channel 27.91MHz).



23. COMMUNICATIONS

[NP] The deliberate transmission of untrue position reports by a yacht will incur penalties to be applied at the discretion of the race committee or protest committee including disqualification of the yacht.

24. [NP] COMMUNICATION POLICY

24.1. VHF RADIO STATIONS

The Race Control Centre of Southport Yacht Club may maintain a listening watch on, VHF16 for the duration of the Race. The call sign will be "SYC RACE CONTROL". Alternative phone contact is 0481 711 950 (Kayla Boothby).

24.2. DEPARTURE LOG-ON AND ARRIVAL LOG OFF

All yachts shall log on with Volunteer Marine Rescue Seaway Tower (Call sign "V.M.R. 414 SEAWAY TOWER", VHF73 or Channel 27.91MHz) prior to departing, stating the Vessel name and Registration Number, the number of persons on board, and the estimated time of return.

All yachts shall log off upon entering the Gold Coast Seaway after finishing or retiring from the race.

NB: Seaway Tower is closed between the hours of 1800hrs and 0500hrs. Please refer your communications to "VMR 400 Southport" on Ch 73 during these hours. They will in turn notify Seaway Tower.

24.3. SMS POSITION REPORTING SCHEDULES (PRS)

At each Position Reporting Schedule (PRS), yachts shall SMS the RO (0481 711 950) with:

- Vessel Name & Sail Number
- Latitude / Longitude position
- Direction of travel (Southbound or Northbound as applicable)
- Any relevant information regarding yacht, crew, or weather

In addition, the following PRS-specific information is required:

PRS 1 — Southbound: Abeam of Marine Rescue Point Danger

- No additional information required.

PRS 2 — After rounding Julian Rocks (within 15 minutes)

- Estimated Time of Finishing (ETF)

PRS 3 — Northbound: Abeam of Marine Rescue Point Danger (return leg)

- No additional information required.

The RO will return an acknowledgment SMS for each valid report. Yachts that fail to report may be contacted by the Race Officer via VHF Channel 16. If contact is made via VHF Channel 16 the Race Officer may request for the communication to be continued on VHF Channel 09. Alternatively, the Race Officer may contact the yacht via phone. If contact cannot be established directly, the Race Officer may request position sightings or relayed communications from other yachts.

The RO may, at their discretion, direct yachts to use other frequencies or relay information if communication difficulties arise.



24.4. RADIO RESTRICTIONS

No restrictions are placed on the receiving of weather information broadcast by Government or commercial stations. This amends RRS 41.

24.5. SEVERE WEATHER FORECASTS

Requests for, the passing of, and receipt of information regarding severe weather warnings shall not be regarded as an infringement of RRS.

24.6. VHF MONITORING CHANNEL

All yachts shall maintain a listening watch on Channel VHF16 whilst racing.

25. [NP] EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

25.1. 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.

25.2. RRS 52 (Manual Power) is changed so that powered winches and powered sail-handling systems are permitted.

26. OFFICIAL BOATS

Official boats will be marked with the SYC Burgee.

27. TRACKING UNIT

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

28. PRIZES

28.1. The Line Honours prize will be awarded to the first monohull and multihull, if applicable.

28.2. Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd & 3rd on corrected time for IRC, ORC, OMR and PHS Results. (subject to a minimum of five (5) valid entries per category or division).

28.3. The overall winner of the SYC Julian Rocks Yacht Race Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the fully crewed boat that wins the ORC Handicap Category and the fully crewed boat that wins the IRC Handicap Category.



- 28.4. Southport Yacht Club Navigators Perpetual Trophy - To be eligible for the Navigators Prize, a vessel's Skipper shall **SMS TEXT** to Kayla Boothby **0481 711 950** of their Estimated Time of Finishing immediately upon rounding Julian Rocks. This prize will be awarded to the yacht that has the closest actual finishing time to its estimated time of finishing.
- 28.5. Other Prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 28.6. Overall results shall be published online no later than Sunday 15th March 2026, 1600hrs and presentation of prizes will take place at 1900hrs on Thursday 19th March 2026 at the Southport Yacht Club Main Beach Clubhouse.

29. INDEMNITY

- 29.1. 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 yacht may be subject to disqualification from any future SYC event, and the incident will be reported to Australian Sailing.
- 29.2. 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.**

30. FURTHER INFORMATION

SYC Vice Commodore of Sail:

Wayne Kirby

Email: wayne@kirbyfamily.id.au | Phone: 0418 950 250

SYC Offshore Division Sailing Committee Divisional Representative:

Barry Berg

Email: barry.wildstyle@gmail.com | Phone: 0400 110 555

SYC Racing Coordinator:

Kayla Boothby

Email: racing.coordinator@sycgc.com.au | Phone: 0481 711 950

31. PARENT CONSENT FORM



Parent Consent Form

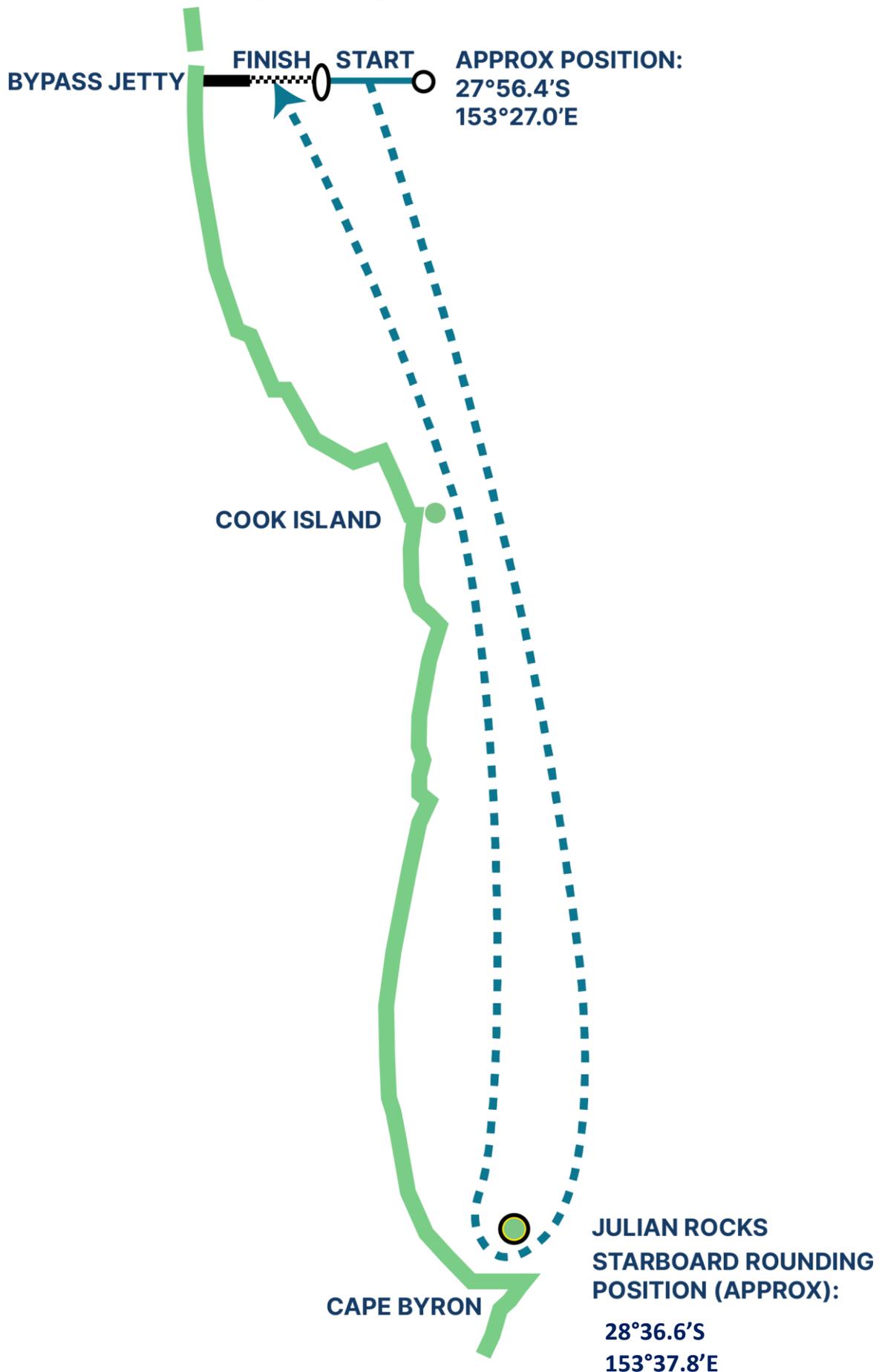
For participants under 18 years old.

Scan QR Code / Click the link

<https://form.jotform.com/253497312363055>



ILLUSTRATION A – THE COURSE





APPENDIX A – SKIPPER’S DECLARATION

To the SYC Sailing Office

1 Marina Crescent Hollywell Qld 4216.

Phone (07) 5537 7030, **Mobile 0481 711 950**, Email: racing.coordinator@sycgc.com.au

I hereby declare that I am a financial member of _____ Yacht Club. During the Julian Rocks Yacht Race organised by Southport Yacht Club, I was on board and in charge of the yacht:

BOAT NAME		SAIL NUMBER	
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I declare that during the race the following Rules were NOT observed and/or infringements occurred by our yacht, with an explanation given as follows:

The finishing time of my yacht was recorded as: ____:____:____ On Date:

Name of Person-In-Charge: _____ Date:

Signature of Person-In-Charge: _____

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