



SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB
GOLD COAST | AUSTRALIA

2025 FLAT ROCK YACHT RACE

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS





ORGANISING AUTHORITY

Southport Yacht Club Inc
Hollywell Sailing Squadron
1 Marina Crescent, Hollywell QLD 4216
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southportyachtclub.com.au

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1. IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Southport Yacht Club

Office Hours: 0900 – 1600 hours daily

Ph. (07) 55 913 500

Fax. (07) 55 377 131

Race Committee contact:

Mobile: Phone +61 499181 707 (during the Race)

Email: racing.admin@sycgc.com.au

Website: www.southportyachtclub.com.au

First Aid & Emergency Services

Seaway Tower VMR400,	CH16,22,67,73,82	0755 912 948
Coast Guard Redcliff VMR403	CH16,21,63,67,73,82	0732 035 522
Coast Guard Southport VMR440,	CH16,21,22,67,72,73,74,80,81,82	0755 311 421
VMR Southport VMR400,	CH16,67,73,22,81,82	0755 323 417
RACQ Care Flight	CH16, 73	0755 068 400
Queensland (GC) Water Police	CH16, 73	0755 095 700
VMR Stradbroke Island	CH 16, 63, 67, 73, 81	0734 099 338

Race Committee

Commodore	Glenn Burrell
Vice Commodore Sail	Wayne Kirby
Principal Race Officer	Mathew Dickinson
Divisional Representative	Barry Schoonenberg



2. RULES

- 2.1 The race will be governed by the rules, as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (“RRS”) of World Sailing, including:
- (a) the IRC Rules 2024 Parts A, B and C;
 - (b) the current ORC Rating Rules;
 - (c) the prescriptions and special regulations of Australian Sailing (“AS Special Regulations”) Part 1 Category 3 including N will apply.
 - (d) the Australian Sailing Prescriptions to IRC
- 2.2 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
- 2.3 All competitors are reminded of RRS Part 1.1 Helping Those in Danger, “A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger”.
- 2.4 The International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea 1972 (COLREGS) shall apply at all times. The Racing Rules of Sailing (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 RRS 44.3(c) is amended to a scoring time penalty.
- 2.6 RRS 52 is not applicable.
- 2.7 RRS 46 is amended to reflect that all crew are required to be members of an affiliated club and registered with Australian Sailing with their current ASN# recorded in the crew list of the Yachts entry.
- 2.8 GPS positions or waypoints specified use WGS84 Datum.
- 2.9 RRS Appendix T – Arbitration applies.
- 2.11 RRS Appendix WP – Rules for Racing Around Waypoints applies.
- 2.11 All yachts shall carry (as a minimum), a Personal Life Beacon (PLB) for each crew member and provide the OA via TopYacht Entry with a detailed crew list and their allocated PLB Hex identification #. If any yachts use AIS personal overboard beacon/s, then they are to provide the OA with a detailed crew list and their allocated MMSI #'s.
- 2.12 A minimum of four (4) boats are required to start the Race. If there are less than the number of minimum boats, the race shall be abandoned.
- 2.13 The minimum number of crew on a fully crewed boat is 4.
- 2.14 Double Handed boats
- (a) A boat shall have 2 crew
 - (b) The minimum age of all crew is 18
 - (c) Both crew members shall have prior to the start of the race a thorough understanding of the storage location, retrieval and use of safety equipment of the boat entered.



3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0730 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.

4. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 4.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board, located online at <https://southportyachtclub.com.au/sailing-noticeboard/>.
- 4.2 In addition to this Sailing Instructions we draw your attention to the [Southport Yacht Club Sailing Policy](#) relating to Australian Sailing numbers and Club Membership.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

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

6. SCHEDULE

DATE - 2024	EVENT	TIME
Wed 21 st May	Entries Close	1700hrs
Thurs 22 nd May	List of Competitors & PHS Handicaps Published Registration & COMPULSORY Skippers Briefing @ SYC Main Beach	1900hrs
Sat 24 th May	BBQ Breakfast Available to Purchase Warning signal not before	0630 hrs Not Before 0955hrs
Thurs 29 th May	Presentation of Prizes @ SYC Main Beach	Approx. 1900hrs

7. DIVISIONS

The Race will comprise of one (1) division

8. CLASS FLAG

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

9. RACING AREA

The racing area shall be Offshore, between the Gold Coast Seaway and Flat Rock located in the vicinity of Point Lookout, North Stradbroke Island, as illustrated at Appendix B.



10. THE COURSE

- 10.1 The course (illustrated in Appendix B) 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 Northerly direction towards Flat Rock **WAYPOINT MARK (27.23.414 Latitude S, 153.34.579 Longitude E)** ([27°23'41.4"S 153°34'57.9"E](#)), leaving Stradbroke Island to Port.
- 10.4 Rounding Flat Rock WAYPOINT MARK (27.23.414 Latitude S, 153.34.579 Longitude E) to Port,
- 10.5 Proceed in a Southerly direction towards the Gold Coast, leaving Stradbroke Island to Starboard.
- 10.6 Leaving Seaward Clearing Mark to Starboard (27.55.950 Latitude S, 153.26.780 Longitude E)
- 10.7 Finish by crossing the imaginary line formed by the transit of the lights on the Gold Coast Seaway Sand Bypass Jetty, crossing the finishing line in a southerly direction at a distance of not more than 1nm from the seaward end of the Sand Bypass Jetty. (27°56.320'S | 153°27.070'E).

11. MARKS

- 11.1 The Starting Mark will be an orange cylinder buoy with a black top approximately 1.0 Meters high x 0.60 Meters diameter.
- 11.2 Flat Rock WAYPOINT MARK (27.23.414 Latitude S, 153.34.579 Longitude E), located in the vicinity of Moreton Bay forms the rounding waypoint mark and shall be rounded to PORT.
- 11.3 Seaward Clearing Mark to Starboard (27.55.950 Latitude S, 153.26.780 Longitude E)
- 11.4 In accordance with RRS Appendix WP, the Rounding Waypoint Mark has 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.



12. THE START

- 12.1 The Race will be started according to RRS Rule 26.
- 12.2 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.



- 12.3 A yacht starting later than twenty (20) minutes after her Starting Signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS A4.
- 12.4 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 yacht on VHF09 as soon as possible but no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the Starting Signal. This modifies RRS 29.1.
- 12.5 General Recalls will be signalled according to RRS 29.2.

13. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

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

14. SHORTENED COURSE

There is provision to shorten the course at the *FAD 14* - Rounding to PORT the “FAD14” [Y FL Y 3S] Yellow special purpose buoy (nun, ie conical shape) having yellow flashing light with a period of 3 seconds at location 27.41.278 Latitude S, 153.36.829 Longitude E, giving a minimum clearance to the buoy of at least 3 metres. If the *FAD14* buoy is missing, then these co-ordinates are a WAYPOINT ROUNDING MARK with the Quadrant bearing lines being between 000o and 090o

15. THE FINISH

- 15.1 The Finishing Line shall be the imaginary line formed by the transit of the lights on the Sand Bypass Jetty, located to the South of the Gold Coast Seaway (27o 56.320’S | 153o27.070’E). Yachts shall cross the finishing line in a southerly direction at a distance of not more than 1nm from the seaward end of the Sand Bypass Jetty.
- 15.2 Yachts shall record their own finishing time and text Mathew Dickinson on 0499 181 707 within 20 minutes of their finishing time (communication window), providing;

(a) Yacht Name

(b) Finishing Time (HRS:MIN:SEC)

(c) POB (#)

- 15.3 **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 23rd June 2024 (communication window). Skipper Declarations shall be submitted via mms text to Matthew Dickinson on 0499181707 or via email at yachting.manager@sycgc.com.au

16. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 16.1 Between the hours of sunrise and sunset, the two-turn penalty, (RRS 44.1) is changed to a one-turn penalty for infringement of the rules of Part 2 of the RRS.
- 16.2 Between the hours of sunset and sunrise, 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 Skippers Declaration (attached to the Sailing Instructions) via mms text to Matthew Dickinson on 0499 181707 or via email at yachting.manager@sycgc.com.au as soon as practical but no later than 1600h on Sunday 25th May (communication window).



- 16.3 Rule 44.3c 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.
- 16.4 Yachts failing to comply with SI 20.1, 20.3 will have a thirty (30) minute scoring penalty added to their actual finish time for each infringement without hearing.
- 16.5 Yachts failing to comply with SI 15.2, 15.3, 20.6 within the allocated time but within 120 minutes of scheduled communication window will have a thirty (30) minute scoring penalty added to their actual finish time for each infringement without hearing. Yachts failing to comply greater than 120 minutes after scheduled communication window will be scored DSQ without hearing.
- 16.6 Yachts failing to comply with SI 20.4 within the allocated time but within 10 minutes of scheduled sign on time will have a (30) minute scoring penalty added to their actual finish time without hearing. Yachts failing to comply greater than 10 minutes after scheduled sign on will be scored DSQ without hearing.

17. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the race will be twenty-four (24) hours from the time of the starting signal. Yachts which have not finished by this time will be scored DNF without a hearing.

18. PROTESTS AND REDRESS

- 18.1 Protests shall be submitted on the Hearing Request Form, available from the SYC Sailing Office at the Hollywell Sailing Squadron or Reception Desk at Main Beach and delivered there ASAP, but no later than 1600hrs on Sunday 25th May 2025.
- 18.2 Hearing Notices will be posted within 48 hours 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.
- 18.3 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt and as soon as possible.
- 18.4 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. This amends RRS 64.2.

19. SCORING

The Low Point Scoring System, Appendix A4 will apply.

20. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 20.1 All yachts must always maintain a listening watch on Channel VHF16.
- 20.2 When entering or departing the Gold Coast Seaway, the Organising Authority strongly encourages all skippers to carefully observe the prevailing conditions and wave patterns. Skippers are strongly encouraged to have all crew on deck, all hatches securely closed and to consider the need for personal flotation devices whilst crossing the Seaway.

**20.3 SEAWAY TOWER; Departure Log-On and Arrival Log-Off:**

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

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

NB: Seaway Tower is closed between and including the hours of 2205pm and 0515am. Please refer your communications to “VMR 400 Southport” on Ch 73 during these hours. They will in turn notify Seaway Tower.

20.4 SIGN ON RC; All Yachts shall report to the Race Committee vessel at the starting area with all crew on deck, no later than **0940 hours** on Saturday 24th May 2025, each wearing their compliant safety harness and tether (compliant in accordance with AS Special Regulation 5.02 SAFETY HARNESS AND SAFETY LINES (Tethers)).

20.5 Upon visual inspection by the Race Officer, confirmation of Persons on Board (POB) will be hailed by the Race Officer to the Skipper of each Yacht confirming details.

20.6 ROUNDING THE WAYPOINT MARK; Within 15 minutes of rounding Moreton Bay Flat Rock WAYPOINT MARK, all competing yachts shall notify Matthew Dickinson on 0499 181707 providing: [Yacht Name], [Photograph of an instrument displaying the fix and time of the Rounding the Waypoint Mark within the Rounding Quadrant] and Estimated Time of Finishing [ETF HRS:MIN:SEC].

20.7 RETIREMENT: Yachts which retire from the race shall inform via text to Matthew Dickinson on 0499181707 providing: [Yacht Name], [Current GPS Lat Long Position], [general direction of travel], [POB #] and approximate Estimate Time of Return to Seaway [ETR HRS:MIN:SEC].

20.8 TACKTRACKERS: A boat shall carry a tracking device if required by the OA. The device will be supplied by the OA. The TackTracker link for delayed broadcasting may be viewed at:

<https://tacktracker.com/cloud/home/SYCGC/races/1562383434>

21. PRIZES

21.1 Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, & 3rd on corrected time for IRC and ORC Club & PHS scores.

21.2 The SYC Flat Rock Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the 1st monohull and multihull if applicable to finish as the Line Honours winner.

21.3 Navigators Prize - This prize will be awarded to the yacht which has the closest actual finishing time to their Estimated Time of Finishing.

21.4 Other Prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.

21.5 Announcement of overall results and presentation of prizes will take place at approximately 1900 hours on Thursday 29th May 2025 at the Southport Yacht Club Main Beach Clubhouse.



22. INDEMNITY

- 22.1 Any entrant found to be deliberately invalidating certificates, falsifying documentation or otherwise misleading the Race Committee may be subject to action under ISAF 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.
- 22.2 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.**

23. FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the Sailing Office

Southport Yacht Club, Hollywell Sailing Squadron, 1 Marina Crescent, Hollywell, Queensland, 4216.

Phone: (07) 5537-7030 | E-Mail racing.admin@syccgc.com.au



PARENTAL CONSENT & INDEMNITY FORM

For Participants under the age of 18

Event Details/Name:	FLAT ROCK 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: 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: _____



APPENDIX A – SKIPPER'S DECLARATION

To SYC Sailing Office - 2025 Flat Rock Passage Race.

1 Marina Crescent Hollywell Qld 4216.

Phone (07) 5537 7030, Mobile 0499181707

I hereby declare that I am a Member of _____ Yacht Club.

During the 2025 Flat Rock Passage Race, organised by Southport Yacht Club and starting on

Saturday 24th May 2025, I was on board and in charge of the yacht:

BOAT NAME	SAIL NUMBER

I declare that during the race the following Rules were NOT observed and / or Infringements occurred, with an explanation given as follows (back of page may be used):

The finishing time of my yacht was recorded as: ____:____:____ On Date: ____/____/2025

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

Signature of Person-In-Charge: _____

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

RECEPTION USE Only: Received By: _____

At Date: ____/____/2025 **Time:** ____:____:____ **Location:** _____

Watch Correction: (Delete) ADD / SUBTRACT _____ Seconds to finishing time



APPENDIX B – COURSE MAP DIAGRAM

