



SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB

GOLD COAST | AUSTRALIA



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2026 CAT WEEKEND





**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**ORGANISING AUTHORITY**

**Southport Yacht Club Inc  
Hollywell Sailing Squadron  
1 Marina Crescent, Hollywell QLD 4216  
+617 5537 7030  
[southportyachtclub.com.au](http://southportyachtclub.com.au)**

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## 1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules, unless modified by these Sailing Instructions, as defined in:
  - a) The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing (WS);
  - b) Compliance with Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 2 is mandatory for all competing boats.
  - c) Relevant Class Rules;
- 1.2. The International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) 1972 shall always apply. 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.
- 1.3. When conflict occurs between the Notice of Race (NOR) and the Sailing Instructions (SIs), the rules of the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.4. RRS Appendix T Arbitration will apply.
- 1.5. 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(a).

## 2. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900hrs on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000hrs on the day before it will take effect.

## 3. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board, located at Southport Yacht Club Sailing Squadron, Hollywell, adjacent to the Southport Yacht Club Sailing Office. Notices may also be posted on the Official on-line notice board on the event website.

## 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.

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the tower located at the Southport Yacht Club, Sailing Squadron.



5.2 When a signal is displayed over a Divisional flag, it shall apply to that Division only.

5.3 Code Flag “AP” (Answering Pennant), with two sounds (one sound then lowered) means, “The race is postponed. The Warning Signal will be made not less than 20 minutes after this signal is lowered”. (This changes RRS Race Signals “AP”).

## 6. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	Time
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Entries close	2359hrs
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Compulsory Skippers Briefing	1000hrs
	Morning Session Warning not before	not before 0955hrs
	Afternoon Session Warning	not before 1330hrs
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Compulsory Skippers Briefing	0900hrs
	Final Session Warning not before	not before 0955hrs
	Presentation and Sausage Sizzle	ASAP after Racing

6.1 The Race Committee may make changes to this schedule at any time. The number of races for each day will be advised at the Compulsory Skippers Briefing each day, which will be dependent on weather conditions.

6.2 When more than one race will be held on the same day, the Warning Signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable.

No Warning Signal will be sounded after 1430hrs on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

## 7. DIVISION FLAGS

7.1 There will be three (3) Divisions, however, sub-Divisions may be created, at the discretion of the Race Committee.

DIVISION		FLAG
Division One (1)	AS Yardstick < 78	Numeral Pennant One (1)
Division Two (2)	AS Yardstick > 78	Numeral Pennant Two (2)
Division Three (3)	Paper Tiger	Paper Tiger's Class Flag

## 8. RACING AREA

8.1 The waters between Ray Newlyn Channel and Sovereign Islands will consist of the Racing areas for this regatta, as per Attachment “A”.

## 9. COURSES

9.1 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the course.

9.2 The starting area will be advised at the Compulsory Skipper's Briefing and will be between staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Control Boat and the Start Mark.

Course	Wind Direction	Course Configuration
1	North East	Start – A – B – A – B – A – B – Finish
2	South East	Start – C – D – C – D – C – D – Finish
3	North East	Start – D – E – D – E – D – E – J (S) – Finish
4	Island Passage	Start – X (S) – J (S) – Finish
5	Island Passage	Start – J – C – X – Finish
6	West Channel Only	Start – J – X – Finish
7	Long Passage	Start – A – X (S) – J (S) - Finish
8	Alternative	As described at Briefing

COURSE MARK	MARK DESCRIPTION
Start Mark	Yellow with Orange Top cylindrical buoy (approx. 1.5m x .06m)
Finish Mark	Yellow with Orange Top cylindrical buoy (approx. 1.5m x .06m)
Mark A	Coomera River Cardinal
Mark B	Yellow Cylindrical Buoy (approx. 1.8m x 0.9m)
Mark C	Yellow Cylindrical Buoy (approx. 1.8m x 0.9m)
Mark D	Yellow Cylindrical Buoy (approx. 1.8m x 0.9m)
Mark E	Yellow Cylindrical Buoy (approx. 1.8m x 0.9m)
Mark J	John Elkes Cross Channel Mark
Mark X	Sovereign Cross Channel Mark

## 10. MARKS

10.1 All International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) Buoyage System Lateral Navigation Marks located to the north of, and including Crab West Cardinal (CWC) shall be observed and passed or rounded as marks of the course (in accordance with Maritime Safety Regulations and Navigation Convention).

10.2 All competitors must maintain a minimum distance of three (3) meters from all navigation marks and round them to Port, including Marks "X", "J" Unless stated as a Starboard rounding in Course Configuration

## 11. OBSTRUCTIONS

11.1 [DP] The Start/Finish Line may be an obstruction of the course unless starting or finishing. This will be confirmed at each day's compulsory Skippers briefing.

## 12. THE START

12.1 Races will be started as per RRS 26, with the Warning Signal given five (5) minutes before the Starting Signal.

12.2 The Starting Line will be between the signal mast displaying an orange flag on the Starting Vessel or SYC Control Tower and the Start Mark.

12.3 A yacht starting later than ten (10) minutes after her Starting Signal will be scored "Did Not Start". This changes Rule A4 and A5.

## 13. CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK

13.1 The Race Committee may change the position of any mark of the course by moving the original (or finish) mark to a new position. This change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg with Code Flag "C" and sound signals, although the mark may not yet be in the new position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark may be relocated without further signaling, to maintain course configuration.

## 14. THE FINISH

14.1 The finish line will be between Blue flag displayed on the Hollywell Sailing Tower and the Finish Mark.

## 15. PENALTIES

15.1. Alternative Penalties - For windward/leeward courses the Two-Turns Penalty under RRS 44.2 is changed to a One-Turn Penalty.

15.2. Event Nominated Penalties (ENP) Event Nominated Penalties shall be a 20% scoring penalty. This will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). The scoring abbreviation for an Event Nominated Penalty under this instruction will be ENP. The penalty shall be applied to the race sailed nearest, in time to that of the breach. This changes RRS 60.1(a), 60.2 and 60.3 as appropriate, and A4 and A5.

## 16. TIME LIMITS

COURSE	TARGET TIME	TIME LIMIT FOR FIRST BOAT
Windward/Leeward	40 minutes	80 minutes
Passage Race	60 minutes	120 minutes

16.1 Yachts failing to finish within thirty (30) minutes after the first boat, in its Division or within the time limit, whichever is later, will be scored a “Did Not Finish” (DNF). This changes Rule 35 and A4 and A5.

## 17. PROTESTS & REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

17.1 Protest Forms are available at the Southport Yacht Club, Hollywell, Sailing Office as well as on the Southport Yacht Club website. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit, which is sixty (60) minutes after the last boat has finished in the last race of the day for its Division.

17.2 Notification of the details of protest hearing will be placed on the official notice board as soon as possible to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to protest or named as a witness (at least 30 minutes prior to hearing/s). These notices are deemed to fulfil the requirements of RRS 63.2. Representatives of boats, who are parties to hearings, and their witnesses, are advised to remain on call in the vicinity of the Regatta Office (or such other place as directed by the Race Committee).

17.3 Hearings will be held in the Southport Yacht Club Hollywell, Sailing Office, as soon as practicable after racing. Protests will be heard by a Jury Panel, constituted in accordance with RRS Appendix M.

17.4 RRS 66 is changed by adding: On the last day of racing, a party to the hearing may ask for a reopening no later than 20 minutes after being informed of the decision. If the party was informed of the decision on the previous day it shall ask for a reopening no later than the time limit for protests.

17.5 RRS 60.3 (a) (1) is changed by deleting the word “serious”.

17.6 Breaches of Sailing Instructions marked [DP] will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).Penalties for breaches of these rules and Sailing Instructions marked with a “Discretionary Penalty” [DP] may be less than disqualification. The scoring abbreviation for a Discretionary Penalty under this Instruction will be (DPI).

## 18. SCORING

18.1 The scoring system shall be the Low Point System, RRS Appendix A,

18.2 Two races must be completed to constitute a series.

18.3 A boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026. All results will be calculated on the Class Ratings of Australian Sailing Yardstick (ASY).

## 19. SAFETY

19.1 All helmspersons shall sign on, on the sheets provided, prior to going afloat for racing.

19.2 Two Sign On / Off sheets will be provided on Saturday: one for the morning and one for the afternoon Session/s.

19.3 All helmspersons shall sign off within thirty (30) minutes of completing racing for that session.

19.4 A boat that retires from a race shall notify Race Control (or Official Support Boat), prior to leaving the Race Area.

19.5 Failure to comply with any of the event safety requirements shall result in an Event Nominated Penalty (ENP) and shall be scored accordingly by the race committee without a hearing. The penalty shall be applied to the race sailed nearest, in time to that of the breach. This changes RRS 60.1(a), 60.2 and 60.3 as appropriate, and A4 and A5.

## 20. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

20.1 [DP] A yacht shall not change specifications after the close of entries. Any change to the skipper or crew, hull, spars, sails, foils or equipment may only be made with the express written consent of the Race Committee.

20.2 [DP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made in writing via the Sailing Office. Application does not constitute approval.

## 21. RACE COMMITTEE VESSELS

21.1 Race Committee Start and Support Vessels will display the SYC burgee when on station and in the race area.

## 22. PRIZES

22.1 Prizes will be awarded to each Division for First (1<sup>st</sup>), Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) places overall on Australian Sailing Yardstick (ASY).

22.2 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

## 23. RISK MANAGEMENT

23.1 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.**

## 24. INSURANCE

24.1 Each participating yacht shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000.00 per incident or the equivalent. Proof of Insurance may be required, clearly indicating the person, the amount and the period of coverage, at registration. All owners/competitors who Enter the Regatta are deemed to have made a declaration that they hold such cover.

## 25. IMPORTANT REGATTA CONTACTS AND DETAILS

FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY SERVICES	VHF CHANNEL (CH)	TELEPHONE
Seaway Tower VMR403	CH 16, 22, 67, 73, 82	0755 912 948
Coast Guard Southport VMR440	CH 16, 21, 22, 67, 73, 81, 82	0755 311 421
VMR Southport VMR400	CH 16, 67, 73, 22, 81, 82	0755 323 417
Queensland (Gold Coast) Water Police	CH 16, 73	0755 095 700
Race Communications on Water	CH 09	0400 55 8917

## 26. FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the Sailing Office

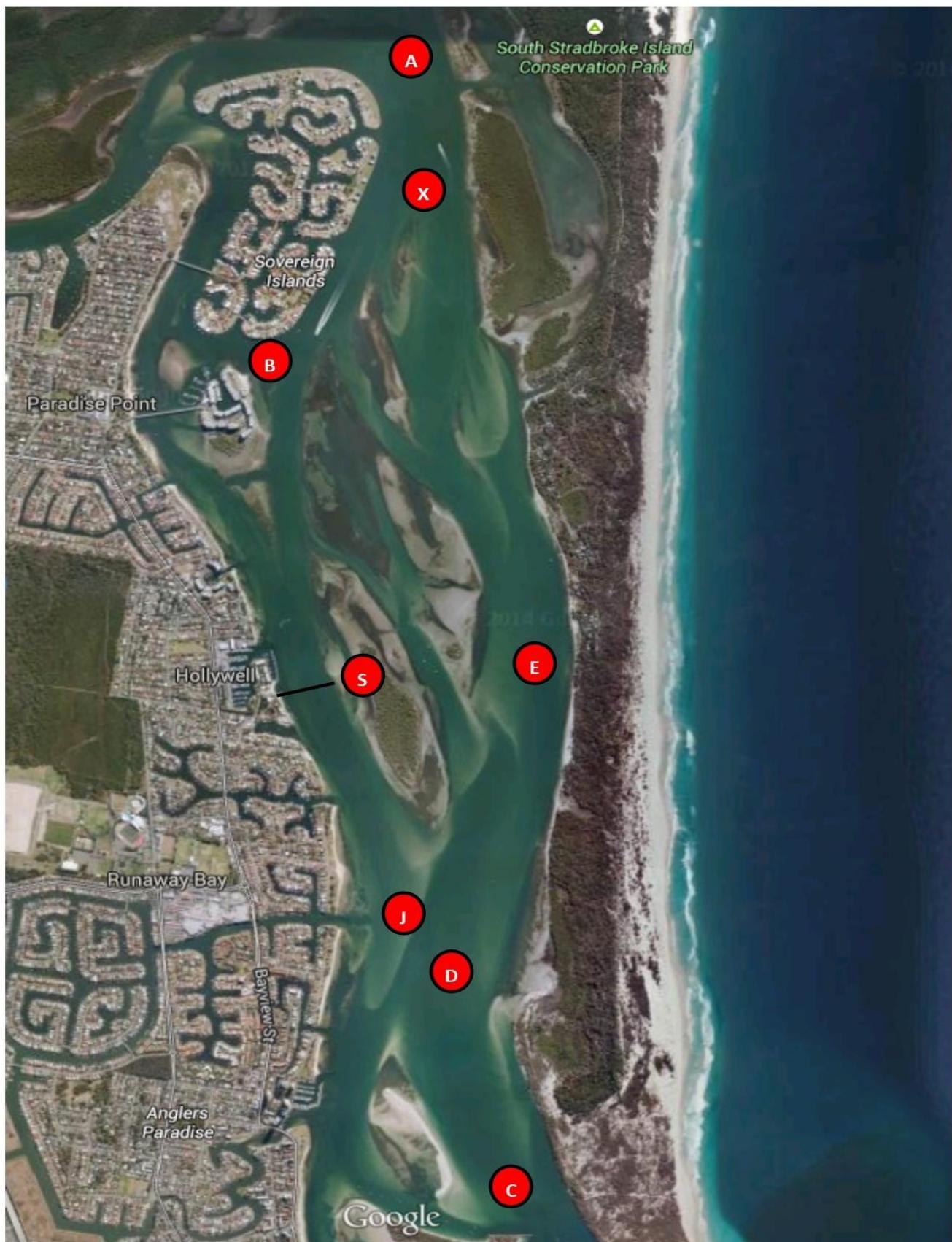
Southport Yacht Club, Hollywell Sailing Squadron, 1 Marina Crescent, Hollywell, Queensland, 4216.

Phone: (07) 5537 7030.

E-Mail: [racing.admin@sycgc.com.au](mailto:racing.admin@sycgc.com.au)



27. ATTACHMENT A – RACING AREA





## 28. PARENTAL CONSENT & INDEMNITY FORM

## **For Participants under the age of 18**

<b>Event Details/Name:</b>	
<b>Participant Details:</b>	
First Name: _____	Surname: _____
Email: _____	Mobile: _____
<b>Please note any medical conditions which are relevant for this event:</b>  _____	
<b>Parent/Guardian Details:</b>	
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: \_\_\_\_\_