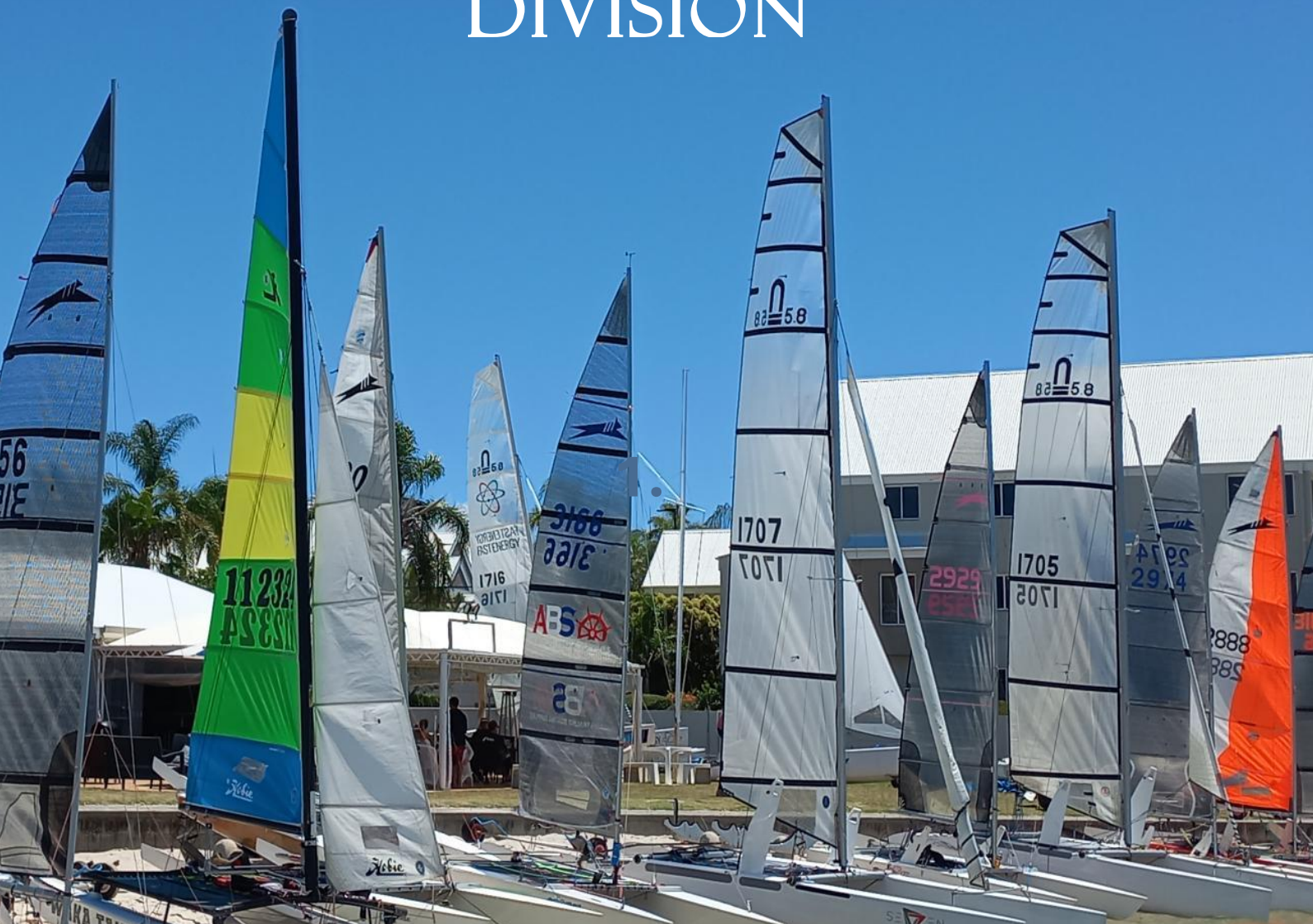




SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB

OFF THE BEACH CATS DIVISION



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2026 - 2027



OTBC DIVISION SCHEDULE – 2026/2027

Winter Passage 1/10	Saturday 2 nd May 2026
Winter Passage 2/10	Saturday 16 th May 2026
Winter Passage 3/10	Saturday 30 th May 2026
Winter Passage 4/10 CRAB ISLAND CLASSIC	Saturday 6 th June 2026
Winter Passage 5/10	Saturday 20 th June 2026
Winter Passage 6/10	Saturday 27 th June 2026
Winter Passage 7/10	Saturday 4 th July 2026
Winter Passage 8/10	Saturday 11 th July 2026
Winter Passage 9/10	Saturday 15 th August 2026
Winter Passage 10/10	Saturday 22 nd August 2026
Summer Passage 1/9	Saturday 12 th September 2026
Championships 1/9	Saturday 19 th September 2026
Summer Passage 2/9	Saturday 10 th October 2026
Championships 2/9	Saturday 17 th October 2026
Summer Passage 3/9	Saturday 24 th October 2026
Championships 3/9	Saturday 31 st October 2026
Summer Passage 4/9	Saturday 7 th November 2026
Championships 4/9	Saturday 14 th November 2026
Summer Passage 5/9	Saturday 28 th November 2026
Championships 5/9	Saturday 5 th December 2026
Summer Passage 6/9	Saturday 12 th December 2026
Championships 6/9	Saturday 16 th January 2027
Summer Passage 7/9	Saturday 30 th January 2027
Championships 7/9	Saturday 13 th February 2027
Summer Passage 8/9	Saturday 20 th February 2027
Championships 8/9	Saturday 27 th February 2027
Championship 9/9	Saturday 13 th March 2027
Summer Passage 9/9	Saturday 17 th April 2027



OTBC DIVISION SERIES FEES – 2026/2027

BLOCK WHOLE SEASON DISCOUNT (28 Races)	\$315.00
WINTER SERIES (10 Races)	\$150.00
PASSAGE SERIES (9 Races)	\$135.00
CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (9 Race Days)	\$135.00
Casual Race Entry (per race day)	\$25.00 SYC Member \$35.00 <i>Non SYC Member (max entry 3)</i>

ADDITIONAL SYC SPECIAL EVENTS

Event / Regatta Name	Date
2025/2026 SAILING PRESENTATION	Saturday 8 th August 2026
SAIL PAST & BLESSING THE FLEET	Saturday 5 th September 2026
BREAKING OF THE FLAG CEREMONY & DA\$H 4 CA\$H	Sunday 6 th September 2026
CAT WEEKEND	Saturday 6 th – Sunday 7 th February 2027
LADIES DAY RACE	Saturday 20 th March 2027
DUX BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS	Sunday 21 st March 2027
BURLEIGH BASH	Saturday 24 th April 2027



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1. RULES

- 1.1 The Organising Authority (OA) is Southport Yacht Club Inc. (SYC).
- 1.2 Races will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025–2028 (RRS), the Prescriptions of Australian Sailing, and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3 These Sailing Instructions apply only to Off the Beach Catamaran classes listed in the current Australian Sailing Off the Beach Catamaran Yardsticks. Boats listed under Dinghy Yardsticks or any other non-OTB Catamaran yardstick system are not eligible to compete in this Division.
- 1.4 Boats shall comply with Australian Sailing Special Regulations – Part 2 (Off the Beach Boats).
- 1.5 The relevant Class Rules apply, except as amended by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.6 When boats encounter vessels not racing, the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea 1972 (COLREGS) apply. This does not change the application of the RRS between boats racing.
- 1.7 RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) applies. Arbitration will be conducted in accordance with Appendix T. If arbitration is unsuccessful, the protest shall proceed to a protest hearing.
- 1.8 SYC Sailing Season Policy applies.
- 1.9 Attention is drawn to RRS 1.1, Helping Those in Danger.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board not later than 60 minutes before the scheduled warning signal on the day they take effect, except that changes to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 hours on the day before they take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Official notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board at the SYC Hollywell Sailing Squadron and may also be posted on the SYC online notice board.
- 3.2 Results will be posted on the Official Notice Board and on the SYC website. Results may also be shared on the OTBC Division social media platforms.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the official flagpole at SYC Hollywell.
- 4.2 When Flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 15 minutes.”
- 4.3 When a visual signal is displayed over a course flag or class flag, it applies to that course area/class only.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The schedule of race days is shown at the front of these Sailing Instructions.
- 5.2 Championship Series race days may consist of up to three (3) races. Passage and Winter Series race days may consist of up to two (2) races.
- 5.3 All races conducted under these Sailing Instructions for the Off the Beach Catamaran Division shall use a THREE (3) MINUTE starting sequence.
- 5.4 To alert boats that a starting sequence will begin soon, the Race Committee may display an orange flag with one sound signal at least three (3) minutes before the warning signal.
- 5.5 The warning signal for each race will be made three (3) minutes before the starting signal.
- 5.6 The scheduled warning signal time shall be considered “not before”. Failure to make a warning signal at the scheduled time shall not be grounds for redress.



EVENT (Handicap System)	COMPULSORY SKIPPERS BRIEFING	WARNING SIGNAL
Championship Series (ASY)	1100hrs	1157hrs
Passage Series (PHS)	1100hrs	1157hrs
Winter Series (PHS)	1100hrs	1157hrs

6. DIVISIONS & DIVISION FLAGS

- 6.1 These Sailing Instructions apply only to Off the Beach Catamaran classes listed in the current Australian Sailing Off the Beach Catamaran Yardsticks.
Boats that are listed by Australian Sailing under Dinghy Yardsticks or any other non-OTB Catamaran yardstick system are not eligible to compete in this Division, regardless of configuration, crew number, or design similarity.
- 6.2 A minimum of five (5) eligible series entries is required to constitute a Division at the commencement of a series. Once constituted, a Division shall remain constituted for the duration of that series.
- 6.3 Eligible boats will be allocated to divisions based solely on their Australian Sailing Off the Beach Catamaran Yardstick (ASY) as published at the start of the season:

FLEET	FLAG
Off the Beach Catamaran Division 1 (ASY < 73)	Numeral Pennant "1"
Off the Beach Catamaran Division 2 (ASY > 73)	Numeral pennant "2"

- 6.4 The Organising Authority may verify class eligibility and yardstick classification at any time. Any boat found not to comply with this section may be refused entry or scored DNC for races sailed while ineligible, subject to a hearing.

7. RACING AREA

Attachment E – COURSE MAP shows the approximate location.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1 The diagrams and tables in ATTACHMENT B – OTB CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES COURSES,
- 8.2 The diagrams and tables in ATTACHMENT E – COURSE MAP
- 8.3 The tables in ATTACHMENT C – OTBC PASSAGE & WINTER SERIES COURSES describes the courses to be sailed for the Passage Series, including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9. MARKS

- 9.1 Marks, including start and finish marks, are described in ATTACHMENT A – SYC DESIGNATED MARKS.



- 9.2 All boats shall comply with local statutory authority requirements when rounding or passing IALA navigation marks. A breach of this requirement may be protested and penalised in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 9.3 All boats shall give due consideration to the weather conditions including tidal effect (current) wind conditions and their intended course when passing or rounding an IALA mark.
- 9.4 *Competitors may refer to the Maritime Safety Queensland Boating Maps located at <http://www.msq.qld.gov.au/Boating-maps/Gold-Coast-guides> for detailed maps.

10. AREA THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1 Areas outside of the intended channel(s) defined by the IALA marks north of and including the Crab Island West Cardinal “Q(9)15s” are considered an obstruction. For the purposes of this definition, it shall be considered that a competitor has remained clear of the obstruction provided they have left all IALA marks to their required side.
- 10.2 The finish line is an obstruction, unless finishing. A boat that crosses the finishing line other than when finishing may be protested by the Race Committee.

11. STARTING AREAS

11.1 CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES START

The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.

A boat that starts more than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS. This changes RRS A4.

11.2 PASSAGE & WINTER SERIES START

The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the start vessel or Race Control Tower at the starboard end and the designated port-end mark.

A boat that starts more than ten (10) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS. This changes RRS A4.

12. CHANGES OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position with a sound signal at the last mark in accordance with RRS 33.

13. SHORTENED COURSE

The Race Committee may shorten course at any part of the course. Boats shall finish between the Race Committee vessel displaying Code Flag “S” and a mark of the course.

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1 For Championship Series, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a Blue Flag on the finishing boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark.
- 14.2 For Passage & Winter Series, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a Blue Flag on the finishing boat/ Race Control Tower and the finishing Mark.



15. PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty, consisting of one tack and one gybe.

16. TIME LIMITS & TIME TARGETS

- 16.1 Championship Series: Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat in their division finishes will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.
- 16.2 Passage & Winter Series: Boats failing to finish within 45 minutes after the first boat in their division finishes will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

SERIES	TARGET TIME First Boat in Each Division	TIME LIMIT First Boat in Each Division
CHAMPIONSHIP	40 minutes	80 minutes
PASSAGE & WINTER	60 minutes	120 minutes

17. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 Protest forms are available at the SYC Sailing Office.
- 17.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat in the relevant division finishes the last race of the day. This applies to protests and requests for redress by boats, the Race Committee and the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 17.3 Hearings will be conducted in accordance with SYC hearing procedures and parties will be notified by email.

18. SCORING

- 18.1 The Low Point Scoring System of RRS Appendix A applies, as modified by these Sailing Instructions.
- 18.2 For the purposes of Appendix A, a boat that starts is one that sails through the starting line after her starting signal in accordance with RRS 29–30.
- 18.3 Points shall be awarded as follows, modifying RRS A4 and A5:
- DNF (Did Not Finish): One (1) point more than the number of boats that started the race.
 - DNS (Did Not Start): Two (2) points more than the number of boats that started the race.
 - DNC (Did Not Come to the Starting Area): Three (3) points more than the number of boats that came to the starting area.
- 18.4 Any scoring penalty imposed after a hearing shall be applied in accordance with RRS Appendix A and shall not worsen a boat's score beyond DNF for that race unless specifically stated in the protest decision.
- 18.5 A minimum of four (4) completed races is required to constitute a series.
- 18.6 When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, all race scores shall count.
- 18.7 When the following number of races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score(s):
- 5 to 8 races: one (1) discard
 - 9 to 12 races: two (2) discards
 - 13 to 16 races: three (3) discards
 - 17 or more races: four (4) discards



- 18.8 Australian Sailing Yardsticks (ASY) shall be used to calculate results for mixed classes within a division.
- 18.9 For the Passage and Winter Series, the Performance Handicap System (PHS) shall apply. Where a boat does not have an established PHS, an initial PHS may be allocated by the Handicap Committee or Race Committee using all available data.
- 18.10 Following the first race, PHS adjustments may be applied at the discretion of the Handicap Committee in accordance with SYC handicapping procedures and observed race performance.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as reasonably practicable
- 19.2 Sign-on and sign-off procedures shall be complied with as notified by the Organising Authority.
- 19.3 All helmspersons shall sign on prior to going afloat and shall sign off within forty-five (45) minutes of completing racing for that session unless otherwise advised by the Race Committee.
- 19.4 Failure to comply with safety requirements may result in a protest by the Race Committee.
- 19.5 Penalties for breaches of these Safety Regulations may be applied after a hearing, or by acceptance of a discretionary penalty under RRS 44.3, if offered.
- 19.6 All competitors are strongly encouraged to carry a readily accessible harness rescue tool or similar safety device.

20. REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed, unless authorised by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and Sailing Instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a Race Committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

22. SUPPLIED BOATS

- 22.1 Official boats will be marked with the SYC Burgee.
- 22.2 The Club Coach may provide advice to any competitor during club racing but not in races in the Championship Series. The assistance provided will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 41 and RRS 60.1 (a).

23. OFFICIAL BOATS

- 23.1 Team Leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay no less than one hundred (100) metres outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start, until all boats have finished or retired or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
- 23.2 No disturbing wash is to be created near a competitor on the racecourse.

24. RUBBISH DISPOSAL

Boats shall not put rubbish in the water. Rubbish may be placed aboard support and Race Committee boats.



25. PRIZES

25.1 RACE DAY PRIZES

- 25.1.1 Whenever possible, there will be a presentation of results as soon as practical after each day's racing in the SYC Hollywell Clubhouse.
- 25.1.2 For Championship race days, prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd & 3rd for each Division for the combined Race Scores of the day.
- 25.1.3 For Passage & Winter series, random prizes will be awarded to competing boats of the day.
- 25.1.4 Boats must be present at all Series Presentations or the prize will be redrawn or allocated to the next placing.
- 25.1.5 The annual Sailing Presentation for Club Championships and other events will take place at a Clubhouse of SYC.

25.2 PERPETUAL TROPHIES

- 25.2.1 Only current financial members of SYC are eligible for a season entry.
- 25.2.2 Only SERIES ENTRANTS are eligible for Sailing Season prizes at the Sailing Presentation.
- 25.2.3 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the OA.

26. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 26.1 All those taking part in races conducted by SYC do so at their own risk and responsibility.
- 26.2 SYC, any sponsor and any party involved in the organisation of any event disclaims any and every responsibility for any loss, damage, injury to persons and/or things, both ashore and at sea, as a consequence of participation in any way in the races, covered by these Sailing Instructions.
- 26.3 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.**

27. MEDIA RIGHTS

In participating in the Off The Beach Catamaran Division Club Racing, a competitor grants to the OA and the sponsors, the right in perpetuity, to make, reproduce, edit, use and show, from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or film television and other reproductions of him/her taken during the Sailing Season and to use his/her likeness, voice, name and any other information in any material related without compensation.

28. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance, with a minimum cover of \$10M (AUD) for any one incident. By taking part in a race all boat owners are deemed to have made a declaration that they have such cover.



29. SYC SAILING COMMITTEE

SYC Vice Commodore of Sail:

Wayne Kirby | 0418 950 250 | wayne@kirbyfamily.id.au

SYC Head of Racing:

Steven Murphy | 0475 434 800 | headofracing@sycgc.com.au

OTBC – Off the Beach Catamaran Division Representative:

Wayne Greenwood | 0419 676 654 | wayne@fghgroup.com.au

HC – Handicap Committee Representatives:

Russell Birse | racing.admin@sycgc.com.au

30. SYC SAILING CONTACTS

SYC Racing Coordinator:

Kayla Boothby | 0481 711 950 | racing.coordinator@sycgc.com.au

SYC Volunteers Coordinator:

Mike Latter | 0499 941 982 | volunteers@sycgc.com.au

SYC Hollywell Sailing Office:

(07) 5537 7030 | racing.admin@sycgc.com.au

31. PARENT CONSENT FORM



Parent Consent Form

For participants under 18 years old.

Scan QR Code / Click the link

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



ATTACHMENT A - SYC DESIGNATED MARKS

BUOY	DESCRIPTION
START	Orange with Black Top
FINISH	Blue
1a	Large Pink Tear Drop
1 / 2 / 3S / 3P / A / B / D / F	Yellow inflatable cylinders
Barging Buoy	Pink Tear Drop

DESIGNATED MARKS	LOCATION	APPROX. GPS COORDINATES
Hollywell Starboard Lateral	Tower / Start Finish Buoy	27°54.05.7 S 153°24'16.8 E
A	Coomera East Cardinal	27° 51.833'S 153° 24.611'E
B	Efram Island Port Lateral Beacon	27° 53.084'S 153° 24.298'E
C	Crab Is West Cardinal	27° 54.929'S 153° 24.714'E
D	Deep Hole Starboard lateral	27° 54.980'S 153° 24.843'E
E	Crab Island Port Lateral	27° 53.940'S 153° 25.136'E
F	SYC Laid Mark	
H	Seaway Cardinal	27° 56.178'S 153° 25.33'E
J	John Elks	27° 54.992 S 153° 24.736'E
X	Sovereign Special	27° 52.391'S 153° 24.799'E



ATTACHMENT B – OTBC CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES COURSES

COURSE	MARK ROUNDINGS	TYPE
W1	START – 1 – FINISH	CHAMP
W2	START – 1 – 3s/3p – 1 – FINISH	CHAMP
W3	START – 1 – 3s/3p – 1 – 3s/3p – 1 – FINISH	CHAMP
W(X)	Same pattern as above. X being number advised on Start Boat Course Board	CHAMP
T1	START – 1 – 2 – FINISH	CHAMP
T2	START – 1 – 2 – 3p – 1 – FINISH	CHAMP
T3	START – 1 – 2 – 3p – 1 – 3p – 1 – 2 – FINISH	CHAMP

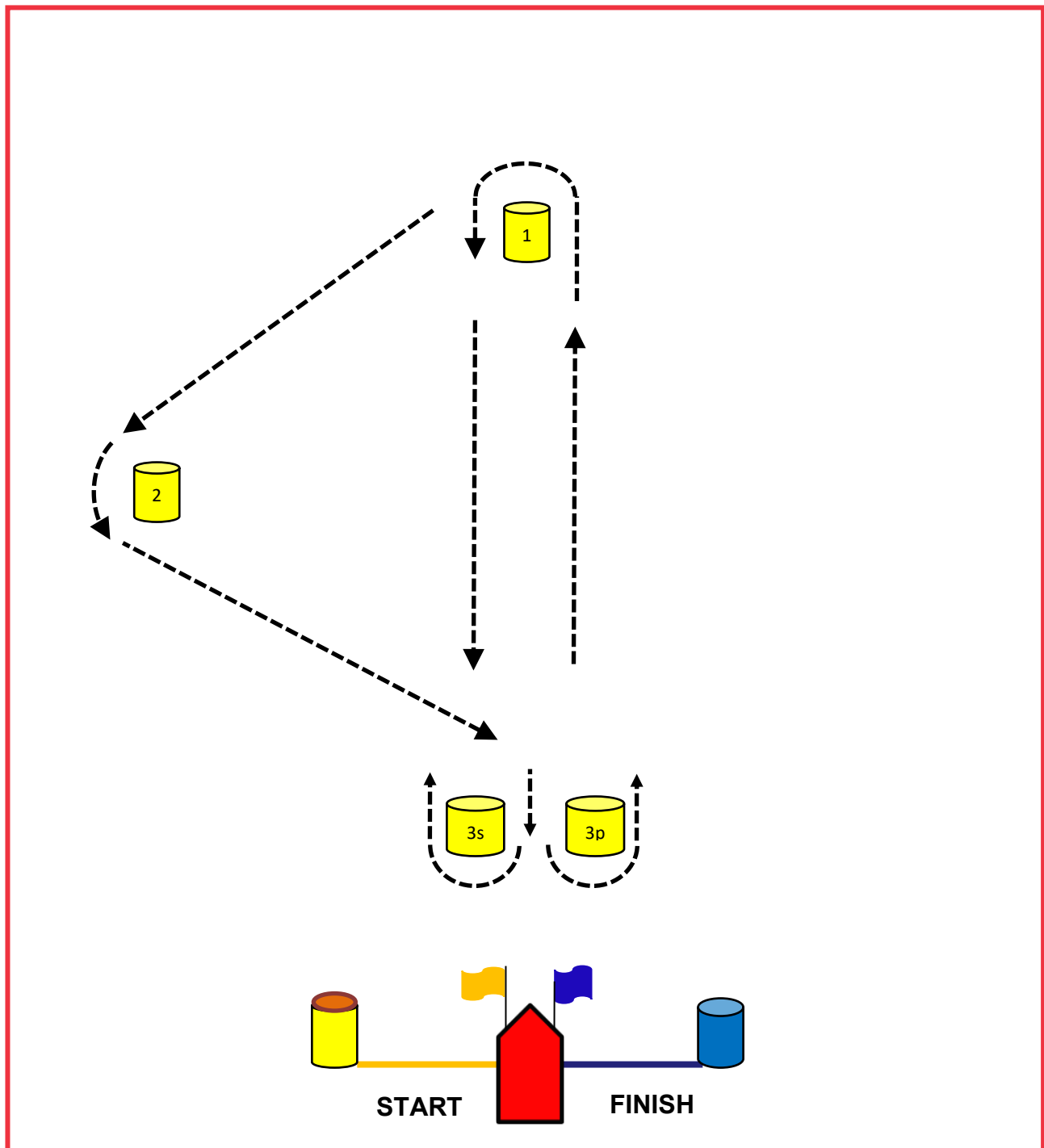
NB:

1. Where no leeward gate (3s/3p) is present, 3p shall be substituted.
2. A clearing buoy (1a) may also be used after rounding Mark 1 – this will be advised at the Compulsory Skippers Briefing.



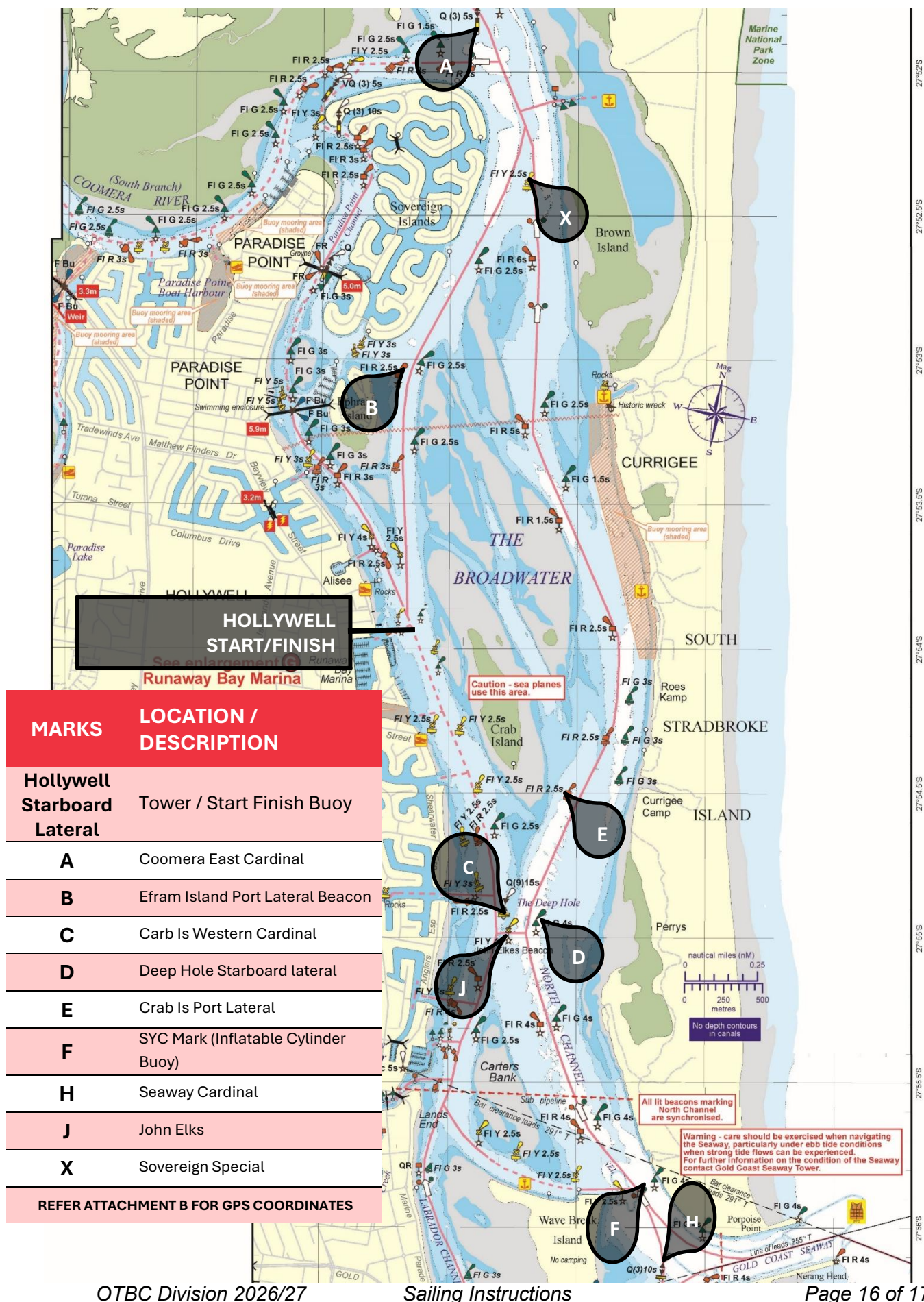
ATTACHMENT C - OTBC PASSAGE & WINTER SERIES COURSES

COURSE	MARK ROUNDINGS	TYPE
1	START – J – E – X – FINISH	PSG
2	START – X (S) – E (S) – J (S) – FINISH	PSG
3	START – A – B – A – B – A – B – FINISH	PSG
4	START – C – F – D – F – D – F – D – C (S) – FINISH	PSG
5	START – C – D – E – D – E – D – E – C (S) – FINISH	PSG
6	START – C – F – A – FINISH	PSG
7	START – H – FINISH	PSG
8	Notified at COMPULSORY SKIPPERS BRIEFING	PSG

**ATTACHMENT D – WINDWARD/LEEWARD & TRIANGULAR COURSES**



ATTACHMENT E – COURSE MAP



**ATTACHMENT F - DECLARATION**

To: SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB. Racing Admin: racing.admin@sycgc.com.au, Phone (07) 5537 7030

BOAT NAME	SAIL NUMBER
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I declare that during the race the following Rules were NOT observed and / or Infringements occurred and / or Penalties taken, with an explanation given as follows:

Witnessed by (Boat Name/s, Skipper/Crew Name/s):

Name of Person-In-Charge: _____ Date: __/__/__

Signature of Person-In-Charge: _____.