Sydney Harbour Combined Clubs Inshore Series 2026-2027

Notice of Race

The Organising Authority (OA) for the Combined Clubs' Inshore Series (CCIS) is the Middle Harbour Yacht Club (MHYC), Manly Yacht Club (MYC), Royal Australian Naval Sailing Association (RANSA), Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club (RPEYC), Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS) and Vaucluse Yacht Club (VYC).

The race committee referred to in this notice of race or the sailing instructions will consist of one representative from each participating club.

The notation (NP) in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for infringing that rule. This changes RRS 60.1. (DP) denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee.

1 RULES

1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules, as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing, and the prescriptions and special regulations of Australian Sailing (Special Regulations) as amended.

1.2 All boats shall have a valid Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations Category 7, or higher, Equipment Audit Form. Equipment Audit Forms will expire on 30 June immediately following the date of the audit unless an extension is granted by the OA. Random equipment audits may be made throughout the season. Any boat failing to comply with equipment requirements may be subject to protest by the race committee.

1.3 RRS 51 is amended so that boats with movable or variable ballast (within the meaning of those terms in the Special Regulations) may move that ballast for the purpose of changing trim or stability.

1.4 RRS 52 is amended so that electric winches and canting keels may be adjusted using the boat's electrical system.

1.5 In the event of conflict between any of the rules or regulations, other than RRS, the sailing instructions will prevail. This changes RRS 63.5(c).

1.6 IRC Rule 22.4.2 shall not apply.

1.7 ORC Rule 200.1 shall not apply.

***2.* COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS**

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice boards located at MHYC, MYC, RANSA, RPEYC, RSYS and VYC. Notices will also be available on each club's website.

2.2 Lists of entries will be placed on the clubs' websites and official notice boards no later than two (2) hours before the start of the event.

2.3 The race committee intends to monitor VHF channel 73 and will use the radio to advise competitors of race information.

2.4 (DP) Boats which retire from a race before finishing are required to notify the race committee on VHF 73, or by phoning the conducting club. Contact numbers are located in clause 19 of this notice of race.

2.5 (DP) No other transmissions are permitted by competing yachts during each racing day from the first warning signal until the end of the race except in an emergency.

3. ADVERTISING

3.1 (DP) (NP) All races governed by this notice of race are subject to the advertising code as set out in World Sailing Regulation 20 (World Sailing Advertising Code) and any restrictions stated in class rules.

4. ELIGIBILITY

4.1 The series is open to self-righting single hull displacement yachts.

4.2 The helmsperson nominated on the entry form shall be deemed to be in charge of the boat. No change of helmsperson shall occur without the prior written consent of the Combined Clubs' race committee.

4.3 No boat shall start unless there is a minimum of two (2) persons on board.

4.4 All competitors helming or crewing shall conform to RRS 46. Any person who is not a financial member of an AS recognised yacht club must apply and receive a Sail Pass before racing to comply with RRS 46.

5 ENTRY

5.1 An invitation is extended to owners of eligible boats to enter the 2026/2027 Sydney Harbour Combined Clubs Inshore Series (CCIS) which will consist of ten (10) point score races.

5.2 Eligible boats may enter via their respective organising authority club's online entry process.

5.3 Series entries are to be received no later than 1700hrs Thursday 10 September 2026.

5.4 Casual entries may enter via the respective club's online entry process. Casual entries to be received no later than 1700hrs on the Thursday before the Saturday race.

6 ENTRY FEE

6.1 All boats block entered in their respective club's season point score series are not required to complete the online entry or pay the entry fee for individual races.

6.2 All other boats may block enter or casually enter individual races through their respective club's online entry system.

7 SCHEDULE OF RACES

7.1 The schedule for the seven races in the CCIS is:

Date	Race	Race Committee
12 September	Race 1	RSYS
26 September	Race 2	MHYC
10 October	Race 3	RPEYC
7 November	Race 4	RSYS/VYC
21 November	Race 5	MHYC/MYC
12 December	Race 6	RANSA
16 January	Race 7	RANSA
30 January	Race 8	MHYC
20 February	Race 9	RSYS
20 March	Race 10	RPEYC

7.2 The scheduled time of the first warning signal will be 1235 hrs.

8. DIVISIONS AND HANDICAPS

8.1 It is proposed that the following divisions will be formed for the series;

- ***Mixed Spinnaker Divisions***
- ***Mixed Non-spinnaker Divisions***

8.2 Entries will be allocated into divisions at the CCIS race committee's absolute discretion and such determination will not be grounds for protest or redress.

8.3 The CCIS race committee at its discretion may choose to add or delete divisions depending on entry numbers.

8.4 Divisions will be advised on the official list of entries available from each clubs' Sailing Office.

8.5 The handicap will be a Time Correction Factor (TCF) which is applied at the finish. Handicaps may be adjusted after each race has been finalised.

8.6 The CCIS race committee will determine a boat's handicap in relation to its performance in previous races. A boat's handicap will not be grounds for protest or redress. This changes RRS 60.1 and 61.1.

8.7 IRC handicaps will be based on the application of the IRC Time Correction Calculation (TCC) as displayed on the boat's IRC Certificate. Entrants of such boats should be familiar with the current RORC IRC Yearbook and its rules.

8.8 Boats intending to be scored in the ORC Club point score shall hold a current ORC Club or ORCi Certificate which shall be lodged with their respective club's Sailing Office not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the first race in which the boat intends to be scored. Racing under ORC Club handicap is an additional option to the TCF handicap referred to in clause 8.5 above.

8.9 Non-spinnaker divisions are not permitted to fly spinnakers. Headsails may be poled out but must be tacked to the foot of the forestay and fully hanked or attached to the forestay by a luff groove device. The forestay is as defined in the current World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing. Couta boats or similar craft are exempted from this provision where the forestay is integrated in the headsail luff.

9 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

9.1 Sailing instructions will be available by Wednesday 19th August 2026 from each participating club and will be posted on the clubs' websites.

10 RACING AREA

10.1 Racing shall be conducted on Port Jackson Sydney Harbour.

11 COURSES

11.1 Courses will be around harbour marks and islands as described in the sailing instructions.

12 SCORING

12.1 Scoring System - the Low Point System, RRS Appendix A, applies including the provisions of RRS Appendix A5.3, subject to the amendments detailed in clauses 12.2, 12.3 and 12.4.

12.2 When fewer than four (4) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

12.3 A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score when four (4) or more races have been completed, or her worst two (2) scores when eight (8) or more races have been completed.

12.4 Four (4) completed races are required to constitute a series.

12.5 All point scores are open to series entries only. This changes RRS Appendix A2.2.

12.6 An entrant in the CCIS which misses a race through competing in a CYCA Short Ocean Point Score race, a State or National Championship, or in any other major inshore regatta or series endorsed by the OA, shall be entitled to average points. Requests for average points shall be lodged via email to the conducting club within seven (7) days of the event and include a copy of the results. The maximum number of requests for average points by any one boat is limited to two (2) race days per series.

13 SAIL NUMBERS

13.1 Sail numbers shall comply with RRS 77 and the AS Prescription to RRS Appendix G which require sail numbers to be of a contrasting colour to the body of the sail and clearly legible. Boats infringing this rule may not be recorded as a finisher and such boats will be scored DNF.

13.2 A boat shall sail under the sail number advised when entering and shall display identical sail numbers on its sails. Where the RRS require spinnakers to display sail numbers, they shall be the sail numbers stated when entering.

13.3 The use of any sail displaying a different number shall be notified to the Sailing Office of the conducting club not later than two (2) hours before the start of the race.

13.4 (DP) A boat which displays an incorrect sail number and which has not notified the Sailing Office in accordance with clause 13.3 may be subject to protest by the race committee.

14 CHANGES AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

14.1 (DP) Any changes to hull, engine, propeller, trim, spars, sail area or significant changes to on-board skill level should be notified in writing to a participating club no later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race affected by the changes. This may result in a change of handicap and a boat failing to comply may be subject to action by the race committee in accordance with RRS 60.1.

14.2 (DP) When rating changes apply, the altered rating certificate shall be lodged with a participating club not later than 1500 hours on the day prior to the race affected by the change. A boat failing to comply may be subject to action by the race committee in accordance with RRS 60.1.

15 RESPONSIBILITIES

15.1 **Risk Warning** - The OA advises owners, skippers and anyone who participates in yachting events conducted by the OA that participation in the sport of yachting, whether racing or otherwise, can be

dangerous and can result in harm, personal injury and property damage. The OA is not responsible for any harm or injury suffered by any person in any yachting event of whatever nature conducted by the OA. All participants acknowledge that competing in yachting events may be dangerous and may result in harm or personal injury and they participate in such events aware of such dangers and voluntarily accept any risk of harm.

15.2 **Competitors Declaration** - It is the responsibility of owners and skippers to ensure that each boat nominated complies with the 'rules' as defined in the RRS. All competitors who enter in doing so have made a declaration to the OA that the nominated boat will at all times while racing comply with the requirements of Australian Sailing, this notice of race and the sailing instructions and that the owner or person who enters the boat:

(a) warranting to the OA that he or she will draw the attention of any person who competes on the boat the subject of the entry in any event conducted by the OA to the risk warning above; and

(b) acknowledging receipt of the risk warning above and releasing the OA from any claim or liability whatsoever for any harm or personal injury suffered by him or her, or by any person claiming through him or her, in any event conducted by the OA, and

(c) declaring to the OA that the nominated boat has not been grounded during the past twelve (12) months or, if it has been grounded, that the boat has been inspected to ensure that there is no damage which would detract from its structural integrity and safety.

15.3 **Disclaimer of Liability**

(a) All those taking part in these races do so at their own risk and responsibility. Specific attention is drawn to RRS 3 which states; "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". The OA, sponsors, class associations, the race committee and other race officials are not responsible for any damage or injury either afloat or ashore.

(b) The OA, sponsors, class associations, the race committee and other race officials are not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

(c) All those taking part in these races are reminded of their obligations as set out in the Australian Sailing Special Regulations clause 1.02 Owner's Responsibility of the Person in Charge.

16 OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

16.1 **(DP) Safety Requirements** – Where a participating club through which a boat has entered the series requires boats to provide skipper and crew contact details, those details should be provided prior to the boat's first warning signal on each day the boat intends to race.

16.2 While racing, boats shall not allow deck-stowed anchors to protrude outside of the hull limits. Anchors which are stowed as an integral part of the bowsprit and whose shaft is secured within a slot on the bow are permitted. Vessels in current Commercial Survey with anchors over 32kg, where the survey requirement to be able to release the anchor quickly cannot be met by any other means, are excepted.

17 INSURANCE

17.1 Boats shall have adequate current third-party property liability insurance cover and third party personal liability insurance cover of not less than $10,000,000 (ten million) for each separate incident. All insurance cover shall be maintained for the period of racing, and it is the owner's responsibility to ensure a current Certificate of Currency is lodged.

18 PRIZES

18.1 Series prizes shall be awarded to 1st, 2nd & 3rd in each division with a minimum of five series entrants which have started in not less than 50% of completed races of each series.

18.2 Presentation times for series awards will be advised closer to the time.

18.3 Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the organizing authority.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact;

- MHYC email: sailing@mhyc.com.au or telephone: (02) 9969 1244
- MYC email: sailing@myc.org.au or telephone: (02) 9977 4949
- RANSA email: sailing@ransa.com.au or telephone: (02) 9363 9939
- RSYS email: sailing@rsys.com.au or telephone: (02) 9017 0152
- RPEYC email: sailing@rpeyc.com.au or telephone (02) 9363 5809
- VYC email: vaucluseyachtclub@gmail.com or telephone (02) 9337 5775