



PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF RACE

WINDSURFER

SAIL PORT STEPHENS
- WINDSURFING
4 & 5 May 2024



A. Organising Authority and Location of Race

Organising Authority: Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC)

Regatta Headquarters: Bay Sailing Centre – 147b Soliders Point Road (Seaview Crescent)
Soldiers Point NSW 2317

on behalf of the Windsurfer Class Association of Australia and the Australian Windsurfing Association.

B. Rules

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) (2021 – 2024) and the Windsurfer Class rules, except where these are changed by the Notice of Race (NOR) or by the Sailing Instructions (SIs). The Windsurfing Fleet Racing Rules (Appendix B of the RRS) do NOT apply.

If there is conflict between the NOR and the SIs, the SIs will take precedence.

B.1. - Rule 13. - While Tacking

Rule 13 is changed to:

After a board passes head to wind, she shall keep clear of other boards until her sail has filled.

During that time rules 10, 11 and 12 do not apply. If two boards are subject to this rule at the same time, the one on the other's port side or the one astern shall keep clear.

B.2. - Rule 31. - Touching a Mark

Rule 31 is changed to:

While racing, a board shall not touch a starting mark before starting or a finishing mark after finishing. A board may touch a mark that begins, bounds or ends the leg of the course on which she is sailing.

B.3. - Rule 42. - Propulsion (Pumping)

As per Windsurfer Class rules, Rule 42 is changed to:

“A board shall be propelled only by the action of the wind on the sail, by the action of the water on the hull and by the unassisted actions of the competitor except that when:

(i) Course racing

and competitors are sailing to windward or on a close-hauled course, pumping (continuous and/or repetitive movement of the rig to induce wind-flow over the sail) is prohibited except for the first 30 seconds after the starting signal, at which time a horn will sound and pumping whilst sailing on an upwind course is no longer permitted. “

A member of the race committee or a designated observer who sees a competitor infringing these pumping restrictions may disqualify a competitor without a hearing.

Pumping is unrestricted while sailing downwind.

B.4. – Rule 44. - Penalties at the time of Incident

Rule 44 is changed to:

44.1 Taking a Penalty

A board may take a 360°-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing. However, if the board caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach, her penalty shall be to retire.

44.2 360°-Turn Penalty

After getting well clear of other boards as soon after the incident as possible, a board takes a 360°-Turn Penalty by promptly making a 360° turn. When a board takes the penalty at or near the finishing line, her hull shall be completely on the course side of the line before she finishes.

B.5. – Definition - Tack, Starboard or Port

Definition is changed to:

A board is on the tack, starboard or port, corresponding to the competitor's hand that would be nearer the mast if the competitor were in normal sailing position with both hands on the wishbone and arms not crossed.

A board is on starboard tack when the competitor's right hand would be nearer the mast and is on port tack when the competitor's left hand would be nearer the mast.

B.6. – Definition - Capsized

Definition is changed to:

A board is capsized when she is not under control because her sail or the competitor is in the water.

C. Eligibility

Windsurfer Class boards including Windsurfer LT, Windsurfer One Design and Original Windsurfers using class supplied and approved equipment.

All competitors shall:

1. Be paid up members of the Windsurfer Class Association of Australia (WCAA) for the 2023/24 membership year.

You can check if you are a current member of the WCAA [here](#)

You can join the WCAA here including taking the required insurance as detailed below [here](#)

2. Have current Australian Windsurfing Association (AWA) 3rd party liability insurance either through WCAA membership with insurance or membership of Windsurfing NSW (WNSW) or another affiliated Australian Windsurfing Association (AWA) state or club-based organisation.

You can check the AWA register [here](#)

3. Be a member of an Australian Sailing affiliated Club and have an active Australian Sailing Number

You can check the AS number register [here](#)

If you do not have an AS number you can register for a Sail Pass from the NCYC at \$10 per day – <https://www.ncyc.net.au/join-now/#sailpass>

4. Have a unique sail number, displayed in accordance with the Windsurfer Class Rules.

D. Entry Fee & Registration

Competitors will pay the prescribed entry fees as detailed below.

The event entry fee includes racing, and may include event merchandise, social event.

Early entry fees apply for entries received by 11.59pm on Thursday 18th April 2024.

The Standard Entry fee is the relevant category Early entry fee plus an additional \$25 for entry on the day.

No entries will be accepted after 09.30am on May 4th, 2024.

Competitor Entry Fees (\$AUD)	
Category A – Adult over 21 years of age	Early = \$95
Category B – Under 21 years OR a full-time student	Early = \$75
Standard Entry Fee (Enter online or in person by 09.30am on the first day of the event)	Early +\$25

Online Entry is now open via the Sail Port Stephens website –

<https://www.sailportstephens.com.au/bay-series/>

If the event is cancelled prior to the event due to COVID-19 restrictions in NSW a full refund will be provided to all competitors.

E. Charter Boards

A limited number of charter boards may be available.

For more information, contact Greg Johns at Windgenuity: wwindgen@bigpond.net.au

F. Registration

All competitors shall complete registration with the Organising Authority.

Registration will occur at Bay Sailing Centre between 0830 and 0930hrs on Saturday, 4th May 2024.

At Registration:

- o All competitors will have to sign an Entry Form which includes the Entry Declaration and Disclaimer of Liability;
- o All competitors will have their Third party liability (TPL) Insurance and AS number status checked;
- o Competitors under 18 years of age must have an 'Emergency Contact Form' and 'Media Consent Form', completed by their parent/guardian;
- o Male competitors will have their weight recorded;
- o Proof of age of a competitor may be checked, if required by the Organising Authority

G. Schedule

Day/Date	Event	Time	Location
Friday 19/05/2023	Welcome night	1800hrs	Cheeky Dog bar Bannisters Port Stephens
Saturday 20/5/2023	Registration	0830 – 0930hrs	BSC
	Briefing	1000hrs	
	Racing Session 1 - Warning Signal not before	1200hrs	
	Racing Session 2	PM	
	Daily Prizes and Lucky Door Prizes	1800hrs	Cheeky Dog bar Bannisters Port Stephens
Sunday 21/5/2023	Briefing	0930hrs	BSC
	Racing Session 1 - Warning Signal not before	1100hrs	
	Racing Session 2	PM	
	Prizegiving Ceremony	ASAP After Racing	Cheeky Dog bar Bannisters Port Stephens

****This schedule may be changed at any time by the OA.***

The event will be run on an 'on call' basis.

Competitors are strongly advised not to leave the vicinity of regatta site during racing sessions as decisions to race may be made quickly based on changing conditions or racing requirements.

Decisions will be made by the Organising Authority based on safety, conditions and requirements to complete the competition format.

Multiple briefings may be held, and changes may be made through verbal instructions or notices to competitors.

H. Competition Disciplines

Competition will be conducted in the discipline of Course Racing.

Target competition program is a maximum of 10 Course Races.

I. Competition Divisions

Racing will be conducted for **Open** and **Cruiser** divisions.

Cruiser division is for first time / returning racers, novices and more relaxed sailors and will sail a shorter course.

For Open divisions, the following gender & weight divisions will be scored:

Women – Women competitors will have the choice of entering Women's Division with no weight recording or may elect to be weighed and compete in the open men's division.

Men – A. Light / B. Medium / C. Heavy / D. Super Heavy

Weight Divisions will be allocated by the following method as per Class Rules:

Split Weights:

- (i) Male competitors will be divided into 3 or 4 categories of weight (A-D) of equal numbers, including Youth and Juniors.
- (ii) After the weighing procedure, in case the total number cannot be divided by four, the first category with one competitor more will be determined upon a random draw. In case two competitors have the same weight, the younger competitor will be considered the lighter.
- (iii) Before the start of the first race, a second weighing procedure may be called for the athletes close to the limits of the categories, in order to recheck the correct registered weight.
- (iv) Where there is a significant difference between cut-off weights and/or a number of competitor weights that are close to the limits between divisions, the Organising Authority may, in its absolute discretion, increase or decrease the number of competitors in a division to promote closer and fairer racing.

Weighing Procedure:

- (i) Weighing of competitors will be conducted during the event registration period on the official scales provided by the Organising Authority.
- (ii) Competitors will weigh in T-shirt and shorts only (no footwear) – with all pockets emptied.
- (iii) Competitors may be re-weighed at any time during an event at the discretion of the Organising Authority.
- (iv) If subsequent weighing of a competitor indicates a variation of more than 2 kilograms from the original weight that would cause a competitor to change weight division the Organising Authority will assess the circumstances and have the option to change the competitors' division.

J. Equipment

It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that their equipment conforms to the current Class Rules.

You can download the Class Rules [here](#)

Equipment inspection may be undertaken at any time during the Event by the Organising Authority to ensure compliance with Class Rules.

Those in Cruiser division may use:

- (i) sails of less than 5.0 metres of any make or model including the Class 4.5 trainer sail
- (ii) masts and booms of any make and model

K. Sailing Instructions

It is the intention to have the Sailing Instructions (SIs) including course format and racing procedure available on the online noticeboard by Monday 29th April 2024.

Further instructions may be provided verbally at Briefings and also by Notices to Competitors.

L. Scoring

Course Racing

The *Low Point System* - RRS Appendix A5.2 Scoring will apply.

Three (3) course races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

When 4 or fewer course races have been completed a board's series course racing score will be the total of her race scores.

When between 5 to 7 or more course races have been completed, a board's series course racing score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score ("one drop").

When 8 or more course races have been completed, a board's series course racing score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores ("two drops").

M. Buoyancy

All competitors shall wear whilst competing in course racing personal flotation devices which are in good condition and are in accordance with the specifications approved by the National Authority at or above the minimum level required (ie L50/ level 50) or as approved by the Organising Authority (changes rules 27.1 and 40.1.) Attention is drawn to rule 1.2.

N. Trophies and Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each division including: Women, Light Weight, Medium Weight, Heavy Weight, Super Heavy, Youth/Junior, Raceboard, Ancient Mariner, Cruisers

Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the OA

O. Responsibility

Attention is drawn to Fundamental Rule 3 - Decision to Race, which states "The responsibility for a board's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

It is the competitor's sole decision to enter this event and to start and or to continue to compete. By way of entering, competitors acknowledge and agree that participation in this event can be dangerous and accept that their participation is at their exclusive risk in every respect. In addition, by way of entering competitors shall hold harmless the organising authority, its officers, members, servants and agents and all other competitors in respect of all liability for injury to their person and or loss or damage to their property howsoever arising from their participation or

intended participation in this event and acknowledge and accept that the organising authority, its officers, members, servants, agents and other competitors accept no responsibility in respect to loss of life, personal injury or loss or damage to property which may be sustained by reason of a competitor's participation or intended participation in this event or arising for whatever reason in connection with this event.

Competitors will agree to a disclaimer of liability as a condition of entry.

P. Advertising

Competitors may be obliged by the Organising Authority to display advertising of sponsors on sails and/or other equipment and/or on their persons in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20.

Q. Media Rights

Competitors give full rights and permission to the Organising Authority and / or Windsurfer Class Association of Australia for use and broadcasting of photographs or videos of persons or boards competing in the event including, but not limited to, spots on television, online mediums and social media and can be used for editorial purpose, promotion or printed information.

R. Additional Information

Updates will be provided via any of the following methods – email, social media or website.

SPS Event Website: <https://www.sailportstephens.com.au/>

Windsurfer Class website: www.windsurferclassaus.com

Windsurfer Class NSW Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/windsurferclassnsw>

For specific questions about Bay Sailing Centre and local issues:

Jack Buchan

M: 0418 257 828

E: sailing@ncyc.net.au

For general Class matters, event information, entry queries and membership:

Al Haynes - Class Rep 0438 336 495

Peter Doolan - Class Rep 0468 300 299

Scotty O'Connor - Class Rep 0402 297 065