



PORT STEPHENS TROPHY

Incorporating

**NSW YACHTING CHAMPIONSHIPS - IRC
TP52 GOLD CUP SERIES - TPR
ROB HAMPSHIRE SERIES - ORC**

26th – 28th April 2024

Regatta Director: Paul O'Rourke

Event Director: Jennifer Hughes

Regatta Promotions: Mark Rothfield

Protest Chairman: Damien Boldyrew (IJ)

Race Officer: Denis Thompson (IRO)



**NEWCASTLE CRUISING
YACHT CLUB**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC) as the organising authority will conduct Sail Port Stephens 2024 on Port Stephens and nearby waters from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th April 2024.

1. RULES

- 1.1 Sail Port Stephens will be governed by the "rules" as defined in the 2021 - 2024 World Sailing (WS) Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS), the 2022 IRC rule (parts A, B & C), the ORC Rule, where applicable and the applicable Class Rules, except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions (SI).
- 1.2 Alterations to the Rules:
The following alterations have been made to the rules: -
RRS 51: A boat with movable ballast 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.
RRS 52 is amended to permit powered winches for boats over 14.0m LOA.
For W/L courses, the Two-Turns penalty RRS 44.1 is changed to a One Turn penalty except for infringements that occur within the zone of a rounding mark.
- 1.3 Backstay flags and hull decals may be provided by the event sponsors. If provided, Backstay flags shall be flown from the backstay at all times whilst racing and hull decals shall be attached to the topsides approximately 500 millimetres from both sides of the bow and 50 millimetres below the gunwale. Boats failing to comply with this sailing instruction may only be protested by the Race Committee. This alters RRS 60.1, 60.3 and 60.5
- 1.4 **SAFETY**
AS Special Regulations Category 5 will apply to all racing.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility is in accordance with the Notice of Race including all amendments.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted to the On-Line Regatta Notice Board, www.sailportstephens.com.au Notices may also be posted on the notice board located near the Regatta Office, at Sirena Seaside Restaurant (formerly Broughtons), d'Albora Marina, Nelson Bay.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Will be posted on the Regatta Notice Board at least one (1) hour before the scheduled start time of the first race for which they will take effect.
- 4.2 Changes to the sailing instructions made afloat will be indicated by the display of Code Flag 3rd Substitute accompanied by two sound signals. The change will be communicated orally on the designated course VHF channel or in writing by notice on the notice board or by SMS.

5. COMMUNICATION

The Race Committee may broadcast the course to be sailed, names/sail numbers of OCS boats, and/or other information of interest to competitors on VHF channel 69. The Race Committee may also transmit course information by Short Message Service (SMS). Any failure of, or defect in, such a broadcast will not be grounds for redress. This alters RRS 60.1 and 62.

6. CLASS FLAGS & BACKSTAY FLAGS

Class	Class Flag	Backstay
Rating & TP52 Class Div 1	Light Blue	Light Blue
Rating Class Div 2	Pink	Pink

7. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 7.1 Will be displayed from the flagpole at regatta headquarters at the floating café at The Anchorage. Regatta HQ will be displaying SPS Regatta Headquarters signage.
- 7.2 Code Flag "AP" (Answering Pendant), with two sounds (one sound when lowered) means, "The race is postponed. The Warning Signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after this signal is lowered". (This changes RRS Race Signals "AP")

8. COURSES AND MARKS

The course to be sailed will be selected from the list of courses listed in Appendix "A" and will be indicated by the display of a numeral board from the Starting Vessel.

Description of Marks

Windward / Leeward Races	
Mark	Description
Start / Finish mark	Black & White inflatable buoy
Marks 1 & Gate	White Pantenius inflatable buoys
Mark 2	Orange inflatable buoy
Change of Course for Mark 1	Yellow inflatable buoy
Change of Course for Mark 2	Orange inflatable buoy
Passage Race	
Marks are as described in Appendix "B"	

9. OFFICIAL VESSELS

Official Vessels may display a sponsor's flag for identification.

10. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Races will be started in the order of:-

Rating Division 1 TP52 then

Rating Division 2

Date	Race no.	Course area	Course type	Time of 1 st Warning Signal
FRIDAY 26 th	Races 1, 2 & 3	Course Area "A"	W/L	1125 hrs
SATURDAY 27 th	4	Start Course Area "E"	Passage	
SUNDAY 28 th	Races 5 & 6	Course Area "A"	W/L	

The last time for a Warning Signal on Sunday 28th will be 1400 hrs.

11. THE START

- 11.1 Boats starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes RRS A5.1.
- 11.2 Course Area "A" will be approximately one mile to the north of Cabbage Tree Island.
- 11.3 The alternate Course area will be "Course Area "B"
- 11.4 The race committee will notify competitors of the Course Area by SMS no later than 1.5 hours before the start of a race.

12. CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE.

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change, a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

13. TIME LIMIT

- 13.1 The time limit for W/L races is 2 hours from the starting signal. Time limit for the Passage race is 5 hours or sunset whichever is earliest.
- 13.2 Boats still racing when her time limit expires will be scored points equal to the number of boats finishing within the time limit plus 30% of the number of starters rounded to the nearest whole number, but no more points than the number of starters. Such boats will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). This changes RRS 35, A5.1.

14. PROTEST AND REQUEST FOR REDRESS

- 14.1 Protests shall be lodged at the Regatta Office (Regatta HQ) at the floating café at The Anchorage, within 90 minutes of the finish time of the last boat in her class in the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. Protest forms will be available from Regatta Headquarters.
- 14.2 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as a witness. This will constitute official notice to all posted parties. Hearings will be held in the Protest Committee room located at the floating marina office at The Anchorage.
- 14.3 RRS 66 is changed by adding: "On her last day of racing, a party to the hearing may ask for a reopening no later than half an hour after being informed of the decision."
- 14.4 In accordance with RRS 64.2 the Jury may award a disqualification or a scoring penalty which may include no penalty.

15. ARBITRATION

- 15.1 Arbitration in accordance with RRS Appendix "T" will be used.
- 15.2 Protests not resolved by Arbitration, for any subsequent protest hearing the penalty given for a breach of a rule of Part 2 may be the arbitration penalty.
- 15.3 The arbitrator may be a member of any subsequent protest committee or may observe and give testimony to the protest committee. This changes RRS 63.3(a).

16. RESULTS

Results will be posted on the On-Line Regatta Notice Board at www.sailportstephens.com.au as soon as practicable each day.

17. SCORING SYSTEM

The "Low Point System" RRS Appendix A will apply except all race scores will be counted. One completed race shall constitute a series.

18. HANDICAPS

- 18.1 IRC handicaps will be the boat's TCC rating as supplied by AS at the close of entries.
- 18.2 TPR handicaps will be as provided by the TP52 Owner Association.
- 18.3 ORC handicaps will be Time on Time as stated on each boat's certificate.

19. CHARTS

A current or fully amended paper chart AUS209 (recommended AUS810 is carried also) or Electronic Chart System (ECS) covering the sailing area shall be carried on board. All electronic chart data is to be downloaded to an ECS or available on a data storage device prior to starting and not dependent on internet or phone service connection.

20. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 20.1 All those taking part in races conducted by NCYC do so at their own risk and responsibility.
- 20.2 The NCYC is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.
- 20.3 Yacht owners, skippers and crew should be aware that there may be uncharted obstacles under the waters on which races are held. Such uncharted obstacles include reefs, rocks and sand bars which could be a danger to yachts and crews. NCYC accepts no responsibility for any damage to or loss of any yacht or for injury to or death of any crew person which may occur as a result of a collision with any underwater obstacle. All participants compete at their own risk.
- 20.4 Attention is drawn to WS Fundamental Rule 3: Decision to race: "A boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or to continue racing."

21. TROPHIES

- 21.1 Trophies will be awarded to winners of each division or class in a series.

21.2 Presentation of Prizes and Trophies

Prizes and trophies for the Port Stephens Trophy; NSW Yachting Championships, TP52 Gold Cup and Rob Hampshire ORC Series will be presented at prizegiving at the floating café at The Anchorage on Sunday 28th April as soon as practical after racing.

21.3 Schedule of Trophies

TROPHY	CLASS	PLACE
NSW Yachting Championships	IRC Division 1	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd
NSW Yachting Championships	IRC Division 2	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd
Rob Hampshire Trophy Series	ORC Division	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd
TP52 Trophy	TP52 TPR	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd

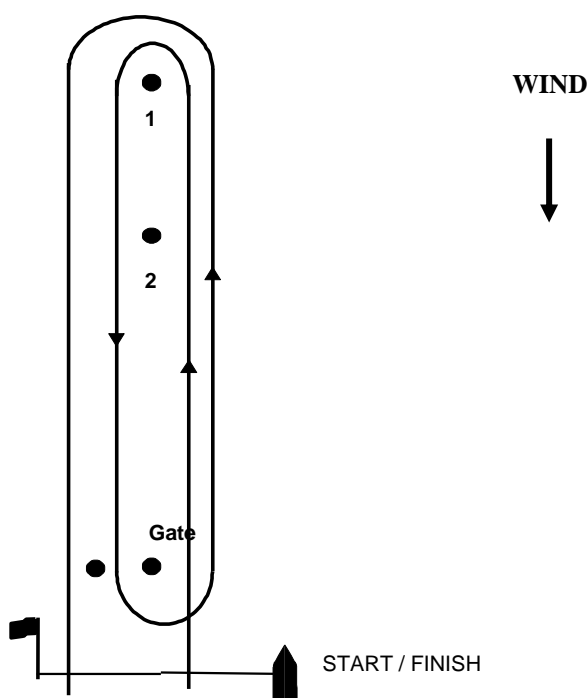
APPENDIX "A"

COURSES & MARKS

1 WINDWARD / LEEWARD (W/L) COURSES

- 1.1 The starting line will be between the signal mast, displaying an orange flag on the committee vessel and a port-end starting mark.
- 1.2 A starting inner limit mark may be laid near the Starting Vessel and shall be left on the same side as the Starting Vessel. A breach of this SI is open to protest by the Race Committee only. This alters RRS 60.1 and 60.3.
- 1.3 The magnetic bearing to the first mark may be displayed from the Starting Vessel at the warning signal.
- 1.4 For all courses, boats shall sail between the Gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either Gate mark. If only one Gate mark is set, boats shall round the mark to port.
- 1.5 An offset mark may be laid approximately 5 boat lengths to port of Mark 1 or Mark 2. If laid, boats shall round the offset mark to port after rounding Mark 1 or Mark 2.
- 1.6 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 1.7 The finishing line will be between the signal mast, displaying a blue flag on the Finishing Vessel and a nearby finishing mark.
Please note:- If sailing in Course Area "B", the finishing line may be moved upwind to be near mid-course
- 1.8 Mark 2 will not be laid if it is not required.
- 1.9 The diagram below shows the course to sail. The Course Number to be sailed will be indicated by the display of a numeral board on the Starting Vessel.

COURSE No.	COURSE TO SAIL (All marks, except the gate, to Port)
1	START - 1 - FINISH
2	START - 1 - Gate - 1 - FINISH
3	START - 1 - Gate- 1 - Gate - 1 - FINISH
4	START - 2 - FINISH
5	START - 2 - Gate - 2 - FINISH
6	START - 2 - Gate - 2 - Gate - 2 - FINISH



APPENDIX "B"

PASSAGE COURSES (Refer Chart AUS810)

B.1 Marks and Course

The tables below show the marks of the course and order in which marks are to be passed and the side each mark is to be rounded.

B.2 THE FINISH

The finish line will be between a flagpole displaying a blue flag on the western breakwater of d'Albora Marina and a black and white inflatable buoy laid to the north. The finish line may be moved eastward to be close inside the entrance. If the finishing line is moved, boats shall finish between the nearby finish mark and the flagpole displaying a blue flag on the finish boat.

B.3 Description of Marks

COURSE MARKS	MARK DESCRIPTION
Boughton Island Mark	White buoy at approx S 32° 38.11', E 152° 18.05'
Cabbage Tree Island	Approx S 32° 41.25', E 152° 13.55'
Providence North Mark	Yellow buoy at approx S 32° 38.18', E 152° 13.38'
Providence South Mark	White buoy at approx S 32° 40.00', E 152° 12.00'

B.4 Passage Courses

Course 11 (Indicated by Numeral Board)

Distance: 25.1 nm approx

COURSE MARK	REQUIRED SIDE
STARTING LINE	Course area "E"
Cabbage Tree Island	Port
Boughton Island Mark	Port
Providence North Mark	Port
Providence South Mark	Port
FINISH	Nelson Bay

Course 12 (Indicated by Numeral Board)

Distance: 18.8 nm approx

COURSE MARK	REQUIRED SIDE
STARTING LINE	Course area "E"
Cabbage Tree Island	Port
Providence North Mark	Port
Providence South Mark	Port
FINISH	Nelson Bay

Course 13 (Indicated by Numeral Board)

Distance: 15.1 nm approx

COURSE MARK	REQUIRED SIDE
STARTING LINE	Course area "E"
Cabbage Tree Island	Port
Providence South Mark	Port
FINISH	Nelson Bay

Course 14 (Indicated by Numeral Board)

Distance: 30.7 nm approx

COURSE MARK	REQUIRED SIDE
STARTING LINE	Course area "E"
Cabbage Tree Island	Port
Boughton Island Mark	Port
Providence South Mark	Port
Cabbage Tree Island	Port
Boughton Island Mark	Port

FINISH	Nelson Bay
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Port Stephens Course Areas

