



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS for the

Gee Wizz Vincent Open Classic

Friday 26th, Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th

January 2024

Port Vincent Sailing Club are the Organising Authority for this event.

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing. 2021-2024. The prescriptions and Special Regulations of Yachting Australia will apply.
- 1.2 All competitors must comply with the relevant safety equipment requirements including the regulations under the S.A. Harbours and Navigation Act.
- 1.3 The race will be open to experienced skippers over the age of 16 years of age, and their crew unless exempted in writing by the Organising Authority. Age shall be as of 1st December 2023.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the clubrooms.
- 2.2 Other notices may be broadcast via radio and/or text message to all competitors.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 2 hours before the warning signal for the next scheduled race.

4. REGISTRATION

- 4.1 Registration must take place prior to the Morning Briefing on Day 1 of the event.
- 4.2 A Competitors Briefing will be held at 1130 hours in the vicinity of the clubrooms.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Race Program

<i>Event</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Warning Signal</i>
<i>Races 1&2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>26th Jan</i>	<i>From 1300 hrs</i>
<i>Race 3 & 4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>27th Jan</i>	<i>Not before 1000 hrs</i>
<i>Race 5&6</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>28th Jan</i>	<i>Not before 1030hrs</i>

Note: On Saturday 27th boats eligible for the coastal race (Cat 6) may do so. Other divisions will race one or two races within the stated race area.

- 5.2 There will be a maximum of 6 races to be sailed for the series, with a maximum of 3 to be sailed in any one session.
- 5.3 Any racing day may be used for resails of races not completed. Notifications are made in accordance with sailing instruction 3.
- 5.3 When more than one race or sequence or races, for two or more divisions will be held on the same day, the warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable. To alert boats that another race or series of races will begin soon, flag AP will be displayed with one sound signal at least **1 minute** before a warning signal is displayed.
- 5.4 On the last day of the regatta no warning signal will be made after 1400hrs.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE AND AFLOAT

- 6.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the 'top deck' on the Eastern side of the club along with a sound signal.
- 6.2 Signals made afloat will be displayed on a flag crosstree erected at the stern of START/FINISH COMMITTEE VESSEL along with a sound signal.

- 6.3 When the AP flag is displayed ashore, the 1 MINUTE will be replaced with 'not less than 30 MINUTES', when the AP flag is displayed afloat the 1 MINUTE is maintained.

7. RACING AREAS

- 7.1 On the waters in the vicinity of Port Vincent Sailing Club for the weekend of the event. The area is approximately bound by the 'Spit', the '3 mile' Beacon and 'Dowcer Bluff' unless otherwise described.
- 7.2 The area of the 'coastal race (Cat 6)' is from the area above as well as the coastal waters Southward to Stansbury jetty, or Northward toward Black Point, but not further than 2NM from shore.
- 7.3 See diagram(s) provided in the clubhouse area.

8. THE COURSE

- 8.1 The diagrams of the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left, will be displayed on the club course board and made available to all competitors.

9. MARKS

- 9.1 All course marks and start/finish marks will be as advised by the R.O. of the club on the day, at the briefing before the first race. This will be displayed on the course board.
- 9.2 New marks, will be indicated by a rescue craft showing Flag M.

10. THE START

- 10.1 Races will be started using the following sequence.

Signal	Flag/Signal/Sound	Minutes to start
Warning	Class/Division flag flown with sound at	5
Preparatory	Preparatory flag flown with sound at	4
One Minute	Preparatory flag removed with 1 long sound	1
Start	Class flag removed with 1 sound	0

- 10.2 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep well clear of the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 10.3 A boat starting later than **5 minutes** after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes rules A4.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 Rules 44.1 and 44.2 shall apply. Yachts in the multihull division complete 1-turn penalties.

12. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 12.1 For 'bay' races, each race shall be of approximately 60mins.
- 12.2 The target time for back-to-back races will be 45-60 minutes. For back-to-back races, if no boat has passed Mark 1 within 30 minutes the race will be abandoned. This does not apply to the coastal race. A 'Coastal Race' will have a target time of 120-240 minutes. Failure to meet target times will not be grounds for protest. Except for the coastal race, boats failing to finish within 25 minutes after the first boat in their Division sails the course and finishes will be scored 'Did Not Finish'. This changes rules 35 and A4.
- 12.3 For the 'coastal race (Cat 6)' races any boats failing to finish by 1700hrs will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing, this changes RRS 35, A4 & A5. The racecourse maybe shortened at the discretion of the Race Officer (RO) at any point along the racecourse.

- 12.4 The 'coastal race (CAT 6)' course has been set to keep competitors within 2 nautical miles of the coastline. If competitors proceed further offshore, they must comply with the South Australian Department for Infrastructure and Transport-Regulations for unprotected waters.

13 WIND SPEED LIMITS

- 13.1 The wind speed, measured on the course area approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of any race, will average not less than 5 knots nor more than 25 knots, the latter to be considered in conjunction with the prevailing sea conditions. **The RO reserves the right to abandon racing upon notification of a weather warnings from the BOM for the racing area.**

14 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 14.1 Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests shall be delivered before 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 14.2 The same time limit applies to requests for redress and to protests by the race committee about incidents they observe in the racing area.
- 14.3 Notices, including protests by the race committee under rule 61.1(b), will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 14.4 Breaches of instructions, 20, 24 and 25 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.

15. SCORING

- 15.1 The Low Point scoring system of the Racing Rules of Sailing, Appendix A will apply.
- 15.2 Starting handicaps will be based on the latest Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club Class Based handicaps.
- 15.3 There will be **no** drops for worse scores across the series.
- 15.4 3 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

16 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 16.1 Competitors intending to start shall also report to the committee boat (when on station) prior to the warning signal for each day of racing. All competitors shall hail the committee boat with their sail number and receive verbal acknowledgment. Any boat failing to report as specified herein may be scored as DNC.
- 16.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee/course officials as soon as possible.
- 16.3 The race management committee must have a list of the full names or all crew on board each vessel if changed since registration.

17. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 17.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 17.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved by the race committee.
- 17.3 Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity. If damage occurs on the water, equipment may be substituted before the following race and written permission shall be requested before the end of protest time on the same day.

18. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 18.1 This event is run under Australian Sailing Cat 6 safety regulation requirement.

- 18.2 On the water, a boat can be instructed by a member of the Race Committee (RC) or the RO to undergo a safety inspection/audit.
- 18.3 All competing boats shall and must comply with the relevant safety requirements including South Australian Department for Infrastructure and Transport-Regulations.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 19.1 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. Boats may monitor emergency channels or channels used by the race committee. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 19.2 The broadcast channels for the race committee will be provided via the course board at briefing.

20. PRIZES

- 20.1 Prizes shall be awarded at the discretion of the Port Vincent Sailing Club Race Committee.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 21.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 21.2 The Organising Authority is not responsible for the seaworthiness of an entry or for the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment or for the proficiency of the crew.
- 21.3 Competitors indemnify the Organising Authority, Race Committee, all clubs, associations, government agencies, workers, helpers, supporters, volunteers, and all associated with planning, organising, executing, supporting, etc., the event from any claim in the case of death, injury, illness, or loss.

22. INSURANCE

- 22.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000 maintained for the entire event. Each yacht must present a valid policy number at registration if requested.