
Westernport Yacht Club Inc.

Balnarring Beach, Victoria, Australia

ABN 83 914 458 467 AIN A0008717T



Sailing Instructions

For Off-the-Beach Sailing Events

2023 - 2024 Sailing Season

Organising Authority: Westernport Yacht Club Inc.

Race Committee: Sailing Committee of Westernport Yacht Club Inc.

Rules

1.1 Racing Rules

The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS), as amended, the prescriptions and special regulations of Yachting Australia, and the rules of the relevant Class Associations, and these Sailing Instructions will govern yacht racing and other sailing events at Westernport Yacht Club Inc. (WYC).

Racing at WYC is designated Category A in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20, Advertising Code.

1.2 Safety Regulations

Attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3, *Decision to Race*: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone”.

This responsibility also applies to other sailing events conducted by the Club.

RRS 2021-24 Yachting Australia Special Regulations Part 2 - Off The Beach Boats will apply.

When racing, failure to comply with YA Special Regulation 5.01- Personal Buoyancy may result in disqualification without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1

All crews shall be aware of the location for attaching a towline to the boat and shall be able to demonstrate this.

The race committee may inspect a boat or her equipment at any time for compliance with RRS, class rules and these sailing instructions. If instructed by the race committee, a boat on the water shall proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

1.3 Disclaimer Of Liability

Competitors participate in racing entirely at their own risk. (See RRS 3, Decision to Race).

Westernport Yacht Club Inc. and its Office Bearers (The Organising Authority) will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after any sailing event.

1.4 Insurance

Each skipper shall ensure his or her boat has current third-party liability insurance with a recommended minimum cover of AUD \$5,000,000 per event or the equivalent. Evidence of insurance shall be submitted with the race entry.

A sailing school student or club member sailing a club owned boat insured by the club is exempt from this requirement.

1.5 Variations to Sailing Instructions

For sailing events other than the Series Races as set out in the Events Schedule (or equivalent), the Sailing Committee shall provide a Variation to Sailing Instructions for each of these events. These shall show the special rules and conditions that apply to the events.

2 Schedule of Races and other Sailing Events

Refer to the current WYC Events Schedule (or equivalent), for the Schedule of Sailing Events.

The race committee may reschedule abandoned races to be re-sailed.

3 General – All events

3.1 Qualification of Entrants

Entrants shall comply with Part 6 of RRS.

3.2 Lodgment of Entries for Events

Club members may enter for the year or separately for each race or series, by registering using the *Sailor App* and completing the associated insurance and compliance declaration. Failure to meet the insurance and compliance conditions may result in refusal of entry. Club Members under 18 years old must provide parental consent.

Club members shall submit an amended registration form whenever details change.

Visitors who are members of other clubs affiliated to Yachting Australia may enter club events by submitting an entry via the *Sailor App*. An entry fee of \$10.00 per race or group of back-to-back races may apply. Competing visitors under 18 years old must provide parental consent.

Entries shall be lodged using the app no later than 60 minutes prior to scheduled time for the first race of a session.

3.3 Signing On and Signing Off

As part of the safety procedure, each skipper shall sign on before and sign off after each race/race session or other sailing event.

For the first race of the season *each skipper shall complete a registration using the Sailor App. Please note a separate registration is required for each possible configuration of the boat.*

Signing On

On the day of a sailing event, skippers shall sign on using the Sailor App. A skipper in a series who does not sign on within the time limit for entries will be scored Did Not Compete (DNC)

Novices shall similarly complete a Sailor App entry for each race, sequence of back-to-back races or other sailing event to show which boat they are sailing on and with whom.

Retiring

The skipper of a boat that retires from a race or other sailing event shall notify the Sailing Officer or the Race Scorer appointed for the day as soon as possible, and sign off "DNF". A skipper unable to return to the clubhouse shall promptly telephone the club on 5983 5675.

Signing Off

For calendar events and series, Sign-off must be completed within 60 minutes of coming off the water. A race official may do this on behalf of a competitor, but each sailor remains ultimately responsible.

For other events, sign on/off procedure will be outlined in the NoR or sailing instructions. Sailor App will be used in most cases. Each skipper shall sign off within 60 minutes of the last boat finishing the event.

When signing off, the finishing status of the boat shall be shown:

DNS	= Did Not Start	DNF	= Did Not Finish
FIN	= Finished	RAF	= Retired After Finishing
DNC	= Did not compete	DSQ	= Disqualified

A skipper who does not sign off within the time limit for a race will receive a scoring penalty of one place in that race, calculated in accordance with Rule 44.3(c)

3.4 ***Notices to Competitors***

Notices to Competitors will be delivered via the Sailor App.

They may also be posted on the official Notice Board located on the first floor of the WYC clubhouse.

3.5 ***Changes and Variations to Sailing Instructions***

Any change or variation to the sailing instructions will be posted at least one hour before the advertised time of the event on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the Schedule of Races will be posted on Sailor App, the WYC website www.westernport.org.au and or the notice board by 1700 hours on the day before it will take effect.

When a change has been posted code flag L will be displayed ashore and a sound signal or amplified announcement may be made.

3.6 *Signals Made Ashore*

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag pole adjacent to the Race Box.

3.7 *Postponement*

When Code Flag AP is displayed ashore, the first warning signal for a race will be made not less than 30 minutes after AP is lowered. This modifies RRS race signal AP.

3.8 *Abandonment*

When a signal to abandon the race or other sailing event is made ashore, in addition to flag signals and sounds, an announcement may be made by the Race Officer or their delegate..

4 Scheduled Races – Spring & Summer Series

4.1 Divisions

Boats shall be entered according to the following Divisions, except where separate Class races are scheduled:

Division and Numeral Pennant	Classes
1	Catamarans with Yardstick up to and including 88
2	Monohulls with Yardstick up to 119
3	Monohulls with Yardstick of 120 to 159
4	Monohulls with Yardstick of 160 and greater
5	Catamarans with Yardstick of 89 and greater
6	Novice Division: Skippers or crews who have been sailing for less than 12 months, as specified by the Club Handicapper.

The Yardsticks for Off the Beach Classes are published each year by Yachting Australia, and are available at <https://www.sailing.org.au/vic/>

Non-standard boats and boats not currently listed by YA will be allocated a yardstick by the Club Handicapper.

Novices entering in Division 6 shall have their cards so marked and endorsed by the Club Handicapper. All novices will race together in Division 6 with a common start, yardstick will apply to boats entered in novice racing.

Numeral pennants will signify Divisions and have no other meaning.

4.2 Boat / Skipper Combinations

Entrants in Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5

Each entry in these divisions shall consist of a boat, skipper and crew combination. The skipper shall helm throughout each handicap race and each race in a Series for the results to count.

A member wishing to use a Club owned boat in a novice series may enter any available boat. If that boat becomes unavailable for a subsequent race in the series the skipper may change to another Club owned boat of the same class.

In other circumstances competitors may only change boats during a series providing both boats are the same class and after receiving written approval from the Race Committee, also the personal handicap will be amended and start again for the new boat.

Entrants in Division 6 – Novice

Novice races are organized in a flexible way so that a novice may sail in each race with a different partner, or on a different boat, and either as skipper or crew.

4.3 Racing Area

The racing area will be Westernport Bay in the vicinity of Westernport Yacht Club Inc. or such other location shown for the event in the Schedule of Races.

4.4 Courses for Races

The courses to be sailed are set out in Attachment B.

Courses to be sailed, including whether a Back-to-Back or a single race or an Inner Course, an Outer Course, or a Commodores Cup Course is to be sailed, will be shown on the Course Notice Board in the training/briefing room at least 20 minutes before the warning signal for a race.

4.5 Shortened Course

The course may be shortened by one of the following methods, which change RRS 32.2:

(i) If Code Flag "S" (accompanied by 2 sound signals) is attached to or positioned in the vicinity of a mark of the course still to be rounded by the leading boat then all boats shall round the mark and **proceed directly to the Finishing Line**. The Finish mark shall be left to port (4.11). If a Division flag is also displayed with Code Flag "S", then the shortened course shall apply only to that Division.

or

(ii) If the Race Committee Signal Boat is stationed adjacent to a mark of the course and flies both code flags "S" and "F" (accompanied by 2 sound signals) the relocated finishing line will be between this mark and the Race Committee Signal Boat.

4.6 Marks for Series Races

Marks 1, 2, & 3 will be cylindrical orange self-inflating buoys. Mark 1 will be a yellow buoy of the same configuration. See 4.11 'The Finish' for details of the Finishing Mark.

4.7 The Start

4.7a Warning Signal

The Warning Signal for the first Division or Class will be displayed at approximately the time listed in the Event Schedule / Calendar.

4.7b Starting Sequence

Races will be started with the Warning Signal being given 3 minutes before the Starting Signal.

Signal	Time Prior to Start	Flag	Sound
Course	10 minutes (approx.)	Red or green flag – port or starboard	None
On Station	8 minutes (approx.)	Orange	1 sound
Warning	3 minutes	Division flag(s)	1 sound
Preparatory	2 minutes	P, I, Z, Z with I, or black flag	1 sound
One minute	1 minute	Preparatory flag removed	1 long sound
Starting	0 minutes	Division flag removed	1 sound

The warning signal for each succeeding Division or Class will be the preceding division starting signal.

The Race Committee may combine Divisions for a Start by displaying 2 or more Division flags together.

4.7c Back-to-Back Races

When two or more sequences of races will be held back-to-back, the warning signal for the next sequence of races will be made as soon as practicable after the last boat finishes the previous sequence, or after the time limit, whichever occurs first. ***To alert boats that a further race will be conducted, code flag L will be displayed on the start boat. The REMOVAL of code flag 'L' will be taken to mean that once the current race is complete, no further racing will occur in that session.***

4.8 Starting Line

Inner & Outer Courses

The starting line will be between a mast flying the course flag on the Race Committee Boat and Mark 3, the common leeward mark of the course.

Commodores Cup Course

The starting line will be between a mast flying the ORANGE flag on the Race Committee Boat and a small cylindrical blue inflatable buoy nearby.

Clearance Buoy

A clearance buoy may be moored near or streamed from the Race Committee Boat from which the starting line extends. The buoy may not be on the Starting Line. For the purposes of the RRS definition *Mark*, the buoy shall be part of the Race Committee Boat and when starting boats shall leave this buoy on the same hand as the Race Committee Boat. Any boat touching the buoy or passing between it and the Race Committee Boat will be deemed to have touched the Race Committee Boat.

4.9 At the Start

A boat whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.

For a race to start a minimum of 2 boats of a division or class must be in the vicinity of the starting area prior to the warning signal.

A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes RRS Appendix A Rule A4

4.10 Changing the Next Leg of the Course

A change to the length of a leg will not be signaled. RRS 33 (b) will not apply.

4.11 The Finish

Inner & Outer Courses

The Finishing Line will be between a line on the Race Box window and the Finishing Mark. This mark consists of red and white horizontal stripes, on which Code Flag "F" MAY be flown.

The Finishing Mark shall be left to port as a boat finishes.

Commodores Cup Course

The Finishing Line will be between a mast flying the BLUE flag on the Race Committee Boat and a blue cylindrical inflatable buoy nearby.

Boats shall not cross the start/finish line between the race committee boat and the orange buoy except when starting or finishing

4.11a

At the Race Committee's discretion, boats may be allocated a finishing position and be directed to return to the starting area without crossing the finishing line. This changes RRS 28

4.12 Time Limit

4.12a Commencement

The time limit for each race begins at the starting signal for the Division or Class.

4.12b Individual Races

The time limit for each individual race will be 120 minutes. An individual race is a race that stands alone in race session and is not immediately followed by a subsequent race.

A boat failing to finish an individual race within 20 minutes of the first boat of that division finishing or within the race time limit, whichever is later, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF).

4.12c Back to Back Races

The time limit for each back-to-back race will be 60 minutes.

The length of each leg may be shortened for the race.

A boat failing to finish a back-to-back race within 10 minutes after the first boat of its Division finishes or within the time limit, whichever is later, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS rule 35 and A4

4.13 Protests and Requests for Redress

A protest or request for redress shall be in writing on a form available from the Race Box.

The completed form shall be lodged with the Sailing Officer at the race box within 60 minutes of the last boat finishing the race or finishing the last of a group of back-to-back races.

The time and place of hearing will be posted on the Notice Board within 30 minutes of the expiry of the time limit for lodgment of protests, or may be given verbally by the Race Committee.

Protests will be heard as soon as possible after the race.

4.14 Scoring a Series

The number of race scores to be counted for each boat in a series will be as set out in the following table:

Number of Valid Races in Series	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of Races to Count	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	6	7

A valid race is one in which one or more boats finish within the time limit.

At least four (4) valid races (except Commodores Cup which will be two (2) races) shall be completed to constitute a series in both the Spring and Summer Series. The series score for each boat shall be the total of her race scores from the number of races to count. Her best results will be selected as the race scores to count.

Scoring for a series will be to RRS A2

Ties and Redress will be scored in accordance with RRS A7-A9

4.15 Scoring for Division 6 - Novices

All novice division races will be scratch races, with yardstick corrections for differing classes of boats.

For each race of a series, each novice, whether skipper or crew, will be awarded the points due to their boat. Each individual will carry forward his or her own points toward their own series score. This method allows novices to change boats, partners or functions during a series.

4.16 Handicaps

Prior to each handicap race within a Division or Class, the Race Committee will establish a personal handicap for each boat/skipper combination. A competitor entering a Club owned boat of a particular class will be awarded the same personal handicap for any such boat.

4.17 Commodores Cup

The Commodores Cup series will be conducted as a mixed class boat race normally programmed on the first race day Sunday of each month and in line with the Commodores Cup "triangle" course (as outlined in Attachment B – Courses).

Unless otherwise instructed, boats will start and sail the course according to their normal Divisions.

The score for each boat will be determined as follows:

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- The average lap time for each boat will be its elapsed time divided by the number of whole laps it sailed.
 - The average lap time for each boat will be corrected using her published YV Yardstick.
 - The score for each boat will be the corrected average lap times for the boat throughout the series.
 - The winning boat will be that with the lowest total score, and shall be the title of Club Champion.

4.18 Duty Points

4.18a Members Rostered on Duty

A skipper who is a Club member and who is rostered for Club Duty on the day of a race in a series that they have entered, will be eligible for duty points for that race provided they:

- Perform their duty; and
- Sign the duty logbook.

Club members rostered for Club Duty on the day of a race in a series that they have entered shall not be eligible to race without the prior approval of the Race Committee. Their boat will be scored DNC unless the Sailing Officer initials their entry.

4.18b Members Volunteering for Club Duty

Club members *not rostered* who have volunteered for Club Duty, and performed that duty, and signed the Duty Logbook, may at the discretion of the Sailing Committee, be eligible for duty points.

4.18c Members at Other Venues

Club members sailing in or in transit to or from State, Australian, National, or World Championships, or YV organised events, or representing WYC in an official capacity at another venue, on the day of a race in a series in which they have entered, shall be deemed to be on Club Duty and will be eligible for duty points provided that they:

- Give prior written notice to the Race Committee of their intended absence; and
- Sail in not less than two thirds of the races to be counted in the club series; and
- Are scored as starters in the championship event that they have entered (if competing).

4.18d Scoring of Duty Points

Scores for duty points will be calculated at the end of a series.

The duty points awarded for a race will be the average of the competitor's best race scores in the series, for the number of races to count, less one race.

Duty points will not be awarded to a competitor for more than 40% of the valid races in a series.

4.19 Outside Help and Electronic Equipment

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. Mobile telephones shall not be used while racing.

Electronic equipment shall be not be used while racing, excepting digital watches and electronic compasses.

Boats racing in Division 6 (novices) may receive verbal coaching while racing. This modifies RRS 41.

4.20 Awards

4.20a Number of Awards

The table below details the number of starters required for an award to be made.

No. of Starters	1	2	3	4	5+
First	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Second			✓	✓	✓
Third					✓

The number of starters in a race or series is the sum of the number of boats starting in valid races, divided by the number of valid races.

4.20b Single Race Awards

The Race Committee may make single race awards for a Division or Class on a scratch or personal handicap basis, excepting for Division 6 which shall be on a scratch basis.

4.20c Series Awards

Only Club members and members of clubs with reciprocal rights are eligible for Series Awards.
To be eligible for awards, competitors must have satisfied the Sailing Committee that they have performed their Club duty requirements

4.20d Class Awards

If an average of four boats from one Class start in of each race a series, then Class awards may be made in addition to Division awards.

Only Club members and members of clubs with reciprocal rights are eligible for Class Awards.

4.20e Perpetual Aggregate Scratch Trophy and Perpetual Aggregate Handicap Trophy

Perpetual trophies will be awarded for each Division provided, there is:

- An average of three starters in each race of the Spring and Summer Series; and
- A minimum of four valid races in the Spring and Summer Series.

These Trophies will be awarded on the basis of scores in the Spring and Summer Series.

Only Club members and members of clubs with reciprocal rights are eligible for Perpetual Trophies.

Competitors entering club owned boats shall sail the same class of boat throughout the series for their scores to be eligible for a perpetual trophy.

4.20f Award Presentations

The Race Committee will present single race awards in the Club House approximately one hour after the last boat has finished.

The Race Committee will present Series Awards, Class Awards, and Perpetual Trophies on a date to be determined. The trophies to be award are detailed in Attachment A.

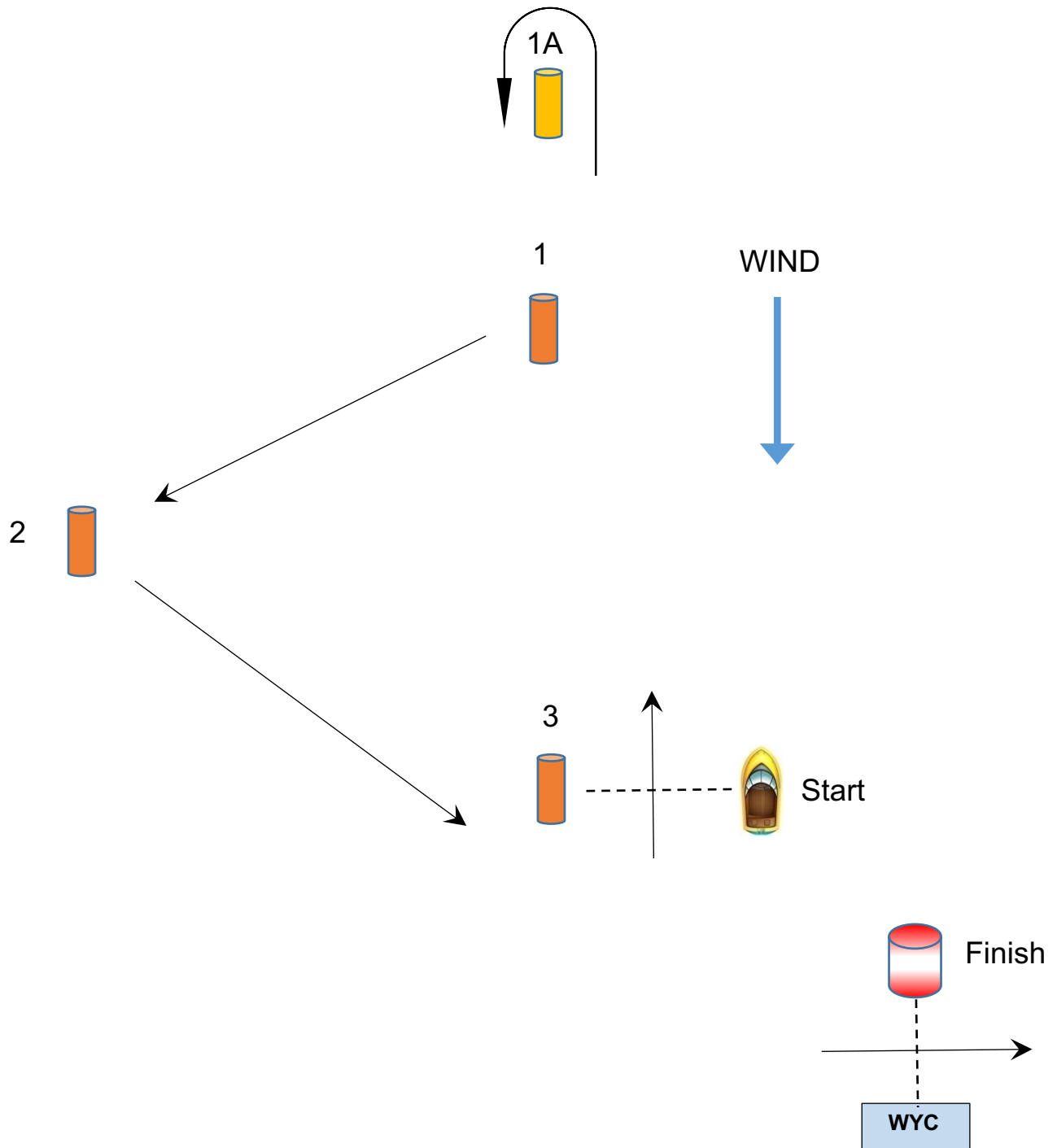
Attachment A - Trophies for Award each Season

Trophy	How Awarded
JV Lawler Memorial Trophy	Determined by Race Committee.
Division 1 Perpetual Aggregate Scratch Trophy Division 2 Perpetual Aggregate Scratch Trophy Division 3 Perpetual Aggregate Scratch Trophy Division 4 Perpetual Aggregate Scratch Trophy Division 5 Perpetual Aggregate Scratch Trophy Division 6 Perpetual Aggregate Scratch Trophy	Sum of a boat's scratch scores in the Spring and Summer Series using the Low Point scoring system. Average of 3 starters, minimum. Minimum of 4 races completed in each of the Series.
Division 1 Perpetual Aggregate Handicap Trophy Division 2 Perpetual Aggregate Handicap Trophy Division 3 Perpetual Aggregate Handicap Trophy Division 4 Perpetual Aggregate Handicap Trophy Division 5 Perpetual Aggregate Handicap Trophy	Sum of a boat's handicap scores in the Spring and Summer Series using the Low Point scoring system. Average of 3 starters, minimum. Minimum of 4 races completed in each of the Series.
Trophy for Best Novice	Determined by Race Committee.
Club Champion Aggregate Trophy	Sum of a boat's scratch scores in the Commodores Cup Series using the Low Point scoring system. Average of 3 starters, minimum. Minimum of 2 races completed in each of the Series.

Attachment B – Courses

Inner and Outer Courses - Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

- The diagram below shows the general shape of the course.
- Mark 1 and 1A are the windward mark, Mark 2 is the wing/gybe mark, and Mark 3 is the leeward mark.
- The course shown is a port course, for which all marks shall be left to port, however the course to be sailed may be a starboard course.
- A red or green flag will be flown to indicate whether marks 1, 2 and 3 must be left to port or to starboard.
- The inner course shall be within the reef area.
- For Individual races the length of each leg shall be approximately 0.6 nm.
- For Back-to-back races the length of each leg shall be approximately 0.5nm.

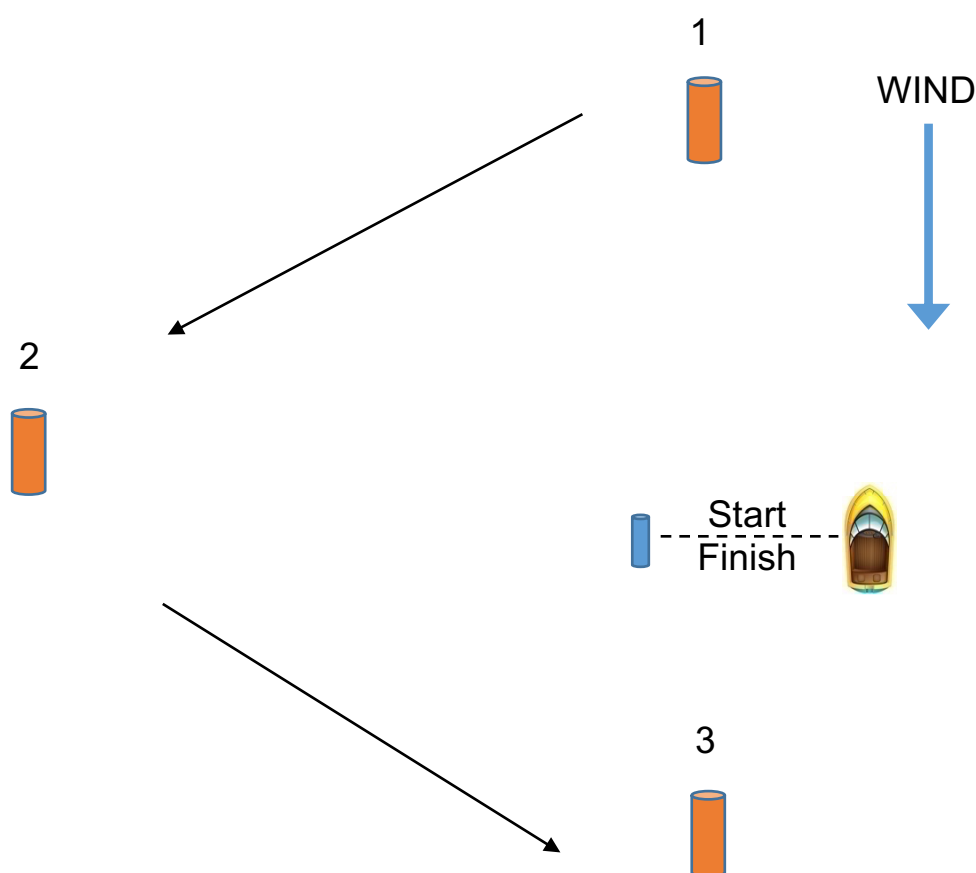


Marks shall be passed in the order shown in the tables below.

Division	Course Size	Course Description
1	Outer Course	Start-1A3-1A3-1A3-1A3-Finish
2	Inner Course	Start-123-13-123-Finish
3	Inner Course	Start-123-123-Finish
4	Inner Course	Start-123-Finish
5	Inner Course	Start-123-13-123-Finish
6	Inner Course	Start-123-Finish

Commodores Cup Long Course - Divisions 1, 2, 3 & 5

- The diagram below shows the general shape of the course.
- The start/Finish line will be located approx. 1/3 of the distance from leeward to windward mark
- The course shown is a port course, for which all marks shall be left to port, however the course to be sailed may be a starboard course. A red or green flag will be flown to indicate whether marks 1, 2 and 3 must be left to port or to starboard.
- *Boats shall not cross the start/finish line between the race committee boat and the orange buoy except when starting or finishing*
- The diagram below shows the general shape of the course. Mark 1 is the windward mark, Mark 2 is the gybe mark, and Mark 3 is the leeward mark.
- The Commodores Cup courses are longer (0.6 - 0.7NM legs) and are to extend outside the reefs unless severe weather conditions dictate otherwise



Commodores Cup Course

Division	Course	Course Description
1	Commodores Cup Course	Start-123-123-123-123-Finish
2	Commodores Cup Course	Start-123-123-123-123-Finish
3	Commodores Cup Course	Start-123-123-Finish
5	Commodores Cup Course	Start-123-123-123-Finish

