

# YARINGA MARINERS CLUB

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS SUMMER SERIES 2008 – 2009

### RULES

Yacht racing conducted by the Yaringa Mariners Club will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing, viz. *Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2007, AYF and ISAF* and including the AYF Prescriptions and Special Regulations, Part 1 2001 – 2004 These rules will be supplemented by a set of 'local rules' as defined by these Sailing Instructions.

### LOCAL RULES

#### Signing On/Off

Signing on must be completed 15 minutes prior to the Warning Signal for Division 1. All competitors must sign on on **VHF: Ch 77**, or **27 Mhz: Ch 94**. These channels should be used to notify *Yaringa Race Control* for signing on or retiring from a race.

Boats experiencing radio difficulties may sign on, or off, by hailing the Committee Boat. Failure to sign on, or off will result in disqualification.

#### Listening Watch

All competitors must monitor one of the notified radio channels for the duration of the race, and for one hour prior to the notified start time.

#### Use Of Engines

Engines must not be used after the Preparatory Signal for Division 1 and 2 except:

- If a competitor has run aground, it may use its engine to free itself provided no distance gain is made
- After informing *Yaringa Race Control* by radio, a yacht may use its engine to reach the start line providing it waits for five minutes after the starting signal for its division to start.

Vessels failing to do so, and identified, will be disqualified.

#### Starting

If the number of boats starting exceeds 20 and conditions warrant, Yaringa Race Control may start Division 1 separately followed by Division 2 boats, 5 minutes later. Any decision to start Division 1 separately will be notified by radio and flag signals.

#### Recalls

A *General Recall* will be indicated by the Committee Boat raising the 'First Substitute' and may be accompanied by two sound signals. The start for the postponed division will occur following the completion of the remainder of the scheduled starts, viz. 5 minutes after the start of Division 3.

An *individual recall* will be indicated by the Committee Boat raising Code Flag 'X' and may be accompanied by one sound signal. It will be removed following the completion of a correct start by the boat(s) identified, or a notified 360\* visible to the committee boat. The 360\* cannot disadvantage other competitors. Boats failing to return to restart or completing a 360\* will be disqualified.

#### Racing

If, during a race, a boat runs aground or is in danger of collision with a powered vessel, it may use its engine to find deeper water or avoid collision. To continue racing, the boat must advise Yaringa Race control by radio of its circumstances, and when out of danger, complete a 360\* and advise Yaringa Race control that it has done so.

If a boat is forced by tide or racing conditions to pass a buoy or mark on the wrong side, it should notify Yaringa Race Control, round the mark on the correct side and continue to race.

### **Finishing**

After finishing, competitors must not sail back through the finish line, but must sail well clear prior to de-rig. Vessels failing to do so will be disqualified.

If the allotted time for a race has passed, or conditions are such that the race controller believes boats still racing cannot cross the finish line within the allotted time, Yaringa Race Control will advise by radio that the race is completed. Boats still racing may be given an estimated finishing time.

### **Postponement/Abandonment**

In the interests of safety, the Race Committee reserves the right to postpone or abandon any event at any time.

Postponement or abandonment may occur for 'lack of wind' (in a strong tidal flow), or excessive wind having regard to the nature of overall conditions and the nature of competitors. Where possible, such decisions will be made ashore and notified to all competitors, but may be made from the Committee Boat 'on station'.

### **Handicaps**

The Handicap System will be The Yachting Victoria Performance Based Handicap Rules. Yaringa Mariners Club and Hasting Yacht Club have agreed to use the average of the last 5 Back Calculated Handicaps, (BCH) to calculate the next race handicap. A boat's handicap will change each race. Yaringa Mariners Club will use the last 5 BCH of the Hastings Winter Series to calculate the handicap of boats in the first Yaringa race. If a boat has not competed on Westernport before, a provisional handicap will be adopted based on notified handicap and similar boat handicaps. The handicap may be manually adjusted for subsequent performances.

The Race Committee and handicapper reserve the right to make handicap adjustments at its discretion. Manual changes to handicaps will be notified by mail and may be reviewed if requested within 7 days of the notification.

Changes to rigging, sails and improvements to hull and other below water fixtures should be notified to the Race committee before the start of a race. Changes of skipper should be notified when signing on for a race. The Committee boat will require boat name, number on board and skipper when signing on for a race.

### **Series Scoring**

The series will be scored using a low point system. Points will be allocated by the boat's finishing position in each Division. DNF = the number of Division race competitors plus 1. DNS = the number of Division race entries plus 1.

To qualify for a series prize for each Division, a boat will need to complete a minimum of 7 races. If more than 7 races are completed, the additional highest scoring races will be dropped.

If a Yaringa Mariners Club crew are seconded to man the Race Committee boat, the boat will be deemed to have participated in the race and its completed race time will be the Back Calculated Time of the race.

There is no provision for re-sail. If less than 7 races are sailed, Yaringa Mariners Club may schedule additional races at the end of the season.

### **Indemnity**

All persons taking part in races conducted by the Yaringa Mariners Club do so at their own risk and responsibility. Yaringa Mariners Club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, or after, racing.

Competitors' attention is drawn to the following: **'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone'**. (*Racing Rules of Sailing -Fundamental Rule 4*).

### **Safety**

All competitors are required to meet Category 6 safety requirements. The responsibility for ensuring their boat's eligibility as regards to safety equipment will rest with each competitor.

Trailer Sailers will, whilst racing, compete with keels fully lowered and pinned in position. Failure to comply with this requirement, where identified, will lead to disqualification.

### **Insurance**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$5,000,000.

## **THE COURSES**

### **Time Limits**

Time limits for races, other than for the Flinders Challenge and Bill Tamo night race, shall be of 5 hours duration. Yachts not finishing within this time limit will be recorded as DNF.

### **Selection of Course**

The course number will be announced on the day at the discretion of the OOD. The number of the chosen course shall be announced to all competitors by radio at least 15 minutes prior to the start for Division 1. Radio communication between the Committee boat and competitors prior to the start of a race is permitted for signing on/off procedures, start delays and race information. During a race, communication should only take place for emergencies, groundings and withdrawals.

### **Mark 'A'**

Each course will commence with a beat to a laid mark (Mark 'A'). of approximately 0.75nm. Prior to the Warning Signal for Division 1, the Committee Boat will raise either a green flag or a red flag indicating that Mark 'A' is to be left on the starboard side (Green flag) or the port side (Red flag). Other mark roundings are as indicated in the course descriptions following.

### **Specific Course Descriptions**

Courses shall be indicated by the Committee Boat flying, prior to the Warning Signal for Division 1, a numeral pennant corresponding to one of the following:

- Course 1:** Start, Buoy 'A', SP (Starboard), Finish
- Course 2\*:** Start, Buoy 'A', MS3 (Port), 'B' (Port), Finish (as a gate), 'A' (Port), 'C' (Port), 'B' (Port) Finish
- Course 3\*:** Start, Buoy 'A', Buoy 'B' (Starboard), JIECM (Starboard), No.35 (Starboard), Finish  
*For Courses 2 and 3 only, 'B' will be set 200 metres south of the entrance to Watson's Inlet.*
- Course 4:** Start, Buoy 'A', MSNCM (Starboard), MSSCM (Starboard), MS1 (Starboard), Finish
- Course 5** Start, Buoy 'A', MS3 (Port)), No.35 (Port), No. 28 (Port), No. 27 (Port) MS3 (Port), No. 35 (Starboard), Finish

**Course 6\*\*:** Start, Buoy 'A', (Port), Buoy 'C', (Port), Buoy 'B' (Port), then through start line (as a 'gate'), and then continuous at the discretion of the OOD.  
 \*\* For Course 6 only, the distance from Start to windward Buoy 'A' will be increased to approximately 1 nm. Buoy 'B' will be located approximately 0.5nm to leeward of the start line.

**Other Courses**

Flinders Challenge (Division 1) Start, Buoy 'A') SP (Starboard), No. 7 (Starboard), SP (Port), Finish\*  
 Flinders Challenge (Division 2 and 3) Start, Buoy 'A', SP (Starboard), FWB (Starboard), SP (Port), Finish\*  
 \*Finish line Between Committee Boat and No. 28

**Marks**

**Start Line** Between Committee Boat and laid yellow mark 'C'  
**Mark 'A'** Laid yellow mark designated 'A'  
**Mark 'B'** Laid yellow mark designated "B"  
**No. 27, 28, 35** Shipping channel buoys  
**MS1, MS3** Middle Spit markers  
**MSSCM** Middle Spit South Cardinal Mark  
**MSNCM** Middle Spit North Cardinal Mark  
**JIECM** Joes Island East Cardinal Mark

**THE START**

The start will be located approximately 1 nm to the north of MS3, and will be between a vessel displaying the Yaringa Burgee and laid yellow mark 'C'.

The Committee Boat may deploy a yellow distance mark from its stern. If used, competitors must not pass between the distance mark and the Committee Boat. The penalty for failure to follow this instruction will be disqualification.

Three Divisions will start – Divisions 1 and 2 and Division 3.  
 The combined start for Divisions 1 and 2 will act as a warning for Division 3.

Races will start by using Rule 26 (as modified by these Sailing Instructions), with the Warning Signal given 5 minutes before the Starting Signal.

Signal	Flag and Sound	Minutes before Start
Prior to Warning	Course Numeral pennant Red or Green flag	15
Warning Signal	Division (s) flag(s), 1 sound	5
Preparatory Signal	'P' flag, 1 sound	4
One minute	'P' flag removed, one long signal	1
Start	All flags removed ('X' or 'First Substitute may be flown), 1 sound	0

**THE FINISH**

The Finish Line shall be between the Committee Boat flying Blue flag ('on station') and Mark 'C', OR between the Committee Boat flying code flag 'S' ('shorten course') at a mark of the course. Yachts shall finish by sailing through the line from the direction of the previous mark. Yachts finishing will receive a sound signal indicating they have finished the race.

**All competitors are reminded of the friendly spirit in which racing is conducted at Yaringa and for the fundamental need for competitors to avoid collisions at all costs.**