



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2026 - 2027 Sailing Season

BYRA Sailing Club, Bayview

1. PREAMBLE

- 1.1 BYRA Sailing Club is located at 1842 Pittwater Road BAYVIEW, NSW 2104 Australia. The clubhouse and rigging area are within Riddle Reserve, Bayview. Members and guests are requested to respect the activities of the club's neighbors. Please be considerate when parking cars, boats and trailers so that traffic can pass freely, and residents' access is not blocked. The parking area currently has a 6-hour limit and members parking within this area are asked to understand and accept this risk.
- 1.2 The objective of these instructions is to provide competitive sailing and racing at BYRA in a fun, inclusive and sustainable environment, which encourages participation of all levels of sailors and all classes of boats.
- 1.3 All times are in Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time (Local NSW time).

2. RULES

- 2.1 All races will be governed by these Sailing Instructions and the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025–2028.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to members will be posted on the BYRA Sunday Briefing WhatsApp group.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Any change to the sailing instructions throughout the season will be notified via the BYRA Sunday Briefing WhatsApp group and at a briefing on race day.

5. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 5.1 Sailors and support crew shall handle all equipment with care, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.
- 5.2 Sailors will treat race officials, other club members, volunteers, members of the public and fellow sailors with respect and courtesy at all times.
- 5.3 Sailors will comply with the Sailing Instructions, Racing Rules of Sailing, class rules and directions from race officials.
- 5.4 Breaches of the Code of Conduct will be considered by the Race Committee on their merits and may result in a penalty or disqualification.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 6.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole on the clubhouse deck.
- 6.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

7. BRIEFING

- 7.1 Gold Fleet briefing will be conducted at 12:00pm on race days.
- 7.2 Green and Intermediate Fleet briefing will either be conducted at 11:00am or as part of the Learn to Sail Program.
- 7.3 Notices will also be posted via the BYRA Sunday Briefing WhatsApp group. All sailors are to ensure they are included in the group.
- 7.4 The Race Committee must be informed of any change to a boats recorded sail number, prior to sailing. This is required for both safety purposes and to ensure results are correctly posted.

8. RACE COMMITTEE

- 8.1 The Race Officer (RO) will be Club Captain Henry Zylmans unless another person is delegated.
- 8.2 The Race Committee shall comprise
 - Vice Commodore: Paul Chudleigh
 - Club Captain: Henry Zylmans
 - Robert Warnes
 - Rear Commodore: Shane Greaves
 - Any other nominated RO for that day

The Race Committee may be subject to change during the season. Any changes will be notified via the BYRA Sunday Briefing WhatsApp group.

9. SIGN-ON SHEET

- 9.1 BYRA will be introducing a new wearable wrist band that will be used for sign on and off. Separate instructions on the use of the wristband will be provided. Members are requested to collect and wear their wristbands when they arrive at the club and return them at the end of each day.
- 9.2 If the wrist band sign on is not available, a separate sign-on sheet must be signed prior to the first race and signed off after the last race of each day. The sheet will be located on a sign-on table within the clubhouse. A copy of the sign on sheet will be used by the Race Committee when starting and finishing races and recording results.

10. FLEETS

- 10.1 Sailing will comprise of 3 fleets
- 10.2 Green Fleet will comprise Learn to Sail Juniors.
- 10.3 Intermediate fleet will comprise of junior and beginner sailors.
- 10.4 Gold Fleet will comprise competent adult sailors and any juniors which the Race Committee determines are of suitable experience to graduate to the Gold Fleet.

11. CLASS FLAGS

- 11.1 The Green Fleet will compete in separate races as designated by a green flag with the letter “J”.
- 11.2 The Intermediate Fleet will compete in separate races as designated by a white flag with the letter “I”.
- 11.3 The Gold Fleet shall generally include boats of all classes competing together in each race, as designated by a yellow flag with the letter “G”.
- 11.4 Where a class consists of at least 6 boats, the Race Committee may determine that a separate start for that class is warranted. In such cases, separate starts for a class will be notified prior to racing via the BYRA Sunday Briefing WhatsApp Group and at a briefing. Where separate starts for a class are agreed, a class flag will be displayed by the Start boat for the start of that classes race.

12. SCHEDULE OF RACES

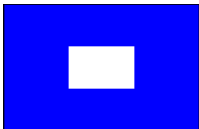
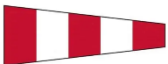
- 12.1 Green Fleet and Intermediate Fleet will sail 1 race unless notified by the Race Committee.
- 12.2 Gold Fleet will sail two (2) races unless notified by the Race Committee.
- 12.3 Races are intended to be of moderate length.
- 12.4 All races in a day will be sailed consecutively.

13. START TIMES

- 13.1 Green and Intermediate Fleet racing shall commence at 12:00 pm with separate starts.
- 13.2 Gold Fleet Sailing racing shall commence at 1:30 pm.

14. START SEQUENCE

- 14.1 The Start Boat shall display an orange flag when on station and ready to commence a start sequence.
- 14.2 A warning sound will be made before commencement of the first race.
- 14.3 Any postponement will be notified by raising the “AP” flag and 2 sound signals. A sound signal will be made when the “AP” flag is dropped, and the starting sequence can commence 1 minute later.
- 14.4 A shortened course flag will be signified by displaying the “S” flag.
- 14.5 The course rounding will be signified by a red flag for Port rounding and green flag for Starboard rounding.
- 14.6 The start sequence shall be 3 minutes.
- 14.7 The commencement of the start sequence will be notified by a sound signal and raising of the relevant fleet or class flag.
- 14.8 A second sound signal will signify 2 minutes to go, and “P” flag raised.
- 14.9 A third sound signal will notify 1 minute to go, and “P” flag lowered.
- 14.10 The start is signified by the final sound signal, and the relevant fleet or class flag is lowered.
- 14.11 Table of common flags used:

	Green Fleet Flag
	Intermediate Fleet Flag
	Gold Fleet Flag
	“P” flag – Preparatory Signal
	“S” Flag - shortened Course
	“AP” flag - Postponement
	“X” Flag - Individual Recall
	“First Substitute” pennant – General Recall
	“N” Flag – Races Abandoned

15. RECALLS

- 15.1 Should any boat/s cross the start line early. A sound signal shall be made and “X” flag displayed by the start boat. Such boats must return to the start and restart the race.
- 15.2 Should numerous boats cross the start line early a general recall will be notified by 2 sound signals and the “first substitute” pennant displayed by the start boat. All boats must return and the start sequence will recommence from the beginning.

16. RACING AREA

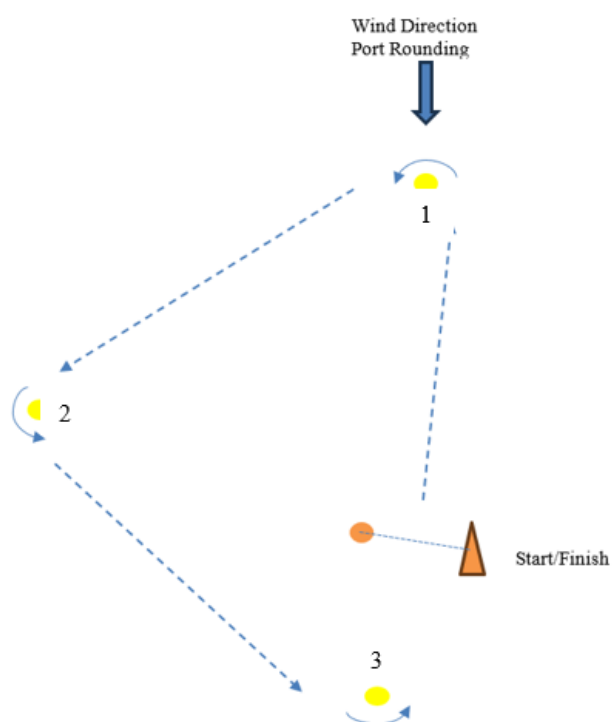
- 16.1 Racing will generally be conducted in Pittwater “South Pond” area, in front of the clubhouse. This ensures racing is visible for spectators at the clubhouse and does not overlap with Avalon and RPA Sailing courses.
- 16.2 In some conditions, the Race Committee reserves the right to hold racing in the “North Pond” area of Pittwater, to the north of Scotland Island



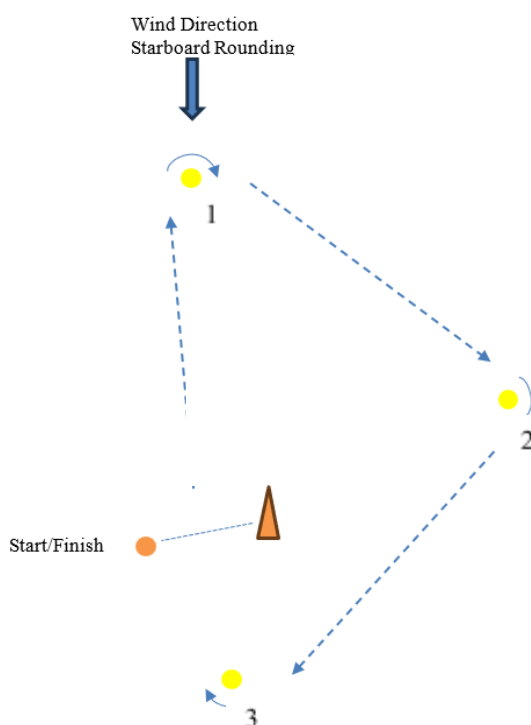
17. COURSES

- 17.1 Green Fleet and Intermediate Fleet courses will generally comprise of sailing 1 triangle for each race with a windward return to the finish line.
- 17.2 Gold Fleet courses will generally comprise of sailing 2 triangles for each race with a windward return to the finish line.
- 17.3 The length of the course and distance between marks will be determined by the Race Committee with regard to prevailing wind direction and strength, prior to commencement of racing each day.
- 17.4 Courses will generally comprise of Port mark rounding's. i.e. boats will round each mark to Port.
- 17.5 In some wind conditions a Starboard mark rounding will be preferable.
- 17.6 The Race Committee shall communicate whether the course is a Port or Starboard course at the briefing and/or on board the Start boat through display of a red or green flag. (see 14.5)
- 17.7 All boats are to wait clear of the finish/start line once they've finished a race until the last boat has finished. Finished boats must also keep clear of any boats still completing anywhere on the course.
- 17.8 All boats must not enter any area of moored boats while racing

- 17.9 **Port Course** mark rounding sequence shall be -
Green fleet and Intermediate Fleet - Start-1-2-3-Finish
Gold fleet - Start-1-2-3-1-2-3-Finish.



- 17.10 **Starboard Course** mark rounding sequence shall be -
Green fleet and Intermediate Fleet - Start-1-2-3-Finish
Gold fleet - Start-1-2-3-1-2-3-Finish.



18. MARKS

- 18.1 Marks will all be yellow buoys unless otherwise directed by the Race Committee

19. OBSTRUCTIONS

- 19.1 The start/finish line is **not** an obstruction except when starting or finishing.

20. THE START

- 20.1 The start line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the start boat and the pin flying an orange flag, sailing in the direction of mark 1.
- 20.2 A boat that does not start within ten (10) minutes after the starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

21. THE FINISH

- 21.1 The finish line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the start boat and the pin flying an orange flag, coming from mark 3.

22. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 22.1 RRS rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a 360°-Turn Penalty, including one gybe and one tack.

- 22.2 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, does not apply.

23. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 23.1 The Target Time for all races is 45 minutes.
- 23.2 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
30 minutes	90 minutes	10 minutes

- 23.3 If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race is abandoned.
- 23.4 Where races are abandoned, a “N” Flag will be displayed (see 14.11)
- 23.5 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) shall be scored points for the finishing place one(1) more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.
- 23.6 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

24. HEARING REQUESTS

- 24.1 Hearing request forms are available at the sign on desk. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 24.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to protests by the Race Committee and to requests for redress. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 24.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, beginning at the time posted.
- 24.4 Arbitration as prescribed in Appendix T of the RRS will be available and scoring penalties may be applied as prescribed in RRS 44.3.

25. SCORING

- 25.1 A series score will be the total of all the skippers/crews races within a particular class.
- 25.2 Class Yardsticks will be determined using Australian Standard Yardsticks for each class. If there is no published Yardstick for a particular class, the Yardstick applicable will be determined by the Race Committee.
- 25.3 Individual Handicaps will be determined after a minimum of 3 weeks sailing (6 races)
- 25.4 Rule A5.3 applies.

- 25.5 Scores for each race will be allocated to the skipper/crew within a particular class. This ensures provision for club members to change boats within the same class during the season and for club members to share the use of club boats for racing.

26. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 26.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.
- 26.2 The Race Committee reserves the right to request a valid measurement certificate or do a cross check on the measurement of hulls, equipment and sails at any time.
- 26.3 Competitors shall not change rudders, dagger boards or other foils while afloat. Any change of rig or foils shall be made ashore.
- 26.4 Equipment can be replaced on gear breakage only with permission from the Race Committee.
- 26.5 A boat can seek to be granted approval from the Race Committee to carry a sail number other than specified on its entry form. (Note also 7.4)
- 26.6 Boats found to exceed the equipment limitations will be scored, at the discretion of the Race Committee.

27. SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- 27.1 All sailors and support boat crew must wear life jackets that comply with Australian Standards with a minimum of PFD 2 rating.

28. OFFICIAL VESSELS

- 28.1 BYRA 1 will be the official start boat for the series. Alternate start boat is BYRA 3 “The Don” tinny.
- 28.2 Support boats include three small inflatable ribs and the larger inflatable rib.
- 28.3 At least 1 support boat must be available on the course for every race.
- 28.4 Drivers may be required to attend a briefing.
- 28.5 Drivers shall hold a powerboat license from an Australian State Authority.
- 28.6 All official vessels will carry at least one VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on VHF Channels along with tow ropes, first aid kits, water and sunscreen.

29. PRIZES

- 29.1 Prizes will be awarded for both Scratch and Handicap results
- 29.2 Handicaps will be determined and applied by the Race Committee

30. SUSTAINABILITY

- 30.1 Sailors are encouraged to limit the use of single use water bottles with refill facilities on club grounds.

- 30.2 Support boats will be able to supply and retrieve water bottles, and general refuse from sailors between races.
- 30.3 Sailors caught deliberately disposing waste into the water may be subject to disqualification.
- 30.4 All sailors are expected to dispose of any refuse appropriately at the clubhouse.

31. RISK STATEMENT

- 31.1 By participating in racing, all sailors and support crew acknowledge and accept each of the following:
- 31.2 Sailors and support crew are participating voluntarily and understand the nature of the activities involved.
- 31.3 Sailors and support crew will follow direction of the Race Committee and Officials at all times.
- 31.4 Sailors and support crew must wear approved life jackets or buoyancy vests as per Australian Standards
- 31.5 The responsibility for the decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is the skippers alone. By participating, each sailor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include but are not limited to, strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, capsize, boat handling errors, immersion in water, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**
- 31.6 Sailors are responsible to ensure their boat is seaworthy at all times.
- 31.7 Injuries can occur even when all safety procedures are followed.
- 31.8 BYRA cannot guarantee the safety of any sailor or support crew
- 31.9 All those participating do so entirely at their own risk and responsibility.
- 31.10 BYRA Sailing Club does not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after racing.
- 31.11 To the extent permitted by the Civil Liability Act 2002 (NSW) and other applicable laws, sailors and support crew acknowledge that by participating, they release and indemnify BYRA, its committee, instructors, and volunteers from liability for injury, loss, or damage arising from their participation or their child's participation, except where the club has been negligent.

32. INSURANCE

- 32.1 Each participating boat shall have a valid insurance certificate showing proof of third-party liability coverage of at least \$10,000,000.