2026 Australia Day Regatta – Notice of Race

Hosted by Wollongong Yacht Club (WYC)
Location: Shellharbour Marina
Dates: Saturday, 24 January – Monday, 26 January 2026

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1. Organizing Authority

The organizing authority for the 2026 Australia Day Regatta is the **Wollongong Yacht Club (WYC)**.

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2. Rules

The regatta will be governed by:

- The **Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2025 – 2028)**.
- The **Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing**
- Applicable class rules, except as modified by the **Sailing Instructions (SIs)**.
- All competitors must comply with **NSW maritime safety regulations**.
  Any rule changes will be stated in the SIs.

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3. Eligibility and Entry

- Open to all **monohull and multihull yachts**
- Enter via **SailSys** → https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/82
  by **Friday 17 January 2026** (one week prior to the first race).
- Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of WYC.
- All participants must hold current **Australian Sailing membership** or obtain a **SailPass** (wyc.org.au/registration).
- Skippers must ensure **Persons on Board (PoB)** are registered before each race.

4. Fees

Entry Type	Fee	Notes
Block Entry (all 5 races)	$100	Eligible for overall prizes
Single Race Entry	$30	Daily prizes only

Major overall prizes can only be won by block entries.

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5. Schedule of Events

Saturday 24 Jan 2026
10:00 – Briefing | 11:00 – Race 1 | 13:30 – Race 2 | 17:30 – Presentation

Sunday 25 Jan 2026
09:00 – Briefing | 10:00 – Race 3 | 12:30 – Race 4 (Coastal) | 18:00 – Presentation

Monday 26 Jan 2026 (Australia Day)
09:00 – Briefing | 10:00 – Race 5 | 12:30 – BBQ & Overall Presentation

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6. Sailing Instructions

Available by **23 January 2026** on the WYC website, SailSys noticeboard, and at the race briefing.

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7. Venue

Racing based at **Shellharbour Marina**, Shell Cove — with restaurants, tavern, supermarket and facilities.
Racing will take place in Shellharbour waters.

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8. Courses

Five races total: four short “round-the-cans” and one coastal race (~3 hours).
Exact courses and mark coordinates will be in the SIs and confirmed at daily briefings and via WhatsApp.

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9. Scoring and Communication

Scoring System

- Low Point System (RRS Appendix A).
- One discard after 5 completed races.
- PHS SailSys handicap system applies.
- Casual entries excluded from overall points.

Protests

- Lodged per RRS Part 5; time limits per SIs.

Communications

- **WhatsApp:** TBA (for updates, results & postponements)
- **VHF 77:** on-water race comms | **VHF 16:** Marine Rescue & emergencies

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10. Safety Regulations

- This event is a non-audit regatta. Boats are not required to hold an Australian Sailing Safety Equipment Audit.
- All participating vessels must, however, carry safety equipment appropriate for their size and type and be in a seaworthy condition. The responsibility for the safety of a boat and her crew remains entirely with the skipper.
- Gale warning = automatic abandonment.
- PoB must be registered within 30 minutes before each start.
- Minimum two persons aboard each boat.

- Retirements to be reported via VHF 77 or WhatsApp.

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11. Prizes

Daily Races: 🥇 Rum | 🥈 Wine | 🥉 Beer
Overall Regatta: 1st $600 | 2nd $400 | 3rd $200

Prizes presented daily; overall awards at the Australia Day BBQ.

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12. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk (RRS 3).
WYC accepts no liability for damage, injury, or death before, during, or after the event.

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13. Insurance

Each boat must carry valid third-party liability insurance of at least **$10 million AUD**.

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14. Contact Information

Race Officer: Travis Green
📞 0418 190 191 ✉️ sailing@wyc.org.au
🌐 www.wyc.org.au

Marina booking
📍 Shellharbour Marina ☎ 02 4250 4100

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"Fair winds and following seas."