

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Vaucluse Amateur 12' Sailing Club
Head Of The Harbour Regatta



6th December 2015

Organising Authority:

Vaucluse Amateur 12' Sailing Club
Wharf Road, Vaucluse



1. RULES

The Regatta will be governed by the 2013-2016 Racing Rules of Sailing of the International Sailing Federation (RRS), as amended, the prescriptions and special regulations of the Australian Yachting Federation (AYF), under the authority of Yachting NSW, the current rules and appendices of the Australian National Sabot Council, the Notice of Race, (except as any of these are altered by these Sailing Instructions,) and by these Sailing Instructions.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

The regatta site will be at Vaucluse Amateur 12' Sailing Club (VA12SC), Vaucluse NSW 2030. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board, which is located in the clubhouse. Sign ON and OFF sheets will be located within the clubhouse.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted not less than 1 hour prior to the Warning Signal of the race.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Officials Flag Pole (upper level of club).
- 4.2 Flag AP with two sound signals (one sound signal when lowered) means, "The race is postponed. The Warning Signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after AP is lowered." (Amends Race Signals.)

5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration and inspection will take place at the Regatta Office located in the Clubhouse of VA12SC at the following times.

Sunday 6th December - Open Fleet

9:30 - 10:00 Registration and Safety Inspection.

10:30 Competitor Briefing

Not before 11:00 VA12SC Head of the Harbour Races (as many as practical)

No warning signal for any race after 15:00.

Green Fleet (this is for first-timers)

9:30 - 10:00 Registration and Safety Inspection.

10:45 Competitor Briefing

Not before 11:30 VA12SC Head of the Harbour Green Fleet Race 1 followed by Race 2 using course 2.

The course will be a short single triangle with coach support around three marks set in front of the clubhouse, and suitable for children in their first or second year of sailing.

Presentation

16:00 Presentation and BBQ - clubhouse.

6. RACING AREAS

The racing area will be on Sydney Harbour, near Vaucluse and Watsons Bays.

The Starting Area shall be an area of approximately 100 metres to windward, 100 metres to leeward and 100 metres radius from each end of the Starting Line.

The Finishing Area shall be an area of approximately 50 metres to windward, 50 metres to leeward and 50 metres radius from each end of the Finishing Line.

The Course Area shall be an area extending approximately 100 metres beyond the course that could reasonably be taken by a boat when racing. The Course Area shall include the Starting Area when any boat has received her Preparatory Signal prior to starting. The Course Area shall include the Finishing Area when any boat is racing to the Finishing Line.

7. PROHIBITED WATER (WHICH RANKS AS AN OBSTRUCTION)

The area of water between registered moorings and the adjacent shoreline shall be considered PROHIBITED WATER (i.e. continuing obstruction for the boats that are racing). Boats that enter Prohibited Water may take penalty in accordance with RRS 44.1. This amends RRS 44.1.

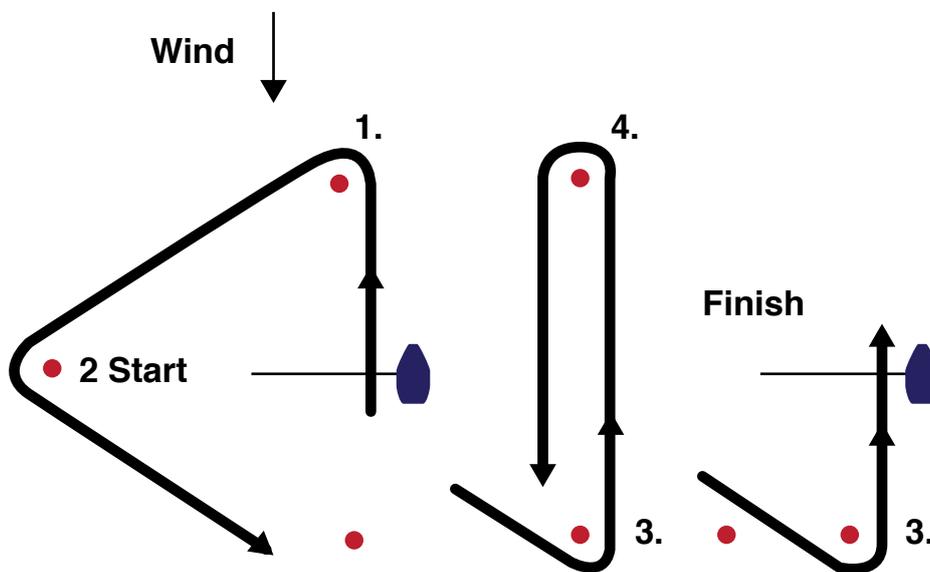
8. THE COURSE

The course will be set within the region of the designated racing area.

The course for both divisions will be:

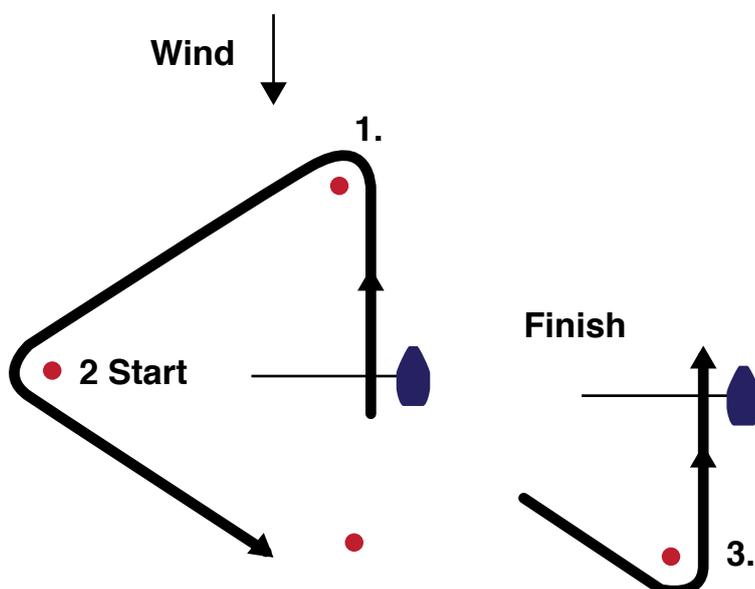
Course One

Start, 1, 2, 3, 1, 3, Finish



Course Two

Start, 1, 2, 3, Finish



9. MARKS

Original Marks may be displayed at the Competitors' Briefing.

10. THE START

10.1 Races will be started as follows. Times shall be taken from the Visual Signals; the absence of a Sound Signal shall be disregarded.

Signal	Visual Signal	Sound Signal	Time in Minutes to Starting Signal
Warning Signal	Display of Division flag	1 Sound	5
Preparatory Signal	Display P or I or Black Flag	1 Sound	4
Preparatory Signal withdrawn	Lowering P or I or Black Flag,	1 Sound	1
Starting Signal	Lowering of Division flag	1 Sound	0

10.2 Both divisions may start together.

10.3 There will be a minimum of 1 minute between the Starting signal for the first division to start and the Warning Signal for the next division.

10.4 The starting line will be between a staff or mast displaying a VA12SC burgee on a Race Committee vessel at the starboard end and a mark displaying a yellow flag with a black "12" at the port end.

10.5 Boats whose Warning Signal has not been made shall remain outside the Starting Area and clear of all boats whose Warning Signal has been made.

10.6 Boats failing to start within 5 minutes of their Starting Signal will be scored Did Not Start.

11. DIVISION FLAGS

Division	Division Flag
Senior - 1 Up	White flag with one black Sabot insignia
Junior - 2 Up	Yellow flag with two black Sabot insignia

12. OFFICIAL VESSELS

12.1 Official Boats

Official boats may display a VA12SC Burgee.

13. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff or mast displaying a VA12SC burgee on a Race Committee vessel at the starboard end a mark displaying a yellow flag with a black 12 flag at the port end.

14. TIME LIMIT

- (i) For the courses the time limit will be 45 minutes for both Divisions. Where one or more boats finish within the time limit, subsequent boats will be finished for a further 10 minutes from the finishing time of the first boat or until the expiry of the time limit.
- (ii) Boats still racing after the time limit has expired will be allocated a point score equal to the position they were in at the previous mark. This changes Rules 35 and A4

15. SAFETY

15.1 Personal Buoyancy (amends AYF Special Regulation Addendum A Part 2, R1).

All competitors at all times while afloat shall wear Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) Type 1 or Type 2 or equivalents that are approved for that competitor's actual body mass.

Attention is drawn to AYF Addendum A; the AYF recommends that children under the age of 12 years wear PFD Type 1.

Failure to comply may result in disqualification from the race concerned after protest.

15.2 Retirement Afloat

Any boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible, and preferably before leaving the Course Area.

15.3 Signing On

All Sabot Skippers must personally Sign On the sheets provided located within the vicinity of the regatta notice board prior to going on the water for the scheduled races. Failure to comply may result in the competitor being scored as Did Not Contest (DNC).

15.4 Signing Off

Within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing the last race for the racing session in her division (and immediately when coming ashore in the case of Abandonment in Adverse Weather) all competitors shall personally Sign Off on the sheets provided located within the vicinity of the regatta notice board. Failure to comply may result in the competitor being scored Did Not Finish (DNF).

15.5 Patrol Boats

Competitors in difficulty are requested to respect the instructions of the official boat.

15.6 Abandonment in Adverse Weather

In the event a race is abandoned due to adverse weather conditions, all competitors must proceed directly to the rigging area and sign off.

16. PROTESTS

- 16.1** The racing rules will be modified in accordance with rule 86 as follows: Rule 61.1, Protest Requirements, will be altered by deleting the sentence "However, boats of hull length less than 6 metres need not display the flag"
- 16.2** Competitors must notify the race committee as soon as practical after the race and before going ashore of their intention to protest.
- 16.3** Protests shall be written on forms available at the Regatta Office and delivered there within 30 minutes after the time of the last boat to finish the race. (Amends RRS 61.3.)
- 16.4** Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt as soon as possible.
- 16.5** Protest notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a protest or named as witnesses.
- 16.6** Protests of infringements of SI's Safety (16), Support Boats (22) and Electronic Communication (23) may only be brought by the Race Committee. This alters RRS 60.1.

17. TAKING A PENALTY

A boat may take a Two-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while racing or a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken rule 31. This alters RRS 44.1

18. IMMEDIATE PENALTIES FOR BREAKING RRS 42

RRS 67 - Rule 42 and Hearing Requirement shall apply.

The protest committee may penalise without a hearing a boat that has broken rule 42, provided that a member of the committee or its designated observer has seen the incident and a disqualification under this rule shall not be excluded from the boat's series score. A boat so penalised shall be informed by notification in the race results.

RRS Appendix N - Immediate Penalties for Breaking Rule 42 shall apply.

A member of the protest committee or its designated observer who sees a boat breaking rule 42 may protest her by, as soon as reasonably possible, making a sound signal, pointing a yellow flag at her and hailing her sail number, even if she is no longer racing. A boat so protested is not subject to another protest under rule 42 for the same incident.

When a boat is first protested by the protest committee or its designated observer for breaking Rule 42 she may acknowledge her breach by taking a 720° Turns Penalty under rule 44.2. If she fails to do so she shall be disqualified without a hearing.

When a boat is protested a second time during the series she may acknowledge her breach by immediately retiring from the race. If she fails to do so she shall be disqualified without a hearing and her score shall not be excluded.

When a boat is protested for a third time during the series she may acknowledge her breach by immediately retiring from the race and from all races in the series. If she fails to do so she shall be disqualified without a hearing from all races in the series, with no score excluded, and the protest committee shall consider calling a hearing under rule 69.1(a).

If a boat has been protested under rule N1 and the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment, the penalty from her first or second protest is cancelled, but the protest is counted to determine the number of times she has been protested during the series.

19. SCORING

19.1 Scoring System

The race will be scored as provided in RRS Appendix A using the Low Point System.

19.2 Races to Count

The Southern NSW Zone Championship will consist of as many races as practical, of which three races shall be completed to constitute a series. If five or more races are completed a boat may discard her worst race, one discard and the lowest score wins.

If eight or more races are completed a boat may discard her worst two and the lowest score wins.

20. CHANGE OF CREW AND EQUIPMENT

20.1 Change of Crew

There shall be no change of crew without prior written permission from the Race Committee. A request for permission for a change of crew shall be lodged at the Regatta Office no later than one hour before the scheduled Warning Signal of the first race to which the request applies.

20.2 Change to Equipment

Requests to use replacement equipment shall normally be made in writing to the Race Committee and approval to use replacement equipment shall normally be obtained at least one hour before the Warning Signal of the first race in which such equipment is to be used.

21. SUPPORT BOATS

Unless directed by the Race Committee, or to render immediate assistance in the interests of safety, team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall not enter the Course Area or go within 50 metres of any boat that is racing. The penalty for failing to comply with this requirement may, after protest, be the disqualification of all boats associated with the infringing support personnel.

22. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

No competitor shall have on board any electronic communication device within 1 hour of that division's earliest scheduled warning signal and for the duration of the competitor's race.

23. WIND SPEED LIMIT, SEA AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

If in the opinion of the Principal Race Officer (PRO) weather conditions are unsuitable for racing, the PRO may postpone or abandon racing.

24. PRIZES

24.1 VA12SC Head of the Harbour

1st to 6th places - Senior division

1st to 3rd places - Junior division

24.2 Additional Prizes

The organising authorities may award additional prizes for the series at their discretion.

25. DISCLAIMER

All those taking part in the 2015 VA12SC Head of the Harbour Regatta do so at their own risk and responsibility. Attention is drawn to RRS Rule 4 (decision to race).

Vaucluse 12' Amateur Sailing Club their executives, boards, servants, and agents and all other parties involved with the conduct and organisation of this event disclaim any and every responsibility whatsoever for loss, damage, injury, death, or inconvenience that might occur to persons or property, both ashore or at sea as a consequence of participation in the races covered by these Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race.

26. RISK WARNING

This RISK WARNING is issued jointly by Vaucluse Amateur 12' Sailing Club and the NSW Maritime Authority, pursuant to the Civil Liability Act 2002 to all persons wishing to participate in the sailing activities conducted by Vaucluse Amateur 12' Sailing Club.

Participants are warned that, regardless of the precautions, which might be taken by reasonable and experienced persons, sailing can be a dangerous pursuit and participants are exposed to significant risk of property damage, physical harm and possibly death.

As an indication, these risks may include, but are not limited to:

- The extremes of weather and sea conditions.
- The potential that control of vessels may be lost, resulting in collision with objects and other vessels.
- The sudden movement of the vessel at any time and the possibility that participants may fall or be thrown overboard, resulting in drowning.
- The possibility that participants may be injured by equipment on the vessel.
- The absence of immediate medical care and the likelihood that significant delays may occur before medical care is available.
- Exposure to the elements for extended periods.

Vaucluse Amateur 12' Sailing Club and the NSW Maritime Authority also warn participants that regardless of their best intentions, they may be unable to render assistance to participants who are in distress. Participants are warned to consider the above risks and all other risks before deciding to participate in any sailing event with Vaucluse Amateur 12' Sailing Club. Participants are also advised that although Vaucluse Amateur 12' Sailing Club is covered by third party liability insurance, this cover DOES NOT extend to participants.

Each participating boat shall be insured with a valid third party public liability insurer with a minimum cover of AUD\$10,000,000 per accident or the equivalent.