

Port River Sailing Club
Sailing Instructions 2021/22

COMPETITORS ARE REMINDED OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF WORLD SAILING RACING RULES OF SAILING:

SPORTSMANSHIP AND THE RULES

A body of rules governs competitors in the sport of sailing that they are expected to follow and enforce. A fundamental principle of sportsmanship is that when competitors break a rule they will promptly take a penalty or retire.

1. GENERAL

- 1a. All races will be governed by the current WS Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and amendments; the prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (SA), except if any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions. The attention of competitors is drawn to the Transport SA Marine, Harbours & Navigational Regulations.
- 1b. The Principal Race Officer (PRO) at all events conducted by the Port River Sailing Club will be the Commodore or the nominee of the Commodore. The PRO will have full control of the event. The PRO may consult other Sailing Committee members regarding weather conditions, number of safety boats and experience of competing sailors before deciding to start a race. The decision to postpone or abandon a race will be at the sole discretion of the PRO.
- 1c. The Club shall maintain a register of boats sailed by financial members. Club Championship and Club Handicap points shall be awarded to boats registered with the Club for the current season.

All competitors shall be members of the club. Non Club Members may compete in the Championship and Handicap races provided they complete the Daily Membership, Nomination form and pay the appropriate fee, and are members of Australian Sailing (SA).
- 1d. The following classes shall normally be eligible for PRSC trophies: Hartley TS16, Sabre, Heron and 420. Boats not included in the above shall sail in the Miscellaneous Class.
- 1e. A class of 3 or more boats may apply, in writing, to be included in 1d above at the discretion of the sailing committee.

1. GENERAL (cont)

1f. Outside coaching of skippers and crews shall be allowed for all class boats during designated club handicap races only. This alters RRS Rule 41.

1g. Notices to the Competitors will be posted on The Official Notice Board. The Notice Board will be located adjacent to the Canteen, on the Southern wall east of the Canteen.

2. RRS, AS ADDENDUM A

2a. The RRS, AS Addendum A – Special Regulations and Recommendations.

Part 2 – Off the Beach Yachts apply.

3. PERSONAL BUOYANCY

3a. Each skipper and crew member shall wear at all times while racing adequate personal flotation in accordance with RRS, Section 5 of Special Regulations, Part 2.

4. NOMINATIONS

4a. Skippers are responsible for nominating their intention to race their boat including payment of the appropriate nomination fee prior to each event. A boat that has not been nominated will be considered as a non-competitor. Each Crewmember shall be listed on the race nomination form.

4b. The following safety fees for PRSC events shall apply: -

Junior skipper	\$5.00 per day
Senior skipper	\$10.00 per day
Daily Membership Nomination fee \$10 plus Day Membership fee \$10. The accumulated Day fee will be deducted from full Membership fee on joining.	\$20.00 per day

4c. Nomination fees paid in advance for the full season for will be \$168.00 per senior entry and \$82 per junior entry.

5. THE COURSE

5a. The course(s) shall be set by the PRO. The PRO may consult with the sailing committee to determine the type and length of each course.

5b. A diagram of the course(s) will be displayed not less than 30 minutes or at the Principal Race Officer's (PRO) discretion prior to the Warning Signal for the first class and shall describe:

- (i) Start and finish lines and marks
- (ii) Course marks and the order in which they are to be rounded or passed
- (iii) The Official course board will be displayed in front of the Club Rooms.

5. THE COURSE (cont.)

5c. Obstruction

The area shown below is considered an Obstruction and is to be avoided while racing.



6. MARKS

6a. Normally flagged buoys will be used as course markers for all classes. Fixed marks may be used as course marks at the discretion of the PRO.

6b. The starting line shall be marked by black and yellow chequered flags.

6c. Normally the finish line shall be between an orange coloured board on the Clubhouse and the pole on the eastern side of the river directly opposite the clubhouse.

7. THE START (except for special events, e.g. Long Race, fun races etc.)

7a. Races will be started as per RRS Rule 26.

7b. The Warning Signal for the first class shall be at approximately 1405 hrs, unless otherwise notified by the Principal Race Officer. For subsequent starts the Warning Signal for the next class will be displayed at the Starting Signal of the previous class.

7c. Depending on the number of starters in a class, the start of two or more classes may be combined, or a class may be deleted from the sequence, at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer. Yachts sailing in the Miscellaneous class shall be allocated a start by the Principal Race Officer as required. The starting order will be stated on the race course board.

7. THE START (cont.)

- 7d. A starting area may be defined, at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer. The area may be bounded by the starting line and two flagged buoys. A boat shall not enter the Starting Area prior to its class preparatory signal being displayed.
- 7e. Only boats that are in their starting sequence or recalled may sail through the starting line in the opposite direction to that required for starting.
- 7f. No boat that has started and rounded the first mark shall enter the starting area or sail through the starting line until the starting signal of the last class has been made.
- 7g. The starting line may be removed after the starting signal of the last class has been made, at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer.

8. TIME LIMIT

- 8a. A target time of 50 minutes, with a time limit of 75 mins for all classes, on a two day race. Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes of the first boat will be allocated the position of their last mark rounding order. The target time on a single race day will be 120 minutes with a time limit 150 minutes. Target time of 45 minutes for a short course race. This changes RRS Rule 35.

9. SIGNALS

- 9a. When displayed alone, signals shall apply to all classes. Signals displayed above a class flag (or class flags) shall apply to the designated classes only.
- 9b. Signals made ashore from the flagpoles at the front of the Club.
- 9c. When the AP flag is displayed ashore, 1 minute is replaced with not less than 15 minutes.

10. PROTESTS

- 10a. Protests and request for redress shall be in writing in accordance with RRS, Part 5, Section A and shall be lodged with the PRO within one hour after the finishing time of the protesting boat. Protest forms are available from the Club Bridge.
- 10b. A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. When her protest concerns an incident in the racing area that she is involved in or sees, she shall hail 'Protest'. RRS rule 61.1.

11. HELMSMAN

- 11a. The nominated skipper of a competing boat shall continue at the helm throughout a race, except in an emergency.

12. RETIREMENT

- 12a. A retirement sheet shall be available at the nomination point. Skippers who do not finish a race shall sign the form not later than thirty minutes after the last boat of that class finishing, or shall notify the Principal Race Officer as soon as possible thereafter.

13. SAFETY

13a. The attention of competitors is drawn to the safety recommendations contained in RRS, AS Addendum A – Special Regulations, Part 2 – Off The Beach Boats.

13b. **People requiring assistance should signal in accordance with these recommendations:**

(i) Crew in boat:

Either both arms raised above the head and lowered to the sides cyclically at 5-second intervals, or a flag or other object, on a spar waved from side to side through an arc of 30 degrees either side of the vertical, cyclically at 5-second intervals

(ii) Crew in water:

One arm raised above the head for three seconds at 5-second intervals

13c. Boats caught in the path of a ship may be towed or paddled away from the path of the vessel without the penalty of disqualification.

13d. An official boat displaying a yellow flag will normally lead Commercial vessels through the race area. No boat shall cross the line between the official boat displaying the yellow flag and the following commercial vessel(s). Any boat crossing the line between the official boat displaying the yellow flag and the following commercial vessel(s) shall be subject to disqualification by protest, RRS Rule 60.2 and 60.3.

13e. Attention is drawn to the Transport SA Marine, Harbours & Navigational Regulations regarding moored dredges. Skippers should familiarise themselves with dredge signals which identify the side on which another vessel may safely pass. Each boat shall navigate accordingly.

13f. Each yacht shall have a satisfactory point to attach a tow rope etc. The PRSC recommend the use of a 50mm diameter by 4mm thick stainless steel ring to achieve the above.

13g. Racing may be postponed, abandoned or modified due to extreme weather conditions at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer.

14. WIND SPEED LIMITS

14a. Races for all senior classes should not be sailed if the wind speed is greater than 25 knots (46.3 km/hr.), or at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer. The decision may apply to individual classes.

14b. Races for junior or training classes should not be sailed if the wind speed is greater than 18 knots (33.3 km/hr) or at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer.

15. HANDICAP SYSTEM

15a. One or more Club Handicap Series will be conducted for each class that has a minimum of 3 registered boats. The Miscellaneous classes are excluded from this requirement.

15b. The normal safety fees for PRSC events shall apply to each race in the Club Handicap Series (Refer Sailing Instruction 4b).

15c. Club Handicap Series scores will be awarded following each race in the series, to each competitor (skipper/boat combination) that is registered on the Club Register (refer Sailing Instruction 1c).

15d. At least five races shall be completed to constitute a series for the Club Championship Series and Handicap Race Series each; The Championship series, Queen of the River and the George Robertson Shield, will also count toward the Handicap series, The minimum number of starters in each class for a valid race during the Handicap Series is two (2).

15e. Races shall be numbered sequentially in the order of completion. The only resails will be the Queen of the River and the George Robertson Shield.

15f. Calculating Handicaps:

The Handicapper will provide an Initial Handicap (IHC) for the first race when a competitor enters a Handicap Series. Handicaps will then be calculated using the Performance Handicap system (weighted averaging process). The rate of change to a competitor's Back Calculated Handicap (BCH) will be limited to four percent (4%) in any one race, averaged over four (4) races and only use the best and worst score combined as one. The Handicapper has the discretion to adjust a competitor's (skipper/boat combination) handicap.

15g. When a skipper transfers to a boat of the same class as previously sailed within the same or previous season, and has completed three handicap races in that new boat, the skipper may apply for the new skipper/boat combination to be re-handicapped.

The Handicapper has discretion to allow up to 75% of the competitor's previous handicap.

15h. The scoring system for the Club Championship and Handicap Series will be the Low Point System as described in WS RRS Appendix A. For the purposes of Clause A2, each competitor's (skipper/boat combination) score shall be after:

5 completed races	- no discards
6 to 7 completed races	- one discard
8 to 10 completed races	- two discards
11 to 14 completed races	- three discards
15 or more completed races	- four discards

On this basis, a competitor's final score shall be determined after discarding their worst scores in the Series.

The lowest series score wins and the others shall be ranked accordingly.

15i. Penalty Place System for the Handicap Series will be WS RRS clause A9 'Race Scores in a Series Longer than a Regatta'.

15j. Late entrants to a Series: Competitors who join a Series after one or more races have been run will be awarded a "Late Entrant" score for the earlier race/s. The "Late Entrant" score will be the DNC score for the first (non-abandoned) race run after the competitor joins the Series.

Previously allocated DNC scores will not be altered.

15k. Rostered Sailor's Duty Score: Competitors that are required to be 'on duty' to assist in the racing administration on his/hers nominated duty day and unable to race will be scored as 'Duty Score'. This score is calculated as the average of their five (5) best scores for the entire Series.

15l. The latest Calculated Handicap of a competitor with the same skipper/boat combination will transfer to a new series irrespective of time.

16. HANDICAP TROPHIES

16a. One or more Club Handicap Series will be conducted for each class in accordance with Clause 15a.

16b. Trophies:

- (i) Handicap trophies shall be awarded at the discretion of the Executive Committee of the Club based on the principle of requiring 2 starters for a first place, 4 starters for a second place and 6 starters for a third place
- (ii) A skipper finishing less than five club races will not be eligible for handicap trophies
- (iii) A skipper cannot win two Handicap Series in one season.
- (iv) Day Members may compete in races of the day, however, will not be eligible for Trophies.

17. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

17a. A Club Championship Series will be conducted for each class.

17b. Championship trophies will be awarded at the discretion of the executive Committee of the Club based on the principle of requiring 3 entrants for a first place, 5 entrants for a second place and 7 entrants for a third place.

17c. Club Championship Series scores will be awarded following each race in the series, to each competitor (skipper/boat combination) that:

- (i) Is registered on the Club Register (refer Sailing Instruction 1c)
- (ii) has paid the entrance fee prior to the race, and
- (iii) (iii) Complies with class rules and measurement certificates in accordance with ISAF RRS Rule 78.1.

Non Club Members may compete in the series, upon using the special nomination form and paying the appropriate fee, however will not be eligible for Trophies.

17. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (cont.)

17d. The Club Championship Series will constitute a number of races on dates scheduled in the Club Program. At least five races shall be completed to constitute a series. A minimum of 3 entrants (who satisfy rule 17c above) Five (5) races completed shall constitute Championship series for the Class.

17e. The scoring system for the Club Championship Series will be the *Low Point System* as described in WS RRS Appendix A. For the purposes of Clause A2, each competitor's score shall be:

5 completed races- no discards

6 to 7 completed races- one discard

8 to 10 completed races- two discards

11 to 14 completed races- three discards

15 or more completed races- four discards

On this basis, a competitor's final score shall be determined after discarding their worst scores in the Series.

The lowest Series score wins and the others shall be ranked accordingly.

17f. Penalty Place System for the Club Championship Series will be ISAF RRS, sub-clause A5.3.

17g. A Championship Race will be rescheduled if the PRO requires competitors of the nominated Rostered class to be 'on duty' to assist in sailing administration.

18. SPECIAL RACES

18a At the discretion of the Committee, special races may be conducted in addition to the program of Handicap and Championship events.

18b The method of determining winners shall be as finishing across the finishing line, unless stated otherwise under the specific Special Race.

18c Special Races include:

Port River Sailing Club Opening Day Regatta: A short race with winners decided by positions across the finish line. Only PRSC members are eligible to win the PRSC Opening Day Regatta.

Long Race: Depending on the weather conditions the long race course could extend as far as the Outer Harbour.

Queen of the River Regatta: Sailed in conjunction with PASC, the winners are decided on positions across the finish line. A normal club handicap race or championship heat may be conducted in conjunction with this event. Only PRSC members are eligible to win the Queen of the River Regatta. This race may be resailed at the discretion of the sailing committee.

Handicap Start Race: Each skipper/boat combination will be given a starting time based on current club handicap at the discretion of the Handicapper. Winners will be decided by position across the finish line. The idea is that if all boats sail to their allotted handicap, all boats should finish together.

Short Course Racing: Start time of 14:05, Up to 4 races per scheduled day, places awarded as finishing over the finishing line. The start sequence for short course racing shall be 3 minutes and no starts after 16:05. The warning signal for subsequent races for the day will be displayed as soon as possible at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer.

The George Robertson Shield: George Robertson was a life member of both the PASC and PRSC for services provided to both clubs. George was one of the founding members of the PRSC and what we have today is part of his legacy. Sailed in conjunction with PASC, the winner will be decided by yardsticks across all classes. The yardstick is the current Australian Sailing Yardstick . A normal club handicap race or championship heat may be conducted in conjunction with this event. Only PRSC members are eligible to win the George Robertson Shield. This race may be resailed at the discretion of the sailing committee.