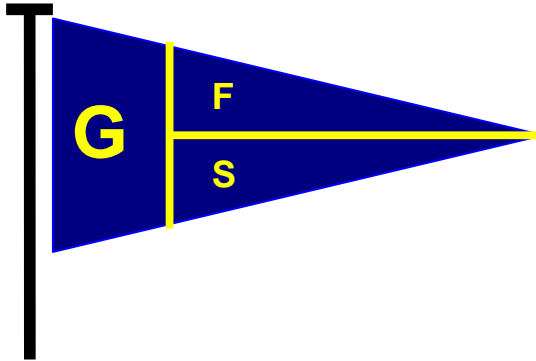


GREENWICH FLYING SQUADRON



P.O. Box 5092, GREENWICH NSW 2065
Clubhouse: Bay Street Wharf, GREENWICH
Phone and Fax: 9436 1901






www.gfs.org.au

Sailing Instructions – Keelboats

2010–2011 Sailing Season

Saturday Point Score
Saturday Down Harbour Series
Saturday Summer Handicap Series
Twilight Racing
Winter Series

DIVISION FLAGS

Division Flags					
Twilight Series	Green	Blue	White	Red	Yellow
Saturday Yacht Series	Etchells	Division 1	Division 2*	Division 3*	Not Used
Down Harbour Series	Not Used	Blue	White	Red*	Not Used
Winter Series	Not Used	Blue	White*	Red*	Not Used



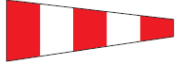



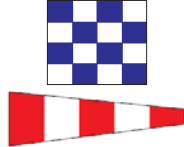




* Dependent on number of participants

RACE SIGNALS

The meanings of visual and sound signals used by GFS are stated below.

An arrow pointing up or down (↑ ↓) means that a visual signal is displayed or removed.

A dot (•) means a sound, a long dash (—) means a long sound, * means no sound.

GFS Sailing Instruction	Code Flag	Appearance	Meaning	Possible sound signal
9	Q		Start is from the club launch	*
11	I		Preparatory signal	↑ • ↓ —
13	AP		Delayed start	↑ •• ↓ •
14	X		Individual recall	↑ •
14	First substitute		General recall	↑ •• ↓ •
15	S		Shortened course	↑ ••
16	N and AP		Racing cancelled	↑ •••
17	N above A		Racing abandoned	↑ •••
21			Finish Line	*
23	B		Protest flag	Must hail "protest"
26i	U		Crew available at the Clubhouse	*

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS – 2010 –2011

Please note changes from the Previous Sailing Instructions (2009 - 2010) are in bold (Red).

Definition: The “*Club*” means **Greenwich Flying Squadron Inc. (GFS)**, its appointed officers and committees.

1. Eligibility to Race.

- a. All yachts competing in GFS races must have current marine insurance which includes racing cover. A yacht must have lodged written Proof of Insurance (POI) with the club. To do this a certificate of currency from the insurer showing either comprehensive or third party property insurance with racing cover and a minimum of \$10,000,000 third party liability is required **PRIOR** to racing.
- b. A yacht must be owned by a member (as defined under house rule 1.3). A member must be on board during all races.
- c. A yacht must have an audited Special Regulations Equipment Form lodged at the Club.
- d. A yacht competing in the Saturday, Down Harbour, Twilight and Winter series must have a minimum of two persons on board (e.g. the skipper and one crew member).
- e. Any yacht not complying with the above 4 conditions is ineligible to race and will not be awarded points and will be considered to be a non starter.

2. Indemnity.

All those taking part in any Club events do so at their own risk and responsibility. Participants are also advised that although the Club is covered by third party liability insurance, this cover **DOES NOT** extend to participants. Participants must make their own private insurance arrangements (see 1(a) above). The Club is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted or for the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. The Club reserves the right to refuse any entry.

Attention is drawn to ISAF Fundamental Rule 4, (Decision to Race) which States: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to *participate* in a race or to *continue racing* is hers alone”.

The Club is NOT responsible for damage caused during, or as a result of participating in club events.

This RISK WARNING is issued by the 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 the 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 risk of property damage, physical harm and possible 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.

The Club expressly and unreservedly indemnifies NSW Maritime from all liability associated with GFS events.

The 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 the Club.

3. Rules.

All references made to the racing rules shall be interpreted as a reference to “the current **ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing RRS** and the prescriptions and the special regulations of the AYF”.

It is the responsibility of each skipper to be aware of any changes and addendums made to these rules.

See – www.sailing.org.

All Club races will be sailed under the rules as stated above, in conjunction with these sailing instructions. As a minimum requirement, all yachts racing must comply with the safety requirements of the racing rules **YA Special Regulations: Part 1 – Category 7** – Short races in sheltered waters, in daylight hours only and with effective rescue availability.

Flags and Pennants: in these sailing instructions, Code Flags and Numeral Pennants mentioned shall be those of the **International Code of Signals**.

Definitions: shall be described in the **Racing Rules of Sailing**.

4. Entries.

All races are open to yachts on the register of a recognised club in terms of Part 6 of the Racing Rules of Sailing. Entries shall be on the form devised by the sailing committee. **RRS Rule 75.2 does not apply.**

The race committee reserves the right to reject any entry without stating the reason at any time up to an event's preparatory signal (**RRS Rule 76**) or, similarly, suspend any entry.

All yachts competing in GFS races are required to have lodged an audited **Special Regulations Equipment Compliance Form** with the club or hold and produce a current audited Special Regulations Equipment Compliance Form from another club. **RRS Rule 78.2** will apply to a yacht unable to deliver this form by the required time. **Special Regulations Equipment Compliance Forms must be lodged before the first race sailed by the yacht in the current season.**

Casual entries may be accepted by the race committee. Proof of Yachting NSW membership must be shown & a \$10.00 fee per race applies. An interim Special Regulations Compliance Form (Category 7) must be completed and submitted to the starter prior to racing and RRS 46 (**2009– 2013**) applies.

5. Changes to Sailing Instructions.

If necessary, changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Club internet site (www.gfs.org.au).

6. Schedule of Races.

Races will be held according to the Season Calendar issued to members, who have paid racing fees, prior to the commencement of the sailing season.

7. Divisions and Classes.

Yacht divisions and classes are defined by coloured flags which are used as their starting signal. These are listed in order of starting.

<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Down Harbour</u>	<u>Twilight</u>
Etchells Class (Green)	Blue	Blue	Red
Division One (Blue)	Blue	Blue	Yellow
Division Two (White)	White	White	White
Division Three (Red)		Red	Green
			Blue

The number of Divisions to be sailed, and the yachts competing in each, will be communicated to Members who have paid racing fees prior to the commencement of the relevant series.

8. Marks.

Marks are set at locations shown on the GFS course map. These marks, if buoys, are distinguished by a brightly coloured flag, flown immediately above the Club burgee. The Parramatta (PRSC) YA mark is a yellow can buoy. The marks, if buoys, in Down Harbour courses are yellow can (YA) buoys.

All marks are to be rounded to starboard except when denoted by (P) in which case they will be rounded to port.

When Islands are listed as marks in GFS Courses **RRS, Rule 18.5 applies.**

9. Start Line.

The Start Line may be set from either the Clubhouse or the Club launch. Code flag 'Q' will be flown at the Clubhouse to signify that the start will be from the Club launch.

The Start Line will be set between a Club buoy and the flag mast of either the Club launch or the Clubhouse.

If the club buoy is missing, when starting from the Clubhouse, the start line will be set between the flag mast at the Clubhouse and the **EASTERN CORNER** of the Sea Scouts shed on the Hunters Hill shore.

When starting, boats must pass between the Clubhouse or launch and the Club mark. If a clearance mark is laid at the Clubhouse or launch end of the start line, boats must pass between the clearance buoy and the Club mark. If laid, the clearance mark does not indicate the position of the start line.

10. Courses and Course Signals.

Courses will only be issued to members who have paid racing fees prior to the commencement of the sailing season.

The courses to be sailed on the day shall be set by the Sailing Secretary for Saturday races & the Twilight Captain for twilight races, or their nominees.

The letter 'A' following the course number shall indicate the alternative course. When displayed, boats are to proceed directly to the finish after rounding the mark so designated on the course sheet.

The course to be sailed can be changed by the starter up to the warning signal of each separate Division. This may result in different divisions sailing different courses.

The course to be sailed will be indicated by a course number displayed on the Clubhouse or on the transom of the Club launch.

Course Signals.

Twilight Courses – Clubhouse start

The course number for Red Division will be displayed on a red board, the course for Green Division will be on a green board, the course for **Yellow and White Divisions on a white board** and the course for Blue Division will be on a blue board.

Saturday Courses – Launch (Code Flag 'Q') or Clubhouse start

The course number for the Etchells Class, Division 1, Division 2 and Division 3, where applicable, will be displayed on a red board with white numerals.

Etchells always sail the green (G) course. When Divisions 1 and 2 are combined the start will be at the Division 1 start time. A Blue Flag will indicate the blue (B) course is to be sailed and a White Flag the White (W) course is to be sailed.

Winter Courses – Clubhouse start

The course number for Division 1 will be displayed on a blue board, for Division 2 a white board and Division 3 if applicable a red board. **If one division only is sailed, the course number will be displayed on a green board.**

11. Starting Procedure.

All starts rely on flag movements. Sound signals may or may not occur. If a start is subject to a general recall, the following starts will be delayed by 10 minutes.

i. Winter and Down Harbour Point Score Series – Scratch Start.

	PT Down Harbour (1.15pm)	Club Pennant raised	
	PT Winter (12.30pm)	Sound signal	
PT + 5 min	Division One class warning signal	Blue Pennant raised	
		Sound signal	
PT + 6 min	Division One preparatory signal	Code Flag 'I' raised	
		Sound signal	
PT + 9 min	Division One 1 minute signal	Code Flag 'I' lowered	
		Long Sound signal	
PT + 10min	Division One Start signal	Blue Pennant lowered	
		Sound signal	\$
	Division Two warning signal	White Pennant raised	
PT + 11 min	Division Two preparatory signal	Code Flag 'I' raised	
		Sound signal	
PT + 14 min	Division Two 1 minute signal	Code Flag 'I' lowered	
		Long Sound signal	
PT + 15 min	Division Two Start signal	White Pennant lowered	
		Sound signal	\$\$
	Division Three warning signal	Red Pennant raised	
PT + 16 min	Division Three preparatory signal	Code Flag 'I' raised	
		Sound signal	
PT + 19 min	Division Three 1 minute signal	Code Flag 'I' lowered	
		Long Sound signal	
PT + 20 min	Division Three Start signal	Red Pennant lowered	
		Sound signal	\$\$\$

The starting sequence will finish at –

\$\$\$ for a three division start (Blue, White and Red)
\$\$ for a two division start (Blue and White)
\$ for a one division start (Blue Pennant).

ii. Saturday Point Score Series – Scratch Start.

PT (1.15pm)		Club Pennant raised Sound signal	
PT + 5 min	Etchells Class warning signal	Green Pennant raised Sound signal	
PT + 6 min	Etchells Class preparatory signal	Code Flag '1' raised Sound signal	
PT + 9 min	Etchells Class 1 minute signal	Code Flag '1' lowered Long Sound signal	
PT + 10 min	Etchells Class Start signal	Green Pennant lowered Sound signal	# ++
	Division One warning signal	Blue Pennant raised	
PT + 11 min	Division One preparatory signal	Code Flag '1' raised Sound signal	
PT + 14 min	Division One 1 minute signal	Code Flag '1' lowered Long Sound signal	
PT + 15min	Division One Start signal	Blue Pennant lowered Sound signal	##
	Division Two warning signal	White Pennant raised	
PT + 16 min	Division Two preparatory signal	Code Flag '1' raised Sound signal	
PT + 19 min	Division Two 1 minute signal	Code Flag '1' lowered Long Sound signal	
PT + 20 min	Division Two Start signal	White Pennant lowered Sound signal	###
	Division Three warning signal	Red Pennant raised	
PT + 21 min	Division Three preparatory signal	Code Flag '1' raised Sound signal	
PT + 24 min	Division Three 1 minute signal	Code Flag '1' lowered Long Sound signal	
PT + 25 min	Division Three Start signal	Red Pennant lowered Sound signal	####

The starting sequence will finish at

- ###** for Etchells and three mixed divisions (Green, Blue, White and Red pennants),
- ###** for Etchells and two mixed divisions (Green, Blue and White pennants),
- ##** for Etchells and one mixed division (Green and Blue/White pennants*), and
- #** for an Etchells only start (Green pennant)

If there are no Etchells sailing separately as a class the starting sequence will start at

- + +** for up to three mixed divisions (Blue, White and Red pennants)

* When Divisions 1 and 2 are combined the start will be at the Division 1 start time. A Blue Flag will indicate the Blue (B) course and a white flag the White (W) course.

iii. Twilight Point Score – Scratch Start.

PT (5.40pm)		Club Pennant raised Sound Signal
PT + 5 min	Red Division Warning Signal	Red Pennant raised Sound Signal
PT + 6 min	Red Division preparatory signal	Code Flag 'I' raised
PT + 9 min	Red Division 1 minute signal	Code Flag 'I' lowered
PT + 10 min (5.50 pm)	Red Division Start signal	Red Pennant lowered
	Yellow Division Warning Signal	Yellow Pennant raised
PT + 11 min	Yellow Division preparatory signal	Code Flag 'I' raised Sound Signal
PT + 14 min	Yellow Division 1 minute signal	Code Flag 'I' lowered
PT + 15min (5.55 pm)	Yellow Division Start signal	Yellow Pennant lowered Sound Signal
	White Division Warning signal	White Pennant raised
PT + 16 min	White Division Preparatory Signal	Code Flag 'I' raised
PT + 19 min	White Division 1 minute signal	Code Flag 'I' lowered
PT + 20 min (6.00 pm)	White Division Start signal	White pennant lowered Sound Signal
	Green Division Warning Signal	Green Pennant raised
PT + 21 min	Green Division Preparatory Signal	Code Flag 'I' raised
PT + 24 min	Green Division 1 minute signal	Code Flag 'I' lowered
PT + 25 min (6.05 pm)	Green Division Start Signal	Green Pennant lowered Sound signal
	Blue Division Warning Signal	Blue Pennant raised
PT + 26 min	Blue Division Preparatory Signal	Code Flag 'I' raised
PT + 29 min	Blue Division 1 minute signal	Code Flag 'I' lowered
PT + 30 min (6.10 pm)	Blue Division Start Signal	Blue Pennant lowered Sound Signal

Note: To minimize noise in the vicinity of the club, Sound signals will only occur at the start of the flag sequence and thereafter at the warning signal and start signal for each division.

iv. Twilight and Saturday Summer Series – Handicap Start.

Handicaps will be assigned and communicated to competing yachts prior to the start of the relevant Summer Series.

PT 1315 hrs	Saturday	Club Pennant raised	
1740 hrs	Twilight	Sound Signal	
PT + 5 min	Warning Signal	Code Flag 'I' raised	
		Sound Signal	There will be NO further sound signals
PT + 6 min	1 minute handicap yachts' Preparatory Signal	# 0 displayed	
PT + 7 minutes	Start 1 minute handicap yachts	# 1 displayed	
Then at 1 minute intervals until all competitors have started	Each yacht's Preparatory Signal will be the appearance of the number preceding the yacht's handicap Each yacht's Start Signal will be the appearance of the number corresponding to the yacht's handicap		

Handicap adjustments will be made using the 'Top yacht' program following each race

New handicaps will be published on the GFS website and/or communicated by email prior to the next race in the relevant series.

Note: For the Saturday Series, Etchells may still race as a class with a scratch start, this will be communicated to participating yachts prior to Summer Race 1.

12. Starting Rules.

- a RRS. Rule 30.1 applies at the start.
- b Yachts are requested to keep clear of the starting line from the warning signal.
- c Yachts sailing in the starting area prior to their preparatory signal (**Code Flag 'I' raised**) must keep clear of all yachts sailing after their preparatory signal. Yachts not complying may be protested.
- d **If a Club Buoy has been laid, after its preparatory signal no yacht shall cross the starting line from the direction of the first mark. No 'dip starts' are permitted - Code Flag 'I'.**
- e The starter will remain on station for 15 minutes after the last start. No yacht will be recorded as a starter after that time.
- f **The procedure for Handicap Starts outlined above modifies rule 12(c).**

13. Delayed Start.

In the event of a delayed start, the Answering Pennant (**AP**) will be raised accompanied by two sound signals. When the start is imminent the Answering Pennant will be lowered accompanied by one sound signal. One minute thereafter the normal starting procedure will commence. This may also include a new course number.

14. Recalls.

a Individual RRS Rule 29.1 will apply.

Code Flag 'X' will be displayed accompanied by one sound signal. The offending yacht may be advised by hail; however the onus is on the offending yacht to return and restart.

b General RRS Rule 29.2 will apply as modified.

First Substitute will be raised accompanied by two sound signals. Four minutes later the First Substitute will be lowered accompanied by one sound signal. One minute later the Class Flag and Preparatory Signal (for the Twilight Point score races) and the Class Flag (for the Saturday and Winter races) will be raised accompanied by one sound signal. Thereafter the starting procedures return to normal.

If a second general recall occurs the recalled division will then start 10 minutes after the last division start. The Preparatory Signal (Twilight races) or the Class Flag (Saturday & Winter races) will be raised five minutes after the last division starts.

15. Shortened Course.

Code Flag 'S' displayed at a rounding mark indicates that the course has been shortened. All yachts after rounding this mark shall proceed directly to the finishing line. If a Division Flag is also displayed with Code Flag 'S', the course is shortened for boats in that division only.

16. Cancellation of Race.

If conditions are such that the starter decides to cancel the race, Code Flag 'N' and the Answering Pennant 'AP' will be displayed accompanied by three sound signals.

17. Abandonment of Race.

a If necessary a race will be abandoned by flying Code Flag 'N' above Code Flag 'A' from the launch or clubhouse mast accompanied by three long sound signals.

b When an 'Ocean Storm', 'Tsunami' or 'Land Gale' warning is current for the Sydney area racing will be abandoned.

c Where wind speeds in excess of 30 knots are consistently recorded at Sydney Airport, or at their discretion, the starter will abandon racing for the day.

18. Races Cancelled or Abandoned.

Races canceled or abandoned will not be re-sailed. Yachts competing in a race abandoned after the start will be awarded 4 points.

19. Time Limits.

Saturday Point Score	4 hours elapsed time
Down Harbour Series	5 hours elapsed time
Twilight Series	8.15 pm
Winter Series	4 hours elapsed time

Should no yacht in a given division complete the course or shortened course within the time limit the race will be abandoned for that division. All yachts competing in that race shall be awarded 4 points.

20. Alternative Penalties.

Rule 44.1 and 44.2 apply except as modified. The Two Turns Penalty will apply to all yachts breaking a rule of Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing **and a One Turn Penalty will apply to all yachts breaking Rule 31 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.**

When Etchells are racing as a class, the class rule of a one turn penalty shall apply to yachts breaking a rule of Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.

21. Finish Line.

When finishing, boats must pass between the Club mark and the **Blue** Flag on the Clubhouse mast or on the **Blue** Flag on the club launch. The Clearance mark does not apply at the finish.

Where the finish is from the Club launch the line will be set at an appropriate position relative to the last mark passed.

A yacht must not obstruct the starter's view of the finish line or distract the starter whilst yachts which are finishing are being recorded.

Note: RRS. Rule 31 also applies at the finish.

22. Scoring.

Yachts of members who have paid racing fees, provided Proof of Insurance and have lodged a Special Regulations Equipment Form with the Club will be awarded points in Club events. Visiting boats whose owners have paid the prescribed fee for the race will be awarded positions in the race but will not be awarded points in the Club point score - see **Sailing Instruction 4**. The position gained by such a yacht will not be taken into account when allocating points or adjusting handicaps.

Races to Count.

The races to count for each point score shall be determined as follows. If,

- between 1 and 5 races are sailed count all races
- 6 or 7 races are sailed count all but the worst 1 result
- between 8 and 11 races are sailed count all but the worst 2 results
- between 12 and 17 races are sailed count all but the worst 3 results
- 18 or more races are sailed count all but the worst 4 results

Club Point Score

Points shall be scored and any ties resolved in accordance with a **RRS Appendix A -Scoring. The Low Point Scoring System** will apply, except that:

- a. **Each yacht will receive points equal to its finishing position.**
- b. All yachts which start and do not finish will be awarded equal points as if the finished one place after the last placed boat for that division on corrected time except in the case where all boats in a division do not finish, as in Sailing Instructions 18 & 19, all boats in that division will be awarded **4** points each.

22. Scoring (continued).

- c. For the Saturdays and Winter series all boats on the register that do not start will be awarded points equal to the greatest recorded fleet size of the first four races in a series plus 10. For the Twilight series all boats that do not start will be awarded points equal to the greatest combined recorded fleet size of the first four races divided by the number of divisions, plus 10.
- d. Yachts disqualified following a protest hearing or otherwise shall incur points as for (b) above plus 1 point. Points for a disqualified race cannot be discarded in the point-score for the series in which the disqualification occurred (SI.23).
- e. Results published by the Sailing Secretary can only be corrected within three (3) weeks from the date of posting.
- f. The Sailing Secretary may award average points to yachts participating in State or National Titles, which clash with a GFS Point Score Race. Points will be based on the yacht's average performance in all other Point Score races for the current series. Advice in writing to the Sailing Secretary will be required before the event.

Overall Point Scores

The Overall Point Score for Saturday, Down Harbour and Twilight Series seasons is the combined results of the Spring and Autumn Series, after dropping the worst results in accordance with the Races to Count above.

The J24 Twilight Trophy Series is for the best placed yacht in the J24 class in the Twilight Spring, Summer and Autumn Series.

The Cav 28 Trophy Series is for the best placed yacht in the Cavalier 28 class in the Twilight Spring and Autumn Series.

The Mick York series is for the best handicap result in a Series of six races within the normal Saturday Series.

23. Protests.

Only Code Flag 'B', will be recognised as a protest flag.

The starter must be notified of the protest on completion of the race in which the protest occurred.

All protests shall be made in writing, addressed to the Protest Convener **and lodged at the club** within two hours of the finish of the last boat in that division on the day of the event in which the protest arises.

For Twilight events the deadline will be one hour after the scheduled time limit of the event.

All the provisions of **RRS - Part 5** must be followed. Protest hearings will be held within one week, whenever possible, at the Clubhouse.

Protest hearings will not be adjourned on the grounds of non-attendance of protester, protestee or witness. The committee may uphold or reject a protest on grounds of non-attendance.

Where places as shown on the Race Result Sheet are subject to adjustment as a result of a protest, the Protest Convener will notify any such change to the affected yacht or yachts.

A yacht disqualified as a result of a protest hearing for an infringement of **RRS Parts 1, 2 and 3 (or RRS 69)** will be required to carry the points incurred in its point-score for that series.

24. **Handicap System.**

Handicaps are determined at the beginning of each season using previous results and individual assessment. During the season handicaps can be adjusted by the Sailing Secretary or their delegate to correct inequitable situations.

GFS uses *Top Yacht Software*© to determine handicap results. For detailed information visit <http://topyachtsoftware.com/>.

Except for the Saturday Summer Series, a boat's handicap result is based on its elapsed time multiplied by its Allocated Handicap (AHC) for that race. After each race a Back Calculated Handicap (BCH) is generated for each boat. This is the handicap needed for each boat to be placed equal on corrected finish time with every other boat in that race using a 'reference' boat in the fleet.

A Calculated Handicap (CHC) is then determined by averaging the boat's Back Calculated Handicaps for the past four races which then becomes the Allocated Handicap for the next race.

The system applies limits and rules which prevent huge shifts in a boat's handicap and rejects calculated handicaps which vary greatly from the boat's 'normal' handicap being used to generate its handicap for the next race.

The automatic handicap system applies to all boats eligible to race on the Club register. Non-starters may be penalised for each race missed in each partial season point score at the discretion of the Sailing Secretary.

Yachts new to the Club will be assigned an AHC of 1.0000 for their first three races.

Race results will be posted on the race information notice board after each race and listed on the GFS internet site (www.gfs.org.au). Any inquires regarding handicaps or results must be made to the Sailing Secretary.

25. **Rostered Duty Officer.**

- (i) **For Saturday racing**, a yacht's crew (minimum 2 people and preferably three, including the owner) will be rostered to perform start duty. The yacht of the rostered duty officer is considered a starter and the following conditions apply:
 - a Points (for the Etchells class - scratch and handicap) will be awarded to the rostered member's yacht based on its average performance in the relevant series. Alternatively, if advantageous DNF points as per Sailing Instruction 22 (b) will be awarded.
 - b The rostered member's yacht will not be raced.
 - c If the rostered member is unavoidably absent they can be represented by an experienced crew member.
 - d A rostered member can change dates by arrangement with another rostered member, provided the Sailing Secretary is notified prior to the race.
 - e Part owners of a yacht will be rostered as one with any partner representing the owners.
 - f The penalty for non-attendance is that points equal to DSQ points will be awarded and these will be carried in the yacht's point score for that series.
 - g If the rostered duty officer fails to attend, racing for the day will be abandoned. Code Flag 'N' flown above Code Flag 'A' will be flown at the clubhouse.

25. Rostered Duty Officer (continued)

- (ii) **For Twilight racing**, two crews will be rostered each week to assist. The yacht of each rostered duty officer is considered a starter and the following conditions apply:
- a At least three crew persons are required from each rostered yacht to complete the duty.
 - b The rostered members' yachts can be raced on the night of the duty.
 - c Each twilight race night, 2 duty shifts will operate. The first crew rostered must report immediately following their finish in the race.
 - d A rostered member can change dates by arrangement with another rostered member, provided the Social Secretary is notified prior to the race.
 - e The penalty for non-attendance is that points equal to DSQ points will be awarded and these must be carried in the yacht's point score for that series.

26. Special Regulations.

- a Commercial Shipping. Competing yachts must not interfere with the commercial shipping of the port. **Yachts are specifically warned to keep clear of ferries.**
- b Yachts which have finished must keep clear of the Finish Line area and yachts still racing.
- c A yacht approaching the starting line under power or tow must stop the motor or cast off the tow-line at least two (2) minutes before their Starting Signal, or make a 360° turn before starting to race.
- d The Club Racing Pennant must be clearly displayed whilst racing. Visitors may use their own club flag.
In addition, all yachts competing in the Down Harbour Series must carry a Fluorescent Yellow Pennant, of size 600mm x 70mm, from the backstay or, if no backstay, a position from which the pennant is obvious.
- e In Saturday racing, MPS spinnakers are allowable, i.e. a spinnaker may be set without a pole. No spinnakers or MPS sails are allowed in Twilight racing.
- f Identification.
 - (i) Sails; Mainsails, spinnakers and overlapping headsails must bear the same number.
 - (ii) Hulls: All yachts are required to have displayed in a contrasting colour and in letters and numbers at least 50mm in size, on both sides of the hull or on their transom, the name of the yacht, sail number and Club of registration (e.g. **GFS**).
- g The Sailing Secretary, or their delegate (if racing), may communicate with the starter during a race to advise on course changes if necessary.
- h All yachts must have their centerboard or swing-keel locked down at all times when racing. Yachts not complying may be protested.
- i Code flag 'U' flown from the Clubhouse indicates that a crew member is available at the Club. The person can be picked up from the Club pontoon by the first volunteer skipper.

26. Special Regulations (continued).

- j If a yacht retires from a race please inform the **duty crew** either by hail or by phone call to the Club at 9436 1901.
- k Retractable spinnaker poles and other outriggers are allowed when these are part of the design of the yacht. **This changes RRS Rule 50.3(a).**

l **Prohibited Areas**

(i) All areas enclosed by private moorings are prohibited areas for all Club courses. Each area is considered to be an obstruction, not surrounded by navigable water, and not a mark of the course. **RRS Rule 19** applies. Blue Police buoys are considered to be private moorings.

(ii) **Spectacle and Snapper Islands**

- a. Sailing between the naval barges and their moorings/piles and between the barges or their moorings/piles and the shore at Spectacle Island is prohibited. **RRS Rule 19 applies.**
- b. The area between the Western tip of Spectacle Island and the first of the naval moorings/piles to the North East is also a prohibited area. RRS Rule 19 applies.
- c. It is not permissible to sail through the area between Spectacle and Snapper Islands. This area is also considered to be an obstruction, not surrounded by navigable water, not a mark of the course. **RRS Rule 19 applies.**
- d. The area between the Beacon Buoy and Spectacle Island is a prohibited area for all Club races. RRS Rule 19 applies.

(iii) **Shark Island**

The area between Shark Island and the Shark Island YA buoy is a prohibited area for all Club races. **RRS Rule 19 applies.**

(iv) **Snails Bay**

The dolphins at Snails Bay are not considered to be private moorings. It is permissible to sail between the dolphins, between the dolphins and the private moorings in Snails Bay and the dolphins and the shore.

Yachts breaking Sailing Instruction 26.l may retrace their course until outside the restricted area then do a two turns penalty. If they fail to do this and are protested by another yacht they will be classed as DNF. They will be contacted and informed of this by either the Sailing Secretary or the Twilight Captain.

When reported, the onus of proof is on the offending yacht to provide evidence, or witnesses, that they were not in breach of this Sailing Instruction. This may require a protest to be lodged after the offending yacht has been notified. In this case the protest must be lodged within two hours of the time of notification.

- m. Safety equipment spot checks may be held during the season. If indicated by the presence of the club launch at the finish of the race, in races indicated (S), immediately a yacht finishes it is to display the nominated piece of safety equipment to the duty crew in the club launch moored beyond the finish line. Failure to display the item will result in the forfeit of all points from this race and previous races in the series. The club launch will not display a red flag and is not part of the finish line.

26. Special Regulations (continued).

- n. The Maritime Safety Act 1998 requirements are to be followed in case of any incident resulting in significant damage to vessels or injury to persons during club events and is a requirement of the GFS Aquatic Licence from NSW Maritime. The relevant Sections of the Act are listed below

An incident Report form is available on the club website. A copy of the Incident Report should be sent to the Club within seven days of the incident.

MARINE SAFETY ACT

Section 99 Duty to report marine accidents to Minister

(1) When a marine accident occurs in connection with a vessel, the master of that vessel (and the owner of the vessel if aware of the accident) must send a report to the Minister containing particulars of the accident as soon as practicable by the quickest means available.

(2) A report is not required to be sent:

- (a) if a report of the marine accident has already been sent by the owner or master, or
- (b) in any other case prescribed by the regulations.

(3) After receiving a report of a marine accident, the Minister may require further information from the owner or master of a vessel involved in the accident to determine whether an investigation should be ordered into the marine accident.

Section 100 Marine accident particulars

The particulars of a marine accident required to be furnished or reported under this Division are as follows:

- (a) the time, place and nature of the marine accident,
- (b) the name and distinguishing number (if any) of each vessel involved in the marine accident,
- (c) the name and address of each person who was involved in or was a material witness to the marine accident,
- (d) any loss of life or the estimated extent of any injury or damage resulting from the marine accident.

End

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