Balmain Sailing Club, Drummoyne Sailing Club, Greenwich Flying Squadron and Parramatta River Sailing Club

2019 West Harbour Spring Series

Sailing Instructions

SCHEDULE OF RACES

Race 1	8 September 2019
Race 2	22 September – *Birchgrove Cup*
Race 3	20 October
Race 4	3 November
Race 5	17 November
Race 6	1 December
Race 7	15 December

1. RULES

The races will be governed by the *rules*, as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017 - 2020 ("RRS") of World Sailing (WS), and the Special Regulations and prescriptions of Australian Sailing (AS). These may be amended by the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions. The Organising Authority is the Balmain Sailing Club ("BSC").

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Changes to the sailing instructions and Notices to competitors will be posted on the BSC website club no later than 3 hours before a race. Notices will also be circulated to skippers via email.

3. RACE ENTRY

3.1 It is the responsibility of each skipper/owner to maintain their boat to the required standard of safety and keep all safety equipment on board and in working order.

3.2 All races are designated Category 7. Entrants must lodge a current equipment audit form signed by an accredited equipment auditor before racing. Owners are responsible for ensuring that all equipment is kept up to date and in good condition throughout the season.

3.3 Boats will have a minimum of two crew.

3.4 Prior to racing, entrants shall lodge a fully completed Race Entry using the Top Yacht Entry System (TES) via the link on the Balmain Sailing Club's website.

3.5 All entrants are required to display legible sail numbers.

4. DIVISIONS, WARNING SIGNALS AND START TIMES (to be read in conjunction with RRS 26)

4.1 There will be three (3) Divisions.

4.2 The Race Committee will inform all entrants in which division they will compete.

This will not be subject to protest or dispute.

4.3 Division Pennants shall be flown from the backstay or conspicuously near the stern. Pennants are available at each participating club.

Division 1	Yellow pennant
Division 2	Blue pennant
Division 3	Black pennant
Division 4	Green pennant

4.4 Scheduled Warning and Start time for each division:

Scheduled Time	Division Warning	Division Start
13:55	4	
14:00	3	4
14:05	2	3
14:10	1	2
14:15		1

5. RACE CANCELLATION

The Race Committee may cancel a race for any reason.

6. RACING AREAS

With the exception of the down harbour course, races will be conducted west of Sydney Harbour Bridge and East of Iron Cove and Gladesville Bridges in waters surrounding Goat Island, Cockatoo Island, Spectacle Island and Snapper Island.

7. COURSES

7.1 The diagram in **Attachment A** shows the course area and a course table, including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

7.2 The course to be sailed will be indicated by numbered pennants flown from the Drummoyne Sailing Club Start Boat and announced on **VHF Channel 77**.

7.3 All marks are to be passed to Starboard unless the mark is suffixed (P), which indicates the mark is to be passed to Port.

8. SHORTENED COURSES

8.1 When the 'S' Flag is displayed with the Warning Signal for a Division, the course for that division will be shortened as indicated in Attachment A Courses.

8.2 Courses may be shortened after the start in accordance with RRS 32.

8.3 The course may be shortened by relocating the finish line. This changes RRS rule 32.

9. MARKS

9.1 All laid marks will be a red chequered flag mark.

9.2 Unless otherwise specified, all rounding marks are to be passed on starboard hand.

9.3 For a detailed description of the rounding marks, see "Chart of Marks" in Attachment A.

10. THE START

10.1 The Starting line will be laid in an area East of Cockatoo Island, North of the Balmain Shore, and West of Long Nose Point and will be between the orange flagstaff on the start boat and a mark displaying an orange flag.

10.2 Boats shall remain well clear of the starting area prior to their Warning Signal. 100 meters clear of the start line is the *minimum* distance. The Race Committee may disqualify any boat not complying with this rule.

11. RECALLS

11.1 Individual recalls may not be indicated. This modifies RRS 29.1. If any yacht crosses and is on the course side of the starting line at the time of her start, she may restart the race or be penalised 3 minutes.

11.2 A yacht starting before her start may be recorded as DNS at the discretion of the starter.

11.3 To assist competitors, the Race Committee may advise individual and general recalls over VHF 77. This Amends RRS 29.2 & 29.3.

11.4 Any error or omission in the advice referred to in clause 11.3 above will not be grounds for protest or redress.

11.5 In the case of a General Recall the re-start for that division will follow the start of all other divisions with the warning signal for the re-starting division corresponding with the start time of the previous division. This amends RRS 29.

12. LATE STARTERS

12.1 If a boat is towed or under motor to the start line after the preparatory signal it can exonerate itself by completing a one turn penalty before crossing the start line.

12.2 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS rules A4 and A5.

13. THE FINISH

13.1 The Finishing Line will generally be between a laid mark and the Drummoyne Sailing Club boat in the vicinity of Balmain Sailing Club.

13.2 If no DSC finish boat is present, the finish line will be the transit line defined by the triangular leading marks on the BSC clubhouse deck and building.

13.3 The finish line for Down Harbour races (Course 7) will be the transit line defined by the triangular leading marks on the BSC clubhouse deck and building.

13.4 The Race Committee may disqualify yachts who do not keep clear of the Finish Line after they have finished.

13.5 First or second lap times may be used to determine the race results at the discretion of the Race Committee regardless of whether the course has been shortened.

14. TIME LIMIT

14.1 The time limit for races will be 1700 hours.

14.2 If one boat finishes within the time limit, all boats that have started and not finished by the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This amends RRS 35.

15. SCORING & HANDICAPS

15.1 The Scoring System will be The Low Point scoring system, RRS Appendix A applies.

15.2 The series point score is open only to series entries.

15.3 Casual entrants will be included in the race day result. They will have no impact on the series point scores.

15.4 Races Dropped - Boats shall discard her highest score after 4 races are conducted and her next highest score after 6 races are conducted. There will be a maximum of 2 discards.

15.5 Scoring for the series will comprise both Performance (PHS) and Measurement (ORC) systems applied as Time Correction Factors (TCF).

15.6 The default system will be PHS with handicaps based on time correction factors (TCF) as determined by the Sailing Committee.

15.7 Entrants intending in participating in the Measurement system will be required to have a valid ORCi or ORC Club Certificate prior to Race 3 of the series.

15.8 A boat's PHS handicap may be adjusted based on race performance or for changes in equipment, skipper, crew or ownership.

15.9 Tied point scores for 1st, 2nd and 3rd at the end of a series shall be broken in accordance with RRS Appendix A Rule A8.

15.10 The Race Committee will publish preliminary results on the club website (www.balmainsailingclub.com) as soon as possible after the race. Errors and queries must be directed to the Sailing Committee (racing@balmainsailingclub.com) within 48 hours of results being published.

16. PRIZES

16.1 Prizes for each race will be presented to first, second and third place-getters after each race.

16.2 Prizes for series point-scores will be awarded at the Spring Series Prize-giving ceremony following the final race of the series.

17. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

17.1 Moorings - The area of water between swing moorings and the shoreline shall be considered as prohibited water for all boats after the preparatory signal and throughout the race.

17.2 All navigation marks rank as obstructions and shall be passed on their designated side. The water between a navigation mark and the adjacent shore or hazard shall be considered Continuing Obstruction.

17.3 The area of water bounded by Snapper Island, Spectacle Island, and the barges and their pylons shall be considered as prohibited water (a continuing obstruction).

17.4 Infringements under this rule cannot be exonerated. The penalty for breaking this rule will be disqualification.

18. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

18.1 Protests and Requests for Redress must be in writing.

18.2 Protest shall be delivered as follows:

- Within 60 minutes after the time limit for that race to the BSC Sailing Office, or,
- By 10am of the day after the race by email (racing@balmainsailingclub.com).

Receipt of protests delivered by email will be acknowledged by the Protest Committee within 24 hours.

18.3 Protest mediation may be used prior to a formal protest hearing. Procedures for mediation can be found on the BSC website at http://www.balmainsailingclub.com/racing/instructions-and-courses

19. EQUIPMENT

19.1 This is a spinnaker series. Extras may be carried (spinnakers, bloopers, ringtails, tallboys, etc. allowed).

19.2 Anchors shall not be carried at the bow or on the deck of any racing keelboat. The penalty for this will be disqualification.

19.3 Hiking Aids including trapezes and leg straps shall not be permitted to be used to assist crew members to hike outside of the gunnels of any boat unless these aids are permitted by the Class Rules for the particular keelboat or dinghy. This amends RRS 49.1.

20. SAFETY REGULATIONS

20.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Starter, either by radio (Channel 77), telephone (0411 206 347) or in person as soon as possible after the retirement.

20.2 It is a requirement of NSW RMS that all boats competing keep 200 meters from the bow and at least 30 meters from the sides or stern of any ferry underway and 500 meters from the bow and at least 60 meters from the sides or stern of any large commercial vessel underway (see diagram).

21. IN ACCORDANCE WITH RRS 42(I), A BOAT MAY USE HER ENGINE WHILE RACING:

(a) to avoid interfering with commercial traffic, or

(b) if she has run aground, or

(c) to avoid running aground.

(d) to avoid a collision.

The engine use must be logged and a declaration made at the race office as soon as possible after finishing. The race committee will decide what penalty (if any) shall apply. This alters rule A5 60.1 and 60.3.

22. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in all races entirely at their own risk - see rule 4, Decision to Race. The Drummoyne Sailing Club, Balmain Sailing Club, Parramatta River Sailing Club and Greenwich Flying Squadron will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after any racing.

23. INSURANCE

Each participating keelboat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of $10,000,000.

ATTACHMENT A

Courses

Course	Division	Course
1	All	START_CI_SB_SI_MP_CI_SB_SI_CI_GI_FINISH
2	All	START_MP(P)_CI(P)_SI(P)_SB(P)_CI(P)_GI(P)_MP(P)_CI(P)_SI(P)_SB(P)_FINISH
3	All	START_CI_SB_DM_CI_LN_CI_SB_CI_GI_FINISH
4	All	START_LN(P)_CI(P)_DM(P)_SB(P)_CI(P)_GI_CI(P)_SB(P)_FINISH
5	All	START_CI_SB_SI_CI_GB_CI_GB_FINISH
6	All	START_GB(P)_CI(P)_SI(P)_SB(P)_CI(P)_GB(P)_CI(P)_ FINISH
7	All	START_MP(P)_CI(P)_WH(P)_GB(P)_MP(P)_CI(P)_WH(P)_GB(P)_MP(P)_CI(P)_WH(P)_FINISH
8	1&2	(DOWN HARBOUR COURSE) START_GI_FD_SM_CkI_FD_GI_FINISH
8	3&4	(DOWN HARBOUR COURSE) START_GI_FD_CkI_FD_GI_FINISH

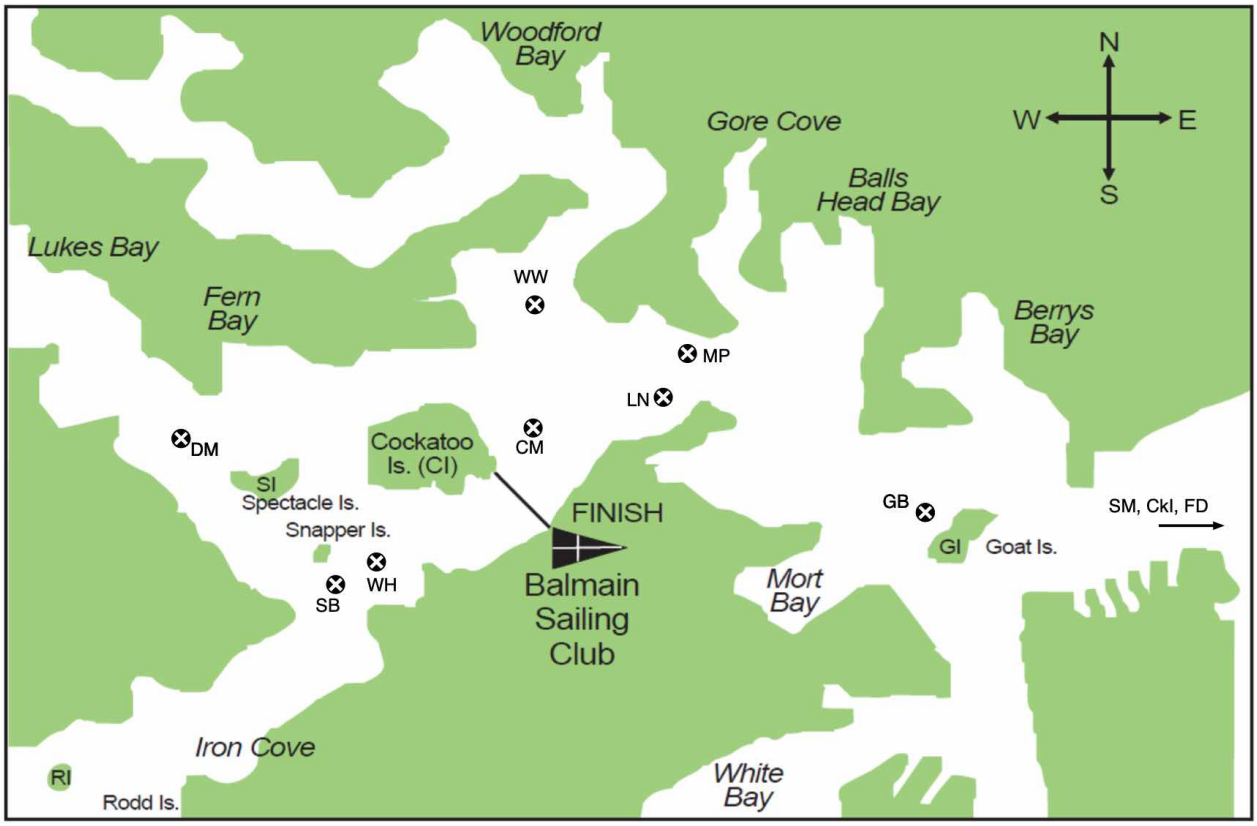
(P) denotes a port rounding.

Short Courses

Course	Division	Course
1	All	START _CI_SB_SI_MP_CI_SB_SI_CI_MP_ FINISH
2	All	START _MP(P)_CI(P)_SI(P)_SB(P)_CI(P)_MP(P)_CI(P)_FINISH
3	All	START _CI_SB_DM_CI_LN_CI_LN_FINISH
4	All	START _LN(P)_CI(P)_DM(P)_SB(P)_CI(P)_LN(P)_CI(P)_FINISH
5	All	START _CI_SB_SI_CI_GB_CI_ SB_CI_FINISH
6	All	START_GB(P)_CI(P)_SI(P)_SB(P)_CI(P)_SB(P)_FINISH
7	All	START_MP(P)_CI(P)_WH(P)_GB(P)_MP(P)_CI(P)_WH(P)_MP(P)_CI(P)_WH(P)_FINISH
8	1&2	(DOWN HARBOUR COURSE) START_GI_FD_CkI_FD_GI_FINISH
8	3&4	(DOWN HARBOUR COURSE) START_GI_FD_GI_FINISH

(P) denotes a port rounding.

ATTACHMENT A
Chart of Marks



CkI	Clark Island
CI	Cockatoo Island
CM	Laid Mark E of Cockatoo Island.
DM	Laid mark NW of Spectacle Island
FD	Fort Denison
GB	Laid mark W of Goat Island
GI	Goat Island
LN	Laid mark W of Long Nose Point
MP	Laid mark S of Mann's Point
SB	Laid mark SE of Snapper Island
SI	Spectacle Island
SM	Shark Island and YA Mark approx. 10m south east of Shark Island
WH	Laid Mark NW of White Horse Point
WW	Laid Mark E of Woolwich Dock.

Transport Roads & Maritim Services

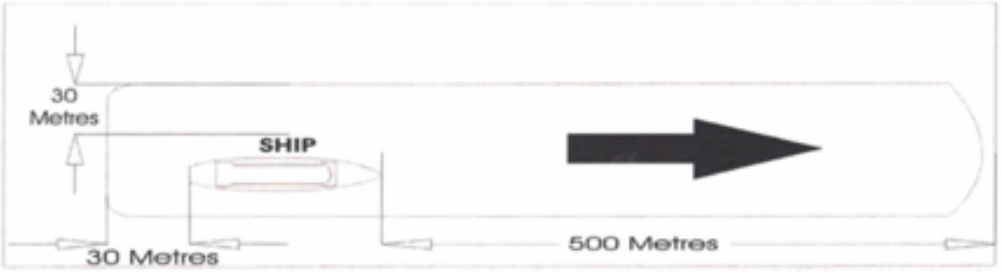
Condition 100

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS SAILING EVENTS

- All competitors **must** maintain a minimum distance of **500m** from the bow of any ship[1] and **200m** from the bow of any ferry[2] and no less than 30m from the sides/stern of any ship or ferry underway.

- The Aquatic Licensee must ensure that all competitors receive a briefing in relation to the requirement to keep clear of ships and ferries.

- Vessels are not to navigate between moorings whilst competing.



SHIP & FERRY ACTIVATED
EXCLUSION ZONE

1 Oil tankers & Seagoing Cruise Ships
2 Other seagoing commercial vessels such as the James Craig or a ferry operating in accordance with an approved timetable