

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

THE AROUND FRENCH ISLAND CATAMARAN CHALLENGE

1 RULES

The Race will be governed by the rules as defined in the Australian Sailing (AS) Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the rules of each class Association concerned, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.

1.2 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organising Authority will be the Sailing Committee of CYC on behalf of Coves Yacht Club Inc. The Race Committee shall be appointed by the Sailing Committee.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the downstairs notice board at Coves Yacht Club before 1000 hours on race day.

3 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the notice board at Coves Yacht Club, before 1000 hours on the day of the race and code flag "L" will be flown from the signal mast.

4 SIGNALS

4.1

All signals made ashore will be displayed on the signal mast at Coves Yacht Club.

Code flag "AP" with two (2) sound signals means the race is postponed.

Code flag "Q" with one sound signal means no boat shall leave the beach or if already at sea shall return to shore without delay.

4.2

Signals made afloat shall be from the official boats.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACE

The race is scheduled to take place at Coves Yacht Club as per Notice of Race. A re-sail shall be held as advised in the Notice of Race, if required.

6 RACING AREA

The racing area is North and East of Coves on Western Port Bay, in the waters surrounding French Island.

6.1 EXCLUSION ZONES

Please see Addendum 1 for defined exclusion zones. Boats observed sailing in any exclusion zone will be disqualified without reference to a protest at the sole discretion of the Race Officer.

7 COURSE

The course is the circumnavigation of French Island in the direction determined by the course flag flying from the signal mast at Coves Yacht Club.

Green flag - leave the island and rounding marks to starboard.

Red flag - leave the island and rounding marks to port.

A rounding mark and the official boat will be positioned at the approximate halfway mark of the race or such shorter distance as may be necessary according to the prevailing wind conditions.

7.1 SHORTENED COURSE

The course may be shortened by displaying code flag “S” from the official boat anchored near or adjacent to the rounding mark and a sound signal shall be made as the lead boat and subsequent boats approach the rounding mark. Boats must go around the rounding mark on the required side according to the course flag and then proceed to the finish line.

7.2 PARKS VICTORIA 5 KNOT ZONES

All racing is prohibited within the Parks Victoria 5 knot inshore restricted zones. Any boat detected sailing deliberately within the restricted zones while racing by the Race Committee will be disqualified (DSQ) without a hearing. Please refer to the Parks Victoria website (<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au>) for details of the restricted zones and signage. All racing marks are outside these zones.

7.3 Port rules

Port Rule 62B for Victorian Proclaimed Ports, including the waters of Western Port, requires small vessels IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES to keep clear of Commercial Shipping. Boats found to have contravened this Rule will be subject to disqualification.

8 MARKS OF THE COURSE

8.1

The rounding mark shall be a yellow inflatable buoy anchored within close proximity to the official boat in that area.

8.2

The starting marks will be two yellow inflatable buoys positioned directly in front of Cowes Yacht Club on the sand and joined by rope. They will be approximately 20 metres apart.

8.3

The finish mark will be a purple inflatable buoy set approximately 250 metres off the beach in front of Cowes Yacht Club in line of sight with the race control room.

9 STARTING PROCEDURE

The start of the race shall be “Le Mans Style” from the beach in front of Cowes Yacht Club. The start procedure shall be as follows:

TIME	Lights	SOUND SIGNAL
5 minute	3 lights	one (1)
4 minute	2 lights	one (1)
1 minute (note 9.1)	1 light	one (1) long
0 minute	0 light	one

9.1

At the 1 minute sound signal all skippers must be behind the starting line that will be marked out on the beach or they may be disqualified.

9.2

Boats may be held at the waters edge (or floating) for the start. Single handed boats may seek outside assistance from one person to hold their boat at the start so that they are not disadvantaged.

9.3 Two division Start

The race officer at his/her discretion will inform skippers of a two division start procedure.

Division 1 will start later than the Division 2 start time, the delayed start time to be advised at the information briefing.

Division 2 will start at the published start time unless signaled otherwise.

9.4 Two division Start Divisions

Division 1 – All boats with yardstick less than 78 – Class Flag Numeral Pennant 1

Division 2 – All boats with a Yardstick 79 to 83 – Class Flag Numeral Pennant 2

10 THE FINISH

The finish line is defined as a line between a purple inflatable buoy set approximately 250 metres off the beach in front of Cowes Yacht Club and the sight line in the race control room of Cowes Yacht Club. The finish line shall be crossed from East to West to complete the race. This shall be the same if the race is shortened.

See item 7.2: Yachts while racing must stay outside the Parks Victoria 5 knot inshore zones.

10.1

After finishing the race, boats are not permitted to re-cross the finish line deliberately or they may be disqualified.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1

Rule 44.2 is changed so that the 720 degree turn is replaced by a 360 degree turn.

11.2

A boat that has taken a penalty or retired under rule 31.2 or 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the race office within the protest time limit.

11.3

As provided in rule 67, the protest committee may, without a hearing, penalise a boat that has broken rule 42.

12 TIME LIMIT

12.1

The time limits defined below may be changed or overridden at the discretion of the Officer of the Day in response to changes in the prevailing weather conditions.

12.2

The time limit for boats to pass the rounding mark shall be 3 1/4 HOURS from the starting time of the race or they will be disqualified unless a shorten course has been signaled. If a shorten course has been signaled a further 1.0 hour will be added to the rounding mark time limit. If no boat has passed the rounding mark within the rounding mark time limit, the race will be abandoned.

12.3

The total time limit for all boats to complete the race shall be 7.0 HOURS from the starting time of the race. The time limit may be changed at the discretion of the Race Officer of the day. This change will be communicated by VJ3CK on the VHF race frequency from the Race Committee.

12.4 Two Division Start Time Limit

In the case of a two division start, the time limit for both divisions will commence from the start of time of Division 2.

13 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

13.1

Protests and requests for redress shall be lodged in writing on a AS protest form (available at race control) with the officer of the day within one hour of the protesting yacht finishing.

13.2

The time and place of protest hearing(s) shall be posted on the notice board by 1800 hours. Protests shall be heard not later than the following day.

13.3

The Protest Committee will consist of a chairman and at least two members, convened by the officer of the day in consultation with the sailing committee.

13.4

Requests for redress against the race committee may be heard by a protest committee comprising club members, who do not have an interest in the outcome, subject to approval by the protester and race committee, otherwise a protest committee from outside the club will be appointed.

14 TROPHIES AND PRIZE PRESENTATION

All trophies and race prizes are presented at the discretion of the sailing committee.

The winner and minor placing's shall be determined on corrected time using their current AS yardstick.

15 SAILING COMMITTEE

The sailing committee will be as specified by the rules and regulations of Cowes Yacht Club Inc.

16 SAFETY

16.1

The safety regulations prescribed in RRS Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 2 (Off the Beach Boats) shall apply to all Off the Beach Boats competing in this event.

All boats entering are subject to the direction and control of the Sailing Committee and all boat owners shall make a declaration of safety compliance when registering their boat for the race. Cowes Yacht Club Inc reserves the right to inspect all competing boats for safety and reserves the right to refuse entry if the boat is deemed, for any reason, not to be fit to race. Acceptance of an entry is in no way a validation by Cowes Yacht Club Inc of the seaworthiness of a boat.

16.2

It is a condition of entry that all boats have adequate functional righting lines and that at least 3 litres of water per person is carried on board. One waterproof LED torch is required to be carried. Failure to comply with these conditions will result in disqualification. (All boats will be checked before the start.)

16.3

The installation and use of the Traccar GPS position tracking system is mandatory. All craft must have on board a waterproof mobile phone capable of sustained operation for the duration of the race that can run the Traccar GPS positioning client. Entry in the race will be refused if this eligibility criteria is not met. Details regarding how to install the Traccar client are on the cowesyachtclub.com website.

16.4

All skippers of boats that have finished must sign-off on the sheet required or via radio to VJ3CK within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing. Failure to comply will result in the boat being DSQ without protest.

16.5

The skipper or crew of boats that do not finish or wish to indicate retirement, shall do so as soon as possible by contacting and official boat that acknowledges this retirement. Similarly, boats that enter but do not start, shall sign-off on the sheet DNS as soon as possible. If boats are unable to make it back to Cowes Yacht Club, they should inform Cowes Yacht Club via VHF radio (VJ3CK) or by telephone before 1800 hours on (03) 5952 2330 and talk directly to the Officer of the Day to explain why. Failure to comply will result in DSQ without protest.

16.6

In the interests of safety, the race committee reserves the right to postpone or abandon the event at any time.

16.7

Racing for the day will be abandoned if a Gale Force or higher warning as issued by the Bureau of Meteorology and current on the morning the race is scheduled.

16.8

All boats should report to Cowes Race Control any observed significant circumstances that may adversely affect the safety of any of the competitors in the race.

16.9

Boats shall report to Cowes Race Control all incidents that have resulted in injury or serious damage or are of an adverse nature that could affect the safety of the boat or crew while racing. Boats involved in the incident shall lodge with the CYC an Incident Declaration at the first reasonable opportunity.

16.10

The carrying of a VHF marine handheld waterproof radio and/or a Personal Locator Beacon and a Strobe beacon light is highly recommended.

17 INDEMNITY

All those taking part in this race conducted by Cowes Yacht Club Inc do so at their own risk and responsibility. Cowes Yacht Club Inc is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted, or for the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. In accordance with RRS 76, Cowes Yacht Club Inc reserves the right to refuse entry to any boat for any reason.

Attention is drawn to RRS 4 “Decision to Race” which states “A boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start, or continue racing.”

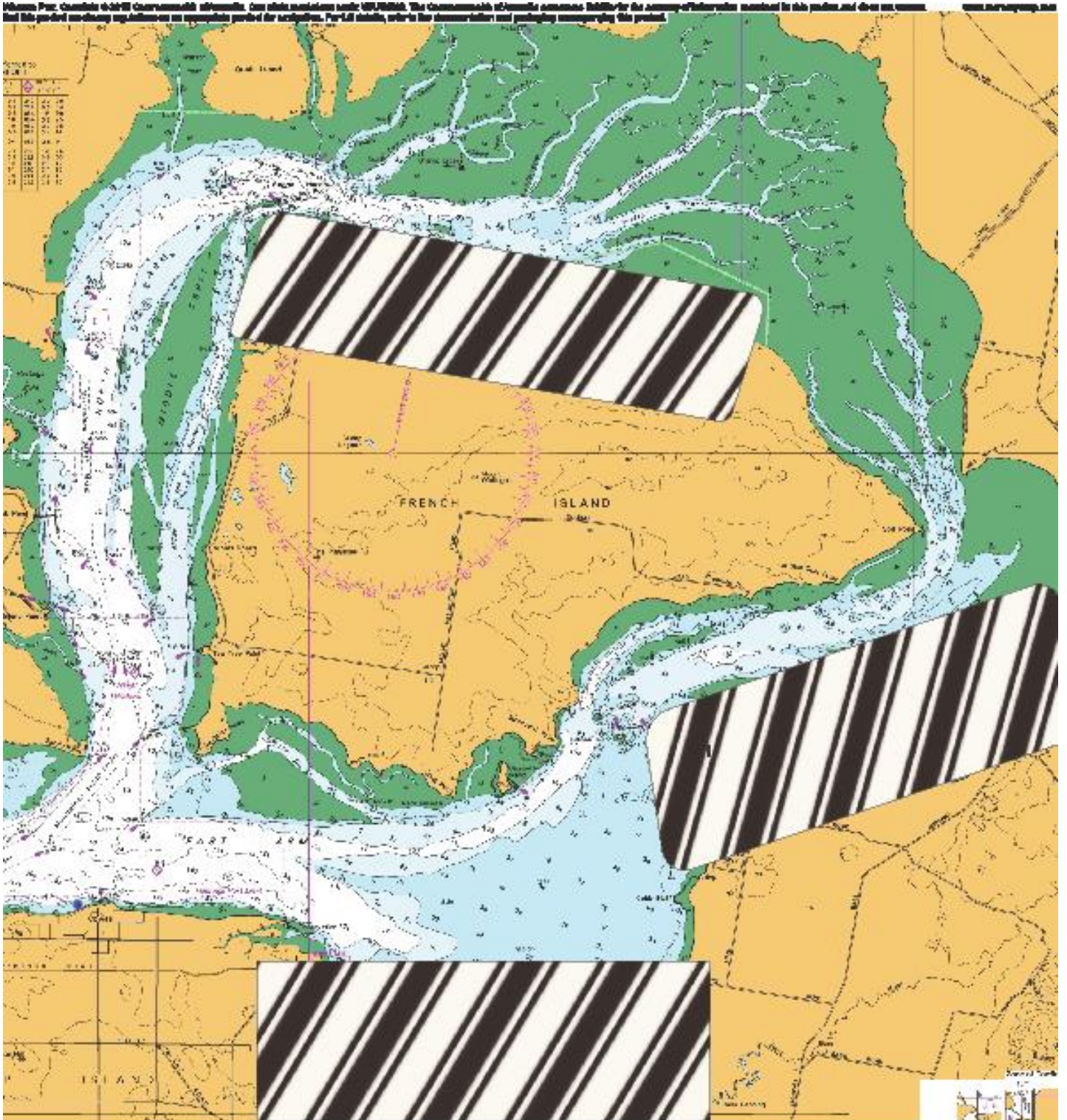
No liability is accepted by Cowes Yacht Club Inc, its officers, members and volunteers for the loss of life or property, personal injury or damage caused by participation in or arising out of this race. These sailing instructions in no way limit or reduce the complete and unlimited responsibility of a competitor being solely and entirely responsible for the management of the boat he or she is sailing.

18 INFORMATION SESSION

An information session may be given by the office of the day or his deputy. This will be done no later than 30 minutes before the start of the race. Notice of the commencement of this session will be given by an announcement over the loud speaker at Cowes Yacht Club.

ADDENDUM 1

Minimum Part: Chart(s) which the Competitors will use. Use this notation with USCG 10100. The Competitors of French Island assume liability for the accuracy of information contained in this product and does not warrant that this product is always up-to-date or appropriate for the activities. For full details, refer to the documentation and plotting accompanying this product.



Around French Island Catamaran Challenge Addendum 1 - Exclusion Zones

Exclusion Zones = 