



Sydney to Auckland Ocean Race 2025

Saturday 11 October 2025

Sailing Instructions

Contact Details

Race Committee Mobile: +61 427 477 854

Race Committee Email: sailing@rpayc.com.au

Website: www.sydneytoauckland.com

Tracking Details

Public Tracking Link (Race Player): <https://yb.tl/S2AOR25>

Low Bandwidth Tracking Links: <https://yb.tl/Links/S2AOR25>

AMENDMENTS TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

For the use of competitors. Please list any amendments to the Sailing Instructions issued by the Race Committee here for easy reference.

<u>Amendment No.</u>	<u>Sections Changed</u>	<u>General Notes</u>

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 1.1. The Organising Authority is the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club (RPAYC) in association with the Royal Akarana Yacht Club.

2. RACE COMMITTEE

- 2.1. Nick Elliott (RPAYC Race Director), Robert McClelland (RPAYC Commodore), Brendan Rourke (RPAYC Sailing and Communications Manager) and Nick Hansen (RAYC Commodore).

3. RULES

The Race will be governed by the following rules:

- 3.1. The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 3.2. The Prescriptions and Special Regulations (SR) of Australian Sailing.
- 3.3. The IRC Rules 2025 Parts A, B and C.
- 3.4. The ORC Rating System Rules 2025.
- 3.5. The OMR Rules.

4. CHANGES TO THE RRS 41(C)

- 4.1. RRS 41 (c): Help in the form of information available in a public domain, free or by paid subscription. This shall include navigational, weather, tide or current information from any source available to all boats, whether by payment of a fee or subscription. It shall not include any information gathered by or any advice received from any direct human input not on board the boat and which is specific to the boat and her situation.
By way of an example and interpretation: downloading charts, weather or tidal GRIB files from subscription services, or using a cloud routing service (i.e. Predict Wind) is permitted.

5. RACE TIME

- 5.1. Start and Finish times will be in Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT).

6. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 6.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Noticeboard on the website: www.sydneytoauckland.com Notices may also be communicated by text and email.

7. RACE BRIEFING

- 7.1. The Race Briefing will be held at 1800hrs on Thursday, 9th October 2025 at the RPAYC.

8. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 8.1. Changes to the Sailing Instructions shall be made according to RRS 90.2(c), and changes will be posted no later than 2000hrs on Thursday 9th October 2025.

9. TRACKING DEVICES

- 9.1. Boats shall be required to carry a tracking device supplied by the Organising Authority. Nothing shall be done to interfere with the normal operation of a tracking device. Anyone found to have tampered with a tracking device or anyone failing to comply with an Organising Authority request regarding tracking devices, shall be subject to protest by the Race Committee.
- 9.2. The Owner and or Person-in-Charge shall be solely responsible for any tracking device supplied by the Organising Authority.

- 9.3. In the event of retirement from the race, the Owner or Person-in-Charge shall return the tracking device to the RPAYC Sailing Office at their own expense. When safely in port, the Owner or Person-in-Charge shall request authorisation to remove and de-activate the tracking device.
- 9.4. In the event of failure of the tracking device, additional position reports shall be required using mobile or satellite telephone. Details are outlined in Appendix A (A3) of these SIs.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

- 10.1. Refer to Appendix A of the SIs.
- 10.2. **VHF Channel 77** will be used by the Race Committee at the Start and **VHF Channel 17** at the Finish of the race. The Race Committee may also be contacted on mobile phone (+61 427 477 854).
- 10.3. Boats are reminded of their obligations to maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 16 throughout the race and ensure that the satellite telephone is situated to alert the crew to incoming messages or calls.

11. REPORTING AT THE START

- 11.1. No later than 1245hrs: Boats intending to start shall motor past the starboard side of the Race Committee Vessel (which may be Alfreds 1, a white Grand Banks 36) forming the starboard end of the start line), with their whole crew on deck in their Lifejacket, Safety harness and tether as well as with storm jib and trysail set (mainsail reefed to 50% of luff length in place of trysail).
- 11.2. The boat shall hail its sail number and the number of persons on board until acknowledged by the race officials.
- 11.3. A boat that is delayed at the start by more than 10 minutes after her starting signal shall contact the Race Committee and describe the reasons for any delay, whether they still intend to start the race and approximately when they anticipate starting. In addition, the Race Committee shall advise the boat of the position of the start line, whether the Race Committee Vessel will be on station for their start and any other information they may require to be able to race.

12. THE START

- 12.1. The Warning Signal – Saturday 11th October 2025: 1255hrs
- 12.2. The Starting area in Sydney Harbour will be in the vicinity north of Sow & Pigs Reef.
- 12.3. The Starting Line will be between the Race Committee Vessel (Alfreds 1, a white Grand Banks 36), displaying an orange flag at the starboard end of the line and a nearby orange inflatable mark at the port end.

13. START SIGNALS

- 13.1. The Class Flag: Monohulls - Code Flag 'W'

14. RECALLS

- 14.1. As an aid to competitors, a boat subject to recall, in accordance with RRS 29.1 Individual Recall, may be identified by the Race Committee on VHF Ch. 77. Failure of this radio communication shall not be grounds for redress.
- 14.2. Any boat in breach of RRS 29.1 that fails to return and start correctly shall receive a penalty of 5% applied to their elapsed time, applied by the Race Committee without a hearing.

15. COURSE & DISTANCE

- 15.1. Sydney to Auckland – Approximately 1265nm

COURSE	Start (Sydney Harbour) – Barrenjoey Laid Mark (starboard) – North Cape (starboard) - Finish (Auckland)
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- 15.1.1. Barrenjoey Mark will be a large orange inflatable mark in approximate position: 33° 34.2' S, 151°21.6' E

16. TEMPORARY DISCONTINUANCE OF RACING

- 16.1. A boat after starting may use the engine to assist with:
 - 16.1.1. Taking shelter from extreme weather.
 - 16.1.2. Disembarking sick or injured crew who are unable to continue racing (such crew shall not be replaced).
 - 16.1.3. Attempting repairs being undertaken aboard.

17. BOATS WITHDRAWING/RETIRING

- 17.1. Boats shall contact the Race Committee at the time of withdrawal from the race; giving its position, the reason for retirement, intended port of destination and ETA at that port.
- 17.2. **Upon Arrival in Port, Boats Shall:**
 - 17.2.1. Immediately notify the Local Port Organisation (Marine Rescue – Australia & Maritime NZ in New Zealand) on entry to the port, see Appendix A;
 - 17.2.2. Notify the Race Committee by telephone on +61 427 477 854.
- 17.3. It is the boat owner's responsibility to ensure the tracking device is returned to the Organising Authority once authorised to remove it.

18. APPROACH TO THE FINISH

- 18.1. Approximately 1 hour prior to finishing, boats are required to contact "Akarana Race Control" on +64 210 231 4559.
- 18.2. Approximately 15 minutes prior to finishing, boats shall contact "Akarana Race Control" on VHF Ch.77, to help identify the boat at the finish. Akarana Race Control will confirm a boat has finished after the boat has crossed the line.

19. THE FINISH

- 19.1. The Finish Line will be between the Orakei Yellow Buoy (17), and the Royal Akarana Yacht Club. The bearing from RAYC to the Orakei Yellow Buoy is approximately 350 degrees magnetic. The southern extent of the line is marked by the row of piles (wave break) surrounding the Okahu Bay mooring area. Finishing boats shall pass to the north of these piles in an East to West direction.
- 19.2. The approximate location of the Royal Akarana Yacht Club is 36°50.976S, 174°48.623E. The approximate position of the Orakei Yellow Buoy is 36°50.535S, 174°48.719E. The Orakei Yellow Buoy maybe lit, Fl.Y.5s. The approximate position of the piles is 36°50.710S, 174°48.685E.
- 19.3. The Race Committee will also be sighting the line from the shore and taking finishing times.
- 19.4. If visibility is poor or there is difficulty identifying a boat at the finishing line, the YB Tracker will capture a finishing time which may be used.
- 19.5. Boats shall record a finishing time as they cross the finishing line and report it to the Race Committee via text to +61 427 477 854 and record it on their Declaration Form.

20. TIME LIMIT

- 20.1. There is no time limit for the race.

21. PENALTIES (RRS PART 2 AND RRS 31)

- 21.1. Before 1900hrs, official sunset Sydney on Saturday 11th October 2025, a boat may take a penalty under RRS 44.1.
- 21.2. After 1900hrs Saturday 11th October 2025, a Scoring Penalty shall apply. The scoring penalty shall be 10 minutes added to the boat's finish time. (Amends RRS 44.3). A boat infringing in more than one incident shall receive a separate penalty for each infringement.
- 21.3. A boat takes a Scoring Penalty by declaring the incident(s) on their Declaration Form and submitting it to the Race Committee in accordance with SI 23 (Amends RRS 44.3).
- 21.4. Placings will be awarded after imposing penalties or granting of redress.

22. OTHER PENALTIES

- 22.1. The Protest Committee may apply a penalty instead of disqualification for an infringement of a rule or Sailing Instruction.
- 22.2. Where a penalty is not specified, the Protest Committee may impose a scoring penalty of not less than 20% in place of disqualification.
- 22.3. The Protest Committee may, at its discretion, disqualify a boat that causes serious damage or injury to another boat or its crew or for an infringement of RRS 69.1.
- 22.4. Unless otherwise specified, all penalties shall be computed as a percentage of the number of entries to the nearest whole number (rounding 0.5 upwards) in each Handicap Category and Division.
- 22.5. The Race Committee may impose a penalty on a boat without a hearing regarding any rule infringements disclosed by the boat on its Declaration, except that the boat shall be entitled to a hearing when it satisfies the Protest Committee that an error may have been made.
- 22.6. The imposition of penalties will affect the placing of other boats, which shall be advanced to fill all preceding places vacated by penalised boats, subject to tied, elapsed or line honours results. If two or more boats share the same placing after applying penalties, the boat(s) with the least or no penalty shall be placed above the boat(s) with the greatest penalty. (Changes RRS 44.3c).

23. DECLARATIONS

- 23.1. Declarations shall be submitted at the completion of the race or on return to port in the event of a boat retiring from the race. Declaration Forms may be submitted in person to the Race Committee or by email: sailing@rpayc.com.au
- 23.2. A Declaration Form is attached to these SIs.

24. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 24.1. The following protest time limits will apply. This amends RRS 60.3(b) and 61.2(b).
- 24.2. Protests or requests for redress by boats arising from the race shall be lodged within three hours of the finishing time of the protesting boat.
- 24.3. Protests may be lodged by email: sailing@rpayc.com.au or submitted directly to the Race Committee.
- 24.4. There is no time limit on protests by the Race Committee or the Protest Committee.
- 24.5. Notification of the details of protest hearings will be placed on the event website to inform competitors. In addition, they will be contacted by phone or email as to when and where a protest hearing will be held in which they are involved or named as a witness. These notices fulfil the requirements of RRS 63.2.

25. STANDINGS AND RESULTS

- 25.1. The Race Committee may publish provisional standings on the event website during the race.
- 25.2. Provisional and final results will be displayed on the event website as soon as practicable after the race.

26. PRIZES AND PRIZEGIVING

26.1. Trophies and Prizes

IRC Overall – The Lipton Cup Perpetual Trophy
Line Honours Monohull – 1st Sydney to Auckland Ocean Race Line Honours
1st ORC and PHS Overall
Best Media from a boat (photos, video, stories)
Best Story of the race/rally (photo, video, words)

26.2. Prizes

- 26.2.1. Further trophies or prizes may be awarded for place getters.
- 26.3. Full details of the Prizegiving will be posted on the website and communicated via a Notice to Competitors by email and text.

27. DISCLAIMER

- 27.1. The Organising Authority, the Race Committee, the event sponsors and their respective representatives, officers, members and volunteers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss of life, property, personal injury or damage caused by or arising out of the Sydney to Auckland Ocean Race.
- 27.2. Once a boat has finished or retired from the race, the Organising Authority, the Race Committee, the event sponsors and their respective representatives, officers, members and volunteers discharge any further Duty of Care.
- 27.3. The Owner and or the Person in Charge, and all crew, are aware and acknowledge by entering the race, that they compete entirely and at their own risk.
Attention is drawn to the World Sailing Fundamental Rule 3, "Decision to Race", which states, "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

28. INSURANCE

- 28.1. All boats shall have a current Marine Legal Public Liability Insurance Policy for the duration of the race, with a sum insured of not less than AUD\$10 million.
- 28.2. The Policy must state that the boat is insured for the race (or racing) in which it is participating and that it is covered for at least the distance of the Race.

APPENDIX A – COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTING & MEDIA SCHEDS

A1. DISTRESS COMMUNICATIONS

AMSA Maritime Search and Rescue 24-Hour emergency helpline Within Australia: 1800 641 792 Outside Australia: +61 2 6230 6811	NSW Police Marine Area Command ('MAC') 000 / +61 2 9320 7499
Marine Rescue NSW HQ P: +61 2 8071 4848	
Maritime New Zealand Rescue Coordination Centre (RCCNZ) 24-hour Emergency Numbers: +64 4 577 8030 / +64 508 472 269 Email: contact.beacons@marimenz.govt.nz	
Race Committee Contacts	
Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club M: +61 427 477 854 / P: +61 2 9998 3700	Royal Akarana Yacht Club M: +64 210 231 4559 / P: +64 9 524 9945

A1.1. Emergency Contacts: Australia: Telephone 000 / New Zealand: Telephone: 111 or Sat Phone 112

A1.2. Satellite & Mobile phone Communications

A1.2.1. Satellite and Mobile phones shall be turned on and be in a position where they can be heard when ringing and regularly checked for messages.

A1.3. VHF Radio Communications

A1.3.1. All boats shall maintain a continuous listening watch on VHF Channel 16.

A1.4. Automatic Identification System

A1.4.1. All boats shall carry an AIS Transponder. The Transponder shall be operational (transmitting & receiving) for the race duration.

Coastal Station	Phone No.	Channels
Marine Rescue Middle Harbour	Ph: +61 2 9969 3270	VHF 16
Marine Broken Bay	Ph: +61 2 9999 3554	VHF 16
Marine Rescue Newcastle	Ph: +61 2 4960 0263	VHF 16
AMSA	Ph: +61 2 6230 6811	VHF 16
Rescue Coordination Centre (RCCNZ)	Ph: +64 4 577 8030	VHF 16
Maritime NZ Auckland	Ph: +64 9 307 1370	VHF 16

A1.5. Radio Distress Calling

A1.5.1. A boat in distress must follow the Radio Telephone distress procedure in the *Marine Radio Operators Handbook*.

HF Radio (if installed):

- Charleville Radio (Call sign: CHARLEVILLE RADIO) maintains a 24-hour listening watch on **HF 4125, 6215, 8291 kHz** and (**12290 kHz** during daylight hours) distress and calling frequencies. Charleville Radio also broadcasts relevant navigation warnings and marine safety information

(MSI) on **HF 8176 kHz** at **1025** and **2325** hours, and at such times, warnings are received from AMSA.

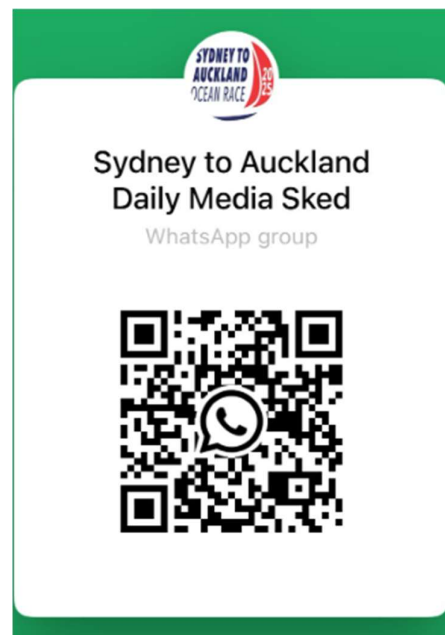
VHF Radio:

- Marine Rescue NSW maintains a 24-hour listening watch on VHF CH 16.

All boats must maintain a 24-hour listening watch on VHF Channel 16 for the duration of the race and record all radio distress communications details heard in their boats' logbook.

A2. MEDIA UPDATE (SCHED)

- A2.1. A daily sched is required throughout the race and can be in the form of an email, text message, picture(s) or short audio or video message. The SCHED may be used by the media to provide a daily update on the race.
- A2.2. The daily sched shall be delivered between 0800hrs & 0900hrs AEDT each day that the boat is racing.
- A2.3. The Sydney to Auckland Ocean Race media team may contact you via satellite phone to get a verbal update between these times.
- A2.4. Contact Details
- A2.4.1. Email: marketing@rpayc.com.au
- A2.4.2. Tel./Text +61 427 477 854 / WhatsApp
- A2.5. Di Pearson, Press Officer may contact competitors from time to time for updates throughout the race.
Di Pearson +61 410 792 131



A3. TRACKER FAILURE POSITION REPORTING

- A3.1. If a Tracker ceases to operate/transmit for a period longer than 120 minutes, a boat shall provide position reports following the direction of the Race Committee as per A3.2. The Race Committee will contact a boat whose tracker fails. In addition, the Race Committee will manually update the online electronic tracker system.
- A3.2. **Reporting via Satellite Phone Text or Mobile Phone Text SMS**
- A3.2.1. Each boat shall report their position on a four-hourly basis (at the top of the hour) by text to mobile phone +61 427 477 854 notes in this order:
- A3.2.2. Boat name
- A3.2.3. Sail number
- A3.2.4. Position - Latitude and Longitude in Degrees and Whole Minutes, NOT DECIMALS and whether proceeding East or West.
- A3.3. The Race Committee will acknowledge that report by text SMS as 'Received'.
Boats that fail to comply with the requirements of A3 shall explain the circumstances on the Declaration Form (refer to SI 23 Boats failing to report may be subject to protest by the Race Committee).
- A3.4. All radio (and phone messages) received, transmitted, or attempted must be entered in the boat's log or a separate communications log.

DECLARATION FORM

Sydney to Auckland Ocean Race

To be submitted to: RPAYC by email: sailing@rpayc.com.au

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE OWNER OR OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE

Boat Name..... Sail No.....

I am a member of..... Yacht Club

I was in charge of the Boat in the **SYDNEY TO AUCKLAND OCEAN RACE**

I declare that during the race no infringements were made to the: (please initial)

Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) _____

International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea _____

Sailing Instructions and Special Regulations _____

AS Special Regulations Category _____

And that no changes have been made since

The boat was last measured and RATED. _____

If any of the above items cannot be initialed, a full explanation shall be submitted with this

Declaration. The boat may be subject to protest to ascertain whether the breach(s) were intentional and or whether an advantage was gained.

The Boat crossed the finishing line (Please insert details): -

Date of Finish

Finish Time (AEDT)

Name and or Sail Number of the boat immediately ahead/

Name and or Sail Number of the boat immediately astern/

(Owner/Representative) Signed

To be submitted to: sailing@rpayc.com.au