



**Shorthanded Sailing Association of Australia Inc. (SSAA)**

## **Sailing Instructions**

### **The Polar Challenge 2009**

**1000 hrs, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

**Note: This race is Race 4 of the 2009 Winter Series. Results for the race will be calculated under handicap/divisions as advised in the Notice of Race. Results will also count towards the SSAA Champion Award.**

#### **1 Race Rules**

**1.1** This race will be governed by the:

- 1.1.1** The rules as defined in the 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF),
- 1.1.2** The Notice of Race and as modified by these Sailing Instructions.

#### **2 Safety**

As per Notice of Race

#### **3 Entries**

- 3.1** Eligible yachts may be entered by lodging the Entry Form with the SSAA by midday 10th July 2009, AND by notifying Peter McCorquodale on 0414 344 914 of intention to start.
- 3.2** The crew must have supplied:
  - 3.2.1** A current YA Category 4 Safety Certificate,
  - 3.2.2** A summary of previous yachting experience of all crew members together with supporting evidence in each case,
  - 3.2.3** A clear beam-on photograph of the entered vessel.

#### **4 Changes in Sailing Instructions**

Changes in Sailing Instructions will be notified by the appointed starting vessel as part of the routine starting report.

#### **5 Race Schedule and Start**

- 5.1** The Race is expected to start at 1000 hours, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009. All Multi Hulls will start 10 minutes after the allotted race start time. The start may be postponed at the discretion of the Race Committee.

The Start Line will be in Sydney Harbour, between the lighthouse off Grotto Point, and the flagstaff of the committee vessel, flying a SSAA Burgee, in Hunter Bay, generally located S to SW of the lighthouse.

All yachts intending to start must pass close to the Committee Vessel so that they can report in and the Committee will recognise them as starters.

If there is no Committee Vessel on station by 0950 hours the starting line shall be the lighthouse off Grotto Point and the vertical structure supporting the southern end of the shark net located on "The Island" at Balmoral.

## 5.2 Starting Signals

Postponement Signal - Answering Pennant.

Postponement to a later day - Answering Pennant over Code Flag "A".

Warning Signal - Numeral Pennant 1 or 2 displayed (depending on course)

Preparatory Signal - Code Flag "P" displayed.

Starting Signal - Both flags lowered.

The warning, preparatory and starting signals shall be at five-minute intervals. No protests regarding the timing of the signals shall be allowed, the starting signal shall determine the start time of the race. In the case of a postponement the warning signal will be made one minute after the answering pennant is lowered. The visual signals may be accompanied by a sound signal but the timing of the visual signals shall be the timing of the signals.

If there is no Committee Vessel, then the start shall be at 1000 hours precisely Eastern Standard Time - telephone 1194 or a GPS receiver.

**5.3** Race Time for the entire race, including starting and finishing will be coordinated with Eastern Standard Time - telephone 1194, or from a GPS receiver.

**5.4** Any yacht over the start line after the preparatory signal must go around the start-boat end of the line to start or if there is no Committee Vessel return behind the Start Line and then restart. All yachts using their motor for propulsion after the preparatory signal must do a 360-degree turn, under sail, before starting.

## 6 The Courses

**Course 1:** The course is from the start line in Sydney Harbour, to cross in an easterly direction, the longitude of 151°30'E.

**Course 2:** The course is from the start line in Sydney Harbour, to cross in an easterly direction, the longitude of 151°25'E

Once the yacht has reached/crossed this longitude she shall return to Sydney to the finish line.

If there is no Committee Vessel on station, competitors shall sail Course 1 unless notified by radio on Channel 73 no later than 0950 hours. Competitors shall monitor Channel 73 from 0930 until 0950 hours.

## 7 The Finish

**7.1** A yacht will be deemed to have finished when it crosses in a southerly direction, a transit line from the Starboard hand channel marker of the western channel approx. 0.2nm east of Middle Head, to the Junction Bell. The transit line extends east of the Junction Bell; the Junction Bell is to be left to starboard.

**7.2** Competitors must take their own finishing times, and report these to the Race Office by SMS to 0414 344 914 as soon as possible but within 12 hours of finishing. Also leave the name of the yacht ahead and behind if visible.

## 8 Radio Communications

Yachts should keep a listening watch on VHF Ch 16 during the race.

**9 Alternative Penalties**

Yachts involved in an infringement of a Right-of-Way rule may do a 720-degree turn and proceed in the race but the committee reserves the right to impose additional time penalties or disqualification for rule infringements.

**10 Retirements**

If a yacht retires or abandons the Race, the skipper shall be responsible for notifying the Race Office at the earliest possible time.

**11 Recalls**

Should any yacht start prematurely, Code Flag X will be hoisted and remain up until all prematurely starting yachts have re-crossed the Starting Line and started correctly, or for five minutes maximum. If there is no Committee Vessel and a yacht realizes it has started early, it is incumbent upon the helmsman to return and re start.

**12 Protests**

Protests will be heard, and will be treated with concern.

**13 Race Office**

Short-Handed Sailing Association of Australia  
P.O. Box 7033  
McMahons Point 2060

For any urgent queries contact Peter McCorquodale on 0414 344 914.

**14 Charts**

Current versions of the following charts shall be carried by all competitors as a minimum requirement:

AUS197 Approaches to Port Jackson