



## **NOTICE OF RACE**

**2026 Australian Yachting Championships**

**3RD - 5TH OCTOBER 2026**



**SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB**



## ORGANISING AUTHORITY

Southport Yacht Club Inc  
1 Macarthur Parade, Main Beach QLD 4217  
+617 5591 3500  
[racing.admin@sycgc.com.au](mailto:racing.admin@sycgc.com.au)  
[sailparadise.com.au](http://sailparadise.com.au)



EXPERIENCE  
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## 1. INVITATION

Southport Yacht Club extends a warm invitation to owners, skippers and crews of all eligible boats to enter and compete in Australia's favourite regatta, The Yacht Sales Co Sail Paradise 2026 incorporating the Australian Sailing National Yachting Championships. To be sailed with Windward / Leeward, Triangle and Passage type courses on the ocean waters off the Main Beach & Surfers Paradise coastline from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October to Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2026.

## 2. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organising Authority (OA) shall be Southport Yacht Club Inc. (SYC) located at 1 Macarthur Parade, Main Beach QLD 4217. Phone (07) 5591 3500.

## 3. RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 3.1 The Regatta will be governed by the rules, unless modified by the Sailing Instructions (SI), as defined in:
  - 3.1.1 The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing (WS)
  - 3.1.2 Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS) Part 1 – Category 4 for Monohull Divisions, Australian Yachting Championships, Cruising Division, 2 handed division & Multihull division
  - 3.1.3 Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS) Part 1 – Category 6 for Sportsboat Division
  - 3.1.4 IRC rules Parts A, B, C (including the AS prescriptions) where applicable.
  - 3.1.5 OMR Rating Rules where applicable.
  - 3.1.6 ORC Rating Rules where applicable (ORC).
- 3.2 RRS 52 MANUAL POWER does not apply.
- 3.3 Boats not racing in Rating Division (that allows variable and/or movable ballast) shall request permission from the Race Committee to use movable and/or variable ballast for the purpose of increasing stability. Any such request must be accompanied by full details of the system involved, and any such system will be taken into account in establishing the boat's handicap. Stored power may be used for the operation of movable ballast systems. RRS 51 is modified to the extent required by this paragraph.
- 3.4 Boats entered in the Non-Spinnaker Class shall not carry spinnakers or Code Zero sails but may use a spinnaker pole to pole out one headsail. Headsails shall be fully hanked or attached to the main forestay by the means of a luff groove device.
- 3.5 Nothing in the Notice of Race (NOR) or Sailing Instructions (SI) relieves a boat of her responsibility under civil law to comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea or local regulations.
- 3.6 The owner and skipper of all boats shall ensure that no entities from unauthorised associations between themselves (and their products or services) and the event (otherwise known as "ambush marketing") or any "hijack signage" is carried out by or on behalf of themselves or their sponsors with reference to the event and that nothing else is done which might undermine the event, the rights of the event sponsor, or any other sponsor or participant in the event.
- 3.7 Before the first scheduled race of the Regatta, all boats in Rating Division shall submit to the Sailing Office a declaration of all the sails carried on board for the duration of the Regatta (IRC Rule 21.1.5(d)).

- 3.8 Boats shall not use boat tracking, photography, or video for commercial purposes without prior written approval of the OA.
- 3.9 When conflict occurs between the NOR and the SI's, the rules of the SI's shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 3.10 The IRC rule is amended:
- 3.10.1 For the purposes of IRC rules 21.1.5 (d) and (e), this regatta is on consecutive days, however the sails carried on board may not remain the same for the duration of the event. Sails shall remain the same for each day and a boat shall not carry more sails than permitted by its IRC certificate. For the purpose of this rule, the day begins when the boat leaves the dock for the first time each day and ends when the boat returns to the dock after racing.
- [NP] Sails used for each day shall remain on board for 60 minutes after the boat returns or arrives at the dock.
- Sails shall not be repaired ashore, modified or replaced without permission from the Technical Committee, which may set conditions, including inspection or re-measurement. Repairs, modification or replacements shall not result in a sail no longer complying with the IRC Certification.
- 3.11 RRS Appendix T Arbitration will apply.

## 4. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available online at [www.sailparadise.com.au](http://www.sailparadise.com.au) on 25<sup>th</sup> September at 1800hrs and at Registration.

## 5. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 5.1 The Official Notice Board will be the online Notice Board located on the event website <https://www.sailparadise.com.au/notice-board/>. Additionally, a physical display shall be located at Southport Yacht Club, Main Beach, adjacent to Reception.

## 6. ELIGIBILITY OF BOATS

The Regatta is open to boats that meet the following entry requirements.

All boats shall:

- 6.1 Comply with the AS Special Regulations Part 1 for Category 4 events excluding Sportsboat Division which shall comply with Category 6. Spot check audits may be conducted at random by the OA at any time throughout the Regatta.
- 6.2 Be registered with a Yacht Club affiliated with its National Authority.
- 6.3 Shall hold a current Public Liability and Third-Party Insurance Policy to the value of not less than AUD\$10 Million, which includes coverage for racing in the Regatta.
- 6.4 Requirements for Monohull Boats
- 6.4.1 Be built in accordance with the AS SR Part 1, Section 3.03
- 6.4.2 Satisfy the stability criteria of the AS SR Part 1, Section 3.04
- 6.5 Requirements for Multihull Racing Boats

- 6.5.1 Submit an OMR rating certificate ratified by MYCQ and listed on the MYCQ register at [www.mycq.org.au](http://www.mycq.org.au)
- 6.6 Competitors may enter one of the following Divisions:
- 6.6.1 Monohull Rating Division for *Racing Monohulls* which have a current valid endorsed IRC & or ORC Certificate/s which is required to be submitted with their entry. Boats will be divisionalised to have like boats sailing together.
- 6.6.2 Monohull Performance Racing Division (PHS) for *Racing Monohulls* which may have a current valid endorsed ORCi or ORCc Certificate which is required to be submitted with their entry. Boats will be divisionalised to have like boats sailing together
- 6.6.3 Monohull Cruising Division (PHS) for *Cruising Monohulls* which will be fitted out to cruising standards and will typically not have working sails of custom-built exotic construction and boats shall not be stripped or lightened.
- 6.6.4 Monohull 2 Handed Division for *Racing Monohulls* which have a current valid endorsed IRC & or ORC Certificate/s which is required to be submitted with their entry.
- 6.6.5 Multihull Division for Offshore Multihull Rule (OMR) for *Multihulls* which have a current valid endorsed OMR certificate which is required to be submitted with their entry & or Performance Handicap System (PHS) *Cruising Multihulls* which will be fitted out to cruising standards and will typically not have working sails of custom-built exotic construction and boats shall not be stripped or lightened.
- 6.6.6 Sportsboat Division for *Racing Sportsboats* (PHS) and valid CBH certificate
- 6.7 The Race Committee may create additional divisions within a Division and allocate boats at its sole discretion.
- 6.8 The OA may cancel any Division if fewer than seven entries have been received by the closing date. In this event, boats that have entered will have the option of transferring to another Division (if eligible) or having their entry fee refunded.

## 7. CREW LIMITATIONS FOR MONOHULL RATING DIVISIONS

- 7.1 Each participating yacht shall maintain an accurate Crew Declaration for each race day in the TOPYACHT system. The Crew Declaration shall include details of each person on board as follows:
- 7.1.1 Full Name
- 7.1.2 Contact Phone Number
- 7.1.3 Australian Sailing Number or Sail Pass
- 7.1.4 Emergency Contact Details
- 7.2 The maximum number of crew that may sail aboard a yacht shall be the number shown on the certificate except that; when the crew consists of either - at least 2 females, at least 2 25 years old or under (25 or under on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2026) or at least 1 female and 1 25 years old or under (25 or under on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2026) then the crew limit is certificate number plus 1. There is no weight limit.
- 7.3 The minimum number of crew on a boat shall be four (4);
- 7.4 At least two (2) crew members must be over the age of eighteen (18) as at 3<sup>rd</sup> October

2026;

- 7.5 All participating crew members shall be a member of a club affiliated to AS or hold a valid Sail Pass, or if an international competitor, be a member of a club affiliated to a WS recognised Member National Authority.

## 8. ENTRY, FEES AND DOCUMENTATION TO BE LODGED

- 8.1 Eligible boats shall enter via The Yacht Sales Co Sail Paradise 2026 online website located at [www.sailparadise.com.au](http://www.sailparadise.com.au) and submitted online via the Topyacht Entry System accompanied by the required Entry Fee/s and supplementary documentation, as applicable.
- 8.2 An "Early Bird" Race Entry Fee for the The Yacht Sales Co Sail Paradise 2026 Regatta shall be \$400.00 for all Divisions entered and paid prior to midnight on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2026.
- 8.3 The Race Entry Fee for the The Yacht Sales Co Sail Paradise 2026 Regatta for entries received and paid after 30<sup>st</sup> July 2026, up to and including 14<sup>th</sup> September 2026 shall be \$450.00 for all Divisions.
- 8.4 Entries received and paid after the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2026 will incur an \$200.00 late fee.
- 8.5 Entries shall be lodged with the OA no later than 1600 hours on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2026.
- 8.6 An entry is not valid (Refer RRS 76.1) until all of the appropriate documentation and fees have been received and approved by the OA.
- 8.7 The OA is not responsible for any failure of, or errors, in the information provided by the sailors when entering using the TopYacht Entry System.
- 8.8 Where the person-in-charge of a boat is under the age of eighteen (18) years, their Parent or Guardian shall complete & submit the Parent/Guardian Declaration Form at time of on-line entry.
- 8.9 Class Measurement and Rating Certificates, as required.
- 8.10 A list of entries will be available online <https://sailparadise.com.au>

Personal Information about crew members may be obtained by the OA. The information may be provided to Search and Rescue (SAR) authorities and organisations, the Water Police and Volunteer Marine Rescue personnel. A condition of entry is that the Person in Charge must inform all crew members that their personal information may be shared and used for SAR purposes and advise that they may obtain access to their personal information.

## 9. EVENT ADVERTISING

- 9.1 Boats shall display event advertising supplied by the OA which may consist of Boom Stickers, Bow Numbers and / or Pennant Flags.

## 10. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Measurement and Auditing Registration Welcome Beach Party	0800 – 1600hrs 1200hrs – 1600hrs 1800hrs
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Grab and Go Breakfast (Purchase) Registration Skippers Briefing PARADE IN PARADISE Warning Signal not before Competitors Sausage Sizzle Presentation Daily Results	0700hrs 0700hrs-0800hrs 0800hrs 0900hrs 1055hrs ASAP after racing Not before 1600hrs
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Grab and Go Breakfast (Purchase) Skippers Briefing Warning Signal not before Competitors Sausage Sizzle Presentation Daily Results	0700hrs 0800hrs 0955hrs ASAP after racing Not before 1600hrs
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Grab and Go Breakfast (Purchase) Skippers Briefing Warning Signal not before Competitors Sausage Sizzle Presentation of Trophies	0700hrs 0800hrs 0955hrs ASAP after racing Not before 1600hrs

The Race Committee may make changes to this schedule at any time.

## 11. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 11.1 The OA shall appoint a Technical Committee.
- 11.2 A boat and/or its equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance to those boats rating certificate, the NOR and/or the SIs.
- 11.3 [NP] When instructed by a Race Official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

## 12. VENUE

- 12.1 The Regatta will be conducted from Southport Yacht Club located at 1 Macarthur Parade, Main Beach, Qld 4217. Phone: (+61) 7 5591 3500

### 13. COURSES

- 13.1 The courses shall be Triangle, Windward/Leeward, Ocean Marks and Passage Course configurations, as described in the Sailing Instructions. Cruising Divisions will sail predominantly Passage Courses.

### 14. PENALTIES

- 14.1 Alternative Penalties - For Windward/Leeward courses the two-turns penalty (RRS 44.1) is changed to a one turn penalty, except for infringements that occur within the zone.
- 14.2 Event Nominated Penalties shall be a 20% scoring penalty. This will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). The scoring abbreviation for an Event Nominated Penalty under this instruction will be ENP. The penalty shall be applied to the race sailed nearest, in time to that of the breach. This changes RRS Rule 60, A4 and A5.
- 14.3 A Protest Committee may award a Disqualification or a Scoring Penalty which may include no penalty. This changes RRS 64.2.

### 15. SCORING AND HANDICAPS

- 15.1 The scoring system shall be the Low Point System, RRS Appendix A.
- 15.2 Two races must be completed to constitute a series.
- 15.3 When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of all her race scores.
- 15.4 When 4 to 6 races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 15.5 The following Divisions will be scored by the listed Handicap Systems:

AUSTRALIAN YACHTING CHAMPIONSHIPS inc SAIL PARADISE			
Division	Australian Yachting Championships Handicap Scoring System	Sail Paradise Handicap Scoring System	Up to No. of Races
Monohull Rating Division <i>Divisional split 'like boats' subject to entries</i>	IRC	IRC, PHS & ORC	6
SAIL PARADISE			
Division	Handicap Scoring System		Up to No. of Races
Monohull Performance Racing Division (PHS)	PHS & ORC		6

Monohull Cruising Division	<b>PHS</b>	<b>4</b>
Monohull 2 Handed Division	<b>ORC &amp; PHS</b>	<b>4</b>
Multihull Division	<b>OMR &amp; PHS</b>	<b>4</b>
Sportsboat Division	<b>PHS &amp; CBH</b>	<b>6</b>

15.6 The Performance Handicap System starting handicap (AHC) for each boat will be determined by the Southport Yacht Club Handicap Committee. The decision of the Handicap Committee or the representative on any handicap matter will be final and will not be grounds for requests for redress. This alters RRS 60.1 (b).

## 16. BOAT IDENTIFICATION

Boats may be issued Divisional flags by the OA. Flags shall be flown astern.

## 17. BERTHING

SYC offers limited FREE berthing and rafting space to competing yachts from 2pm Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026 through to 10am Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2026. However, **MARINA BERTHING AT SYC IS LIMITED.**

If required, please arrange berthing with the SYC Marina Office: Ph: (07) 5591 8577. Please note berthing is not guaranteed.

## 18. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

All boats shall not be hauled out during the Regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee.

## 19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

19.1 The OA, 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 from The Yacht Sales Co Sail Paradise 2026 Regatta.

19.2 By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks.

These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes. Attention is drawn to RRS 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."**

## 20. INSURANCE

Each participating yacht shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000.00 per incident or the equivalent, which also includes coverage for racing in the Regatta.

Proof of Insurance may be required, clearly indicating the person, the amount and the period of coverage, at registration. All owners/competitors who complete an Entry are deemed to have made this declaration that they hold such coverage.

## 21. PRIZES

- 21.1 Prizes are subject to a minimum of 5 entrants per Division/ Scoring System and may be changed at the discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 21.2 At the conclusion of the Regatta, trophies will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> for each Division's Handicap Scoring System based on their overall points score.
- 21.3 The Michael Daly Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the overall PHS winner in the Monohull Performance Racing Division (1).
- 21.4 The Sail Paradise Series perpetual trophy will be awarded to to first place in IRC for all Rating Division (0).
- 21.5 The Sail Paradise Series Winning Club Champion perpetual trophy will be awarded to the best overall performance of an **SYC** boat in any division. This is determined on PHS scoring with the largest winning margin.
- 21.6 The Sail Paradise Overall Champion perpetual trophy shall be awarded to the best performing overall boat, 1<sup>st</sup> place boat with the largest winning margin in Monohull Rating Division or Monohull Performance Racing Division in any scoring category. If a tie between two boat in different divisions the boat in the lowest Monohull Rating Division will win i.e. Rating Division (0)
- 21.7 The Australian Yachting Championship trophy shall be awarded to first place on IRC in all Rating Divisions
- 21.8 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

## 22. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

By participation in an event, a competitor automatically grants to the OA and the sponsors of the event, the right in perpetuity, to make, use and show, from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or film television and other reproductions of them or themselves during the period of the competition for said event in which the competitor participated and in all material related to the said event without compensation.

## 23. FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the SYC Sailing Office

Entries:

**Racing Admin:**  
Ph: 07 5537 7030

Email: [racing.admin@sycgc.com.au](mailto:racing.admin@sycgc.com.au)

**Yachting Manager:**

Ph: 0499 181 707

Email: [yachting.manager@sycgc.com.au](mailto:yachting.manager@sycgc.com.au)

**Head of Racing:**

Steve Murphy

Ph: 0475 434 800

Email: [headofracing@sycgc.com.au](mailto:headofracing@sycgc.com.au)

AUSTRALIA'S  
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## 24. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – THE YACHT SALES CO SAIL PARADISE 2026

### B.1 LAUNCHING

There are launching facilities at Main Beach as well as Hollywell. The Main Beach facility has a boat ramp and marina while the facility located at 1 Marina Crescent, Hollywell has a crane, boat ramp and boatyard for rigging. Hollywell is approximately 4 Nautical Miles to the North of the Southport Yacht Club Main Beach clubhouse and easily accessible by the channels of the Broadwater. Trailer Sailors are encouraged to leave their boats in the water overnight at Main Beach. No overnight berthing will be permitted on the marina at the Hollywell Sailing Squadron. There is no Mast Stepping Gantry available. Competitors are advised to bring their own A-frame or Gin Pole for stepping of masts, although equipment may be available to be borrowed from Gold Coast Etchells Fleet Members.

### B.2 TRAILERS

Trailers may be kept on the grounds immediately adjacent to the SYC Hollywell Sailing Squadron by arrangement with the Sailing Office on Telephone (07) 5537 7030. Trailers may also be kept at the Eastern side of the Southport Yacht Club Main Beach car park by arrangement with the Marina Manager, on Telephone (07) 5591 3500. While all care is taken, no responsibility is assumed by Southport Yacht Club Inc for any property left on or around Club premises.

### B.3 FACILITIES

Changing rooms, showers and toilets are located at the western side of the Main Beach Clubhouse. Entry to the shower block requires an access card that also gives access to the Marina security doors. Access cards are available from the Marina Office and require a security deposit, refundable upon return.

The Bosun's Locker Chandlery is located at the western side of the compound and stocks most common boat parts. There are several sailmakers located in close proximity to the Club.

### B.4 HOSPITALITY

The Clubhouse has a licensed bar, a restaurant offering a quality range of food at affordable prices, and patio seating overlooking the Broadwater. In accordance with SYC sign in procedures for entry, all visitors will need to produce identification and sign in. This is only required once for each day you visit the Clubhouse.

### B.5 ACCOMMODATION

For those requiring accommodation during the regatta, please visit The Yacht Sales Co Sail Paradise 2026 website [www.sailparadise.com.au](http://www.sailparadise.com.au)

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# **SAIL PARADISE™**

2026