

Yacht Sailing Instructions 2017-18

(as amended 30 November 2017)

If necessary these instructions can be altered by notice on the Notice Board in the Clubhouse by 1130hrs (Eastern Standard Time and Eastern Daylight Saving Time) on the day of the race, in which case Code Flag 'K' (Yellow / Blue vertically divided) will be flown from the Club flag mast or from the Committee Vessel.

1. Responsibility

- 1.1. All those taking part in Avalon Sailing Club races shall do so their own risk and responsibility.
- 1.2. All boats shall be covered with their own comprehensive yacht racing insurance, adequate Public Liability & Third Party Property Insurance to the sum of at least \$10 million.
- 1.3. Avalon Sailing Club is not responsible for the seaworthiness of any yacht whose entry is accepted or for the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.
- 1.4. Avalon Sailing Club reserves the right to refuse an entry.
- 1.5. Attention is drawn to the RRS Fundamental Rule 4 which states:

'Decision to Race

The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.'

2. Eligibility to Race

- 2.1. Races organised by the Club are open to yachts of classes which are sponsored by the Club and which are sailed by members of a club acceptable to the Race Committee.
- 2.2. Where visibility is restricted or compromised due to a boat's design, sail configuration and/or crew agility the Person-in-Charge must, prior to racing and during the race, employ measures that will ensure they have adequate visibility.
- 2.3. Whilst racing the Person in charge must ensure they have adequate and competent Crew and/ or equipment to maintain a proper look-out by sight and hearing as well as by all available means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances and conditions in order to take appropriate action to avoid a collision.
- 2.4. Yachts will not rank as starters and will not be given a place in any event(s) in which they participate if they have:
 - a) not completed an entry form for the race or series in which they wish to participate;and/or
 - b) not paid the relevant race fees and other dues prior to race start,
- 2.5. For the Avalon Series, a series entry fee for non ASC Boat Owners of \$100 shall apply.
- 2.6. For the Winter Series, a series entry fee for non ASC Boat Owners of \$50 shall apply.

- 2.7. For the Blue Water Shield a series entry fee for non ASC Boat Owners of \$75 shall apply.
- 2.8. For the Koolong Trophy a series entry fee for non ASC Boat Owners of \$75 shall apply.
- 2.9. For the Retriever a series entry fee for non ASC Boat Owners of \$75 shall apply.
- 2.10. Casual race entries may be accepted, however casual entrants will not be included in series results. A casual entry fee of \$25 per race shall apply.
- 2.11. Yachts must comply with the safety requirements specified in Clause 10. Failure to do so will make them ineligible to rank as starters.
- 2.12. All yachts racing shall fly the Avalon Sailing Club Burgee from the time of their warning signal until they cross the finishing line. Yachts must also clearly display their sail numbers, and ASC identification sticker on their hulls. Failure to do so may result in a place penalty at the discretion of the Race Committee.

3. Nomination Of Helmsman

- 3.1. For an entry from an ASC Boat Owner yacht, the helmsman must be an ASC Club Member. The helmsman of each boat contesting a series shall be nominated on the Sign-on sheet.
- 3.2. Any change of helmsman must be advised to the Yacht Coordinator, and will be subject to re-assessment of handicap.

4. Reporting Of Starters

- 4.1. Each boat ranking as a starter must either sign on using the appropriate register sheet in the Clubhouse;
or
- 4.2. Register with the Committee Vessel at the Starting Line before starting by Sailing past the stern of this vessel on starboard tack while hailing with sail number and name of yacht.
Or
- 4.3. Register with the Committee Vessel over VHF channel 73 stating sail number and name of yacht.

5. Retirement

- 5.1. All yachts must advise the Yacht Coordinator immediately upon retiring. This advice may be by VHF channel 73 or telephone to the Clubhouse (phone: 9918 3637), if necessary.

6. Sail Numbers and Identification

- 6.1. All boats shall carry sail numbers in accordance with Appendix G2 RRS.
- 6.2. In addition, all boats shall have placed on the hull, externally on the transom or on both sides of the hull, in letters and figures of the minimum height nominated by Roads and Maritime and of colour contrasting to the hull:

- a) Registered name of the yacht;
- b) Registered sail number of the yacht;
- c) Name of the club with which the boat is registered, which may be abbreviated to the Club's initials. Each boat must also display on the transom starboard side (where possible) an identification sticker issued by the Club to financial racing and cruising members.

7. Racing Rules

- 7.1. Races shall be sailed under the 2017 - 2010 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing (WS), and the rules of the appropriate Class Associations, all as amended by these Sailing Instructions.

8. Alternative Penalties

- 8.1. For Division 1 and Division 2, Rule 44.1 of the Racing Rules of Sailing shall apply.
- 8.2. For Division 3, Rule 44.1 of the Racing Rules of Sailing is modified so that only a part turn is required when taken voluntarily. On a leg to a windward mark, a part-turn is a gybe and luffing to a close-hauled course as soon as reasonably possible. On other legs a part-turn is a tack and bearing away to 90 degrees from the true wind as soon as reasonably possible.

9. Protests And Mediation

- 9.1. All protests shall be in accordance with WS Racing Rules of Sailing Part 5. Attention is drawn to the following:
 - a) The protest must be lodged in writing (accompanied by \$5) within one and a half hours of the yacht finishing the last race of the day.
 - b) Initially protests may be heard by 'mediation' held as soon as possible after lodgement of a protest. The mediator will meet with the Protestor and Protestee and conduct a Mediation Hearing as fully described in Clause 9.2.
 - c) The Protest Committee will be chaired by a member of the Race Committee. Protests will be heard at the Clubhouse on the evening of the Wednesday following the race at 1930hrs unless notified otherwise.
- 9.2. A Mediation Hearing may be conducted for all protests lodged in accordance with RRS 61, which allege an infringement of RRS Part 2 or Part 4. Such hearings will be held subsequent to protest being lodged and prior to the protest hearing. The time and place of the hearing will be decided by the Mediator and such advice may be given verbally. One representative of each boat shall attend the hearing and no witnesses shall be allowed. The mediator shall decide the manner in which the testimony is given. The Mediator will be appointed by the Protest Committee and may be a member of a subsequent Protest Committee. Should the protest proceed to a Protest Hearing then the Mediator may be called as a witness at that hearing.

After taking testimony at a Mediation Hearing the Mediator shall make one of the following conclusions:-

- a) The protest does not comply with RRS 61 and the Protestor may withdraw the protest.
- b) The protest shall proceed to a Protest Hearing. (This may be because RRS other than Part 2 or Part 4 are or may be involved, or because evidence is too complex or divergent to reach a reasonable conclusion, or due to the apparent severity of the alleged infringement, or for any other reason decided by the Mediator)
- c) There was no infringement and the Protestor may withdraw the protest.
- d) There has been an infringement by one or more boats involved, the infringing boat(s) may accept scoring points equal to the finishing place midway between the boat's actual finishing place and a disqualification, and if so accepted the protestor shall withdraw the protest. (Half points shall be disregarded and the points of other boats shall not be adjusted).

A Mediation Hearing shall not be reopened. Conclusions of a Mediator shall not be subjected to appeal nor be grounds for redress.

Alternative forms of mediation may be used by agreement between the skippers of the yachts involved and the Protest Committee.

10. Safety

- 10.1. Yachts shall hold a current safety audit certificate that complies with the safety requirements of Category 7 of the Australian Sailing Special Regulations, Part 1 for Racing Boats, and meet any additional requirements of Avalon Sailing Club.
- 10.2. The Race Committee will act as the Safety Committee.
- 10.3. ASC yachts will be required to have a safety audit by an ASC Safety Officer (yachts) and submit the completed Certificate to the Safety Officer (yachts) or Officer of the Day prior to sailing in an event. Failure to do so will make the yacht ineligible as a starter.
- 10.4. All yachts participating in ALL races shall carry a VHF Marine Radio and monitor channel 73. Handheld radios shall be tethered to the yacht by a lanyard.

11. Racing Schedule, Starting Times And Procedures

11.1. Races are as scheduled in the ASC Sailing Program as published on the ASC website.

11.2. Warning, Preparatory and Starting signals will be made in accordance with the following schedule:

Quartet Bowl	Koolong/ Retriever	Avalon Series Races 1-7	Event	Flag Signal
	1245		Warning Signal Yacht Division 3	Numeral pennant 3 displayed
	1246		Preparatory Signal Yacht Division 3	Preparatory flag displayed
	1249		One minute Yacht Division 3	Preparatory flag lowered
	1250		Start Yacht Division 3	Numeral pennant 3 lowered
1225	1255	1325	Warning Signal Yacht Division 1	Numeral pennant 1 displayed
1226	1256	1326	Preparatory Signal Yacht Division 1	Preparatory flag displayed
1229	1259	1329	One minute Yacht Division 1	Preparatory flag lowered
1230	1300	1330	Start Yacht Division 1	Numeral pennant 1 lowered

Blue Water Shied races the following times will apply:

- 1300hrs** Warning signal, Numeral pennant 2 displayed,
- 1301hrs** Preparatory flag raised,
- 1304hrs** Preparatory flag lowered,
- 1305hrs** Start, Numeral pennant 2 lowered

Avalon Series Race 8 the following times will apply:

- 0955 hrs** Warning signal, Numeral pennant 1 displayed,
- 0956 hrs** Preparatory flag raised,
- 0959 hrs** Preparatory flag lowered,
- 1000 hrs** Start, Numeral pennant 1 lowered

Winter Season races the following times will apply:

- 1125hrs** Warning signal,
- 1126hrs** Preparatory flag raised,

1129 hrs	Preparatory flag lowered,
1130hrs	Start

The above starting times are indicative and are subject to Postponement.

Note - Start times do not change with Daylight Saving although Race 8 of the Avalon Series has an earlier start time.

- 11.3. Attention may be drawn to the above signals by a suitable sound signal.
- 11.4. Any of the above starting times or procedures may be varied by notice on the Notice Board in the Clubhouse, posted by 1130hrs on the day of the race, in which case code flag 'K' (Yellow / Blue, vertically divided) will be flown from the Club flag mast or from the Committee Vessel.
- 11.5. All yachts, including Couta Boats, shall race under Division 1 for Avalon Series, Quartet Bowl and Winter Series. For these series, Rule 44.1 of the Racing Rules of Sailing applies to all yachts, including Couta Boats, as all yachts shall race in Division 1.
- 11.6. Couta Boats shall race under Division 3 for the Retriever series. All other yachts shall race under Division 1 for the Retriever series.
- 11.7. Couta Boats shall race under Division 3 for the Koolong series. For all other yachts, where skippers elect to sail in an inshore race series for the 'Koolong Trophy' yachts they shall race under Division 1. For yachts electing to sail in the 'Blue Water Shield' Series for starting purposes they will form Division 2.
- 11.8. For Yachts in Avalon Series, Quartet Bowl and Winter Series events a handicap start will be used. The procedure will be as follows:
 - a) Each yacht will be given a handicap (number of minutes after start 'zero') which will be listed in the Clubhouse prior to the race. It is the obligation of the skipper of each yacht to note their handicap before leaving the club.
 - b) Numbers representing these handicaps will be displayed from the Committee Vessel stationed at the starting line during the starting procedure. The numbers displayed will represent minutes after start 'zero'. Therefore, 'zero' will be displayed when the Division Flag is lowered (Start Signal). When the handicap number is displayed, the boat may cross the starting line in the appropriate direction.
 - c) Attention may be drawn to flag signals by a sound. No further sound signals will be made and yachts must time their start from the displayed numbers.
 - d) Yachts not in the act of starting should keep clear of the starting line between the preparatory signal and their handicap number.

12. Committee Vessel And Signals

12.1. Committee Vessel:

The Committee Vessel may be any vessel as decided by the Race Committee.

The Committee Vessel may fly the ASC Burgee.

Division flags are as follows:

Yacht Division 1 Numeral Pennant 1

Yacht Division 2 Numeral Pennant 2

Yacht Division 3 Numeral Pennant 3

13. Courses And Course Identification

- 13.1. The courses to be sailed shall be as shown in the 'Course Table - Yacht Division', the 'Course Plan - Yacht Division' and the 'Notes on Courses - Yacht Division'.
- 13.2. The course to be sailed on a race day will be displayed on the Notice Board in the Clubhouse, but any such notice shall only be advisory and is subject to change. The actual course to be sailed will be displayed on a board on the Committee Vessel.
- 13.3. On occasions where weather or other circumstances make the listed courses unsuitable, the Race Committee may notify details of an unlisted course on the Notice Board.

14. Marks

- 14.1. Marks will be as designated in the 'Notes on Courses - Yacht Division' and as follows or as modified by notice on the Notice Board in the Clubhouse.
- 14.2. Mark 'O' will be a yellow or orange ASC inflatable cylindrical buoy set approximately on a line between Barrenjoey Head Lighthouse and Box Head when the southern side of Lion Island is in transit with the southern shoreline of Middle Head.
- 14.3. Mark 'H' will be a yellow or orange ASC inflatable cylindrical buoy set approximately on a line between West Head and the eastern shoreline of Middle Head when the south-east corner of Lion Island is in transit with Box Head.
- 14.4. Mark 'K' will be a yellow or orange ASC inflatable cylindrical buoy set in the vicinity of and inshore of Barrenjoey Head. It will be set approximately middling of the waterway on a line between Barrenjoey Head Lighthouse and West Head.
- 14.5. A orange spherical buoy will be set approximately 500m to windward of the starting line for BWS starts where there is a south wind component. See Course Table - Yacht Division. Leave this mark to Port before setting course to the next mark.
- 14.6. The Starting Mark will be an orange ASC inflatable cylindrical buoy.

15. Starting Line

- 15.1. The starting line for all yacht events (including handicap starts) shall be between the signal mast displaying an orange flag on the Committee vessel and the Starting Mark.
- 15.2. Yachts not actually engaged in starting shall keep clear of both the starting line and all competitors who are about to start.

16. Finishing Line

- 16.1. The finishing line for all Yacht Class Races, except Avalon Race #8, will be a line between the Clubhouse Flag Mast and an orange ASC inflatable cylindrical buoy, set approximately west of the Clubhouse, and is to be crossed from the direction of the last mark and as indicated on Course Table - Yacht Division. When approaching the finishing line, yachts must keep outside the outer line of permanent moorings, as required by Clause 22.1.
- 16.2. Yachts finishing races should be prepared to record their own time and finishing positions in the event that the Yacht Coordinator is not on duty. In such an event an independent record of finish time and finishing position may also be made from the Clubhouse.
- 16.3. The finishing line for Race #8 of the Avalon Series will be a line between the BBQ on Portuguese Beach and an orange ASC inflatable cylindrical buoy, set approximately east of the BBQ, and is to be crossed from the direction of the last mark and as indicated on 'Course Table - Yacht Division'. When approaching the finishing line, yachts must keep outside any yachts anchored within 80 metres of Portuguese Beach.

17. Postponement And Abandonment

17.1. From the Clubhouse:

Under adverse weather conditions, or for other reasons, it may be necessary to postpone or cancel races from the Clubhouse. Under these circumstances the following procedures will be adopted.

- a) Thirty minutes before the start of the first race a sound signal will be made from the Clubhouse and either of the following flags will be flown:
- Answering Pennant 'AP' signifying a postponement of all races.
 - Code flag 'N' signifying abandonment of all races.
 - The appropriate Class flag(s) may be flown if applicable.
- b) In the event of a postponement, further sound signals will be made at 30 minute intervals and the 'AP' Pennant will remain hoisted.
- c) If a decision to proceed with racing is made, the 'AP' Pennant will be lowered and the Racing Program will commence approximately 30 minutes from that time.
- d) If a decision to abandon racing is made the 'N' flag will be hoisted and flown for a period of one hour from the scheduled start time of the first race or 30 minutes from the time of the decision for abandonment, whichever is the latest.

17.2. From Committee Vessel

- a) Postponement:
- The Answering Pennant 'AP' will be flown. All races not started are then postponed. The Warning Signal will be made one minute after the 'AP' is lowered.

- b) Abandonment:
 - The 'N' flag will be flown. All races are then abandoned.

18. Shortening Course

- 18.1. If the Race Committee signals a shortened course (displays code flag S with two sounds or by hailing), the finishing line shall be:
- a) at a rounding mark (excluding Lion Island), between the mark and the mast of the Committee Vessel (or a Response Boat) displaying Code Flag S and the flag(s) of the division(s) to which the shortened course applies. Yachts shall finish by crossing the finishing line in the direction from the previous mark irrespective of which side of the mark the Committee Vessel is stationed; or
 - b) on any leg of the course, between the mast of the Committee Vessel (or a Response Boat) displaying Code Flag S and a mark moored nearby. Yachts shall finish by crossing the finishing line towards the direction of the next mark or finishing line.

19. Recalls

- 19.1. When at the starting signal any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line, the boat shall sail completely to the pre-start side of the line before starting.

20. Time Limit

- 20.1. For the Retriever, Quartet Bowl, Koolong and Blue Water Shield series the time limit will be 1730hrs. For the Avalon Series the time limit will be 1800hrs. For the Winter Series the time limit will be 1530hrs. In the case of Blue Water Shield Series the 'O' mark and the 'H' mark will be lifted at 1700hrs, and yachts that have not rounded these marks will be recorded as 'DNF' (Did Not Finish). If no yacht completes the course (shortened if necessary) within the time limit, the race will be abandoned.

21. Handicap And Point Scoring System

- 21.1. Points shall be scored in accordance with RRS Appendix A - Low Point Scoring System for all series of six or fewer races. For race series of more than six completed races, including the Avalon Series, the series score will exclude the two worst scores.
- 21.2. If a yacht is precluded from participating in a race due to ASC rostering or co-opting for same, or representing Avalon Sailing Club at a Regatta recognised by the Race Committee, then the yacht shall be awarded average points. The worst performance discard(s) shall be made before the average points are calculated. This will only apply to one Roster Duty or Regatta representation per Series.
- 21.3. Handicaps will be determined by an arbitrary method and shall not be the grounds for redress by any yacht. The Race Committee reserves the right to adjust a yacht's handicap at any time

22. PROHIBITED WATER AND OBSTRUCTIONS

22.1. The areas of water between the outer line of all permanent moorings and the shorelines of Pittwater and Scotland Island shall be considered as 'prohibited water' for yachts that are racing. All navigational marks (e.g. Palm Beach pile.) shall rank as 'obstructions' for yachts that are racing and shall be passed on their designated side.

Notes on Courses - Yacht Division

The position of all marks is approximate only.

The start area is approximate only and may vary from that in the course table.

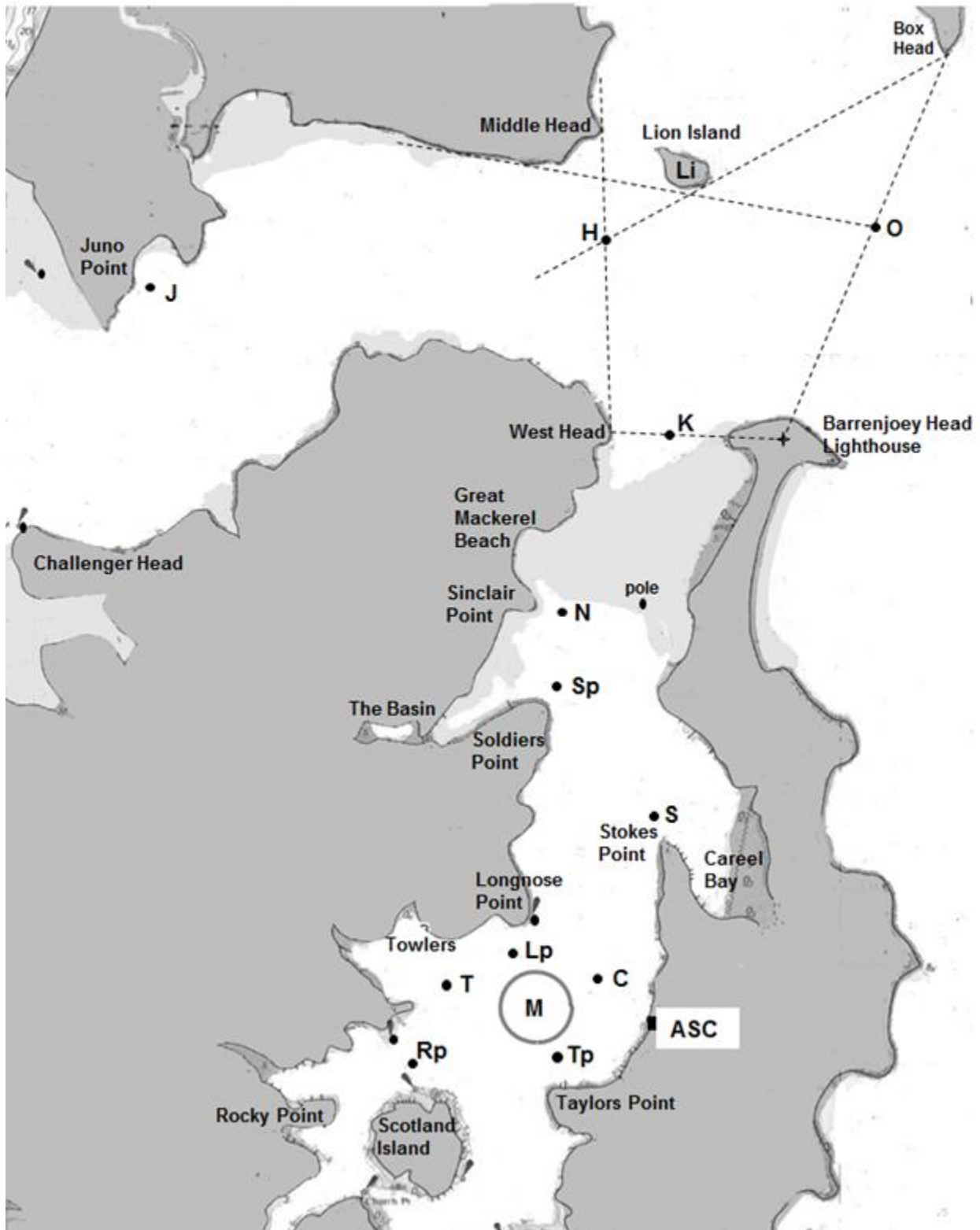
Although indication is given in the course table as to courses generally sailed in nominated events and wind directions, it should be noted that any course might be sailed for any event or in any wind direction.

The following marks are permanent NSW Maritime yellow cones or RMYC red cylinders:

C	Approx 0.3 nm NW of ASC	J	Off Juno Point
N	Off Sinclair Point (south of Great Mackerel Beach)	Lp	Off Longnose Point
Rp	Off Rocky Point (north west of Scotland Island).	Sp	Off Soldiers Point (to the north)
S	Off Stokes Point.	Tp	Off Taylors Point
T	Off Towlers		

The number of the course to be sailed will be displayed on the Notice Board in the clubhouse or be notified by hailing competitors from the Committee Vessel. If the Race Committee decides to sail a course that is not included in the Course Table, that course will be displayed on the Notice Board in the Clubhouse.

Course Plan - Yacht Division
Avalon Sailing Club
Course Plan Yacht Division 2017-2018



Course Table - Yacht Division

Course Table - Yacht Division 2017/2018				
Course No.	Wind	Start in area	Course	Distance Nmi
Avalon Series				
1		M	K, Rp*, T*, S, N	11.7
Retriever & Koolong Trophy				
2	N	M	K*, C*, K*	11.8
3	N	M	N, Tp*, N, Lp*, Sp	11.4
4	NNE	M	K, Sp, K, Sp, K	11.6
5	NE	Lp	S, Rp*, S, Tp*, Rp*, S, Rp*, C*	11.6
6	ENE	Lp	S, T*, S, Rp*, C*, Rp*, C*, Rp*, C*	11.9
7	E	T	C*, T*, C*, Tp*, Rp*, Tp*, Rp*, Tp*, Rp*, T*, C*, T*, C*	10.5
8	SE	T-Lp	Tp*, T*, Tp*, T*, S, N, S, N, S, N	11.8
9	S	M	Tp*, K, Tp*, N	11.3
10	S	M	Tp*, Sp, Tp*, Sp, Tp*, Sp	11.7
11	SW	C-Lp	Rp*, S, Rp*, T*, C*, Rp*, S, Rp*	11.9
12	SW	C-Lp	Rp*, K*, N, K*, N, K*	11.8
13	W	C	T*, C*, T*, C*, Tp*, Rp*, Tp*, Rp*, Tp*, Rp*, T*, C*, T*, C*	11.6
14	NW	Tp	T*, S, Sp, S, N, S, N, Tp*, T*, C*	11.3
Retriever & Koolong Trophy (light wind days) / Winter Series				
15	N	M	N, Tp*, Sp	7.9
16	NE	Lp	S, C*, Rp*, S, Lp*, S	7.8
17	E	T	C*, Tp*, Rp*, T*, C*, Tp*, Rp*, Tp*, Rp*, T*, C*	7.7
18	SE	T-Lp	Tp*, T*, S, Sp, S, Sp, C*, Lp*, C*	7.9
19	S	M	Tp*, N, Tp*, Lp*, S	7.8
20	SW	C-Lp	Rp*, S, Lp*, S, Rp*, C*	7.8
21	W	C	T*, C*, T*, Lp*, Tp*, Rp*, Lp*, Tp*, Rp*, C*	7.9
22	NW	Tp	T*, S, Sp, S, Sp, Tp*, Lp*, C*	7.9
Blue Water Shield				
23	Light	As per Koolong	#, O	8.7
24	Light		#, O, Li	10.2
25	N		Li*, O*, K*, Li	13.5
26	NNE/NE		O, Li, K, O	13.1
27	S/SE		#, O, Li, K, Li	13.6
28	SW		#, Li*, O*, K*, O*	13.5
29	W		#, O, H, O, H	12.6
30	E		#, H*, O*, H*, O*	12.6
31	No 'O'		#, Li, J	13.3
Quartet Bowl				
32		M	J	11.6
33		M	K, J, K*	11.8
Marks to be rounded to Port, unless identified with an *				
Courses may be shortened in light winds: 'Avalon Series' from 1630hrs; 'Winter Series' from 1345hrs.				
# Where there is a south wind component the first mark for the BWS is an orange buoy laid approximately 500m to windward of the start, to be rounded to Port				

Yacht Division Trophies for 2017-2018

Opening Day Trophy:	Raced in conjunction with Heat 1 of the Retriever Series.
Blue Water Shield:	A handicap series raced on courses which include a mark laid offshore from Lion Island. Six heats, with five to count (Scratch start).
Koolong Trophy:	A handicap series raced on courses within Pittwater sailed concurrently with Blue Water Shield. Six heats, with five to count (Scratch with separate start times for Division 3 and Division 1).
Quartet Bowl:	A handicap series raced on courses that include a mark laid off Juno Point. Six heats, with five to count (Handicap start). 12.30pm start.
Retriever Trophy:	A handicap series raced on courses within Pittwater. Six heats, with five to count (Scratch with separate start times for Division 3 and Division 1).
Avalon Series (Force 8 Cup Trophy):	A handicap series raced within Pittwater. Eight heats, with six to count (Handicap start). Races 1-7 have a 1.30pm start and Race 8 has a 10:00am start. BYO food BBQ follows on the Club deck.
Hurrica Trophy:	A handicap trophy for the best performing 'Inshore' yacht in the series RT, AS, QB & KT. The winner is the yacht with minimum points from all races in the series calculated on corrected times.
Shaz II Trophy:	A scratch trophy for the fastest yacht in the Club. The winner is the yacht with minimum points from all races in the four major trophy series (RT, AS, QB & BWS/KT) when calculated on the basis of scratch results.
Commodore's Trophy:	A handicap trophy for the best performing 'Offshore' yacht in the Club. The winner is the yacht with minimum points from all the races in the BWS, RT & QB series, when calculated on corrected times.
Van Den Bosch Trophy:	"For perseverance in fair weather and foul", is awarded to the yacht competing in most events during the year, providing it has not been a prize winner in any series (an event is a summer series trophy race).
Winter Series (The Old Deck Trophy):	A handicap series raced on shorter courses within Pittwater over the cooler months.
Don McLachlan Etchells Regatta:	A regatta held over two days in April open to "wet" (antifouled) Etchells only. Scratch and handicap results awarded.