



BLAIRGOWRIE
YACHT SQUADRON

BYS Women's Sportsboat Sprint Series 15 - 16 March 2025

NOTICE OF RACE

The Organising Authority (OA) is the Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron (BYS).

Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron warmly invites all competitors to the 2025 Women's Sportsboat Sprint Series, to be held at Blairgowrie on the Mornington Peninsula. The regatta aims to showcase and promote the participation of women and girls in sailing.

The series will feature two days of short, sharp windward-leeward racing, designed to provide excellent opportunity for competitors to sharpen their skills in a high-energy format.

After racing on Saturday, participants are invited to enjoy a meal and hear from inspiring guest speakers in our Southern Waters Room. On Sunday, the series will conclude with a presentation on the deck, celebrating the achievements of all involved.

This event is made possible through the generous support of the Club's J/70 boat owners, who kindly make their boats available for the series.

1. RULES

1.1. The racing will be governed by:

- the rules as defined in the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- The prescriptions and special regulations of Australian Sailing (AS), as may be amended [DP],
- Appendix UF, Umpired Fleet Racing – BYS Women's Sportsboat Regatta Edition will apply.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. The event is open to all boats of the J/70 Class, with female crew aged 15 or older.
- 2.2. Skippers must be at least 18 years old.
- 2.3. All boats shall have a valid AS Special Regulations Category 7 Equipment Audit form.
- 2.4. All skippers and crew shall be financial members of an Australian Sailing recognised yacht club or apply for and receive a valid Sail Pass from BYS before racing to comply with RRS 46.
- 2.5. Entries and payment of the applicable fee shall be made online at <https://sailingresults.net/entry/default.aspx?ID=9169422>
- 2.6. 5 loan boats shall be made available for the regatta to teams without their own boat, subject to a usage agreement. Boats will be allocated by the Race Committee.

3. FEES

- 3.1. The entry fee with BYO boat is \$400.
- 3.2. The entry fee with a supplied boat is \$850.
- 3.3. The entry fee includes berthing and trailer storage from 15 March – 16 March, five competitor tee shirts, five dinner tickets for Saturday night and regatta racing.
- 3.4. An additional damage and repair deposit of \$800 will apply for entries using a loan boat. Deposits held will be refunded at the end of the regatta minus any incurred costs for damage.

4. EVENT FORMAT & SCHEDULE

- 4.1. The event will be sprint racing with no spinnakers.
- 4.2. There is no set maximum number of races scheduled.
- 4.3. The start times for the second and succeeding races on each day will be as soon as practical after the conclusion of the preceding race, at the discretion of the Race Officer.

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4.4. On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1500 hrs.

4.5. Berthing, registration, racing and social schedule:

Date	Time	Event
Saturday 15 March	1000 – 1015 hrs	Registration
	1015 hrs	Information Briefing (Racing Lounge)
	1200 hrs	Race Session – first warning signal
	1800 hrs	Dinner (Clubhouse)
Sunday 16 March	1030 hrs	Race Session – first warning signal
	ASAP after last race	Presentation

5. INSPECTION

5.1. No boat shall carry any unreasonable quantities of water or anything else for the purpose of adding ballast. The amount of water permitted to be carried should be sufficient for the crew for drinking purposes during the day's racing. A maximum of 10 litres of water per boat is acceptable.

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

6.1. The Sailing Instructions will be available online on the regatta page of the club's website <https://bys.asn.au/2025-womens-sportsboat-regatta/> by 12 March 2025 and also posted on the official online notice board.

7. VENUE AND RACE AREAS

7.1. The Racing Area will be the waters of Port Philip in the vicinity of Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron.

8. THE COURSES

8.1. The courses shall be windward/leeward courses as described in the Sailing Instructions.

9. PENALTY SYSTEM

9.1. The penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2 shall be a One Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe in the same direction). This changes RRS 44.1 and RRS 44.2.

10. ARBITRATION

10.1. RRS Appendix T shall apply.

11. SCORING

11.1. The Low Point System, RRS Appendix A, will apply.

11.2. Four (4) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

11.3. When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

11.4. When between five (5) and eight (8) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her races scores excluding her worst score.

11.5. When nine (9) races or more have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her 2 worst scores. This changes RRS Appendix A2.

12. SUPPORT BOATS [DP]

12.1. Visiting coach or support vessels may be berthed at BYS for the duration of the regatta by prior application with the Sailing Office and subject to availability. Additional fees may apply.

12.2. Coaches and support boats must remain well away from the start area, the course area and racing areas (at a minimum of 100m) from the time of the first warning signal each day until racing has concluded for the day.

- 12.3. Competitors shall have no communication with support boats and competing boats shall not be tied to coach or support boats from the first warning signal each race day until racing has been concluded for the day.
- 12.4. Support boats shall make themselves available at all times while afloat to assist the Race Committee in the case of an emergency or rescue, as directed in person by the relevant race officer, or via VHF Radio or as signalled by the flying of code flag V on the start boat. Refer to RRS 37.

13. BERTHING AND TRAILER PARKING

- 13.1. Boats competing in the regatta may be stored free of charge at BYS on the hardstand prior to and after the regatta and in nominated berths during the regatta.
- 13.2. Any visiting boats wishing to berth before or after the regatta must apply in writing to sailing@bys.asn.au and receive written approval. Additional fees may apply.
- 13.3. The hardstand will be open and the crane available for use for boats arriving on Friday 14 March 2025. For visitors, craning boats into the water will require assistance from the BYS Sailing Office.
- 13.4. Underwater breathing apparatus, closed plastic pools or their equivalent, the use of dehumidifiers or electric fans of any type shall not be used around boats while they are afloat.
- 13.5. Once boats are berthed, the trailers may be stored on the travel lift runway.

14. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 14.1. All boats shall carry a marine band VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting Marine VHF channels. The radio shall be switched on at all times and tuned to the correct race committee frequency. The race committee intends to monitor VHF radio and communicate race information to competitors. [DP]
- 14.2. Boats are required to use the VHF radio to report retirement from racing and may use the radio to request assistance in an emergency. No other transmissions are permitted by competing boats during each racing day from their warning signal until the completion of their race.

15. PRIZES

- 15.1. Prizes will be awarded to the first three overall places.
- 15.2. The Rising Star Award will be awarded to the most improved boat during the event.

16. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 16.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See 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." The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 16.2. The OA, sponsors, class associations, the race committee and other race officials are not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.
- 16.3. All those taking part in these races are reminded of their obligations as set out in the AS Special Regulations clause 1.02 Responsibility of the Person in Charge.

17. INSURANCE

- 17.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party property and personal liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000.00 per incident or the equivalent. All insurance cover shall be maintained for the period of racing. Supplied boats will include the appropriate insurance cover.

18. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

- 18.1. In participating in this event, a competitor automatically grants to the OA 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 him/her during the period of the competition in which the competitor participates and in all material related to the event without compensation.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

BYS Sailing Office: (03) 5925 9620 sailing@bys.asn.au

ATTACHMENT A – RACING AREA

