



NEWPORT CRUISING YACHT CLUB

Performance Cruising Series (PerCS)

Sailing Instructions

1. Preamble

The Performance Cruising Series (PerCS) was developed to provide NCYC members with an additional sailing series structured with more variability than the WAGS/SAGS and CAS but without the rigour of the Bluebook racing rules. It is hoped that the PerCS will provide members with an opportunity to move through the various formats of sailing activity and events available in our club's sailing calendar.

- The PerCS is a whole year series with 11 races planned, run under the COLREGS, with more flexible rules regarding course and use of extras. Each event is run on allocated Sundays, starting at 11.00 am. Event dates appear on the NCYC calendar as 'PerCS event (x)'.
- For this series, the term 'Extras' is defined as meaning, sails that are not permanently attached to a stay or spar on the centre line of the boat, and does not include inner stay sails, foresails or mizzens in the case of cutter, schooner or ketch rigs.
- The PerCS courses are based on the previous series courses but shortened to about 17 nm and designed to allow the last leg to be deleted in the case of very light wind. The shorter courses enable participating boats to finish early to mid afternoon allowing time post race for socializing at the NCYC club house.

2. Eligibility

NCYC Members -

The PerCS events are open to any yacht complying with the following:

- Compliance with MSQ safety requirements for the type and size of vessel;
- The yacht must be listed on the NCYC Yacht Register, and at least one crew member must be an ordinary or life member of the NCYC.

Non-members (visiting yachts) -

Non-members (visiting yachts) are welcome to participate in a maximum of two (2) events (consecutive or otherwise). Such participation is deemed to be for 'handicap establishment' purposes and thereafter participation is subject to the same requirements as applicable to NCYC members.

Non-member (visiting yachts) must log on with the event controller as a 'visiting yacht' and must stay well clear of other participating yachts at all times.

Non-members (visiting yachts) are not eligible for prizes.

There is no entry fee payable.

3. Starting and Finishing

Each event will start as a 'scratch start'.

The **start line** will be one of the following, depending on the course declared for an event:

- a **200 metre** extension of an imaginary line from the **Red** lateral mark through the **Green lateral** mark at the entrance to the Newport leads; or
- a **200 metre** extension of an imaginary line from the outer **Green** lateral mark through the inner Green lateral mark of the Newport Leads.

The start line will thus be long enough to ensure that all participating boats will be able to comply with the COLREGS during prestart manoeuvring and at start and finish time, i.e. maintain a safe distance at all times.

The **Finish line** will be one of the following, depending on the course declared for an event:

- A **100 metre** extension of an imaginary line from the **Red** lateral mark through the Green lateral mark at the entrance to the Newport Leads, or
- A **100 metre** extension of an imaginary line from the inner **Green** lateral marker through the outer green lateral marker at the entrance to the Newport leads.

3A. Start Times

The fleet will be divided into two groups: Group 1 and Group 2, by reference to allocated handicaps. Group 1 will include boats with a handicap of .7350 or lower and Group 2 shall include boats with a handicap higher than .7350. Group 1 shall start at least 30 minutes before Group 2.

The Race Controller may, at his or her discretion, delay the start times of either or both groups, having regard to the forecast for wind conditions and the actual wind condition identified at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time for Group 1

4. PerCS Courses

Course 1. (NE Wind): Start / RPs / GRp / RPp / DBRp / Finish

Course 2. (All winds): Start / RPp / DBRs / BSCp/Beachmere Fisheries(BMF)p/ CRp / Finish

Course 3. (SE wind): Start / RPs / GRp / RPp / Finish

Course 4. (SE wind): Start / DBRs / BSCp / DBRp / RPs / CRp / Finish

Course 5. (NE wind): Start / CRs / DBRs / RPp / BSCp / DBRp / RPs / Finish

Note: the subscripts 'p' and 's' indicate whether a particular mark is taken to port 'p' or starboard 's'.

5. Course for the Day

The choice of the course to be sailed on any particular day is determined by the event controller in accordance with General Event Rule 3. The event controller may be the PRO or his or her delegate on the day.

6. Logging on and off / Radio watch

Log on -

All participating yachts must log on (VHF 77) with the event controller at least 15 minutes prior to start time, providing name of yacht and number of persons on board.

Log off -

All participating yachts must log off (VHF77) with the event controller within 20 minutes of finish time and provide GPS finish time and declaration re use of extras. If a yacht withdraws during an event they must notify the event controller as soon as practicable.

Radio watch -

All participating yachts must maintain a radio watch on Channel VHF77 at all times during an event.

7. SAFETY

All PerCS events are conducted under the COLREGS, and participating yachts must comply with the COLREGS at all times, including during pre start manoeuvring. The Blue book racing rules DO NOT apply.

Participating boats should pay particular attention to COLREGS Rule 5 (Look out) and Rule 7 (Risk of Collision). If in doubt, assume a risk exists and take early and clear action (Rule 7(a))
The NCYC is not empowered to make any ruling as to whether a yacht has breached the COLREGS.

However, in the event of any difference of opinion between skippers as to compliance with the COLREGS, those skippers should endeavour to resolve the difference of opinion amicably post race, and if the issue cannot be so resolved, the event controller shall determine the difference of opinion.

An event will be abandoned if a Gale Force Wind is forecast to occur during the event or in otherwise unsafe conditions. A decision as to whether unsafe conditions exist shall be made by the event controller. The event controller may confer with other skippers for the purpose of reaching his or her decision.

For emergency assistance call - Redcliffe Coast or VMR Bribie Island on VHF 73 (relay channel 21).

Note: All NCYC sailing events are subject to review by the NCYC Activity Review Sub-committee.

8. General Event Rules

The aim of the Performance Cruising Series is to provide NCYC and visitors with a safe and enjoyable experience sailing in company during which sailing skills are both developed and tested within safety limits consistent with and in compliance with the COLREGS.

1. Participating yachts will be allocated an initial handicap based on past performance in recent WAGS and SAGS events. See 'Handicaps'.
2. All events will be run on Sundays and start at 11.00am. See the NCYC calendar at www.newportcruisingyachtclub.com.au for PerCS event dates.
3. The course for any particular event will be determined by reference to the wind forecast, the prevailing wind at or about the start time, and safety issues. The decision as to the course to be sailed will be made by the event controller.
4. Participating yachts must not use auxiliary power within 15 minutes of the start time EXCEPT in an emergency situation. An emergency situation includes a situation where immediate manoeuvrability is required to avoid a breach of the COLREGS or an otherwise unsafe situation.
5. If a yacht uses auxiliary power during the event it must disqualify itself and notify the event controller accordingly.
6. A skipper may elect to use *extras* at any time during an event but must declare that decision when calling in his / her finish time.
7. If a yacht has used an *extra* during an event that yacht will incur a handicap penalty adjustment of 3% when determining place getters for that event.
8. Use of autopilots is permitted **but not** during the 15 minutes prior to or during race starts.
9. If a race is cancelled or abandoned for any reason there will be no *re-run*.
10. There will be no line honours.

9. Handicaps

Each participating yacht will be allocated an initial handicap at the commencement of the series. That handicap will be ascertained by reference to the yacht's performance during WAGS and SAGS events preceding the commencement of the series.

Each participating yacht that finishes any given event will have its handicap adjusted in accordance with the performance based points system described in the NCYC Handbook at paragraph 8. The adjusted handicap (excluding the 3% extras' penalty) will then apply to the next event in which that yacht competes.

The winning yacht in any particular event will be the yacht with the lowest corrected time.

11. Prizes

Prizes for First, Second and Third placegetters will be awarded after each event. Prizes may be awarded as per the WAGS and SAGS format, or redeemable vouchers, depending on the sponsorship that is available for the series from time to time.

12. Scoring

There are 11 races planned for the series. 3 discards may be used.

Any race result can be discarded up to 3 races if a boat is deemed eligible.

If a boat sails less than 8 races it may not discard any other result.

If a race is cancelled due to weather or other circumstances, the race will count as a discard.

The series score will be the sum of the boat's 8 best race percentage points over the series.

The percentage points are the result of the boat's handicap compared to its achieved handicap in each race.

A DNC or DNS will not be scored but may be used as a discard when eligible.

A DNF will be given a score 3% below the lowest scored boat in a race and the resultant handicap will be used for the following race.

If there is a series-score tie between two or more boats, each boat's race scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point(s) where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favour of the boat(s) with the best score(s). No excluded scores shall be used.