

## Skipper and Crew Survey 2025

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Member's Name: David Cartmer  
Yacht's Name: Mach 1  
Email: davidcartmer@gmail.com  
Mobile Number: 0407367978

### Sunday Races:

Can we consider the Boat Harbour series to allow for spinnakers if boats choose. The handicapping and start times to level the field of spin and non-spin.

*Reply: The Boat Harbour series is already the skipper's choice. No requirement for non-spinnaker.*

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Member's Name: Tony Towndrow  
Yacht's Name: Patrol Boat  
Email: rootzoneaust@bigpond.com  
Mobile Number: 0409309269

### Sunday Races:

Could the starting line for Sunday be made longer than 3 boat lengths?

*Reply: To avoid further concern, all reference to 3 boat lengths has been removed. It will be up to the course layer to use their discretion according to the circumstances.*

*Decision: The pin end may be on either side of mark "E" so the start is always crossed in the same direction.*

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Member's Name: Michael Meehan  
Yacht's Name: Starship  
Email: michael.j.meehan@bigpond.com  
Mobile Number: 0419872235

### Wednesday Races:

Could the Wednesday results be calculated on TCF as we do on Sundays?

*Reply: To do this we would need accurate finish times. At present we can't rely on Skipper's use of eStela. It is also important for transparency that sailors know exactly how pursuit times are calculated. The current method is well understood and although a TCF based system could be explained the current system is simpler and produces fair results for Wednesday races of roughly a fixed time and course.*

*Decision: Wednesday handicapping to remain as is.*

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Member's Name: John Barter  
Yacht's Name: L'attitude  
Email: john.barter1@bigpond.com  
Mobile Number: 0418253479

**Sunday Races:** The GPS rounding currently turn on a .1nM radius.

SMS sent: Would like this to be .05nM radius if skippers can confirm they and their instruments can cope.

*Reply: This is so eStela can place circle around the GPS positions currently we have a limit of 100 metres.*

*Distance conversion: .05 nM = 304 feet = 93 metres*

*Can do reply SMS: Yknot, marri nuwi, L'attitude, Mach 1, Excentric, Axiom/Inception, Etre Jeune*

Can we use GPS rounding for the Boat Harbour mark.

*Reason: To use courses when the mark is unavailable or to be independent of CSC.*

*Decision: The GPS rounding to be at 0.05nM.*

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### Wednesday Races:

Current courses have a windward leg of .66nM, Increase windward leg to .7nM.

*Reply: Instruction does say .66 nM to .7 nM. This can be done by pre-planning using eStela.*

*Decision: All Wednesday windward legs to be 0.7nm.*

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## Skipper and Crew Survey 2025

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Member's Name: Jared Macquart

Yacht's Name: jazz bar

### Sunday Races:

The in the bay courses seem to be a bit boring with current courses. is it possible to create new courses?

*Reply: There are 10 courses in the draft handbook, some of which we have never used. We only have 3 marks available. We have plenty of options to choose a course to suit most winds. The starting line has been shortened to provide competitive starts. See new courses 7 and 8 in draft handbook. Would welcome suggestions for alternate courses.*

*Decision: All the courses have been tweaked and tested with new courses added to provided variety.*

Rather than pursuit start, have similar paced and sailed boats start at same time like a scratch start, have the slower boats start together on an earlier start.

E.g. slower boats, Patrol Boat, Excelsior, Tobruk, Reve, marri nuwi, start at 12pm as a scratch start

Then have the faster boats, L'attitude, Jazzbar, Yknot, MC Starship, Etre Jeune, Excentric start at 12:15pm.

To calculate results just add the extra 15mins from first lot of boats elapsed time, and let the software work out the rest. It's a bit of a soldiers course otherwise.

*Reply: Having the fleet divided into 2 is still a pursuit start. This has already been planned but not used yet. Our Sail100 results program provides for this, so no need to manually add time.*

*Decision: There will be a mixture of individual pursuit starts and groups starts next season*

### Section 4 (15) race tracker

*I don't think yachts should be penalised for not using Estela. Providing they can prove in other means they went around virtual mark.*

*Reply: We have GPS rounding's where we can't set buoys (not virtual marks). Is there a reason for you not using eStela? It is also used for starting and finishing times as well as general interest with replays.*

### Section 4 (16). IRC

*I have irc certificate, can I get irc results in short ocean*

*Reply: We can provide IRC results if there are other boats racing in SO with IRC certificates.*

### Wednesday Races:

Wednesdays need to have a wind limit. If no breeze blowing consistently over 6-knots of breeze, the race should be abandoned. Drifting around a course is not a race.

*Reply: Not sure how you can know in advance the wind you will have at a start of a race so abandonment would have to be called on the course. There are plenty of incidents when the actual wind is far from the forecast. Some skippers excel in light winds. The course can be shortened as per the handbook. The draft program has a condition (to be approved) that says one yacht must complete 1 lap, if not then the race is abandoned.*

Page 36, 3 summary for Wednesday point (d) yachts shall run Estella. Should read yachts can

*Reply: "Should or Must" is correct. It is my intention to have all boats racing with PHS to use eStela tracking. It only requires one crew member to turn their phone on at the start. There are many benefits that flow on. This shouldn't be too hard.*

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Member's Name: Royden Toal

Yacht's Name: Excelsior

### Sunday Races:

#### 4. Adjustment of time.

*I would think in the best interest of fairness the same rules should apply to all competitors. I am no expert, but my understanding of the rules was all boats must 'sail the course' and take any penalty turns prior to crossing the finish line for a time to be recorded.*

*Reply: Agree. However, boats cannot be disqualified without protests. There were no protests.*

## Skipper and Crew Survey 2025

Winter races are being used to verify changes in the draft handbook for 2025-2026 and to prove the use of eStela and to get a better understanding of all the benefits it offers.

### Observations from Race 3 1 June 2025

#### 1. Shortening of course.

- a. Some question over the validity of how the shortening of course was communicated.

*Reply: Clarification to be advised.*

#### 2. Rounding of last "K" mark.

- a. Rounding in handbook (s) rounding in sealed sheets (p). (p) is correct and (s) is an error in course 6 in the handbook.
- b. Similarly, in course 5 the last mark has opposite rounding. There is no advantage as long as the mark is rounded.
- c. There was no protest against Excentric.
- d. Is calling on the radio for course instructions "outside assistance"?

*Reply: A solution would be for the "sausage" to go to the other mark by swapping "K" and "C" in both courses. This way all the marks would be rounded in the same direction and avoid confusion.*

#### 3. Correcting of rounding error.

- a. Yknot returned to mark "K" and rounded to (p). However, this only undoes the wrong rounding. To round correctly she would need to do a 360 degree (p) turn around "K".
- b. **To round the course:**  
**Definition:** a string representing her track until she finishes, when drawn taut,  
(1) passes each mark of the course for the race on the required side and in the correct order (including the starting marks),  
(2) touches each mark designated in the sailing instructions to be a rounding mark.

*Reply: See definition of rounding marks of a course above.*

#### 4. Adjustment of time.

- a. In fairness to Yknot and in the best interest of a fair result the time lost by Yknot could be measured by eStela.
- b. This time was adjusted in Yknot's finish time and was 12m 04s.
- c. There was no advantage to Excentric.

*Reply: The above may not stand up in a protest.*

*In my opinion, had a protest been held Excentric would have been disqualified for an invalid rounding and Yknot would have been disqualified for not completing the course.*

#### 5. eStela tracking.

- a. Requires "Activation tracking" prior to starting (say 5 minutes).

*Reply: We are seeing if eStela can provide a way we can program start time in advance.*

- b. Requires "Stop tracking" after finishing.

*Reply: eStela can auto stop tracking when boats cross a "Termination area". This has been set in the channel at the southern end of Gunnamatta Bay. For this to work without false stops, boats must cross the start line and complete the course.*

- c. On Sunday all 10 boats "Activated tracking" but only 4 completed to course.

*Reply: When contact is lost due to data connection or the server going down, the phones record the position and time and upload when communication is restored. It seems the server when down for a time while we were racing so some data was uploaded after we finished. Some phones may have been turned off early, but we also may have had a recurring problem with phones stopping during a race. This will be investigated further.*

## Skipper and Crew Survey 2025

Member's Name: Tony Towndrow  
Yacht's Name: Patrol Boat  
Email: tonedowntown@gmail.com  
Mobile Number: 0409309269

### Sunday Races:

There are two three-week gaps and two one-week gaps. I can't see good reason for all of these, looks like Cronulla ruling the roost.

*Reply: This has nothing to do with Cronula.*

*Decision: The program has been changed to provide a 2-week cycle where ever possible bearing in mind there are some events we need to work around like public holidays, tides etc.*

Also, Short Ocean has one extra race 2 which of course gives the SO boats an advantage in the club championship. You need to add an extra harbour series race somewhere for fairness.

*Reply: The rules for club championship in the racing handbook and web (Racing>Club Champion) states that only Sunday races are to count, so there is no advantage each has 5 races to count from the SO or HBR series plus the SH series.*

Criticism demands positive suggestion so, I propose sailing dates as follows.

14/09, 28/09, 12/10, 26/10, 09/11, 23/11, 07/12 and 14/12, doesn't interfere with shell cove or any holiday weekend and only 1 case of consecutive weekends.

*Reply: We are also trying to keep 5Dec2025 free for the cruising weekend to Audley and dates for the Two-handed series. This has been done by leaving the 1-week gap between SH3 and SH4 and changing two earlier dates to maintain a 2-week cycle and still providing for Audley. Good suggestion, see updated handbook on webpage.*

Same logic autumn series kowtowing to CSC. 01/02, 07/02 and 08/02 non-point score

Race 15/02 and so on. Solves the problem of extra SOS race as well.

*Reply: There is no kowtowing. No need to make the Harbour weekend a NPS (see above) unless most of our skippers are not interested in the weekend. The autumn series needs to allow for Easter and Port Stephens regatta. No changes needed.*

### Wednesday Races:

Works perfectly well as is leave it alone.

*Reply: I agree, but we need to hear from all.*

*Decision: No change to Wednesday racing.*

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Member's Name: David Newton

Yacht's Name: Yknot

Email:

Mobile Number: 0408242717

### Sunday Races:

I'm just updating our app with race dates and noticed the draft handbook has Sail Port Stephens in as 22-28 April when it's 13-18 April.

Also, you might check date of HBR1.

We currently have 6 races in the winter series and 6 programmed for next season. Should we have 7 as in the past?

*Reply: Program amended for dates of Commodores Cup not the performance series of races. I've moved SH10 after the Port Stevens regatta and started the Winter series 2 weeks later. The date error for HBR1 has been corrected.*

*Will get feedback for 6 or 7 winter races.*

## Skipper and Crew Survey 2025

Member's Name: Brett parr  
Yacht's Name: Tobruk  
Email: bparrelectrical@bigpond.com  
Mobile Number: 0411214955

### Sunday Races:

I kind of agree with Jared about the boat harbour races sometimes being a bit boring. Suggest we only do one BH rounding and finish the race with triangle and sausage courses. It's a bit more fun, have enjoyed the recent triangle and sausage courses as it brings the boats together a bit more.

*Reply: See two new courses 7 and 8.*

### Wednesday Races:

Happy how the Wednesday racing is and agree to leave as is.

*Reply: Noted*

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Member's Name: Peter Rochaix  
Yacht's Name: Chinook  
Email: peter.rochaix@gmail.com  
Mobile Number: 0438221171

### Wednesday Races:

Extremely happy with Wednesday races as is.

To John Barter and all others who contribute their time to facilitate the running of the sailing division is greatly appreciated

*Reply: Thank you*

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Member's Name: Bill Dickson  
Yacht's Name: Reve  
Email: mobybill@gmail.com  
Mobile Number: 0428927071

### Sunday Races:

To ensure all yachts and their crew can partake in the post-race presentation can we wait till all crew being ferried by the tender have arrived at the club. We know which yachts have been competing and aware which ones are likely waiting for the tender.

### Wednesday Races:

As above. For Wednesday sailing you can see what vacant tables are awaiting crew.

*Reply: Skippers must also do their part by following the instruction below. It's always a balance of doing results before crew leaves or meals are served.*

#### Tender Procedure

1. Observe maximum number of 9.
2. Check sailing roster for Wed. afternoons.
3. Skippers to drop most crew on marina.
4. Tender will drop remaining crew to closest point on the marina to save time.
5. Crew to ensure skippers are picked up.

This way we can get all ashore quickly and not forget anyone.