



2025 Australian 49er FX & 49er National Championship's

South Lake Macquarie Amateur Sailing Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. INVITATION

- 1.1. The South Lake Macquarie Amateur Sailing Club (SLMASC), on behalf of the Australian 9er Association Inc. (9er Association), invites entries to the Australian 49erFX & 49er Championships 2025 to be conducted from Friday 14th to Monday 17th November 2025 on Lake Macquarie, NSW.

2. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 2.1. The Organising Authority (OA) for this event is SLMASC
- 2.2. The Australian 49erFX & 49er Championships 2025 are being conducted by the OA on behalf of the Australian 9er Association Inc. (9er Association).

3. RACING RULES

- 3.1. The regatta will be governed by the following rules:
 - a. The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and Australian Sailing Prescriptions as amended in the NOR and these SI's.
 - b. Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations Part 2 for Off the Beach Boats;
 - c. The relevant Class Rules (except where any of these are altered by the SI's); &
 - d. These Sailing Instructions (SI's).
- 3.2. **[SP]** denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the Race Committee or Technical Committee without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
- 3.3. **[DP]** denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the National Jury.

- 3.4. **[NP]** denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a)
- 3.5. The Racing Rules will be changed as follows:
- a. RRS Appendix P shall apply. Appendix P2.3 will not apply and RRS Appendix P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one.
 - b. RRS Appendix T, Arbitration shall apply.
 - c. The Notation '[NP]' denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat, this changes RRS 60.1(a).
 - d. The Notation '[DP]' denotes a rule in the NoR and SIs that is at the discretion of the protest committee. A boat may accept a discretionary penalty before a hearing concerning the same incident by completing a form available at the jury office.
 - e. RRS 63.1, 64.1 & Appendix A5 will be amended in the SI's to enable the Race Committee to apply a scoring penalty [SCP] without a hearing for some breaches of the rules.
 - f. RRS 44.1 and Appendix P2.1 are changed so that the two-turns penalty is replaced by the one- turn penalty.
- 3.6. Australian Sailing may appoint a National Jury for the Australian 49erFX & 49er Championships 2025.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

5. COMMUNICATION

- 5.1. The official noticeboard [ONB] is located at;
[Click for Notice Board](https://9ernsw.ourclubadmin.com/event/27/noticeboard) or 9ernsw.ourclubadmin.com/event/27/noticeboard
- 5.2. [DP] Except in an emergency, whilst racing a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. For this rule, racing is deemed to have commenced at the commencement of the starting sequence.

6. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 6.1. [DP] Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials. Support Persons are to note RRS 60.2(c) 60.3(d) and 64.5.
- 6.2. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment or place

advertising provided by the organizing authority with care, and seamanship, by any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

7. ADVERTISING

- 7.1. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA and/or the 9er Association.

8. SCHEDULE

- 8.1. Subject to paragraphs 9.2 to 9.4, the following schedule will apply:

Date	Time	Event
Friday 14th Nov	1000 – 1100	Registration
	1115	Welcome & Skippers Brief
	1130	Coach & Volunteer Brief
	1300	Championship Racing
	1800 - 2000	Social Event @ SLMASC
Saturday 15th Nov	See 8.3	Championship Racing
	1800 - 2000	Social Event @ SLMASC
Sunday 16th Nov	See 8.3	Championship Racing
	1800 - 2000	Social Event @ Bay Hotel
Monday 17th Nov	See 8.3	Championship Racing
	1530	Presentation

- 8.2. The regatta will consist of a series up to 14 races.
- 8.3. The scheduled time for the first warning signal on Championship Racing days will be posted by 1800 on the previous day.
- 8.4. On any scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 17:00. On the last day of racing (17/11/25), no warning signal shall be made after 15:00.

9. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 9.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the official flagpole located in front of the SLMASC clubhouse.
- 9.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes in Race Signals AP.

10. RACING AREA

- 10.1. The racing will be on the waters of Lake Macquarie.
- 10.2. Attachment A to these SIs shows the approximate location of the racing area.

11. RACE FORMAT

- 11.1. The racing format may consist of the following:
 - a. Racing will be conducted as two fleets: 49erFX & 49er.
 - b. Race target time is 30 minutes and, unless otherwise notified, each session will be a back-to-back race format.

12. COURSES

- 12.1. The courses will be windward - leeward as described Attachment B to these SIs.
- 12.2. Attachment B shows the courses, including (i) the approximate angles between legs; (ii) the order in which marks are to be passed and (iii) the side on which each mark is to be left.

13. MARKS

- 13.1. The Marks are as described Attachment B to these SIs.
- 13.2. Some or all marks used in this event may be self-propelled, GPS-positioned robotic marks ("mark-bots") rather than traditional anchored buoys. Competitors shall treat these marks as if they were fixed marks for all purposes under the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 13.3. Contact with a Mark
 - (a) RRS 31 applies. A boat that touches a mark, whether the mark is stationary or moving, shall take the penalty prescribed by RRS 44.1.
 - (b) No allowance will be made for the mark's movement, whether caused by wind, tide, or its own propulsion system.
 - (c) Competitors may choose to allow additional room when rounding a mark to account for minor movement.
- 13.4. Mark Movement and Positioning
 - (a) A mark may be temporarily displaced by competitors, wind, or current. A displaced mark remains a valid mark unless the Race Committee determines it is clearly out of position by a significant distance.
 - (b) Once external forces cease, a self-propelled mark will automatically return to its designated "station" or approximate anchor position. Competitors should anticipate this behaviour when sailing near marks.

13.5. Mark Failure or Replacement

If a self-propelled mark ceases to function or cannot maintain position, it may be anchored or replaced by:

- (a) A Race Committee vessel displaying an orange flag, or
- (b) A substitute mark of similar shape or colour.

The replacement shall be considered a valid mark of the course.

13.6. Movement Between Races

Between races, competitors shall keep well clear of all marks. Marks may be repositioned autonomously and will travel in a direct line to their new programmed positions without collision-avoidance capability. A boat that interferes with or impedes the movement of a mark may be subject to protest by the Race Committee.

13.7. Redress

Routine or automatic movement of self-propelled marks shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1(a). This includes:

- (a) Minor positional adjustments due to calibration or windage;
- (b) Marks returning to station after being displaced by a competitor; and
- (c) Contact with a mark that does not result in damage.

RRS 31 continues to apply at all times.

14. START LINE

14.1. The starting line is between a spar displaying an orange flag on the start boat at the starboard end and a spar displaying an orange flag on the port pin end boat.

14.2. [NP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall remain 50 metres behind the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

14.3. [SP] A boat that does not start within four (4) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

15. CLASS FLAGS

15.1. The racing will be on the waters of Lake Macquarie.

Class	Flag
49er FX	Blue with "FX" Symbol
49er	Green with "49er" Symbol

Where two or more classes start together, an amendment to these SIs will be issued in accordance with 4.1.
For combined class starts, all class flags will be raised simultaneously.

16. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

16.1. During the race, the course will not be changed.

17. FINISH LINE

17.1. The finishing line is between a blue flag on the start boat and the course side of the port end finishing mark.

18. TIME LIMITS

18.1. The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
15 Minutes	45 Minutes	15 Minutes

18.2. If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.

18.3. [SP] The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing.

18.4. [SP] A boat scored TLE shall be scored one more point than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

19. SCORING

- 19.1. The regatta will consist of a series up to fourteen (14) races
- 19.2. Five (5) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 19.3. When fewer than six (6) races are completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores.
- 19.4. When six (6) to nine (9) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.
- 19.5. When ten (10) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her two worst scores.
- 19.6. Results will be posted on the ONB and available online.

[Click for Results](#)

20. HEARING REQUESTS

- 20.1. For each class, the protest time limit ends 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day, regardless of the class or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official online notice board.
- 20.2. Hearing request forms, on water penalty notification forms and scoring enquiry forms are available from and shall be submitted to the race office. These forms are available within the ONB.
- 20.3. Notices will be posted on the official online notice board no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held at the time and place advised on the hearing notice.
- 20.4. A list of boats that have been penalised for breaking RRS 42 under Appendix P will be posted with Hearing Decisions on the ONB.
- 20.5. Penalties for breaches of the class rules, RRS 50.1 or rules in the NoR and SIs marked [DP] are at the discretion of the National Jury and may be less than disqualification.

21. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 21.1. [SP] All skippers shall SIGN ON before racing each day and SIGN OFF at the earliest possible time after the completion of racing (but not later than the end of protest time). The Sign On and Sign Off will be online [HERE](#) or via the QR codes displayed in Attachment C. A boat that does not SIGN ON or SIGN OFF will have a scoring penalty as per 21.2.

- 21.2. [DP][NP] Failing to sign on or off will have a scoring penalty 5 places in the first race for failing to sign on and 5 in the last race for failing to sign off.
- 21.3. [DP][NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee of her retirement at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 21.4. All competitors shall wear personal flotation devices (PFD) which are in good condition and are in accordance with the specifications issued or approved by a national authority affiliated to the International Sailing Federation, or a standards organisation, or certification authority, recognised for the purpose by its respective government.
- 21.5. Attention is drawn to Fundamental Rule 1.

22. MEASUREMENT

- 22.1. A Technical Committee may be appointed for the Australian 49erFX & 49er Championships 2025.
- 22.2. The 49erFX and 49er have closed class rules. Please read the class rules available on the class websites.
- 22.3. For the duration of the regatta each boat will be limited to one jib, one mainsail, one spinnaker and one forestay shall be used throughout the duration of the regatta.
- 22.4. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will only be allowed if approved by the Class Measurer (Technical Committee). Requests for substitution shall be made to the Technical Committee at the first reasonable opportunity, including retrospectively, provided that, in the case of a retrospective application, a Request for Substitution of Equipment Form is completed and submitted to the Technical Committee prior to the protest time limit of the day in which the substitution occurred.
- 22.5. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, a notice of race and the sailing instructions.
- 22.6. [DP] When instructed by a race official, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

23. SUPPORT/COACH BOATS [DP]

- 23.1. Support and coach boats shall register at the club on the morning of the first day.
- 23.2. Except when rendering assistance to a boat in distress or under the specific directions of the race officer, all support and coach boats shall remain at least 50 metres outside areas where all fleets are racing from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

- 23.3. All support and coach boats are required to have a VHF radio and maintain a listening watch. Channel to be set at skippers meeting by the Race Officer.
- 23.4. When requested by the Race Officer or his /her delegate, support and coach boats shall render immediate assistance as directed.

24. RISK STATEMENT

- 24.1. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.
- 24.2. Competitors are reminded that RRS 3 states that the responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.
- 24.3. By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include, but are not limited to, 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.

25. INSURANCE

- 25.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000 per incident or equivalent and shall be made available upon request.
- 25.2. By entering the event, each competitor declares that they have the required insurance cover. Neither the OA nor the 9er Association will be liable if a competitor declares that they have insurance and it subsequently transpires that this was not true.

26. VENUE

- 26.1. [South Lake Macquarie Amateur Sailing Club](#)

1A Sunshine Parade, Sunshine, NSW, 2264, Australia

27. MEDIA DISCLAIMER

- 27.1. Competitors agree to grant the OA and 9er Association 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 competitors during the period of the competition without compensation.

28. PARENTAL / GUARDIAN CONSENT

- 28.1. For all competitors under the age of 18 years of age at any time during the event, completing the online registration form will be deemed as Parental/Guardian

consent for entry to the Regatta.

29. FURTHER INFORMATION

29.1. For further information contact:

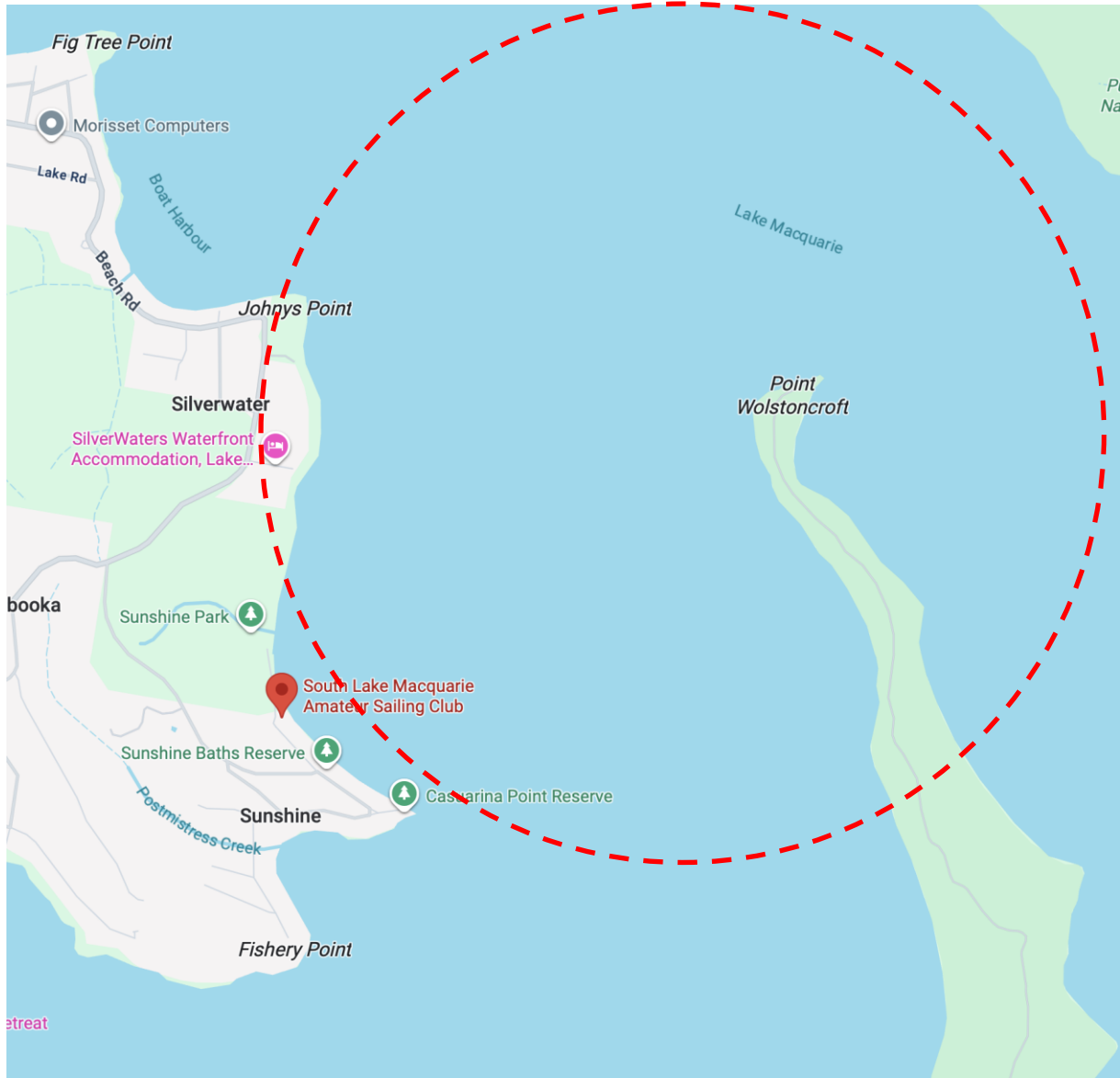
South Lake Macquarie Amateur Sailing Club

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ATTACHMENT A – RACING AREA





49er FX & 49er CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

South Lake Macquarie Amateur Sailing Club
New South Wales 9er Classes Association

Sign On Water / Sign Off Water

