NSW STATE SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS

SUNDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

With Thanks to our Sponsor

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

If an instruction is marked [DP], a Protest Committee may impose a penalty less than disqualification for a breach of that instruction if the Committee considers it appropriate to do so.

The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this Instruction will be 'DPI'

1. Rules & Definitions

1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the ***Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) (2025 – 2028)*** and the ***Windsurfer Class Rules***, except where these are changed by the Notice of Race (NOR) or by the Sailing Instructions (SIs).
Note: (The Windsurfing Fleet Racing Rules (Appendix B of the RRS) does not apply.)

1.2. If there is conflict between the NOR and the SIs, the SIs will take precedence.

1.3. **RRS 31. - Touching a Mark** - is changed to: While racing, a board shall not touch a starting mark before starting or a finishing mark after finishing. A board may touch a mark that begins, bounds or ends the leg of the course on which she is sailing, but shall not hold on to it.

1.4. **RRS 42. - Propulsion (Pumping)** As per Windsurfer Class rules, RRS 42 is changed to:
Pumping is unlimited in slalom.

1.5. **RRS 44. - Penalties at the Time of Incident** - is changed to:

44.1 Taking a Penalty - A board may take a 360°-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing or when she may have broken RRS 31. However, if the board caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach, her penalty shall be to retire.

44.2 360°-Turn Penalty - After getting well clear of other boards as soon after the incident as possible, a board takes a 360°-Turn Penalty by promptly making a 360° turn with no requirement for a tack or a gybe. When a board takes the penalty at or near the finishing line, her hull shall be completely on the course side of the line before she finishes.

1.6. **Definition - Tack, Starboard or Port** - is changed to:
A board is on the tack, starboard or port, corresponding to the competitor's hand that would be nearer the mast if the competitor were in normal sailing position with both hands on the wishbone and arms not crossed. A board is on starboard tack when the competitor's right hand would be nearer the mast and is on port tack when the competitor's left hand would be nearer the mast.

1.7. **Definition – Capsized** - is changed to:
A board is capsized when she is not under control because her sail or the competitor is in the water.

2. Notices to Competitors

2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official race noticeboard at Balmoral Sailing Club.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official noticeboard at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start time of the first race of the session it will take effect.

4. Signals made Ashore

4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on Balmoral Sailing Club's flagpole.

4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP instruction.

4.3. When Code Flag 'Q' is displayed ashore, no boards are permitted to leave the shore.

5. Racing Area

5.1. The competition area will be in the waters of Hunter Bay in the immediate vicinity of Balmoral Sailing Club.

6. Schedule

Day/Date	Event	Time	Location
Sunday 8/11/25	Registration	0830 – 0930hrs	BSC
	Briefing	1000hrs	BSC
	Racing Session 1 - Warning Signal not before	1100hrs	BSC
	Racing Session 2 – No warning signal after	1530hrs	BSC
	Sausage Sizzle & Presentation	ASAP after last race	BSC
	Event Close		

6.1. The event will be run on an 'on call' basis.

6.2. Competitors are strongly advised not to leave the vicinity of Balmoral Sailing Club during racing sessions as decisions to race may be made quickly based on changing conditions or racing requirements.

6.3. Decisions will be made by the Organising Authority based on safety, conditions and requirements to complete the competition format.

6.4. Multiple briefings may be held, and changes may be made through verbal instructions or notices to competitors.

7. Registration

7.1. All competitors shall complete registration with the Organising Authority in addition to the online clubspot entry.

7.2. Registration will occur at Balmoral Sailing Club between 08:30hrs and 9:30hrs on Sunday, 8th November 2026.

7.3. All competitors will have to sign an Entry Form which includes the Entry Declaration and Disclaimer of Liability.

7.4. All competitors will have their $20 Million Third Party Liability (TPL) Insurance and AS number status checked.

7.5. Competitors under 18 years of age must also have an 'Emergency Contact Form' and 'Media Consent Form', completed by their parent/guardian.

7.6. Proof of age of a competitor may be checked, if required by the Organising Authority.

7.7. **Novice & or Cruiser Division Sailors may be provided with a coloured streamer** provided upon registration to the top of sail. This will assist race committee differentiate Novices & Cruisers from open fleet sailors, it also assists rescue personnel identify who may be less experienced in case of stronger winds or a sighting of capsize.

8. Identification

8.1. All competitors must display a unique sail number in accordance with Class Rules.
Failure to comply with this Instruction will result in a board scored as a 'Did Not Compete' (DNC) without a hearing for all races it does not have a complying sail number. This changes rules A4 and A5.

8.2. If two sailors have the same number at registration, preference will be given to the sailor whose number matches the LT hull number.
The other sailor will be required to add another digit to construct a unique number.

9. Competition Discipline

9.1. The competition will be conducted in the discipline of Slalom Racing.

9.2. This event will not be the usual knock out format used at other major class events.

9.3. Target is minimum four (4) Slalom heats per division, but the objective is to maximise the number of heats sailed by all competitors.

9.4. The exact format will be dependent on the number of entries and will be explained at the pre-race briefing.

10. Competition Divisions

10.1. Racing will be conducted for **Open, Women** and **Cruiser** categories.

10.2. Cruiser is for returning, progressing or relaxed sailors who do not want to sail the full course.

10.3. Women competitors will have the choice of entering Women's Division without being weighed or may elect to be weighed and compete in the Open Division.

10.4. Open Division – up to 4 weight divisions will be scored A. Light / B. Medium / C. Medium-Heavy / D. Heavy

10.5. Split Weights:

10.5.1. Open competitors will be divided into up to 4 categories of weight (A-D) of equal numbers, including Youth, Juniors and Women who elect to race in the Open Division.

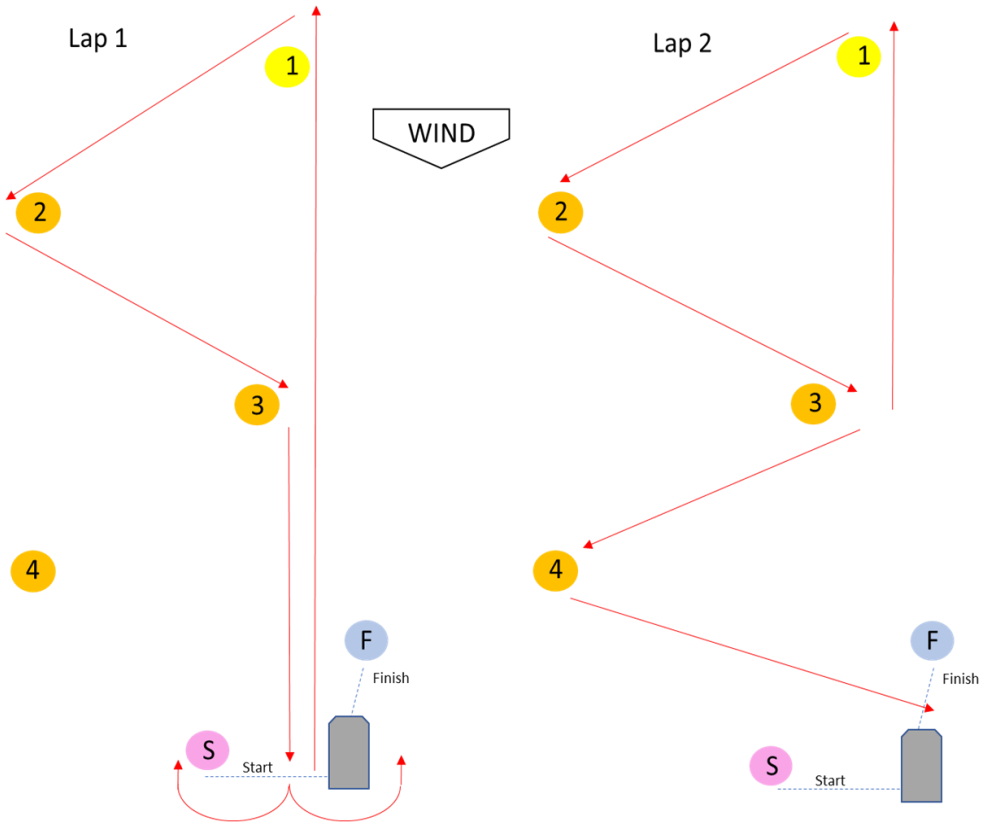
10.5.2. If the total number of competitors in the Open Division is below 32, there may be less than 4 divisions to ensure each division has as close as possible to 8 competitors.

10.5.3. Open - competitors will be allocated to weight divisions as per class rules H3.3 – 2 - split weights.

10.6. After their official weigh-in competitors may not request a reweigh.

11. Course

11.1. Course Diagram - shows the course for slalom, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.



Start – 1 (Port) – 2 (P) – 3 (S) – Start (Gate) – 1 (P) – 2 (P) – 3 (S) – 4 (P) – Finish

11.2. Depending on the wind conditions the Novice and Cruiser Divisions course may be shortened to one lap, being just Lap 2.

12. Slalom Start

12.1. Slalom races will be started in accordance with the following procedure. This changes RRS 26.

Seconds before starting signal	Flag Signal and Sound	Signal
60	Red flag up; one sound	Warning
30	Red flag removed; one sound	Preparatory
0	Green flag up; one sound	Starting

12.2. The starting line will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee boat and a pink buoy (mark S).
A clearance buoy may be streamed from the stern of the Race Committee boat.
Boards shall not pass between this buoy and the Race Committee start boat at any time.

12.3. The number of the heat about to start will be displayed on the Race Committee boat at or before that heat's warning signal and will be removed at the starting signal for that heat. The heat number may also be displayed adjacent to the launching area.

12.4. The racing areas are the regions that extend 50 metres beyond the course including the start and finish lines and their extensions, in which a board normally sails while racing.

12.5. No competitor must be in the racing area from the preparatory signal for a heat until that heat concludes unless they are racing in that heat. A competitor in the next heat may enter the racing area after the immediately preceding heat concludes. Each time a competitor infringes this rule a point will be added to their final slalom score.

12.6. When a general recall is signaled, a new warning signal will be made not less than 30 seconds after the general recall signal is lowered. This changes RRS 29.2 and Race Signals.

13. Slalom Finish

13.1. The finishing line will be between a flagstaff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Boat and a blue buoy (mark F).

14. Slalom Time Limits

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window	Target Time
3 Minutes	10 Minutes	2 Minutes	6 Minutes

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

14.2. The Finishing Window is the time for boards to finish after the first board sails the course and finishes. Boards failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalised or given redress, will be scored DNF without a hearing.

15. Scoring

15.1. The Low Point System - RRS Appendix A Scoring will apply.

15.2. Two (2) slalom races per division are required to be completed to constitute a series.

15.3. When fewer than 4 slalom races have been completed a board's series slalom score will be the total of her divisional race scores.

15.4. When 4 or more course races have been completed, a board's series slalom score will be the total of her divisional race scores excluding her worst score ("one drop").

15.5. Top place getters in each weight division may race in a combined slalom final(s) to award overall placings but this does not alter divisional place results.

16. Safety – Sign On & Sign Off / Buoyancy

16.1. Paper sign on and sign off sheets will be used.

16.2. For each race session each board intending to race shall personally sign-on prior to the warning signal of the race session, and shall personally sign-off as soon as practicable upon returning to shore after each session, but no later than 30 minutes after the last finisher of that session.
[DP] Failure to comply with this Instruction may result in a board being penalised without a hearing:
- For not signing on - a penalty of 5 points will be added to the score in the first race of that race session
- For not signing off - a penalty of 5 points will be added to the score in the last race of that race session

16.3. A competitor that intends to retire from a event shall notify the race officer / start finish boat before leaving the racing area, or if that is not possible, shall sign off immediately once on shore.

16.4. All competitors whilst competing in shall wear personal flotation devices which are in good condition and are in accordance with the specifications approved by the National Authority at or above the minimum level required (ie L50/ level 50) or as approved by the Organiser.
Failure to comply with this Instruction will result in a board being scored as a 'Did Not Compete' (DNC) without a hearing for all races the competitor did not wear a complying personal floatation device.
This changes RRS A4, and A5

17. Equipment

17.1. It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that their equipment conforms to the current Class Rules.

17.2. You can download the Class Rules here:
https://www.windsurfer-class-aus.com/_files/ugd/d5d085_e1c3516314ca42b89241eede76b71851.pdf

17.3. Equipment inspection may be undertaken at any time during the Event by the Organising Authority to ensure compliance with Class Rules.

17.4. Those in the Cruiser division or juniors under 15 years of age may use:

17.5. Sails of less than 5.0 metres of any make or model including the Class 4.5 trainer sail and masts and booms of any make and model.

18. Slalom Protests & Requests for Redress

18.1. Written protests are not required.

18.2. Competitors shall hail their intention to protest at the time of the incident.

18.3. A competitor intending to protest shall verbally inform the start boat upon finishing or retiring from the race of their intention, giving the sail number(s) of the protested competitor(s) and witnesses involved. The protest time limit is 2 minutes after the last boat finishes the race concerned.

18.4. All parties to the protest shall immediately report to the start boat.

18.5. The protest hearing shall be held as soon as possible.

18.6. At the protest hearing, each party to the protest shall have the opportunity to make two short statements, with the protester taking the first and third opportunities to speak.

18.7. Sailors who miss their heat for any reason have no right to redress except:
a) where the race committee was in error about the qualified competitors for the heat
b) for major damage where they were not in contravention of racing rules during a previous slalom race

18.8. The right of appeal from a protest committee decision is denied as provided in RRS 70.3.

19. Event Advertising

19.1. [DP] All competitors shall display event advertising supplied by the Organizing Authority and in the manner described.

20. Support Boats

20.1. [DP] Team leaders, coaches and other support persons shall stay outside areas where boards are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement or abandonment.

20.2. [DP] During any start sequence support boats shall stay at least 50 meters below the starting line and its extensions.

21. Rubbish Disposal

21.1. [DP] Sailors shall not put rubbish in the water. Rubbish may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

22. Race Results

22.1. Race results will be posted on the official notice board when available. Results may also be published online.

23. Prizes

23.1. Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

24. Responsibility and Disclaimer of Liability

24.1. Competitors who participate in competition at Balmoral Sailing Club do so entirely at their own risk and responsibility.

24.2. Attention is drawn to Fundamental RRS 3 - Decision to Race, which states; "The responsibility for a board's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".

24.3. By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that windsurfing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks.
These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, board handling errors, poor seamanship by other boards or boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.
Inherent in the sport of windsurfing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

24.4. It is the competitor's sole decision to enter this event and to start and or to continue to compete.
By way of entering, competitors acknowledge and agree that participation in this event can be dangerous and accept that their participation is at their exclusive risk in every respect.
In addition, by way of entering competitors shall hold harmless the Organising Authority, its officers, members, servants and agents and all other competitors in respect of all liability for injury to their person and or loss or damage to their property howsoever arising from their participation or intended participation in this event and acknowledge and accept that the Organising Authority, its officers, members, servants, agents and other competitors accept no responsibility in respect to loss of life, personal injury or loss or damage to property which may be sustained by reason of a competitor's participation or intended participation in this event or arising for whatever reason in connection with this event.

24.5. All competitors shall complete and sign an entry form at registration that includes an entry disclaimer.

25. Insurance

25.1. Every competitor shall be a member of the Windsurfer Class Association of Australia.

25.2. Every competitor shall have current Australian Windsurfing Association (AWA) 3rd party liability insurance obtained through WCAA membership or another affiliated Australian Windsurfing Association (AWA) state or club-based organisation.
Every competitor who enters the event is deemed to have confirmed that they have such insurance.
Competitors found not to have such insurance shall have their entry revoked.