



Queensland Heron Championships

4-5 May 2024

Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 1.1. The Organising Authority for this event is the Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club inc. (ABN 30 624 557 096)

2. RULES


- 2.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the special regulations of Australian Sailing, the Heron class rules and by these Sailing Instructions.
- 2.2. These Sailing Instructions supersede any conflicting information in the Notice of Race.
- 2.3. RRS rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a 360°-Turn Penalty (including one tack and one gybe).
- 2.4. RRS Appendix T (arbitration) applies.
- 2.5. Each competitor must be a member of the National Heron Sailing Association of Australia.

3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions (other than a change to the racing schedule) will be posted on the official notice board at Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club at least 2 (two) hours prior to the first start signal on the day it will take effect.
- 3.2. Any change to the racing schedule will be posted on the official notice board, by 1800hrs on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.3. The official notice board is located adjacent to the bottom of the stairs to the clubhouse.

4. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 4.1. Other notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board.
- 4.2. A competitors' briefing will be held at 1100hrs on Saturday 4 May 2024 in the clubhouse.

- 4.3. Further briefings may be called by the race committee as required and notified on the official notice board.
- 4.4. Any notices to all competitors, including changes to the Sailing Instructions or the racing schedule, posted on the LCSC notice board will be accompanied by Code flag "I"  being flown from the club's flag pole and an accompanying sound signal.

5. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 5.1. Competitors are expected to comply with the basic principles of the RRS including sportsmanship. A boat that breaks a rule and is not exonerated will promptly take an appropriate penalty or other relevant action.
- 5.2. Competitors and support persons shall comply with all reasonable requests from race officials.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 6.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole located on the northern end of the clubhouse of the Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club.
- 6.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

7. SCHEDULE

- 7.1. The Heron State Championships are being held in conjunction with the May Day Regatta. The Herons will have their own start but other classes/divisions will also be competing on the same course.

Date	Time	Event	Comment
Saturday 4/5/24	0900 -1030	Registration	Upstairs in clubhouse
Saturday 4/5/24	1100 - 1130	Competitor Briefing	Upstairs in clubhouse
Saturday 4/5/24	Not before 1230	Race session 1	Back-to-back races
Saturday 4/5/24	1800 - 2000	Heron BBQ (BYO food) Toad races!	Upstairs in clubhouse – the club bar will be open
Sunday 5/5/24	Not before 1030	Race session 2	Back-to-back races
Sunday 5/5/24	Not before 30 min of AP on shore down	Race session 3	Back-to-back races



Sunday 5/5/24	After racing finishes	Prize giving	Upstairs in clubhouse
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AP over H will signal lunch break on Sunday. ○ No races will start after 1600 on Sunday. ○ Presentations will be held as soon as possible after the finish of the last race. ○ Every effort will be made to ensure no race session lasts longer than 2.5 hours. 		

8. DIVISIONS

- 8.1. Attachment A shows the divisions and division flags. Starting of divisions may be in any order. Flags as shown in the table of attachment A will signal which division is starting.
- 8.2. The race committee may change divisions. This will be advised at the briefing.

9. COURSES

- 9.1. Attachment A shows the courses and how marks must be passed.
- 9.2. The approximate compass bearing of the first leg will be displayed on the start boat no later than the warning signal.

10. ROUNDING MARKS

- 10.1. Marks 2 and 4 are yellow buoys.
- 10.2. Marks 1 and 3 are orange buoys.

11. OBSTRUCTION

- 11.1. The start/finish line is an obstruction except when a boat is starting or finishing. A boat that sails through the obstruction when not starting or finishing will be scored DSQ without a hearing.

12. START

- 12.1. The start line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the start boat at the starboard end and a red and white chequered buoy at the port end. This buoy may be moved during a race but remains part of the start line while being moved.
- 12.2. The race committee boat at the start/finish line is a mark of the course and the buoy attached to the stern of the boat is a part of it.
- 12.3. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other divisions.



- 12.4. A standard 5-minute start sequence will apply. Where multiple starts occur, the start signal for the previous start will be the 5-minute signal for the next start.
- 12.5. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after its starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule A4 and A5.
- 12.6. If a general recall occurs, it is up to the Race Officer to decide whether the offending division/class waits until all other classes and divisions have started before their next start sequence occurs. Keep an eye on the flags.

13. FINISH

- 13.1. The finish line is the same as the start line however it may be shortened.

14. TIME LIMIT

- 14.1. The Time Limit is 20 minutes and is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Time Limit, and not subsequently retiring, penalised, or given redress, will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall receive one more point than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Time Limit. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

15. SAFETY

- 15.1. All competitors and boats must comply with the safety regulations of Australian Sailing and the Heron class rules. The Race Committee may reject or rescind the entry of a non-conforming boat and may disqualify a boat for a safety breach at any stage during the series without a Protest Hearing. This amends RRS63.1.
- 15.2. Competitors are not required to sign on and sign off for each race session.
- 15.3. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

16. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 16.1. All competing boats must be "A Class" Herons and comply with all class measurements and rules.
- 16.2. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.
- 16.3. When instructed by a race official, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

17. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 17.1. Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the race committee and only in exceptional circumstances.



17.2. Substitution of damaged or lost sails is not allowed unless authorised in writing by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

17.3. Applications for a replacement of the skipper or crew must be made in writing to the race committee no later than 80 minutes prior to the start of the race, unless in exceptional circumstances the race committee agrees this was not possible. This application will be assessed on a case by-case basis. Any change of skipper (but not crew) will cause the boat to be ineligible for major prizes and the race committee reserves the right to change the handicap of the vessel.

18. SUPPORT BOATS

18.1. Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the first warning signal for the first division to start until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall, or abandonment.

19. PROTESTS

19.1. Protest forms will be located on a table just inside the front door of the sailing club.

19.2. Appendix T – arbitration shall be available.

19.3. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and protest committee about incidents they observe and to requests for redress. This changes RRS rules 61.3 and 62.2.

19.4. Protest notices will be posted 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 in the protest room, at LCSC, beginning as soon as practical.

19.5. On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:

- a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day,
- b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.

This changes rule 66.

20. SCORING

20.1. Up to 7 races are scheduled, two races will constitute a series.

20.2. When four races or less have been completed a boat's final score will be the total of its race scores.



20.3. When more than four races have been completed, a boat's final score will be the total of its race scores excluding its worst score (1 drop).

20.4. The results will be published on the LCSC website.

21. PRIZES

21.1. The following prizes will be awarded:

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd overall (scratch).
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd on handicap.
- 1st Junior skipper and crew (both 17 years and under on 1st May 2024).
- 1st Female skipper.

22. DISCLAIMER

22.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS rule 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

23. INSURANCE

23.1. All competing boats must have third party liability insurance cover of an amount of not less than AU\$10,000,000 for the duration of the event. By entering the event, a competitor warrants that he/she has the required insurance cover. Although a competitor may be asked to provide evidence that they do have the required insurance cover, failure to ask for such evidence does not make the organising authority liable in any way.

24. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

24.1. The speed limit on the roads leading to the club and along the foreshore is 20kph and it is important for the safety of pedestrians that this is adhered to. A 40kph speed limit applies to most other roads in Boreen Point.

24.2. Only very limited parking is available adjacent to the beach at Boreen Point and all competitors are asked to off load their boats and then take their road trailers back to their accommodation. If this is not possible, the club's storage compound will be open, and competitors are asked to take their trailers there. The compound is around 300 metres away from the beach and volunteers will be on hand to provide directions.

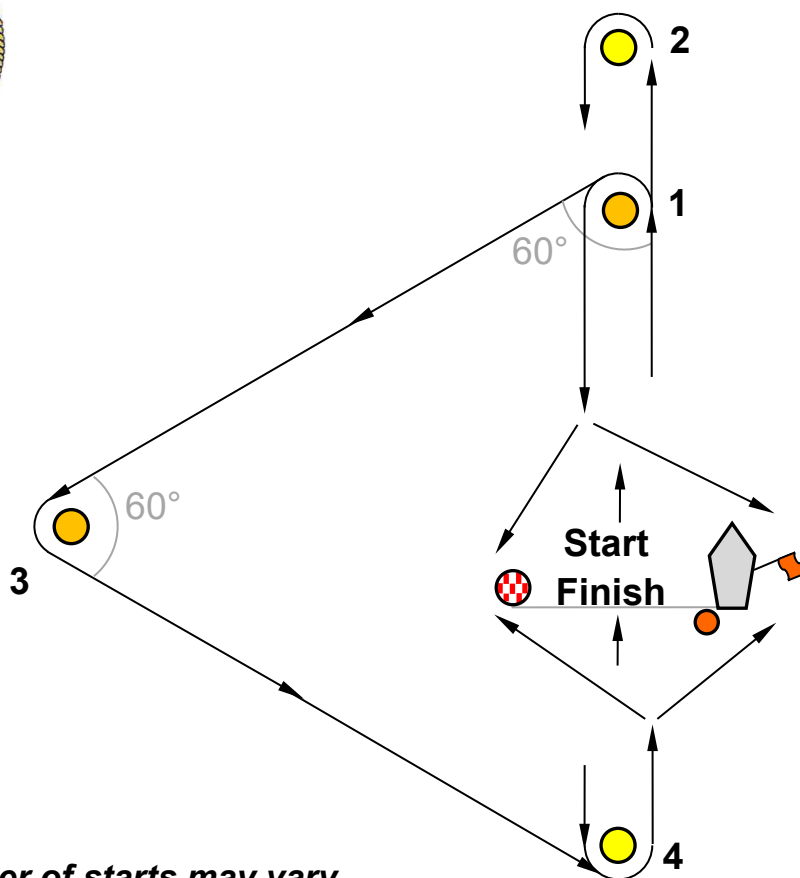
24.3. Competitors are also reminded that Boreen Point is a quiet community, and we share the beach and the surrounding areas with local residents. Every effort should be made to respect the rights of others to enjoy the area as much as we do.






- 24.4. The sailing club is not connected to town water and relies on rainwater tanks for all its water supplies. Please use the water sparingly and do not use the tap outside the club to wash your boats down.



ATTACHMENT A (NOT TO SCALE)



**Order of starts may vary.
Check the flag signals!**

Flag/ Start	Div.	Type / Class	Order of rounding
	1	Mono-hulls with yardstick of 109 or lower	Start- 2-4-2-4-Finish
	2	Hérons Only	Start- 1-3-4-1-4-Finish
	3	Mono-hulls with yardstick of 110 or greater	Start- 1-3-4-1-4-Finish

Note point 11 of the sailing instructions: The start/finish line is an obstruction of the course unless a boat is starting or finishing.

