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# **HEAD of the RIVER**

**Sunday 24 March 2024**

**Maroochy Sailing Club, Chambers Island, Maroochydore**

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **1 RULES**

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024, and the prescriptions and special regulations of the Australian Sailing, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.

1.2 Where there is a conflict between rules in the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions the Sailing Instruction rules shall apply.

### **2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the eastern end of the Maroochy Sailing Club veranda, and the MSC website.

### **3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted as soon as possible on the day it will take effect, and any change to the schedule of races will normally be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

### **4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the northeastern corner of the Maroochy Sailing Club clubhouse

4.2 When the AP flag is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 10 minutes' in race signal AP.

### **5 SCHEDULE OF RACES**

5.1 Racing is scheduled as follows:

*Day/Date:* Sunday 24 March 2024

*Classes:* All

<b>5.2</b>	<b>Race</b>	<b>Time of First Warning Signal</b>
1		Not before 10.55am



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## **6 BRIEFING/COMPETITOR'S MEETING**

A Competitor's Meeting will be held at the Maroochy Sailing Club Clubhouse at 10.00am on Sunday 24 March 2024, to provide details of the Courses, including the Start and the Finish.

## **7 THE COURSES**

7.1 Course Marks (including the side on which each mark is to be left) will be displayed on the Noticeboard not less than 30 minutes before the scheduled Warning Signal.

7.2 The exact course for each Class of boat is described on the Course Sheet attached to these Sailing Instructions.

**7.3 EXCLUSION:** The area bounded by the markers of the commercial Jet Ski area to the North of the Maroochy Sailing Club is excluded from the sailing course for all races and sailing in this area is prohibited. Boats failing to comply with this instruction maybe subject to Protest (Penalty: Disqualification), and fines from the Water Police

## **8 MARKS**

Marks 1 to 3 and the Novice Mark will be orange cylindrical buoys.

## **9 OBSTRUCTIONS**

The Jet Ski area described in Instruction 7.3 is designated as an obstruction, and RRS 19 and 20 apply.

## **10 THE START**

10.1 Races will be started by using rule 26.

10.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end, and a yellow cylindrical buoy at the port end.

10.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.

10.4 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes rule A4.

## **11 PROPULSIONS**

Rule 42 applies with attention to rule 42.3 (i) In the event that a boat becomes grounded, its crew may move the boat to nearby deeper water to continue sailing, provided the boat does not gain an advantage in the race.



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## **12 THE FINISH**

- 12.1 The finishing line will be described at the competitors briefing.
- 12.2 If the Race Committee signals Shortened Course (Code Flag "S"), the finish line may be at a line between Code Flag "S" displayed on the Race Committee Boat on one end, and a yellow mark on the opposite side of the river, making a gate through which all boats must pass. (Amends RRS 32.2)

## **13 TIME LIMITS**

- 13.1 Time limits are as follows:

<i>Race</i>	<i>Time limit</i>	<i>Mark 1 time limit</i>
All	240 min.	60 min

If no boat has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit, the race will be abandoned.

- 13.2 Boats failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first boat in their Class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rules 35 and A4.1.

## **14 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 14.1 Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

14.2 For each Division, the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the race. A boat is considered to have finished once the time limit has been reached. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the race committee and to requests for redress. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2.

14.3 Notices will be posted within 20 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the clubhouse.

14.4 Notices of protests by the race committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

14.5 A list of boats that have acknowledged breaking rule 42 or have been penalised under Appendix "P" for breaking rule 42 will be posted.

14.6 For the purpose of rule 64.3(b) the 'authority responsible' is the measurer appointed by the organizing authority.



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## **15 SCORING / PRIZES**

15.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series

15.2 Placings will be decided by VYC Corrected Times and Average Lap Times. Current yardsticks as provided by Yachting Victoria will be applied where applicable. Boats without a yardstick will be required to apply to the sailing committee as early as possible. The committee will decide on a rating which will be final.

15.3 Boats entered shall be classified into four Divisions:-

Division 1 - All multihull Off-the-beach boats with an AS rating of <85

Division 2 - All other Off-the-Beach boats not covered in Division 1 and 3

Division 3 - All monohulls with a AS rating of 145 or greater

Division 4 - Junior sailors / Novice Sailors / Green fleet

15.4 A Prize shall be awarded to the leading boat in each Division, with further prizes awarded depending upon the number of entries to that Division

15.5 Prizes will be presented as soon as practical after the finish of the last boat.

15.6 Perpetual Trophies will be presented to the first boats in each Division overall to complete their assigned course. Boats sailing the separate Novice Course will not be eligible for Divisional 1 to 3 Trophies.

## **16 SAFETY**

16.1 Safety regulations as prescribed under the Australian Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024 are to be observed.

Attention to rule 1.2, unless requirements are exceeded by 16.2 below.

16.2 All participating vessels and operators of such vessels are to comply with Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994 and Regulation 1995.

16.3 The International Prevention of Collision Regulations will apply. Particular attention is drawn to Rule 9 - "Narrow Channels". Under the conditions of our Aquatic Permit, we must respect the rights of other River users and not interfere with their operations.

16.4 Vessels are not to interfere with commercial ventures operating from the north bank of the Maroochy River between the Sunshine Coast Motorway Bridge and the entrance to Twin Waters canal.



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## **16 SAFETY (cont)**

16.5 Sign on and Sign off: All boats must “sign on” before leaving the shore and “sign off” as soon as practicable after returning to shore at the completion of the day’s racing, but no later than the end of the protest time limit

16.6 The skipper of a boat that retires, or does not intend to continue racing, is required to notify the race committee as soon as practicable and SIGN OFF immediately on return to shore.

16.7 Competitors are reminded that this event is a single long race, and considerable time will be spent on the water. Crews should take adequate precautions for their personal well-being including suitable clothing, sunscreen and adequate drinking water and food.

## **17 DISCLAIMERS OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

## **18 MSC Head of the River Courses**

A Main course and a novice / green fleet will be in operation.

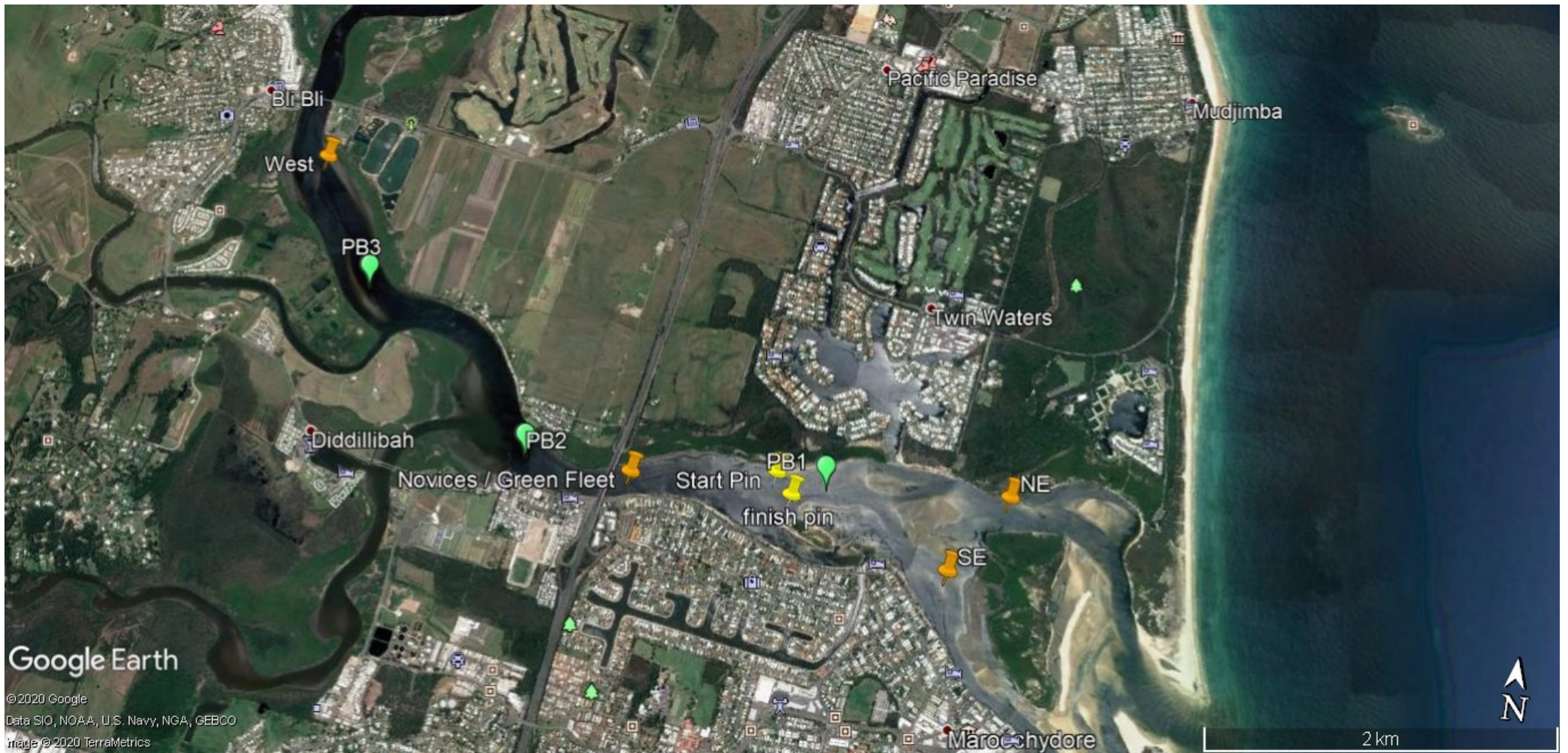
The main course will consist of a start /finish line and 3 orange buoys, 2 located near the Western side of Goat Island and 1 located between the Motorway Bridge and the BliBli Bridge.

Division 1 boats with	(AS Yardstick <85)	will sail 3 laps,
Division 2 boats with	(AS Yardstick 88 -145)	will sail 2 laps,
Division 3 boats with	(AS Yardstick > 145)	will sail 1 lap.

The novice course will use the same start/finish line and, the 2 orange marks located near the Western side of Goat Island and a 3<sup>rd</sup> mark located near the Motorway Bridge and on the eastern side.

## **19 RUBBISH**

All rubbish has to be returned to shore and places in the appropriate bins.



*Note: PB 1, 2 and 3 refer to Power Boats stationed in respective areas to support competitors during the race!*