



**Etchells**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**  
**International Etchells Class**  
**2020 Australian Championships**  
**7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2020**

to be conducted by  
**Royal Brighton Yacht Club Inc.**  
Brighton, Victoria  
In conjunction with the Melbourne Etchells Fleet

**Proudly Sponsored by:**



“Winemakers with the personal touch”



[DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the Protest Committee  
[NP] denotes that a breach of this rule will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

[SP] denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee without a hearing

## **1. RULES**

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. The prescriptions of Australian Sailing (AS) will apply.
- 1.3. The rules of the International Etchells Class Association will apply except as modified by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4. Boats must comply with the 2017-2021 AS Special Regulations Part 1 Category 7. In accordance with AS Variation dated 12 December 2017, Etchells shall use anchors that are compliant with class rule C.5.1(a) in lieu of Special Regulation Part 1, 405
- 1.5. The regatta is sanctioned by the International Etchells Class as a Class B event. All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of the International Etchells Class and shall comply with the WS Eligibility Code, Regulation 19.
- 1.6. In accordance with WS Regulation 20.5.1, no advertising shall be displayed pursuant to WS Regulation 20.3.2. The Organising Authority may require all participating boats to display the event sponsor's advertising in accordance with WS Regulation 20.4.1.
- 1.7. If there is a conflict between languages, the English text will take precedence.
- 1.8. If there is a conflict between rules or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing Instructions will prevail. This alters RRS 63.7.
- 1.9. The Protest Committee may impose suitable penalties, other than disqualification, for violations of non-Part 2 rules. This changes RRS 64.1
- 1.10. Appendix T (Arbitration) will apply

## **2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located in the Members Lounge (clubhouse upper level).

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

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 hours on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.

## **4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flag mast located on the western boundary of the club.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.

## **5. [NP][DP] REGISTRATION**

- 5.1 Registration formalities as detailed in the Notice of Race are required to be completed by 1300 hours on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
- 5.2 All boats will be issued with bow numbers at registration. Bow numbers are to be attached to the forward part of each side of each boat, with the after part of the bow

number to be no more than one metre from the hull datum point as defined in class rule D.2.4 (a) and the top of the bow number to be no more than 20 mm below the gunwale. No numbers may wrap around the stem or the gunwale and the spacing between characters shall be 70 mm.

## 6.SCHEDULE OF RACES

Day	Event	Time
Tuesday, 7 January	Registration and Weigh-In	1500 – 1730 hrs
Wednesday, 8 January	Registration and Weigh-In	0830 – 1100 hrs
Wednesday, 8 January	Competitor Briefing	1100 hrs
Wednesday, 8 January	Practice Race	Warning 1300 hrs
Thursday, 9 January	Racing	1st Warning 1300 hrs
Friday, 10 January	Racing	1st Warning 1300 hrs
Saturday, 11 January	Racing	1st Warning 1300 hrs
Sunday, 12 January	Racing	1st Warning 1100 hrs
Sunday, 12 January	Presentation Ceremony	After racing TBA

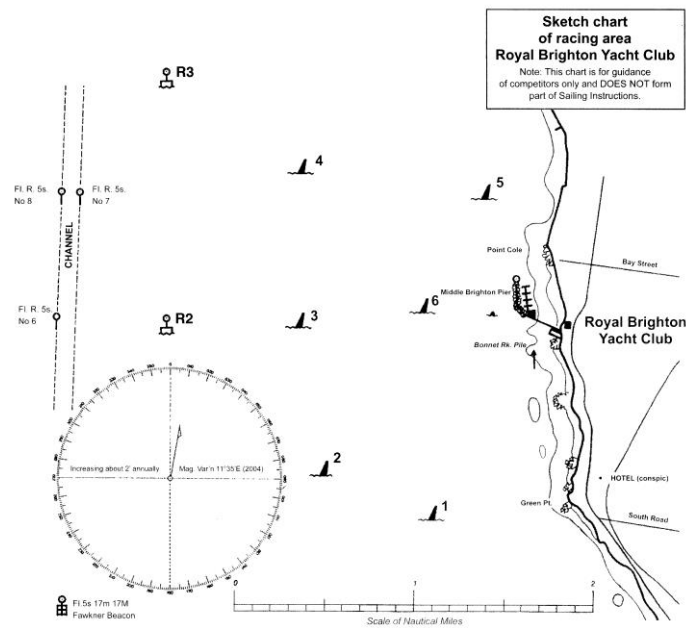
- 6.1 Two races are scheduled each day, however no more than three races shall be sailed on any day.
- 6.2 A maximum of seven (7) races will be conducted for the series.
- 6.3 No Warning Signal will be made after 1430hrs on the last scheduled day of racing.
- 6.3 The race committee at its discretion may elect to sail more than the day's scheduled number of races on any race day and, as a result, may amend the time of the warning signal for the first race of that particular day in accordance with SI 3 above. If the race committee decides to sail one additional race, after the last scheduled race on any particular day, this will be signalled by displaying code flag L at the finish boat.

## 7. CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be the Etchells Class insignia on a white background.

## 8. RACING AREA

Racing will take place on the waters of Port Phillip in the vicinity of Royal Brighton Yacht Club.

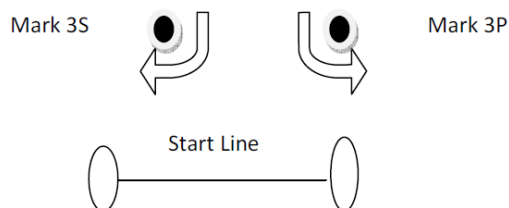
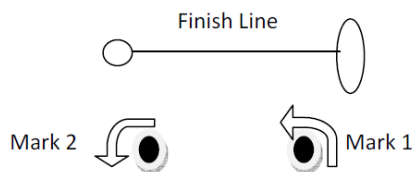


## 9. THE COURSES

9.1 The diagrams below show the course configuration, including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

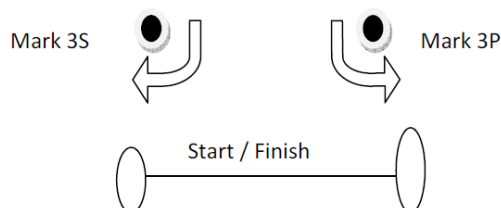
### Course 1 – Numeral Pennant 1

Start- 1-2-3(P/S)-1-2-3(P/S)-Finish



## Course 2- Numeral Pennant 2

Start-1-2-3(S/P)-1-2-Finish



9.2 The course to be sailed will be designated by displaying Numeral Pennant 1 or 2 from the Race Committee vessel no later than the warning signal.

9.3 The Race Committee vessel may display the approximate compass bearing from the Starting Line to Mark 1.

9.4 A gate may be replaced by a single mark to be left to port.

## 10. MARKS

Marks are described as follows:

<b>Mark</b>	<b>Shape</b>	<b>Colour</b>
Mark 1	Truncated Cone	Pink
Mark 2	Truncated Cone	Yellow
Marks 3S & 3P	Truncated Cone	Pink
New Mark 1	Truncated Cone	Orange
New Marks 3S & 3P	Truncated Cone	Orange
Start Marks	Race Committee Vessels	Orange Flags
Alternate Start Mark	Cylinder	Chequer
Finish Marks	Race Committee Vessels	Blue Flags
Alternate Finish Mark	Cylinder	Chequer

## 11. THE START

11.1 The Starting Line will be between staffs displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessels at each end of the starting line or between the staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel at the starboard end of the starting line and the alternate start mark at the port end.

11.2 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after the starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS 63.1, A4.1 and A.5.

11.3 The Race Committee will attempt to notify OCS, UFD and BFD boats by bow number or sail number by radio on VHF Channel 77 approximately one minute after the starting signal. Failure of equipment, failure to hear a hail, delay in hailing or the order in which hails are given will not be grounds for redress.

11.4 A Race Committee vessel stationed near Mark 1 may display the bow numbers of boats that have violated RRS 30.3 or RRS 30.4. Boats identified under this instruction shall promptly leave the racecourse and not interfere with boats still racing.

11.5 Rule 30.4 is changed to permit the race committee to display the sail number and/or bow number of boats that have infringed. This changes RRS 30.4.

## **12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the gate or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

## **13. THE FINISH**

The finishing line will be between staffs displaying blue flags on race committee vessels at each end of the line or:

- Course 1 – a Race Committee vessel displaying a blue flag at the starboard end and the course side of an inflatable chequer mark at the port end;
- Course 2 – a Race Committee vessel displaying a blue flag at the port end and the course side of an inflatable chequer mark at the starboard end.

## **14. PENALTY SYSTEM**

14.1 The penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2 shall be a One Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe in the same direction) except that for infringements occurring within the Zone, as defined in the RRS, the penalty shall be a Two Turns Penalty (two tacks and two gybes in the same direction). This changes RRS 44.1 and 44.2.

14.2 [NP] [DP] A boat that has taken a penalty or retired under RRS 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the Regatta Office within the protest time limit.

## **15. TIME LIMITS**

15.1 The time limit for Course 1 will be 4 hours from the starting signal and for Course 2 it will be 3 hours from the starting signal. If one boat finishes within the time limit, then the race will stand.

15.2 If no boat has passed the first windward mark one hour after the starting signal, the race shall be abandoned.

15.3 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes RRS 35, A4.1 and A.5.

## **16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 16.1 Protest forms are available at the Regatta Office. Protests shall be delivered there within 60 minutes of the last boat to finish the last race of the day. This time will be posted on the Official Notice Board. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 16.2 Notices will be posted within 30 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 Committee Room, upstairs in the RBYC clubhouse.
- 16.3 Notices of protests by the Race Committee will be posted within the protest time limit on the Official Notice Board to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 16.4 For infringements of the rules other than Part 2, the Protest Committee may award a lesser penalty than DSQ.
- 16.5 For the purpose of RRS 64.3(b) the 'authority responsible' is those members of the Class Governing Committee present at the regatta.
- 16.6 Breaches of instructions 5.2, 14.2, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25 and 26 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the Protest Committee so decides.
- 16.7 On the last day of the regatta:
- (a) a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day;
  - (b) a request for reopening a hearing held on the last day shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day;
  - (c) the time limit to request redress based upon an action or omission of the Race Committee or Protest Committee shall be 30 minutes after the final results are posted. This changes RRS 62 and 66.
- 16.8 Arbitration
- (a) Protests lodged in accordance with these Sailing Instructions may be subject to an Arbitration Hearing in accordance with RRS Appendix T.
  - (b) RRS Appendix T. 1(b) is deleted and replaced with "A Post-Race Penalty is a 40% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rule 44.1(a) applies".
  - (c) Arbitration hearings will be held subsequent to the protest being lodged and prior to a protest hearing.
  - (d) Arbitration hearings will be conducted in accordance with RRS Appendix T.

## **17. SCORING**

- 17.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 17.2 Four races are required to constitute a series.

17.3 When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

17.4 When five or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

## **18. [NP] SAFETY REGULATIONS**

A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to continue racing shall advise the Race Committee via Channel 77 or, if reasonably practicable, pass close enough to a race committee vessel to signal its retirement, and advise the Regatta Office immediately on return to shore by signing a retirement declaration.

## **19. [NP] [DP] REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

19.1 Substitution of crew will not be allowed without the prior Organising Authority verification of eligibility and crew weight of the substitute crew and the written approval of the Protest Committee.

19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed without prior Technical Committee verification the new equipment meets the class rules and the written approval of the Protest Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made in writing at the first reasonable opportunity.

19.3 After measurement until completion of racing, no boat, sail or any item of measured equipment shall leave the venue without being posted on the Official Equipment Sign-out Sheet on the Official Notice Board. It is the sole responsibility of each skipper to ensure proper recording.

19.4 After measurement until completion of racing, no sail shall be re-cut or altered. Repairs to sails pursuant to all applicable rules are permissible only upon written approval of the Protest Committee. All such sails may be subject to re-measurement on completion of repairs.

## **20. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

20.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions which may include RRS 43 and Class Rules C.2.2 and C.3.2.

20.2 On the water, a boat can be instructed by the Race Committee, Technical Committee or the Protest Committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

## **21. CREW WEIGHING**

21.1 The weights and total combined crew weight of each crew including skipper shall be determined prior to racing and the total combined weight of crew members for each boat will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

21.2 Crews shall be weighed wearing light clothing, the minimum being outerwear shorts and t-shirt.

21.3 Crew substitutions shall not be permitted for the purpose of making the weight limit.



21.4 Weighing scales will be available on each race day in the Regatta Office from 1000 to 1700hrs.

## **22. OFFICIAL BOATS**

Official boats may display the RBYC Burgee.

## **23. [DP] COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS**

23.1 Coach and support boats must be registered with the Organising Authority prior to acting as a coach or support boat and shall be marked with identifying numbers issued by the Organising Authority. Boats shall display identifying numbers at all times while they are acting as a coach or support boat.

23.2 All registered coach and support boats will carry on board and operate while on the water a VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on VHF Channels 16, 71, 73, 77 and agree to assist the Race Committee if directed to do so.

23.3 Competitors shall have no communication with, and boats shall not be tied to, coach or support boats from the first Warning Signal (or any other time the Organising Authority considers appropriate) of the day until racing has been concluded for the day. Between races, coach and support boats shall not approach, communicate with or transfer provisions or equipment to or from their supported boats unless in a medical or emergency requirement threatening the health of the crew or the flotation of the boat and only with the expressed permission of the Protest Committee or the Race Committee.

23.4 Registered coach and support boats and their personnel shall stay at least 100 metres below the starting line from the time of the Preparatory Signal until five minutes after the start of any race. After this time, coach and support boats may then proceed parallel to the course on the starboard side of the course facing the wind at a distance of at least 100 metres outside areas where boats are racing. Coach and support boats shall not go above the weather marks or the Course 1 finishing line or below the leeward marks or the Course 2 finishing line at any other time while boats are racing.

23.5 Any breach of SI 23.1, 23.2, 23.3 or 23.4 by a coach or support boat may result in a penalty being applied to any or all boats serviced by that coach or support boat. The penalty may be disqualification or some other penalty as determined by the Protest Committee.

23.6 Coach and support boats shall, when requested by the Race Committee, tow or assist boats not associated with them. Coach and support boats will monitor VHF channel 77 and shall follow all instructions from the Race Committee.

23.7 When the Race Committee displays code flag V with one long sound signal, all coach and support vessels shall monitor the race committee radio channel for search and rescue instructions.

## **24. [NP] [DP] HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

All boats shall be afloat before 0900 hours on Thursday 9 January and shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee and/or the Protest Committee. The penalty may be DSQ for any subsequent races.

## **25. [NP] [DP] PLASTIC POOLS & DIVING EQUIPMENT**

Plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around competing yachts between the close of registration and the end of the regatta.

## **26. [NP] [DP] RADIO COMMUNICATION**

26.1 This supplements, but does not change, RRS 2 and 41 for the IECA. All boats shall carry a marine band VHF receiver capable of transmitting and receiving channels 16, 71, 73, & 77. As per SI 18, boats may use the radio to report retirement from racing or to request assistance in an emergency. No other transmissions are permitted by competing yachts during each racing day from the first Warning Signal until racing has been completed for the day.

26.2 The Race Committee may use the radio to advise competitors of race information.

26.3 The use of mobile/cell phones or any device capable of sending and/or receiving external electronic communication and/or connecting to the internet is prohibited after the first Warning Signal (or any other time considered appropriate by the Organising Authority) on each race day until the boat has completed its days racing, except as provided in clause 26.1, 26.2 or clause 18 or in an emergency threatening the safety of any member of the crew or the flotation of the boat.

## **27. PRIZES**

As detailed in the Notice of Race.

## **28. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

28.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. It is the competitor's decision to enter the Championship or to start or continue in any race. Competitors' attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4 which states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

28.2 The Organizing Authority is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. 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.

## **29. INSURANCE**

All boats competing are required to carry current Third-Party Property Liability Insurance of not less than AUD\$10,000,000. All insurance cover shall be maintained during the period of racing.