



Hodges Sandringham J24 Victorian State Championship 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organising Authority is the Sandringham Yacht Club Inc.

[DP] means a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the jury.

[NP] means a breach of this rule will not be grounds for protest by a boat.

1. Rules

- 1.1. AS Special Regulations, Part 1, Safety Category 6 will apply and boats must carry a hand-held VHF Radio capable of receiving Ch16 and Ch77.
- 1.2. Appendix T Arbitration will apply.
- 1.3. Boats shall comply with the requirements as set out in Attachment 4 – Safety Equipment.

2. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the online notice board, available at <https://syc.com.au/j24-states/> .

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted not less than 90 minutes before the next scheduled start, except that any changes to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before they take effect.

4. Signals Made Ashore

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flag mast located next to the Ken King Centre.
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed on shore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 30 minutes" in the race signal AP

5. Schedule of Races

- 5.1. As per the Notice of Race.
- 5.2. When more than one race is held on the same day, the warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable after the completion of the previous race. To alert boats that another race will begin shortly, an orange flag will be displayed (with one sound signal) for at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.3. A maximum of five (5) races will be sailed on any one day.

6. Class Flags

The class flag will be the J24 flag, which is a white flag with J24 insignia.

7. Racing Area

The sailing area will be on the waters of Port Phillip, off SYC. See Attachment 2.

8. Courses and Marks

- 8.1. The diagram in Attachment 1 shows the course, marks, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2. No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee boat may display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

9. Start

- 9.1. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Vessel and the course side of the port-end starting mark or a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee Vessel.
- 9.2. A crowding mark may be laid adjacent to the Race Committee Vessel. When laid, boats approaching the line to start shall leave the crowding mark on the same required side as the Race Committee Vessel.
- 9.3. The Vakaros RaceSense system will be used by the Race Committee and the relevant information will be available to all boats.
- 9.4. The visual identification of boats infringing RRS 29 and RRS 30 by the Race Committee is replaced with the electronic identification by the Vakaros RaceSense system. This changes RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3 and 30.4.
- 9.5. A set of instructions about the use of the electronic device will be posted on the Regatta website: <https://syc.com.au/j24-states/>.
- 9.6. [DP] [NP] Each boat shall have a working Vakaros Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge configured for RaceSense at check-in, which shall be mounted on the aft side of the mast at all times while racing. Each boat shall either provide a working Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge at registration for configuration with RaceSense, or an Atlas 2 will be provided, for a fee, to any boat that does not have one available. More information is available here: <https://syc.com.au/j24-states/>
- 9.7. [NP] Any kind of failure of an Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge, the RaceSense system or communication systems shall not be grounds for a request for redress by a boat, Race Committee and Protest Committee. This changes RRS 41(c), 61.1(a), 61.1(c), 61.4(b) (1) and 60.5 (b)
- 9.8. If the RC displays a G (Golf) flag with one sound before the warning signal, SIs from 9.3 to 9.7 will not apply.
- 9.9. A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2

10. Change of the next Leg of the Course

- 10.1. To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark of the same colour as the original with a black band, (or move the finish line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.
- 10.2. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 10.3. Any subsequent marks may be relocated to maintain the original course configuration.
- 10.4. In the event that the position of Mark 1 is changed, Marks 1 and 1a will be replaced by a new single Mark 1 and boats will round the new Mark 1 and proceed directly to Marks 2S/2P or the finishing line, as appropriate.

11. Finish

The finishing line will be between the staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Vessel and the finishing mark.

12. Penalty System

- 12.1. A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the Zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty. This changes RRS 44.1.
- 12.2. Attachment 3 lists other percentage penalties that apply, calculated the same way that the percentage penalty is calculated in RRS 44.3.

13. Time Limit

- 13.1. If no boat has passed mark 1 within 30 minutes, the race may be abandoned. Failure to meet this target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).
- 13.2. The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish shall be 90 minutes.
- 13.3. Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

14. Protests and Requests for Redress

- 14.1. Protests can be lodged online via the Official Noticeboard <https://syc.com.au/j24-states/>.
- 14.2. Protests shall be delivered to the Regatta Office within 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day, or from when the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 14.3. Notices will be posted on the official notice board no later than 30 minutes of the protest time limit expiry to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses, and the location of the hearing.
- 14.4. Breaches of 16.2, and 18.2 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1 Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the Jury so decides.

15. Scoring

- 15.1. As per the NoR.

16. Safety Regulations

- 16.1. [DP] Boats shall sign on as an entrant prior to the warning signal of the first race of each day, by sailing on starboard tack past the stern of the Race Committee Vessel, hailing their sail number and having the hail acknowledged. Any boat failing to sign-on may be scored DNC without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.
- 16.2. [NP] [DP] Boats that retire from racing shall inform the Race Committee by radio on the allocated frequency, by hailing any race committee vessel or by advising the regatta office in person or by phone as soon as possible.

17. Replacement of Crew or Equipment

- 17.1. Substitution of competitors or equipment will not be allowed without the written approval of the Race Committee. Any substitutions shall be made through the Official Noticeboard.
- 17.2. Requests for equipment substitution shall be made in writing to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity through the Official Noticeboard. If damage occurs on the water, equipment may be substituted before the following race and written permission shall be requested before the end of the protest time limit on the same day. The written application for substitution and the decision of the Race Committee will be displayed on the notice board.
- 17.3. Any changes outside these parameters must be approved by the Race Committee.

18. Equipment and Measurement Checks

- 18.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the rules. A boat shall comply with a request by the Technical Committee to proceed to a designated area for inspection and facilitate the inspection.
- 18.2. A boat that fails to comply with this official request for inspection will be subject to protest by the Race Committee.
- 18.3. Boats may be checked for sailing weight at any time.

19. Official Vessels

Official vessels may be marked by displaying a blue flag with the letter A.

20. Support Vessels

Support vessels shall stay at least 100 metres outside areas where boats 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.

21. Haul-Out Restrictions

- 21.1. Boats shall remain in the water from 1900 on Friday 13 March until the completion of the regatta.
- 21.2. The Race Committee may approve a written request for a boat to be hauled out at any time provided it is satisfied that this is required for essential repairs. Haul-out approval is only to facilitate work that could not have been done afloat.
- 21.3. The Race Committee may approve a written request for a boat to be launched later than 1900 on Friday 13 March 2026 provided it is satisfied that this is for genuine reasons.

22. Plastic Pools and Diving Equipment

Underwater breathing apparatus, closed plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats after 1900 Friday March 13 2026, until the completion of the regatta.

23. Radio Communication

- 23.1. Except in an emergency, a boat while racing shall neither make nor receive electronic transmissions (radio, e-mails, mobile phone etc.) or other communications which are not available to all boats.
- 23.2. In accordance with RRS 41, the Race Committee may broadcast the course to be sailed, names/sail numbers of OCS boats, and/or any information of interest to competitors. Any failure of, or defect in, such a broadcast will not be grounds for redress. For this purpose, boats shall carry a VHF radio. Boats may transmit on VHF radio to communicate in the event of an emergency or upon retiring from a race or at the request of the Race Committee.
- 23.3. The designated race frequency is VHF Ch 77.

24. Prizes

As per the NoR.

25. Media and Television Policy

In participating in this regatta, all competitors automatically grant to the J24 Association of Victoria and the Sandringham Yacht Club, its agents and sponsors of the regatta, 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 filmed television and other reproductions of them recorded during the period of the completion for the regatta in which the competitor participates and in all material related to the regatta without compensation.

26. Disclaimer of Liability

All those taking part in races conducted by Sandringham Yacht Club in association with the J24 Association of Victoria do so at their own risk and responsibility. Sandringham Yacht Club, its staff, officers and volunteers accept no responsibility whatsoever for the seaworthiness of boats whose entries are accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

Attention is drawn to the Fundamental Race Rule 3 - Decision to Race, which states:

“The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone”.

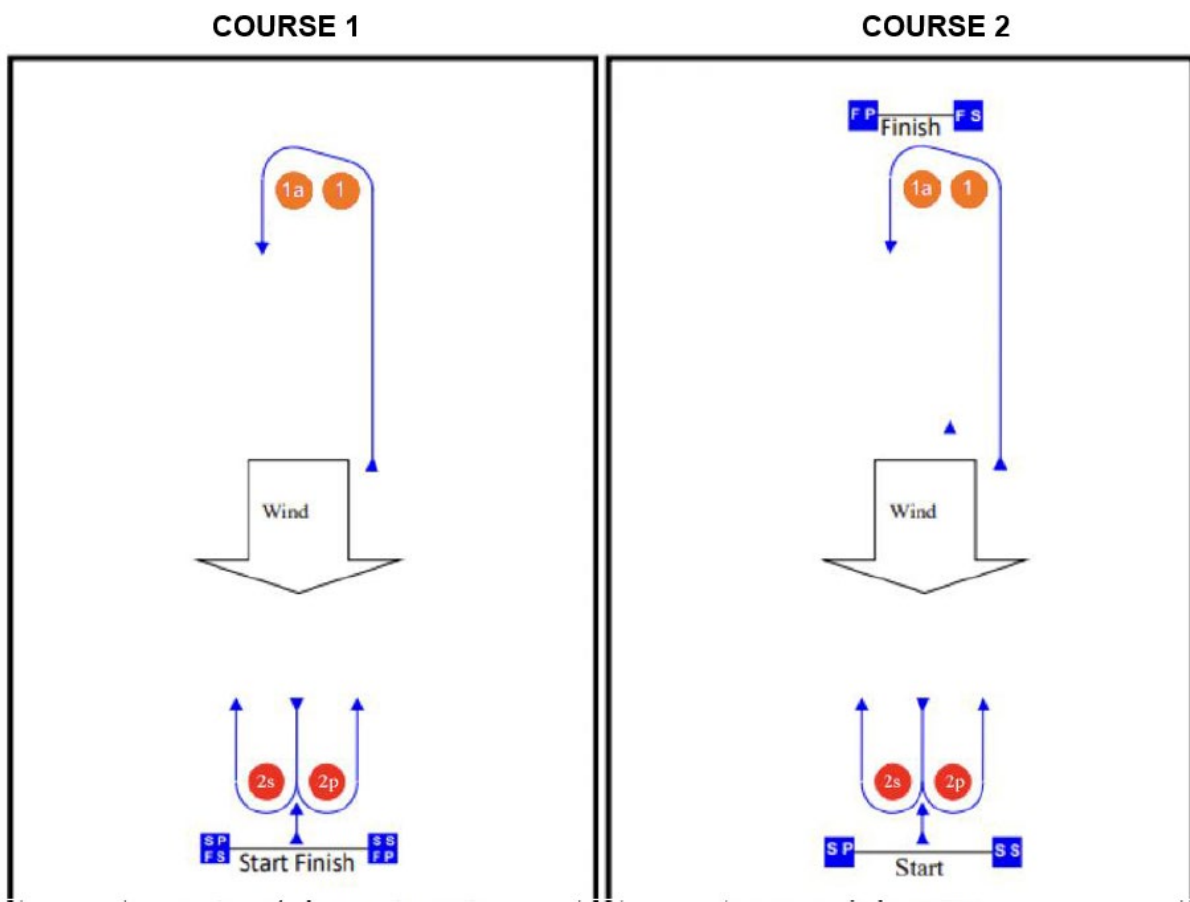
Sandringham Yacht Club, its staff, officers and volunteers accept no responsibility whatsoever for loss or damage to boats or equipment or personal injury associated with races conducted by the Club.

27. Insurance

All competing boats shall have third party insurance cover with racing extension of not less than \$10,000,000 (Ten Million Australian Dollars). Boats shall produce evidence of insurance at registration.

ATTACHMENT 1 – Courses

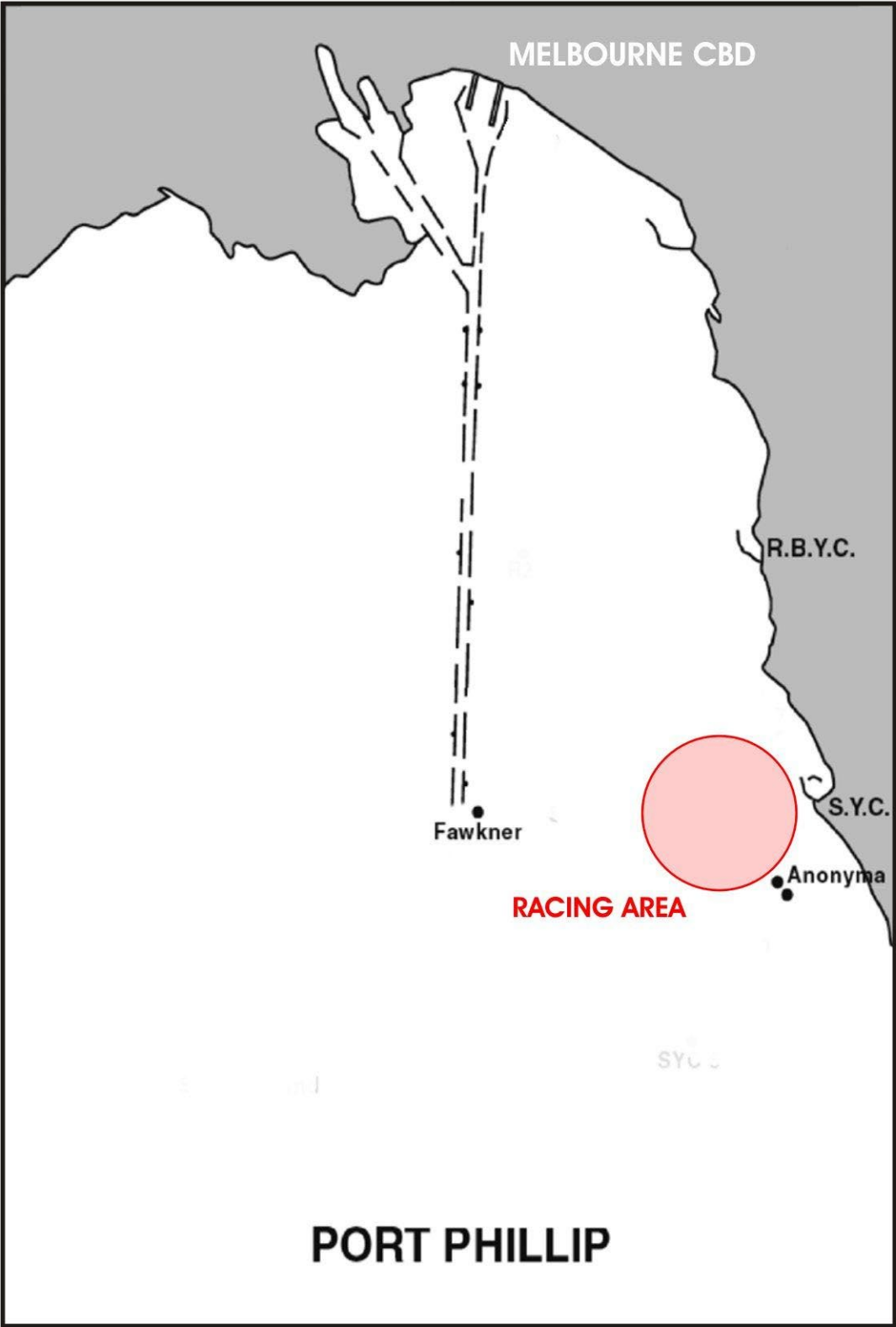
- 1.1. All courses will be windward/leeward configuration.
- 1.2. Courses will be notified by displaying the appropriate numeral pennant (1 or 2).
- 1.3. All marks are to be left to port except the gate mark. Boats shall pass between 2P and 2S before rounding either mark to commence the next leg of the course.
- 1.4. On any course where a mark is shown as a gate, if there is only one mark in position, competitors shall leave it to port.
- 1.5. Marks 1, 2P and 2S will be yellow inflatable truncated cones.
- 1.6. Mark 1a will be a pink inflatable truncated cone.
- 1.7. The starting mark will be an orange inflatable truncated cone (or race committee vessel displaying an orange flag).
- 1.8. The finish mark will be an orange inflatable truncated cone.
- 1.9. The change mark will be a yellow inflatable truncated cone with a black band.



Course No	Course Configuration
1	Start – 1 – 1a – 2P/2S – 1 – 1a – Finish
2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2P/2S – 1 – 1a – 2P/2S – Finish

ATTACHMENT 2 – Course Area

The sailing area will be on the waters of Port Phillip, to the west of the Sandringham Yacht Club.



ATTACHMENT 3 – [DP] Penalties for Breaking Some Class Rules

CLASS RULE	INFRINGEMENT	PENALTY
B.3	A copy of the Measurement Certificate and the Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment (Rule 3.7.3) are to be kept aboard the yacht one or both items are not on board.	20%
C.4	Advertising does not conform to the restrictions	20%
C.9.4 and C.9.5	Mainsail is set outside of the limit marks	20%
C.5.1(a)(1)	Two bailing buckets of minimum capacity 9 liters each fitted with a lanyard are not on board.	40%
C.7.2(a)(9)	Approved compass device is not present or not functional	20%
C.5.1(a)(4)	The throwable lifesaving device and attached sea anchor not on deck and ready for use.	40%
C.5.1(a)(5)	First aid kit is not on board	20%
C.5.1(b)(1) C.5.1(a)(2) C.5.2(a)(10)	Any of anchors(s), outboard motor/engine, battery or engine fuel container(s) are not in their proper location and secured against movement	20%
C.7.3(a)(11)	Elastic (shock) cord is used in the standing or running rigging where it is not specifically allowed	20%
C.5.3	The stowage of required or optional equipment other than unbagged sails on the cabin sole over the keel.	20%
	The removal of the rudder from the water when the Sailing Instructions stipulate that the boat shall remain afloat for the duration of the regatta	20%

If a boat receives one of the above penalties, the protest decision will include whether the same penalty can or will be applied to subsequent infringements. The protest decision may also specify that the boat cannot be protested again under the same class rule for a time period specified by the Jury.

ATTACHMENT 4 – Safety Equipment

All competitors are to note that the Safety Requirements of the Regatta include:

- **Australian Sailing Special Regulations Safety Category 6**
- **J24 Class Rules**
- **Marine Safety Victoria—regulations for safety equipment which must be carried.**

For the purposes of clarification, portable equipment is to be carried which complies with the greater requirement of any of these regulations. These are noted in the table below.

All portable equipment is to be noted on the boats Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment which is to be carried on the boat.

	Cat 6	Class Rule	Marine Safety V
Portable Equipment			
Lifejacket (per person on board/towed) Level 50N+	X	X	X
1x Approved fire extinguisher (10BE or equivalent)	X	X	X
Waterproof Buoyant torch + spare globe (if not LED)		X	X
Anchor (Danforth 13S) plus 5M chain plus 45m rope	X	X	
2x 8L buckets with lanyard	X	X	
Lifebuoy with drogue	X	X	
Compass		X	
Marine Radio	X		
Current AS RRS & Special Regs Printed Electronic or hard copy	X		
Sharp knife sheathed, restrained in or near cockpit	X	X	
Name on all buoyant equipment and items	X		
Equipment capable of cutting standing rigging		X	
Outboard motor minimum weight 12kg combined weight		X	
First Aid Kit			
First aid kit is to be stored in a waterproof container with visible contents lists	X		
Contents list Complete within expiry date	#		
Soluble aspirin	20		
Disposable gloves	10		
Crepe bandages 75mm x 1.5m	2		
non adherent dressing or gauze (eg Melolin)	5		
Band-aids or equivalent roll of bandaid	20		
Normal Saline 30ml	2		
Sunscreen SPF30+ 250ml	1		
Scissors, stainless steel	1		
CR mask (or 6x face shields)	1		