



TYC GaLS Regatta 2026

Organising Authority: Townsville Yacht Club

NOTICE OF RACE

This event, designed to promote and develop women's sailing in North Queensland, is an annual Regatta to help our region's female sailors develop and hone racing skills, challenge themselves and compete with likeminded women. We aim to create friendships and camaraderie to ensure all competitors' sailing experiences at the Townsville Yacht Club are fun and rewarding.

1 INVITATION

The Townsville Yacht Club (TYC) invites entries, as well as female sailors (both members and non-members) for the 2026 TYC GaLS Regatta, to be conducted in the waters between Townsville, Magnetic Island and Cleveland Bay on Saturday the 5th and Sunday the 6th September 2026.

2 RULES

- 2.1 The Regatta shall be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing (WS).
- 2.2 The Australian Sailing (AS) Prescriptions and Special Regulations Part 1 Category 6 will apply.

3 DEFINITIONS

Definitions of other terms are as follows:

- 3.1 Race Director: The individual appointed by the Townsville Yacht Club to act as Race Director for the TYC GaLS Regatta.
- 3.2 Race Committee: The Race Committee consists of the Race Director and one representative of the TYC Board or TYC Sailing Committee, appointed by the Townsville Yacht Club Board.

4 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 It is the intention of the race committee to post the sailing instructions on the Townsville Yacht Club website no later than **Friday 28th August 2026**.

5 COMMUNICATION

- 5.1 The online official notice board is located at www.townsvilleyachtclub.com.au/sailing/regattas/gals-regatta/.
- 5.2 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on VHF 16 and VHF 77.
- 5.3 On the water, the race committee may make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio channel 77. Any such communications by the race committee will not be considered as outside help. This alters RRS 41.

6 ELIGIBILITY

- 6.1 This Regatta is open to any female sailors of all levels of skill.
- 6.2 This Regatta is open to keelboats and sports boats on the register of a yacht club affiliated with AS.
- 6.3 Each yacht may have a maximum of one (1) male participant on board. The remaining crew shall be female.
- 6.4 A boat's helm shall be female in all races and affiliated with AS.

7 ENTRY

- 7.1 Online entry will open on **Tuesday 31st March 2026** via Townsville Yacht Club website - <https://www.townsvilleyachtclub.com.au/sailing/regattas-nq/gals-regatta/registration-information/>
- 7.2 Eligible persons and boats shall enter online no later than 5:00pm on **Thursday August 20th 2026** via the Townsville Yacht Club website at www.townsvilleyachtclub.com.au
- 7.3 All boats competing in regatta to complete registration form prior to event

8 CLASSES AND HANDICAPS

- 8.1 Racing will be provided in one (1) class unless a minimum of six entries are made or accepted to warrant an additional class. Should there be sufficient entries to form a particular Class, yachts will be allocated to another Class at the discretion of the Race Committee. There will be no change to her entry fee. The Race Committee may alter, amalgamate or divide any class and may add classes as required.
- 8.2 Yachts will be handicapped by the Regatta Handicap Committee.

9 ENTRY FEES

- 9.1 Entry fees are \$80 per competitor for both male and female competitors. If you would like to include a GaLS shirt in your registration, the entry fee is \$105. The \$80 entry fee when entering the boat via SailSys includes one (1) competitor entry fee (e.g. the skipper/owner).
- 9.2 The entry fee shall be paid by close of entries at 5:00pm on **Thursday August 20th 2026**.
- 9.3 Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee.

DATE	REGISTRATION TIME FRAMES
Thursday 30 th July	Last day to register with shirts included (\$105 registration). Late orders for shirts won't be accepted after 30 th July, however limited stock may be available to purchase at a cost of \$35.
Thursday 20 th August	Close of entries. Last day to register without purchasing a shirt (\$80 registration).

10 ADVERTISING

- 10.1 Yachts may carry advertising as permitted by RRS 6.1. The Race Committee may reject any advertising that may conflict with the interests of the sponsors of the event.
- 10.2 Backstay pennants will be provided by the organisers. Hull stickers may be provided. Boats are required to display these throughout the 2026 TYC GaLS Regatta.

11 REGATTA BRIEFING

- 11.1 All competitors are invited to attend Regatta Headquarters at Townsville Yacht Club on Friday 4th September 2026 between 1700hrs and 1800hrs, to receive their competitor packs. The Competitors Briefing will be conducted at Regatta Headquarters at Townsville Yacht Club, South Townsville at 1800hrs **Friday 4th September 2026**. A skipper or boat representative is required to attend.

12 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 12.1 Race Schedules and courses shall be displayed on the website, and as described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 12.2 The racing format shall be a combination of short course and fixed mark courses.
- 12.3 The first race shall start no earlier than 1030hrs on Saturday 5th September in Cleveland Bay. The last race of the series is scheduled for Sunday 6th September.
- 12.4 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1400hrs.
- 12.5 An awards presentation will be held at Townsville Yacht Club as soon as practicable after each day of racing.

DATE	EVENT
Thursday 20 th August	Close of Entries
Friday 4 th September	Registration 1700-1800 Briefing 1800 Welcome Function
Saturday 5 th September	Fixed Mark Races (up to 2 races planned) First warning not before 1025 Awards for Day 1 Placings Note- may be a mixture of short and medium races
Sunday 6 th September	Windward/Leeward Short Course Races (up to 4 races planned) First warning not before 1025 Awards for Day 2 Placings, Event Placings & Social Function Note – may be a mixture of short and medium races

13 SAFETY

- 13.1 This Regatta is classified as a Category “6” event (AS Special Regulations, Part 1).
- 13.2 All yachts shall carry sufficient fuel at the start of each race for at least two hours of motoring.
- 13.3 Regatta Officials may inspect any yacht entered for compliance with safety regulations.
- 13.4 Wind Limits:
Racing will not be commenced where a true wind speed of 25 knts or greater has been sustained for a continuous period of five (5) minutes immediately prior to the warning signal.

If such conditions are observed or recorded within the race area, the Race Committee shall postpone or abandon racing as appropriate. The assessment of wind strength and prevailing conditions will be determined at the discretion of the Race Director using available on-water observations and official Bureau of Meteorology information.

Where a Strong Wind Warning or higher is current or forecast for the race area by the Bureau of Meteorology, the Race Committee may postpone or abandon racing having regard to competitor safety and prevailing conditions.

14 BERTHING

- 14.1 Berthing is limited, but will be available free of charge for visiting yachts with a draft of 2.7m or less for the Regatta. Berths must be applied for at the time of entry - e-mail gals@townsvilleyachtclub.com.au. If the boat has a draft of over 2.7m in length, contact the club for availability.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1 RRS44.1 is changed so that a Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

16 SCORING

16.1 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

16.2 When fewer than four (4) races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

16.3 When from four (4) to six (6) races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

17 INSURANCE AND LIABILITY RISK

17.1 By lodging an entry, the owner/charterer agrees that:-

(a) it is a fundamental condition of entry that he, she or it releases, holds harmless and indemnifies the TYC GaLS Regatta Committee, TYC and its associates, its office bearers, servants, volunteers, agents and members and the sponsors of the 2026 TYC GaLS Regatta from all liability any of those persons has to the owner/charterer or any crew member on the owner/charterer's yacht, or to any person claiming through or under any such person arising from loss or damage how so ever caused, including negligent act or omission, arising out of or relating to: participation by the owner/charterer's yacht or any other yacht in a race; the conduct or course of the race in any respect including, without limitation, any act or omission (whether reasonably foreseeable or not) causing or relating to loss of or damage to any yacht or the death or injury of any person; or any of the matters referred to in the paragraphs above;

(b) participation by the yacht and by the crew in 2026 TYC GaLS Regatta is agreed by TYC and the TYC GaLS Regatta Committee on the basis that participation is entirely at the risk of the owner/charterer and each member of the crew on the owner/charterer's yacht.

(c) the owner/charterer shall provide each crew member or proposed crew member with a copy of these Conditions of Entry.

17.2 It is a condition of entry that competitors participate in this Regatta entirely at their own risk (see RRS 3. Decision to Race), and that each yacht shall carry public liability insurance with a sum insured of at least A\$10,000,000 or the foreign currency equivalent. The insurance policy **must** be issued by an agency or underwriting agent that is licensed to operate in Australia under the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA).

17.3 All those taking part in these races are reminded of their obligations as set out AS Special Regulations Clause 1.02 – "Owner's Responsibility".

18 PRIZES & TROPHIES

18.1 Prizes or trophies shall be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for each race on corrected times, as well as for 1st, 2nd and 3rd overall. Prizes or trophies may be awarded for 'Outstanding Seawomanship'.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact;

Townsville Yacht Club

Phone: 07 4772 1192

Email: admin@townsveyachtclub.com.au

ACCOMMODATION BOOKINGS

[Mainstay Suites Townsville](#) (formally Aligned Corporate Residences) are our accommodation partners for this event.

They are located directly across the road from the Townsville Yacht Club.

This property features 140 residences, comprising serviced apartments with studio, one or two-bedroom layouts, each with private balconies with views overlooking the marina or the resort-style swimming pool.

Bookings can be made by phoning (07) 4726 4444. Please mention you are participating in the TYC GaLS Regatta when booking.