



TOWNSVILLE YACHT CLUB

Sailing

TWILIGHT CRUISE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Townsville Yacht Club
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Version Control

Version	Date	Note
2.0	17/03/2021	New version in Australian Sailing format.
2.1	16/06/2021	Updated maps. Changed reference to P13 (since it is now removed).
2.2	13/07/2021	Minor updates following Sailing Committee meeting on 12/07/2021
2.3	02/8/2021	Minor update by TYC General Manager (Insurance requirements)
2.4	22/03/2022	Minor update to Boat Registration and Handicaps
2.5	24/03/2022	Minor changes to 1.4 and 8.3.
2.6	22/08/2022	Updated start line now that P13 is in place again

1 RULES

- 1.1 The Organising Authority (OA) for twilight cruises is the Townsville Motor Boat and Yacht Club Limited, trading as Townsville Yacht Club (TYC). The OA's address is PO Box 484, Townsville QLD 4810, Australia.
- 1.2 Twilight cruises will be governed by the International Rules for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS, also known as COLREGS) in addition to these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3 Participating boats shall not sail above their *proper course* to the next mark, where *proper course* is defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024.
- 1.4 Participating boats shall keep clear of commercial vessels at all times (see Appendix A). Shipping movements affecting participants of the Twilight Sail will be posted to the TYC Noticeboard on Wednesday afternoon. Shipping movements are also available on the Port of Townsville website at <https://shipping.townsville-port.com.au/>.
- 1.5 TYC's permission from Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) to conduct twilight cruises requires that participating boats keep to the west of the Platypus Channel unless required to enter the channel for safety requirements. When leaving the port, boats shall move to the west of the channel as soon as depth allows. Boats observed sailing in, or to the east of, the channel may face disciplinary action by TYC; they will also be ineligible for prizes.
- 1.6 Participating boats shall monitor VHF channel 16 at a minimum; a dual watch of channels 16 and 77 is preferable.

2 BOAT REGISTRATION

- 2.1 All boats participating in the twilight cruises shall be registered with the TYC. To register, owners or skippers shall supply:
 - a) The Special Regulations Equipment Audit Form (2021-) for Category 5, completed by the owner or representative. This form can be obtained from the TYC office, the Safety Officer, or the Club Racing section of the TYC website.
 - b) A copy of their current insurance policy, providing at least \$10 million of public liability cover. 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).
- 2.2 Registration is to be completed online using SailSys. Assistance uploading documents to SailSys can be provided by the TYC office.

VISITING BOATS REGISTRATION

- 2.3 Visiting boats shall lodge a copy of a current safety certificate (Category 5 or higher standard) and insurance policy before entering a TYC event.

3 CRUISE ENTRY

- 3.1 Boats wishing to participate in a twilight cruise shall complete the registration process before their first cruise entry.
- 3.2 Entries shall be lodged where possible using the SailSys online system. Alternately, entries may be lodged in person at the TYC office or twilight cruise help desk.
- 3.3 Each entry shall be accompanied by the entry fee of \$10.
- 3.4 Entrants (skippers and all crew) shall provide information requested by TYC to satisfy safety

and current Queensland Health requirements. Failure to do so may result in the boat being ineligible for prizes.

4 CREW MEMBERSHIP

4.1 All crew members participating in a cruise shall be:

- a) a TYC Member, or
- b) the holder of a valid Australian Sailing SailPass, or
- c) a guest of the skipper.

5 PRIZES

5.1 Prizes for 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place will be awarded for each twilight cruise where at least five boats are entered.

5.2 At TYC's discretion, fewer prizes may be awarded if less than five boats are entered.

6 THE COURSE

6.1 The course is a triangle from the start to the TYC Special Purpose Buoy adjacent to P7 (to port) to the Middle Reef East cardinal marker (to port) to the finish.

7 THE START

7.1 A pursuit start will be used. Start times will be available at TYC and on the TYC web site.

7.2 The starting line will be on a transit from P14 to P13, extending 150m (0.08nm) to the north-west of P13.



8 THE FINISH

- 8.1 The finish line is a transit from the red light on top of Castle Hill through the red channel lead light located on the rock wall (groyne) at the entrance to the Breakwater channel.



- 8.2 The first three boats to cross the finish line must notify the fleet on VHF Channel 77 to claim their place.
- 8.3 Boats that have not nominated to participate in this event are not to sail the TYC Twilight Course whilst the event is underway.

9 HANDICAPS

- 9.1 The handicap system will be based on the performance of the boat in previous twilight cruises.
- 9.2 For its first entry in a TYC twilight cruise, a boat will be given a start time in the middle of the fleet.
- 9.3 Start times for boats which have entered a twilight cruise will be adjusted for the subsequent cruise depending on their finish position, as follows:
- a) First place: 6 minutes later
 - b) Second place: 4 minutes later
 - c) Third place: 2 minutes later
 - d) 4th and higher place: 1 minute earlier

10 RESULTS

- 10.1 Results will be announced at the TYC bar by 8:30pm on the day of the cruise.

11 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 11.1 All boats shall comply with Maritime Safety Queensland regulations.
- 11.2 All competing boats shall comply with Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 1 - Category 5.
- 11.3 All competitors shall be familiar with their obligations under the TYC Incident Management Plan.
- 11.4 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 16 and 77; the radio may be fixed mount or a waterproof handheld.
- 11.5 In the event of any incident causing damage to boats or serious injury to persons, the skipper is required to submit a completed Incident Report to the Officer of the Day and Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) as soon as possible after racing has finished. See Appendix B.
- 11.6 Any contact with "Aids to Navigation" must be reported to MSQ by the skipper.
- 11.7 The person in charge of each boat is responsible for the safety of the boat and her crew as specified in AS Special Regulations Part 1 for Racing Boats.

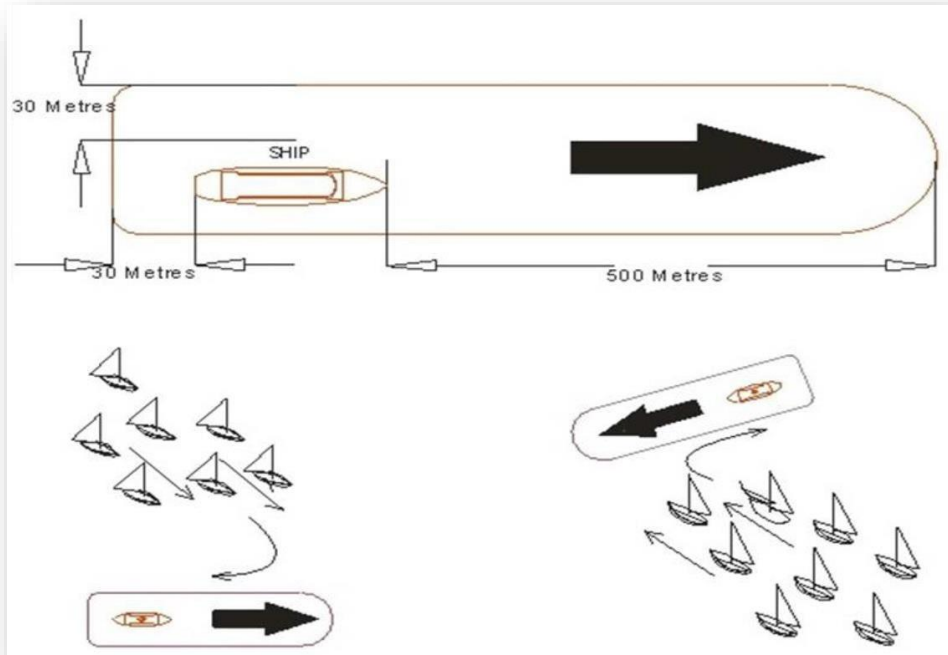
12 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 12.1 All those taking part in these cruises do so at their own risk and responsibility. Neither TYC nor any other club or company connected with the organising of these cruises is responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted, nor for the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. Owners shall accept full responsibility for the seaworthiness and safe navigation of their boats and competence of their crews.
- 12.2 Boat owners, skippers and crew should be aware that there may be uncharted obstacles under the waters on which cruises are held. Such uncharted obstacles include reefs, bomboras and rocks which could be a danger to boats and crews. TYC accepts no responsibility for any damage to or loss of any boat or for injury to or death of any crew person which may occur as a result of a collision with any underwater obstacle. All participants compete in cruises at their own risk.

APPENDIX A: COMMERCIAL SHIPPING

Boats shall not interfere with commercial shipping in the Platypus Channel and shall not approach closer than 30m on either side or astern or 500m ahead of any commercial ship under way. This is deemed a Ship Activated Exclusion Zone and is considered Prohibited Water (obstruction).

Commercial ships may be escorted by a Pilot vessel. Competing boats shall not obstruct escort vessels, cause them to move station or collide with them. Competing boats shall obey all instructions of an escort vessel and shall not pass between the ship being escorted and the escort vessel.



In complying with MSQ Rules, due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision and to any special circumstances, including the limitations of the vessels involved, which may make a departure from the COLREGS necessary to avoid immediate danger.

All skippers are reminded of their responsibility under rule 9(b) of the IRPCS, "A vessel of less than 20 metres in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway."

When closing any vessel, to prevent being overrun ensure you remain within sight of the Master/Officer of the Watch on the vessel's bridge. Beware of overhanging bows and other parts of ship that might obstruct this line of sight. Your boat may not be visible inside 500m from the bows of large ships.

Shipping Sound Signal Meanings:

One short blast – I am altering course to starboard.

Two short blasts – I am altering course to port.

Three short blasts – I am operating engines astern.

Five (or more) short blasts – I'm unsure of your intentions and I doubt whether you are taking enough avoiding action to avoid collision.

APPENDIX B: INCIDENT / ACCIDENT REPORTING

MARITIME INCIDENT OR ACCIDENT

It is mandatory that any incident that causes damage to property and/or serious injury to participants must be reported to Maritime Safety Queensland and the TYC office as soon as possible after that incident has occurred. A completed incident form is to be submitted to the TYC office as soon as practicable after the Incident.

The **INCIDENT REPORT** can be downloaded from the MSQ website - [Marine Incident Report](#). A hardcopy can be obtained from the Townsville Yacht Club office.

PERSONAL INCIDENT OR ACCIDENT

In the event that a participant is involved in an incident or accident that requires first aid and/or professional medical assistance the [Townsville Yacht Club Competitor Incident Form](#) is to be completed and given to the Townsville Yacht Club office as soon as practicable after the event.