



NEWCASTLE CRUISING
YACHT CLUB



LAKE MACQUARIE
YACHT CLUB

COMBINED OCEAN POINTSCORE 2024 – 2025

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC), as the Organising Authority (OA), invites entries from owners and charterers of suitable yachts to race in the Combined Ocean Pointscore.

To participate in the Combined Ocean Pointscore, competitors must enter via the NCYC Ocean Pointscore entry.

The Combined Ocean Pointscore results will be based on a selection of races from the NCYC Ocean Pointscore Series as detailed in this document.

Australian Sailing Special Regulations Category 4 will apply.

Event Website –

<https://www.ncyc.net.au/offshore-racing/ocean-pointscore/>

NOTICE of RACE



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COMBINED OCEAN POINTSCORE 2024-2025
(NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB & LAKE MACQUARIE YACHT CLUB)

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), and the Special Regulations of Australian Sailing (AS).
- 1.2 Yachts sailing in IRC Division(s) shall comply with the current IRC Rules Parts A, B and C.
- 1.3 Boats not racing in IRC shall request permission from the Race Committee to use movable and/ or variable ballast for the purpose of increasing stability. Any such request must be accompanied by full details of the system involved, and any such system will be considered in establishing the yacht's handicap. Stored power may be used for the operation of moveable ballast systems. RRS 51 and 52 are modified to the extent of this paragraph.

2 RACE CONDITIONS

- 2.1 Newcastle Harbour is a very busy commercial port. A motor may be used by a yacht when racing to keep out of the way of commercial shipping (i.e. move out of the channel when a commercial vessel or a ship is approaching). RRS 42.3(i) allows propulsion using an engine, provided the boat does not gain significant advantage in the race.
- 2.2 All competitors will have engines running when within the Harbour and when within 500m to seaward of the entrance during departure and arrival. A boat that cannot manoeuvre safely, and is in danger of hindering any commercial shipping, shall only use her engine FOR PROPULSION to clear such shipping. This changes RRS 42. Competitors are reminded that a restricted navigation zone exists on approach to and within Newcastle Harbour (refer to Chart AUS207)
- 2.3 If when racing, a competitor receives a "5 horn blast" from commercial shipping (meaning "I am in doubt about your action taken to avoid a collision"), the offending boat may be disqualified from that race without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 and Appendix A5.
- 2.4 The following diagram illustrates the distances that vessels must keep clear of commercial shipping.



3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 Yachts having entered the Ocean Pointscore series of NCYC will be considered automatic entrants in the Combined Ocean Pointscore. No additional entry is required from these yachts.
- 3.2 Yachts shall comply with the current Australian Sailing Special Regulations Category 4 or NCYC Category 7 PLUS.

4 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 4.1 *The following is a selection of NCYC Ocean Pointscore races that have been chosen to be scored for the Combined Ocean Pointscore.*

Race	Date	Start Time	Event Description	Start Location	Finish Location
1	9 November 2024	10:00am	Newcastle Port Stephens	Newcastle	Port Stephens
2	10 November 2024	10:00am	Port Stephens Newcastle	Port Stephens	Newcastle
3	1 March 2025	12:00noon	Friendship Cup	Newcastle	Newcastle
4	2 March 2025	10:00am	Bird Island Race	Newcastle	<i>Finish gate at Moon Islet for COP.</i>
5	30 March 2025	10:00am	Newcastle to Port Stephens	Newcastle	Point Stephens Lighthouse

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 5.1 Notices to competitors and changes to sailing instructions will be posted on the online noticeboard accessed via the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club Ocean Pointscore webpage:
<https://www.ncyc.net.au/offshore-racing/ocean-pointscore/>

6 COURSES AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 6.1 The Sailing Instructions, including courses to be sailed and specific instructions for each race are detailed in the NCYC Ocean Pointscore Sailing Instructions.

7 TIME LIMITS

- 7.1 The race time limit expires at 2359hrs.
- 7.2 Boats still racing when the race time limit expires will be scored points equal to the number of boats finishing within the time limit plus 30% of the number of starters rounded to the nearest whole number, but no more points than the number of starters. Such boats will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). This changes RRS 35, A4.2 and A5.

8 DIVISIONS & HANDICAPS

- 8.1 All boats will sail in one division, except that two handed boats will sail in a separate two handed division.
- 8.2 Races will be scored on PHS and IRC
- 8.3 The PHS starting handicaps will be determined by the NCYC handicappers.

9 RACE REQUIREMENTS – CREW LISTS AND FINISH DECLARATIONS

- 9.1 To be eligible to start a race, a boat shall:
- 9.1.1 *Submit an accurate crew list in SailSys prior to starting each race; and*
 - 9.1.2 *On arrival in the vicinity of the Start Line, advise the RCV of the number of persons onboard, via VHF Channel 77.*
- 9.2 As soon as practical after finishing, retiring, and/or arriving safely in port, boats shall lodge a finish declaration noting their Actual Finish Time by using the online Finish Declaration.

Scan the QR code to submit finish declaration:



10 RACE REQUIREMENTS – POSITION REPORTING

- 10.1 All boats shall provide mandatory position reports while racing at 1200hrs, 1500hrs, 1800hrs, and every 3hrs until safely finished and/or in port.
- 10.2 Position Reports shall be submitted online via the event webpage – <https://www.ncyc.net.au/offshore-racing/ocean-pointscore/>
- 10.4 Failure to comply with SI 10.1 without reasonable cause may result in the imposition of a penalty as per below at the discretion of the race committee having regard to the circumstances. This changes RRS 60.2 –

Failure to comply	Penalty Imposed
First position report missed	20 minutes added to elapsed time
Each subsequent position report missed	40 minutes added to elapsed time

11 SCORING

- 11.1 The Scoring System will be the Low Points System, RRS Appendix A5.3.
- 11.2 The minimum number of races to constitute a series shall be 1.
- 11.3 A boat's series score is the total of her race scores. No drops will apply. This changes RRS Appendix A.

12 PROTESTS, ARBITRATION AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 12.1 Protest forms are available at the Sailing Office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 12.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today – whichever is later.
- 12.3 Notices will be posted no later than 60 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses and where hearings will be held.
- 12.4 An arbitration hearing may be called as per RRS Appendix T.

13 PRIZES

- 13.1 Series Prizes will be awarded for 1st place overall in each division.

- 13.2 Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the OA.
- 13.3 The Friendship Cup will be awarded to club with the best results in the Friendship Cup race by combining the results of the top 3 boats from each club in PHS division.

14 RISK STATEMENT

- 14.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. ***Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.***

FURTHER INFORMATION

Racing Enquiries –

Jack Buchan

Email: sailing@ncyc.net.au

Mobile: 0418 257 828

Newcastle Berthing Enquiries –

NCYC Dockmaster

Email: dockmaster@ncyc.net.au

Mobile: 0408 299 512

Visiting yachts participating in the Combined Ocean Pointscore are provided a complimentary berth for the following periods for each race –

- *One night, the night before the scheduled COP race; and*
- *One night, the night of the scheduled COP race.*

The intention is to enable boats to arrive the afternoon before a race and to depart the morning after a race. Additional stay in NCYC marina is available at normal rates (rates available on NCYC website).