



Woollahra Sailing Club

Australia's Premier Dinghy Sailing Club

Sailing Instructions

**Spring Summer Series
and Club Championship
- Optimist Class**

**6 September 2026 – 4 April 2027
Version 6**

Organising Authority

The organising authority for the series is Woollahra Sailing Club, Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay.

1. Rules

- 1.1. Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028, except as changed in these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. The Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 2 (Off the Beach Boats) and prescriptions shall apply.
- 1.3. The Boating Handbook (Safety Equipment), Roads and Maritime NSW shall apply.
- 1.4. Racing Rule 26 is modified to provide a three-minute starting sequence as detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

2. Notice to Competitors

- 2.1. SailSys is the official notice board for the series. Notices to competitors will be posted there not later than one hour before the first warning signal of the day and may also be posted on the notice board in the WSC clubhouse foyer.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1. Any change to these sailing instructions will be posted using SailSys not later than one hour before the first warning signal of the day and may also be posted on the notice board in the WSC clubhouse foyer. Flag L displayed on the club mast with one sound signals that a change has been posted.

4. Signals Made Ashore

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag mast, which is on the grounds of the club approximately 20 metres in front of the office tower.
- 4.2. Flag AP displayed ashore with two sounds means racing is postponed. When AP is lowered with one sound, the warning signal will be made not less than 30 minutes later. This changes Race Signal AP.
- 4.3. Flag "D" means foul weather exists or is expected shortly. All boats to stay ashore.

5. Signing On and Signing Off Provisions

- 5.1. Each boat shall be entered in the series electronically through SailSys before her first race. On each race day, each competitor shall sign on electronically through SailSys before launching.
- 5.2. Before launching, each competitor shall also sign on using the paper sign-on sheet provided at WSC.
- 5.3. After returning ashore, each competitor shall sign off on the paper sign-off sheet as soon as practicable and no later than 60 minutes after the last boat in her division finishes the final race of the day. If no boat in her division finishes, the deadline is 60 minutes after the race committee signals no more racing for that division.
- 5.4. A boat entered in the series whose competitor fails to sign on electronically through SailSys before launching, fails to sign the paper sign-on sheet before launching, or fails to sign the paper sign-off sheet by the deadline in SI 5.3 shall be scored DNC in each race scored for her division that day, without a protest or hearing.**

For this instruction, DNC also includes a boat that came to the starting area, started or finished but failed any of these sign-on or sign-off requirements. The race committee shall assign the DNC score, with points equal to one more than the number of boats entered in her division for the series. Other boats shall move up one finishing place for each boat ahead of them scored DNC under this instruction. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2, A6.1 and A10.

- 5.5. A boat which has been granted approval to carry a sail number other than specified on its entry form, shall note both its 'entered' number and the number that it is sailing with on the paper sign-on sheet.

6. Schedule of Races

- 6.1. The Optimist Notice of Race states the WSC race schedule and point score status. WSC Optimist racing on 6, 13, 20 and 27 September 2026 is Non Point Score. The events identified there as non-WSC, and the separate WSC-hosted Opti Traveller's Trophy on 8 November, do not form part of the WSC Spring Series, Summer Series or Club Championship; their results do not count towards those series. Approved average points for WSC races missed at an away event are governed by NOR 11.6–11.7.

6.2. A maximum of three races is scheduled for the Optimist fleet on each Sunday of racing.

6.3. A minimum of four races shall be scored to constitute each of the Spring Series, Summer Series and Club Championship.

6.4. In each point score series, the number of excluded race scores is as stated in the Notice of Race.

7. Daily Schedule, Warning Signals and Flights

7.1. The briefing for Optimist Open and Intermediate is at 12:00 pm.

7.2. The first warning signal on each day of racing will be as below:

Sunday - Optimist Open and Intermediate - not before 1:00 pm

7.3. For Sunday sailing, the following classes will start in the Flight allocated to them below and their warning signal will be the corresponding Optimist flag.

7.4. Flight 1

Open & Intermediate

8. Racing Area

8.1. The racing area will be on the waters of Rose Bay, Sydney Harbour as per attachment 2.

9. The Course

9.1. The courses to be sailed, including the course designations, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side to which each mark is to be left are shown in Attachments One and Two.

9.2. The course designation shall be indicated by an alphanumerical designator (for example L2) on the stern of the Start Vessel, and this may be changed for different Flight starts as applicable.

10. Marks

10.1. The Start Vessel will show the Woollahra SC flag.

10.2. Marks 1 Yellow Inflatable buoy.

10.3. Marks 4 / 4s Red / Yellow inflatable buoy.

10.4. Marks 2, 3 Orange teardrop.

10.5 The start mark will be a white buoy.

10.6 The finish mark will be a blue buoy.

11. The Start

11.1. The warning signal FLAG for:

11.2. Optimist Open's Flag will be white with the Optimist symbol

11.3. Intermediate's Flag will be blue with the Optimist symbol

11.4. Races will be started by a three-minute sequence. The warning signal will be displayed three minutes before the start; the preparatory signal two minutes before; the preparatory signal removed one minute before; and the warning signal removed at the start. Times will be taken from the visual signals. This changes RRS 26.

11.5. The Start Vessel shall leave at least one minute between the starting signal of one flight and the warning signal for the next flight.

The Starting Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Start Vessel at the starboard end and the white start mark at the port end.

Boats not racing and whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.

The Start Vessel may hold position by using its engines.

11.6. A boat starting more than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1.

12. Finish

12.1. The Finishing Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Start Vessel and the blue finish mark.

13. Time Limit

13.1. If no boat passes Mark 1 within 10 minutes, the race will be abandoned. The race time limit for the first boat to sail the course is 30 minutes.

13.2. Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat in their division sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

14. Protests

- 14.1. Protests shall be delivered in writing to the WSC race office within 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. This changes RRS 60.3(b).
- 14.2. Hearings will be held at the WSC clubhouse as soon as practicable, which may be the following Sunday. The time and place of each hearing will be posted on the official notice board.

15. Advertising

- 15.1. Advertising is permitted in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20.
-

16. Prizes

- 16.1. Prizes will be awarded as determined by Woollahra Sailing Club.

17. Port Regulations

- 17.1. All boats must abide by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea as modified by Schedule 4 of the NSW Marine Safety Regulation 2016. Any infringement may render an offending boat subject to disqualification.
- 17.2. Boats shall keep at least 200 m clear ahead of, and 30 m clear from the sides or stern of, any ferry displaying the orange diamond. This is consistent with the commercial-shipping provision in the Notice of Race.

18. Support Boats

- 18.1. Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay at least 100 metres outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first division to start until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
- 18.2. Support boats shall not signal to competitors by any means during a race.
- 18.3. A breach of Instruction 18.1 or 18.2 will result in each boat associated with that support or coach boat being penalised five points in each race of that session without a hearing. The race

committee shall add the points to the associated boat's score and post the reason on the official notice board. For this instruction only, RRS 62.4 is changed to permit a penalty to an associated boat without a support-person hearing or a finding of competitive advantage, and RRS A5.1 is changed to permit the race committee to apply this five-point penalty without a hearing.

18.4 Support boats are required to render assistance if requested to do so by the race committee or a competitor, as instructed via VHF radio CH 77. Support vessels are required to carry a VHF Radio.

18.5 When the wind is less than 10 kts support vessels shall not exceed 5 kts within 200m of the area where boats are racing. Additionally coach and support boats shall not exceed 5 kts and shall not create wake at any time when they are within 100m of the starting area.

18.6. Before racing in a session, each support or coach boat shall identify to WSC the sailors with whom it is associated. A boat may request correction of a scoring error under RRS 90.3(c).

19. Risk and Responsibility

19.1. All those taking part in Club racing do so at their own risk and responsibility. Woollahra Sailing Club Limited is not responsible for any damage or injury ashore or on the water, nor for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted, nor for the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. The Club reserves the right to refuse an entry.

19.2. Attention is drawn to RRS 3: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

20. Event Disclaimer

20.1. It is the competitor's decision to enter an event or to start and continue in any race. Competitors shall accept that sailing involves inherent risks and that their participation in an event is at their exclusive risk in every respect. By way of entry in an event, competitors waive any liability for, and further and/or in the alternative indemnify Woollahra Sailing Club Limited, its officers, members, servants, employees and agents, whether paid or unpaid in respect of all claims, suits, demands, actions for damages or claims for compensation or other claims as may seem open to them

for any personal injury, including defamation, or property damage arising from, in connection with, or howsoever arising from their intended participation in or actual participation in any event either organised by Woollahra Sailing Club Limited or in which Woollahra Sailing Club Limited has any interest as an organiser, facilitator, adviser, or provider of facilities. In accordance with clause 25 of the relevant Aquatic Licences competitors are advised that the organiser's insurances do not cover competitors for injury or loss sustained as a result of participating in this event.

21. Insurance

21.1. All boats competing in the series shall have, for the duration of the series, current third party insurance cover of not less than AUS\$10,000,000 or equivalent in any other currency.

22. Rights to use Name and Likeness

22.1. By participating in an event, a competitor automatically grants to Woollahra Sailing Club Limited the right in perpetuity to make, use and show from time to time and at its discretion, any motion still or live pictures, taped or film television and other reproductions of him or her during the period of the event in which the competitor participates and, in all material, related to the event without compensation in cash or in kind.

23. Yachts Competing In Other Events

23.1. Applications and average-points calculations for a boat competing in an approved away event are governed by the scoring provisions in the Optimist Notice of Race.

Contact

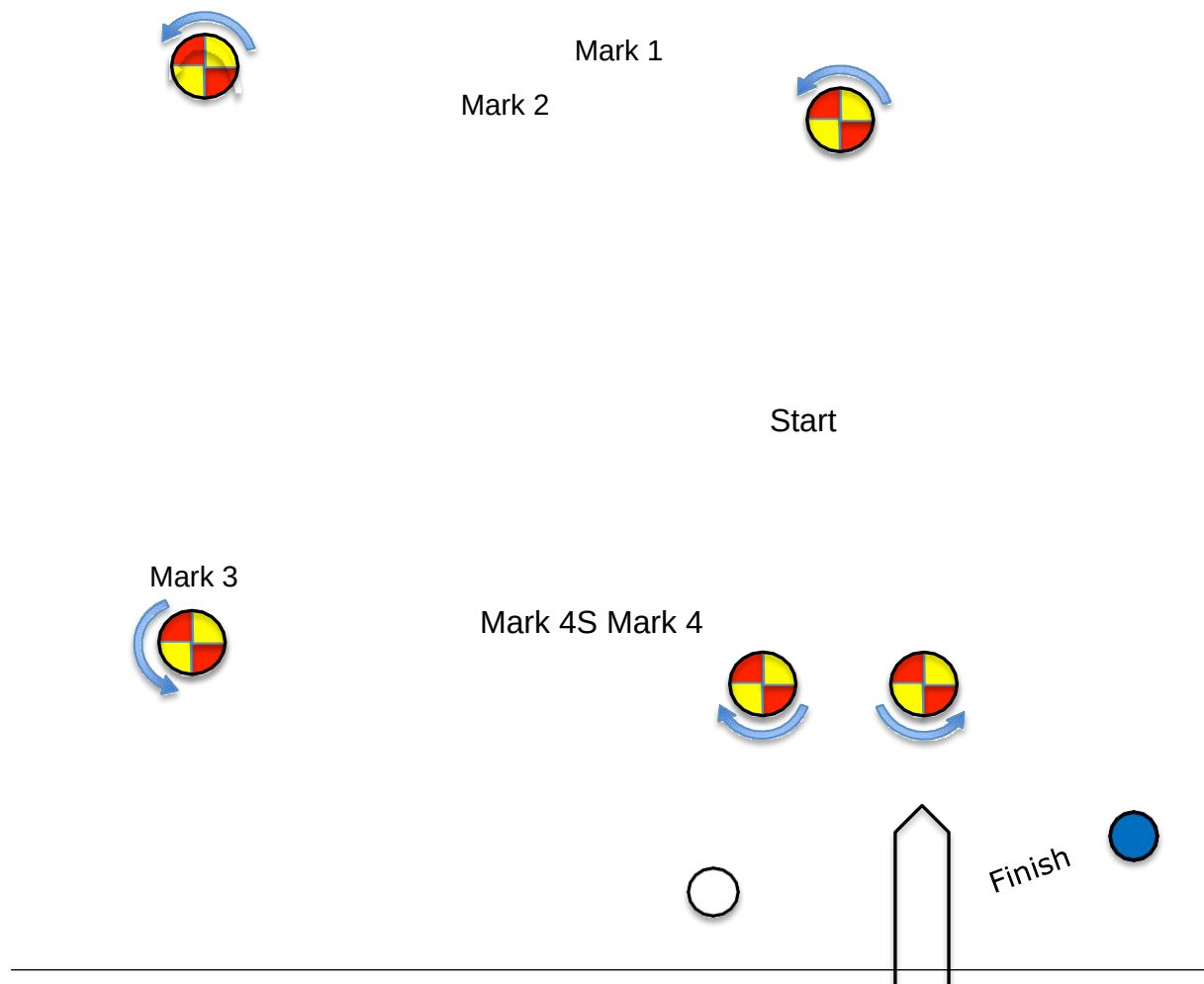
Woollahra Sailing Club
2 Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay. 2029

Phone: 9371 9805
sail@woollahrasailingclub.org.au

Attachment 1 - Course Description for Optimist Fleet

All mark rounding's to Port, except 4S which is to Starboard and forms a gate with 4.

Designation	Description	Order of Mark Rounding
L1	Windward/Leeward	S – 1 – 4/4S – F
L2	Windward/Leeward	S – 1 – 4/4S – 1 – 4/4S – F
L3	Windward/Leeward	S – 1 – 4/4S – 1 – 4/4S – 1 – 4/4S – F
O1	Trapezoid	S – 1 – 2 – 3 – 2 – 3 - F
O2	Trapezoid	S – 1 – 2 - 3 – 2 -3 – 2 – 3 - F
I1	Trapezoid	S – 1 – 4/4s – 1 -2 – 3 - F
I2	Trapezoid	S -1 -4/4s -1 -4/4s -1 -2 -3 - F



Attachment 2 – Course Areas

