



Woollahra Sailing Club

Australia's Premier Dinghy Sailing Club

Sailing Instructions

Optimist Winter Series 2026

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 by the current Racing Rules of Sailing, unless otherwise specified in these 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.
- 1.5. WSC official vessels and coaches reserve the right to umpire and penalise rules of the Part 2, rule 31 and 42 of the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

2. Notice to Competitors

- 2.1. Notice to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the foyer of the WSC clubhouse no later than one hour before the commencement of racing.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official noticeboard not later than one hour before the commencement of racing. Flag "L" displayed on the Club mast together with a single sound signal indicates a change has been placed on the notice board.

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" with two sound signals means the race is postponed. Lowering of the "AP" with one sound signal means that the warning signal will be made in not less than 30 minutes.
- 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. All boats intending to race must sign on prior to launching. A boat failing to sign on will be scored, without a hearing, DNC for the first race of that day. This amends Racing Rules 63.1 and A5.
- 5.2. All boats returning to shore must sign off as soon as practicable, but no later than one hour after completion of the final race of the day. A boat failing to sign off will be scored, without a hearing, DNC for the last race of the day. This amends Racing Rules 63.1 and A5.
- 5.3. 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 sign-on sheet.

6. Schedule of Races

- 6.1. Point score racing shall be conducted as per the Notice of Race.
- 6.2. A maximum of three races are scheduled for each race day
- 6.3. A minimum of four (4) race days are required to constitute a series.
- 6.4. One race result may be discarded for each 5 completed races in each series.

7. Daily Schedule, Warning Signals and Flights

- 7.1. Briefing 9am Open & Intermediate. 9:30pm Green Fleet, Green Adventure
- 7.2. The first warning signal on each day of racing will be as below:

Sunday----- Open / Intermediate Fleet ---- 10:00am

- 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. The starting sequence will be three minutes, and this changes Racing Rule 26.

Warning signal at 3 minutes:

Preparatory signal at 2 minutes,

Removal of preparatory flag at 1 minute,

Removal of warning flag at start,

The start vessel shall not leave less than one minute between the start signal of one Flight before the beginning sequence (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 engines. Any effects will not be grounds for granting redress. This alters Racing Rules 60.1(b) and 62.

- 11.6. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her Starting Signal will be scored DNS. This changes Racing Rules 35, A4 and A5.

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. The time limit for completion of a Race will be 10 minutes for the first boat to reach the first mark or 30 mins for the first boat to sail the course.
- 13.2. Any boat finishing more than 10 minutes after the first boat in her division will be scored a DNF.

14. Protests

- 14.1. Protests shall be lodged in writing at the WSC office, on the form available from the office, within 60 minutes of the finishing time of the last boat to finish in the last race of the day.
- 14.2. In the event of a protest, the protest committee reserves the right to mediate with both parties to reach a binding decision.
- 14.3. Protests will be heard at the WSC clubhouse as soon as practicable and approximately in order of receipt (this may be the following Sunday). The time and date of a 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. All boats must keep clear of ferries operating to a scheduled timetable by 200m ahead and 50m to the side.

18. Support Boats

- 18.1. Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay at least 75 metres outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first division to start until all boats have

Sailing Instructions - Optimist Winter Series 2026

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. Breaches of Instructions 18.1 and 18.2 will result in each sailor associated with that support or coach boat being penalised 5 points in each race of that session without a hearing. This amends the Introductory Rules of Sailing.
- 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.

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 the Fundamental Rules, and in particular Rule 4, which states, "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. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000 per event.

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. Upon written application to the Organising Authority (WSC), a boat which starts in its State, National or World Championship or other sanctioned event deemed significant by the Organising Authority may receive points for any races thereby missed, equal to the boat's average points.
- 23.2 The number of races eligible will be determined by the Sailing Committee. Average points will be based on points in all races in the series, including discards, except the race or races in question. Requests for competing in other regattas may be reviewed at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

Sailing Instructions - Optimist Winter Series 2026

Contact

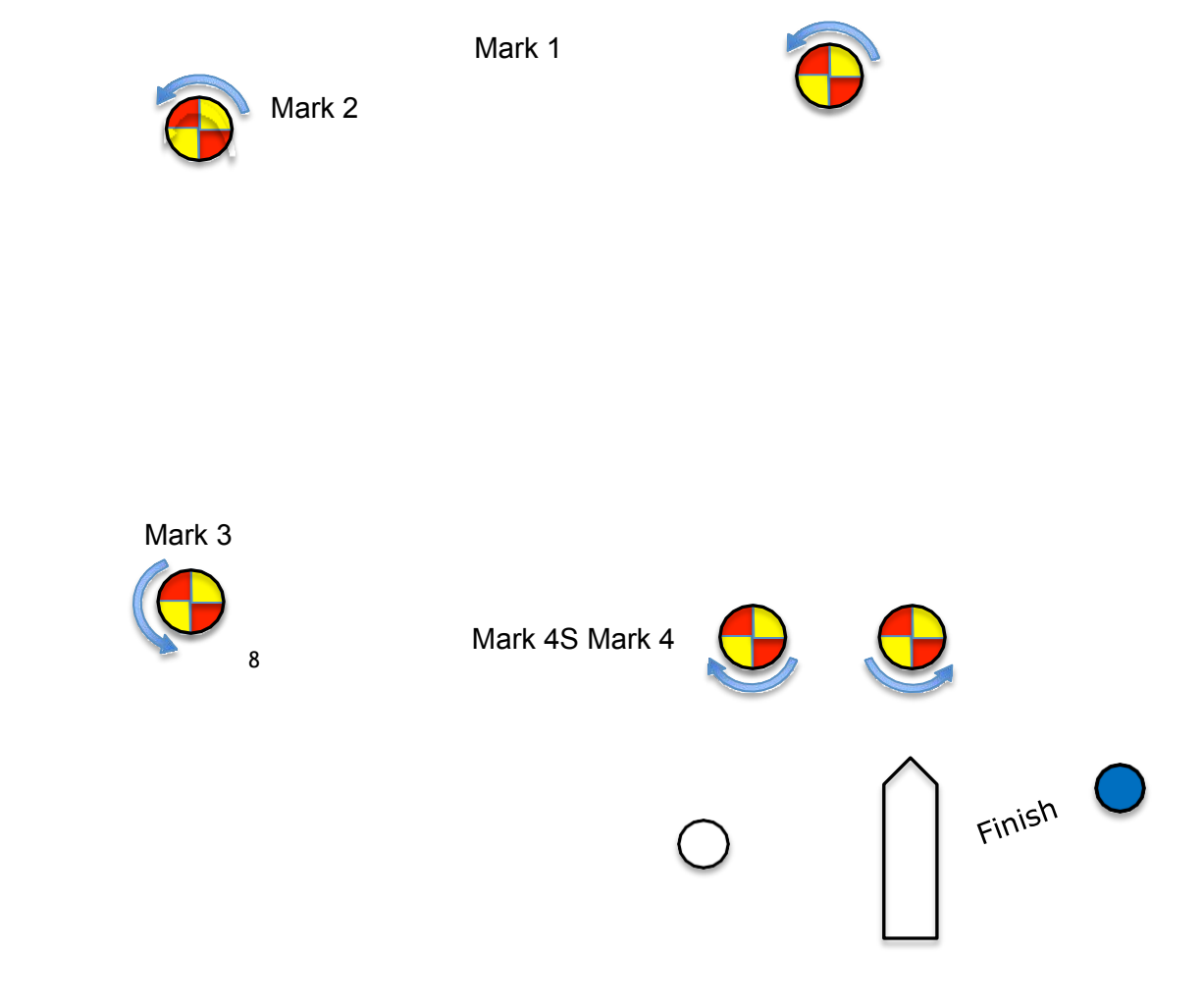
Woollahra Sailing Club
2 Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay. 2029

Phone: 9371 9805
sail@woollahrasailingclub.org.au

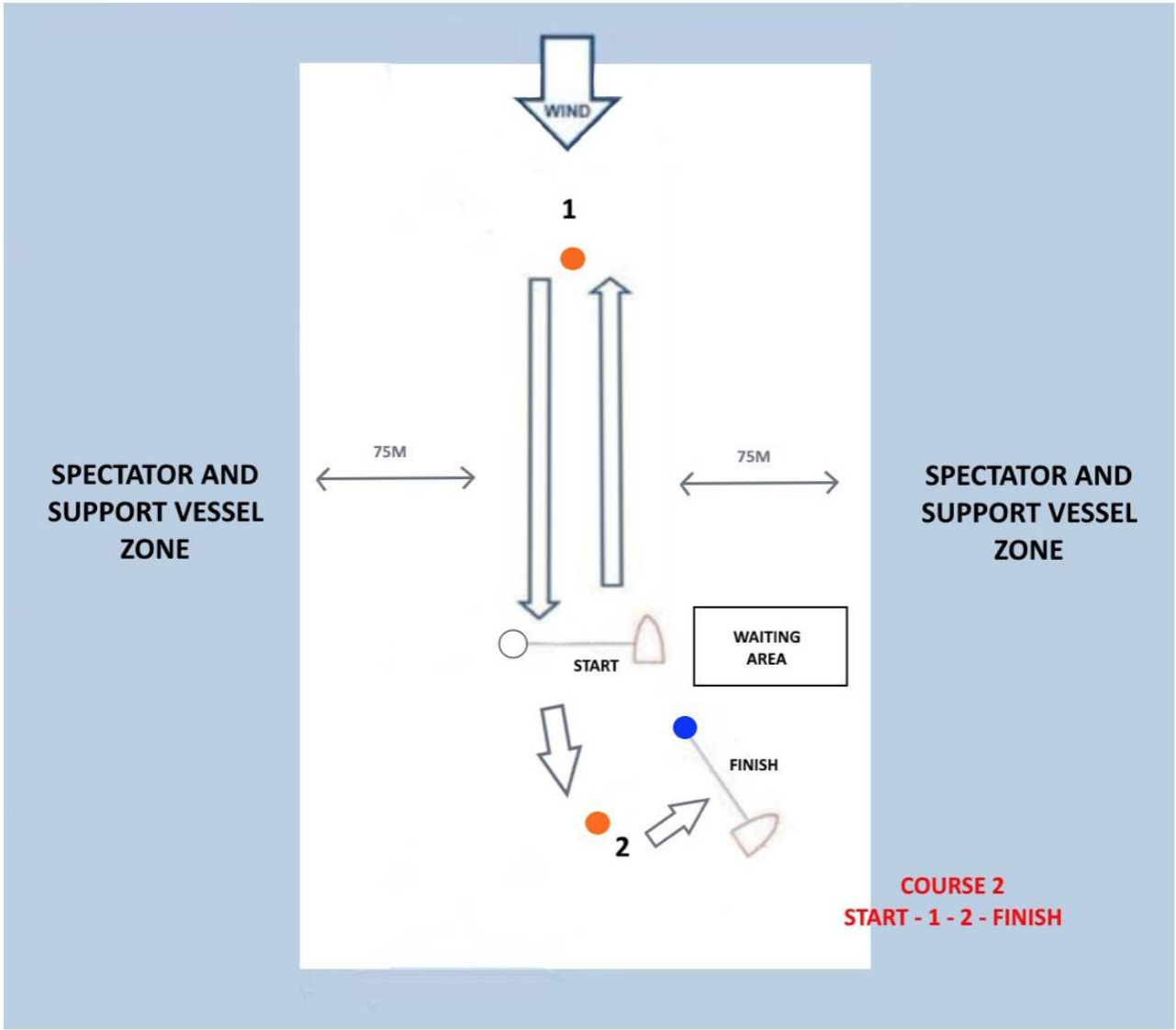
Attachment 1- Course Description for General Fleet

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



Windward Leeward Course for SI



Caption

Attachment 2 - Course Areas

