



Wollahra Sailing Club

Australia's Premier Dinghy Sailing Club

Notice of Race Winter Series Optimist Class

17th May – 30th Aug 2026

"Wollahra Sailing Club acknowledges that we are on the land of the Birrabirragal people, the traditional custodians of the land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging"

Organising Authority

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

1. Rules

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 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. Advertising

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

3. Eligibility and Entry

- 3.1. The series is open to all members of Woollahra Sailing Club and visiting members of other clubs affiliated to Australian Sailing.
- 3.2. Competitors must enter electronically on the [Series Website](#) prior to the first race they intend to sail in the series.
- 3.3. Competitors failing to complete online entry will not be scored.

4. Classes to be Sailed

- Optimist Open
- Optimist Intermediate

5. Fees

- 5.1. There is no entry fee for current financial members of Woollahra Sailing Club.
- 5.2. Members of other clubs may enter by paying a casual race fee of \$25/boat for each day of racing they attend, or purchasing a ticket for the entire series at a discount

6. Schedule of races

2026

Sun	17-May	Winter Series
Sun	31-May	Winter Series
Sun	14-Jun	Winter Series
Sun	21-Jun	Winter Series
Sun	28-Jun	Reserve Day
Sun	19-Jul	Winter Series
Sun	26-Jul	Winter Series
Sun	2-Aug	Reserve Day

Sun	9-Aug	Winter Series
Sun	16-Aug	Reserve Day
Sun	23-Aug	NSW Optimist Association Teams Racing Event at HHSC
Sun	30-Aug	Winter Series

- 6.1. There will be a maximum of three scheduled races on Sundays.
- 6.2. The first warning signal on each day of racing will be as below:

Sunday ----- Optimist Fleet -----Not before 10.0am

7. Measurements

- 7.1. It is the responsibility of the boats skipper to ensure that each boat complies with its relevant class measurement rules.

8. Sailing Instructions

- 8.1. The series will operate an electronic notice board. The [Official Notice Board](#) is located on the Woollahra Sailing Club website. All event documents will be available on the electronic [Official Notice Board](#)
- 8.2. Amendments and Notices may also be posted on the notice board located in the Woollahra Sailing Club foyer.

9. Racing Area

- 9.1. The racing area shall be on the waters of Sydney Harbour, east of Fort Dennison and south of the Sow and Pigs reef.

10. Courses

- 10.1. The courses shall be described in the sailing instructions and may be windward/leeward, triangular or trapezoid.

11. Scoring

- 11.1. A minimum of three starters are required to constitute a race.
- 11.2. Where there are three starters in a division for the first race of the day all subsequent races shall be deemed to have three starters.
- 11.3. For the Winter series boats are to be scored using the low point scoring system. A progressive handicap system may also be included, initial handicap will be determined by the Sailing Committee and then maintained by Race Management throughout the series.
- 11.4. A boat shall discard its worst race after 5 races and worst race every 5 races are sailed in the series.
- 11.5. 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

- 11.6. 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

12. Yachts Competing in other Events

- 12.1. 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.
- 12.2. 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.

13. Prizes

- 13.1. Prizes will be awarded for each division for the Winter Series.

14. Safety

- 14.1. Commercial Shipping:
- a) Boats shall not pass between the bow of any Seagoing Ship and a dedicated Port Authority escort vessel whilst on escort duty and within 500 m from the bow and 30 m from the side or stern of the Seagoing Ship.
 - b) Boats shall maintain a minimum distance of 200 m from the bow, and 30 m from the sides or stern of any ferry displaying the Orange Diamond.
 - c) Competitors are reminded that boats racing are not in any way excused from compliance with IRPCAS and NSW Maritime Safety Regulations with respect to vessels not racing and compliance with directions of Port Authorities or officers of NSW Maritime.

15. Risk Statement and Risk Warning

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 Series each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. 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 an 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.

This Risk Warning is issued jointly by Woollahra Sailing Club and RMS (NSW Maritime), pursuant to the Civil Liability Act 2002 to all persons wishing to participate in the sailing activities conducted by Woollahra Sailing Club.

Participants are warned that, regardless of the precautions, which might be taken by reasonable and experienced persons, sailing can be a dangerous pursuit and participants are exposed to a significant risk of property damage, physical harm and possibly death.

As an indication, these risks may include, but are not limited to:

- a) The extremes of weather and sea conditions.
- b) The potential that control of vessels may be lost, resulting in a collision with objects and other vessels.
- c) The sudden movement of the vessel at any time and the possibility that participants may fall or be thrown overboard, resulting in drowning.
- d) The possibility that participants may be injured by equipment on the vessel.
- e) The absence of immediate medical care and the likelihood that significant delays may occur before medical care is available.
- f) Exposure to the elements for extended periods.

Woollahra Sailing Club and RMS (NSW Maritime) also warn participants that regardless of their best intentions, they may be unable to render assistance to participants who are in distress. Participants are warned to consider the above risks and all other risks before deciding to participate in any sailing event in the Series.

16. Insurance

- 16.1. All boats competing in the series shall have current for the duration of the series third party insurance cover of not less than AUS\$5,000,000 (recommended AUS\$10,000,000) or equivalent in any other currency.
- 16.2. Competitors may be required to provide details and evidence that they have such insurance in place at the time of entry.

17. Rights to use Name and Likeness

- 17.1. 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.

Further Information

Woollahra Sailing Club 2
Vickery Avenue Rose
Bay, NSW 2029 Ph: 02
9371 9805

www.woollahrasailingclub.org.au

Attachment A – Racing Area

