MPASC
Big Catamaran Regatta

5th and 6th December 2026

The MPASC Big Catamaran Regatta 2026 will be conducted on the waters of Southern Lake Macquarie on the 5th and 6th December 2026. Owners of eligible boats are invited to enter the regatta on the conditions of this Notice of Race. The races are organised and conducted by the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club.

Sailing Instructions

1. **ORGANISATION**

1.1. The Organising Authority is the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club Inc.

1.2. The Conducting Authority is the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club Inc.

2. **RULES**

2.1. The regatta shall be governed by the following;

2.1.1 2025/2028 Racing Rules of Sailing,

2.1.2 The Prescriptions and Special regulations of Yachting Australia

2.1.3 The rules of relevant Class Associations (for competing classes) except as amended by the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, and,

2.1.4 These Sailing Instructions as amended from time to time,

2.1.5 Attention is drawn to Fundamental RRS3 – Decision to Race,

2.1.6 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board located on the eastern wall in the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING

4.1. Changes to Sailing Instructions shall be in writing and will be posted before 9am on the day it will take effect.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag pole at the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club

5.2. When 'AP' is displayed ashore, 1 minute is replaced with not less than 30 minutes.

5.3. Code flag 'L' with one sound signal means "A notice to competitors has been posted on the official notice board."

6. DIVISIONS FLAGS

6.1. Division 1 – Flag will be numeral pennant one (1)

6.2. Division 2 – Flag will be numeral pennant two (2)

6.3. Subsequent Division Flag/s (if required) will be advised at the competitors briefing and posted on the official notice board.

7. RACING AREAS

7.1. The location of the racing area/s will be held within the vicinity of the southern end of Lake Macquarie and given at the competitors briefing.

8. COURSES

8.1. Addendum "A" shows the courses and the order in which marks are to be passed.

8.2. The course to be sailed – Course "2" or "3" will be displayed on a board located on the Race Committee Start Boat

8.3. Courses will be;

8.3.1 Windward/Leeward courses for all Divisions

8.3.2 Subsequent Divisions (if required) will be allocated courses as advised at the competitors briefing and posted on the official notice board.

9. MARKS

9.1. Marks 1,1a, 2p and 2s, will be large yellow cone inflatable buoys

9.2. The Start/Finish Mark will be a large orange cone inflatable buoy

10. OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1. Areas designated dangerous to navigation by NSW Maritime Authority and marked with navigational hazard marks (e.g. Cardinal Marks) are to be treated as obstructions.

10.2. Boats that breach 10.1 will be recorded as DSQ

11. THE START

11.1. A distance mark may be laid behind the Race Committee Start Boat. This mark is deemed to be part of the Race Committee Start Boat.

11.2. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.

11.3. A boat starting later the three (3) minutes after her starting signal well be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes rule A4

11.4. Where a subsequent race is back-to-back, the warning signal for the first division of the next race will be made as soon as practicable after all boats from that division have completed the course or the time limits have expired. To alert boats that the next race in the sequence is about to commence, the “AP” flag may be displayed. The “AP” flag will be removed with one (1) sound signal followed one minute later by the raising of the starting division/s warning signal.

11.5. The starting line will be between an Orange Flag flown from the Race Committee Start Boat at the starboard end and a large orange cone inflatable buoy at the port end.

11.6. The Start Sequence shall be 3 minutes, this changes rule RRS 26.

12. RECALLS

12.1. Recalls shall be in accordance with RRS 29

12.2. When a general recall has been signaled, the recalled Division’s starting sequence will commence as soon as possible after the recall. The warning signal for a new start for the recalled division shall be made one minute after the lowering of the “First Substitute” (and one sound signal) and the starts for any succeeding divisions shall follow the recalled divisions start.

13. THE FINISH

13.1. The finishing line will be between the Race Committee Start/Finish Boat displaying a Blue Flag and a large orange cone inflatable buoy

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1. Rules 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only one complete turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.

15. TIME LIMITS

15.1. Time limits for the first boat in all races on courses shall be 60 minutes from the commencement of the start of each division

15.2. All boats are to complete the course no later than 20 minutes after the first boat in their respective division finishes.

15.3. All boats finishing outside the time limit will be recorded as Did Not Finish (DNF)

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

16.1. Protests will be in accordance with RRS 61 except the time limit for lodgment is 90 minutes after the last boat's finishing time in the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to protests by the race/protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2

16.2. No boat regardless of her length need to display a protest flag.

16.3. Protest forms will be available from the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club

16.4. Protests shall be lodged at Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club in person.

16.5. Protest hearing notice/s shall be posted on the official notice board approximately 30 minutes after the expiry of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties or named witnesses. It is a party's responsibility to ensure his/her witness/es attends the hearing.

16.6. The posting of such notices shall be notification to the parties in accordance with RRS 63.2

16.7. Notices of protest by the race/protest committee will be posted on the official notice board to inform the boats under rule 61.1(b)

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

17.1. Use the Sign-on, Sign-off sheets provided at the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club.

17.2. A crewman from each boat will be required to complete the sign on procedure, on the sheet provided, prior to commencing each session of the day.

17.3. At the conclusion of each session and not more than 60 minutes after the last finisher of each division, a member of each boats crew will be required to complete the sign off procedure.

17.4. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

17.5. Boats failing to sign on or sign off as above will be scored as DSQ.

17.6. All competitors are to assume that code flag Y has been displayed throughout the regatta.

17.7. Wind strength and conditions;

17.7.1 The Race Officer shall be the sole arbiter of wind strength and conditions he/she shall have the absolute discretion as to whether to shorten or abandon a race or racing.

18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

18.1. Substitution of skipper/crew, damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved by the Organising Authority. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Organising Authority at the first reasonable opportunity in writing.

19. EQUIPMENT AND MESUREMENT CHECKS

19.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the

class rules and sailing instructions. Written proof of compliance may be requested by the Organising Authority.

20. SUPPORT BOATS

20.1. No competitor support boat shall be allowed on the course after the warning signal.

20.2. The penalty for an infringement of Sailing Instruction 20.1 shall be the disqualification of any boat associated with the support personnel on the support boat.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

21.1. All those taking part in the MPASC Big Cat Regatta do so at their own risk and responsibility. The Organising Authority, the Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club and any other organisation connected with the event, their officials, volunteers, employees, agents and any sponsors, disclaim any and every responsibility for any loss, damages, injury, death or inconvenience that may occur to persons or things, both ashore and on the water, as a consequence of their participation in any way in the regatta.

21.2. Specific attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3, which states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.

22. SCHEDULE

WHEN	WHAT
SAT 5th 1100	Competitor Briefing
SAT 5th 1300	Race 1 Warning Signal
SAT 5th 1700	No Warning Signal made after
SAT 5th 1830 (or after conclusion of racing)	Dinner at MPASC
SUN 6th 0830	BBQ Breakfast available for purchase
SUN 6th 1000	Warning Signal
SUN 6th 1500	No Warning Signal made after
SUN 6th (as soon as possible after completion of last race)	Presentation

ADDENDUM

"A"

Courses:

Course **2** – Start, 1, 1a, Gate (2p/2s), 1, 1a, Gate (2p/2s), Finish

Course **3** – Start, 1, 1a, Gate (2p/2s), 1, 1a, Gate (2p/2s), 1, 1a, Gate (2p/2s), Finish





