



Metung Yacht Club

Etchells

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**International Etchells Class
2022 Australian Championships
2nd - 6th March, 2022**



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The Metung Yacht Club (MYC), as the Organising Authority, in conjunction with the Metung Etchells Fleet, will conduct the International Etchells 2022 Australian Championship on the waters of Gippsland Lakes.

[DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the Protest Committee.

[NP] denotes that a breach of this rule will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

[SP] denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee without a Hearing.

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS).
- 1.2 The prescriptions of Australian Sailing (AS) will apply.
- 1.3 The rules of the International Etchells Class Association will apply except as modified by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4 Boats must comply with the 2021 AS Special Regulations Part 1 Category7. In accordance with AS Variation dated 12 December 2017, Etchells shall use anchors that are compliant with class rule C.5.1(a) in lieu of Special Regulation Part 1, 405.
- 1.5 The regatta is sanctioned by the International Etchells Class as a Class B event. All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of the International Etchells Class and shall comply with the WS Eligibility Code, Regulation 19.
- 1.6 In accordance with WS Regulation 20.5.1, no advertising shall be displayed pursuant to WS Regulation 20.3.2. The Organising Authority may require all participating boats to display the event sponsor's advertising in accordance with WS Regulation 20.4.1.
- 1.7 If there is a conflict between languages, the English text will take precedence.
- 1.8 If there is a conflict between rules or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing Instructions will prevail. This alters RRS 63.7.
- 1.9 The Protest Committee may impose suitable penalties, other than disqualification, for violations of non-Part 2 rules. This changes RRS 64
- 1.10 Appendix T (Arbitration) will apply.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 hours on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located in the Boating Office (eastern end of Club foyer).
- 3.2 As a courtesy, the Organising Authority will contact each competitor by SMS using the mobile phone number provided at registration. If a competitor does not receive the SMS message this will not be grounds for redress.

4. [DP] CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flag mast located on the lawn area at the front the of the clubhouse.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.

6. [NP][DP] REGISTRATION

- 6.1 Registration formalities as detailed in the Notice of Race are required to be completed by 0930 hours on Thursday 3rd March 2022.
- 6.2 All boats will be issued with bow numbers at registration. Bow numbers are to be attached to the forward part of each side of each boat, with the after part of the bow number to be no more than one metre from the hull datum point as defined in class rule D.2.4 (a) and the top of the bow number to be no more than 20 mm below the gunwale. No numbers may wrap around the stem or the gunwale and the spacing between characters shall be 70 mm.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Day	Event	Time
Wednesday, 2 nd March	Registration and Weigh-In	0800 – 1730 hrs
Wednesday, 2 nd March	Skippers Briefing	1800
Wednesday, 2 nd March	Welcome Function	1830
Thursday 3 rd March	Registration and Weigh-In	0800 – 0930 hrs
Thursday 3 rd March	Race day 1	1st Warning 1200 hrs
Friday 4 th March	Race day 2	1st Warning 1200 hrs
Saturday 5 th March	Race day 3	1st Warning 1200 hrs
Sunday 6 th March	Race day 4	1st Warning 1200 hrs
Sunday 6 th March	Presentation Ceremony	After racing TBA

- 7.1 Up to three races are scheduled each day except for the final day where a maximum of two races are scheduled. The race committee may amend the time of the warning signal for the first race of that particular day. If the race committee decides to sail another race this will be signaled by displaying code flag "L" at the finish boat.
- 7.2 A maximum of nine (9) races will be conducted for the series.
- 7.3 No Warning Signal will be made after 1430hrs on the last scheduled day of racing.
- 7.4 The race committee may amend the time of the warning signal for the first race of a particular day in accordance with SI 3 above.

8. CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be the Etchells Class insignia on a white background.

9. RACING AREA

Racing will take place on the waters of the Gippsland Lakes, in the general vicinity of the Metung Yacht Club. The race area will be generally in the area as shown below, however may also be moved outside this area if the race committee deems necessary.

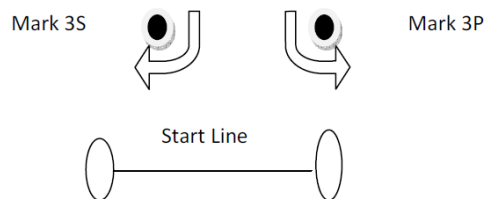
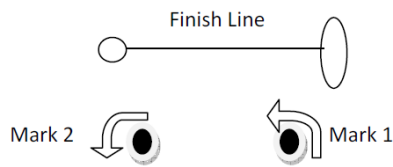


10. THE COURSES

10.1 The diagrams below show the course configuration, including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

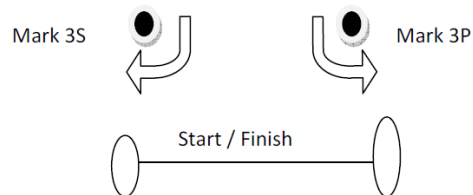
Course 1 – Numeral Pennant 1

Start- 1-2-3(P/S)-1-2-3(P/S)-Finish



Course 2- Numeral Pennant 2

Start-1-2-3(S/P)-1-2-Finish



10.2 The course to be sailed will be designated by displaying Numeral Pennant 1 or 2 from the Race Committee vessel no later than the warning signal.

10.3 The Race Committee vessel may display the approximate compass bearing from the Starting Line to Mark 1.

10.4 A gate may be replaced by a single mark to be left to port.

11. MARKS

Marks are described as follows:

11.1 Marks 1, 2, 3P, 3S and the start and finish marks will be yellow robotic MarkSetBots.

11.2 In the unlikely event that a MarkSetBot, or MarkSetBots fails for what ever reason, that mark, or marks will be replaced with a standard yellow inflatable buoy.

11.3 Routine movement of autonomous marks will not be grounds for redress. This includes minor re-adjustments, marks returning to station after having been pushed away by a competitor and collisions with marks that are not actively marks of the course presuming these collisions do not cause damage. This changes RRS.

11.4 To change the next leg of the course the yellow robotic MarkSetBots will be moved, subject to 11.2 above.

11.5 All navigation marks of the Gippsland Lakes are considered marks of the course and must be passed on the correct side.

12. THE START

12.1 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee vessel (CV) at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.

12.2 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after the starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS 63.1, A5.1 and A5.2.

12.3 The Race Committee will attempt to notify OCS, UFD and BFD boats by bow number or sail number by radio on VHF Channel 72 approximately one minute after the starting signal. Failure of equipment, failure to hear a hail, delay in hailing or the order in which hails are given will not be grounds for redress.

12.4 A Race Committee vessel stationed near Mark 1 may display the bow numbers of boats that have violated RRS 30.3 or RRS 30.4. Boats identified under this instruction shall promptly leave the racecourse and not interfere with boats still racing.

12.5 The race committee may display the sail number and/or bow number of boats that have infringed at the first windward mark.

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course the yellow robotic MarkSetBots will be moved, subject to 11.2 above.

14. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between:

- Course 1 – a Race Committee vessel displaying a blue flag at the starboard end and the course side of a yellow mark at the port end.
- Course 2 – a Race Committee vessel displaying a blue flag at the port end and the course side of a yellow mark at the starboard end.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1 The penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2 shall be a One Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe in the same direction) except that for infringements occurring within the Zone, as defined in the RRS, the penalty shall be a Two Turns Penalty (two tacks and two gybes in the same direction). This changes RRS 44.1 and 44.2.
- 15.2 [NP] [DP] A boat that has taken a penalty or retired under RRS 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the Regatta Office within the protest time limit.

16. TIME LIMITS

- 16.1 The time limit for each race will be 90 minutes. If one boat finishes within the time limit, then the race will stand.
- 16.2 If no boat has passed the first windward mark one hour after the starting signal, the race shall be abandoned.
- 16.3 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes RRS 35, A4.1 and A.5.

17. HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1 Hearing request forms are available at the Regatta Office. Protests shall be delivered there within 60 minutes of the last boat to finish the last race of the day. This time will be posted on the Official Notice Board. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 17.2 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Kinnaird Room, to the east of the main CYCSA clubhouse.
- 17.3 Notices of protests by the Race Committee will be posted within the protest time limit on the Official Notice Board to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 17.4 For infringements of the rules other than Part 2, the Protest Committee may award a lesser penalty than DSQ.
- 17.5 For the purpose of RRS 64.4 the 'authority responsible' is those members of the Technical Committee.
- 17.6 Breaches of instructions 5.2, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25 and 26 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the Protest Committee so decides.
- 17.7 On the last day of the regatta:
- (a) a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day.
 - (b) a request for reopening a hearing held on the last day shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day.
 - (c) the time limit to request redress based upon an action or omission of the Race Committee or Protest Committee shall be 30 minutes after the final results are posted. This changes RRS 62 and 66.

17.8 Arbitration

(a) RRS Appendix T shall apply.

(b) RRS Appendix T. 1(b) is deleted and replaced with “A Post-Race Penalty is a 40% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rule 44.1(a) applies”.

18. SCORING

18.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

18.2 Four races are required to constitute a series.

18.3 When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

18.4 When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

19. [NP] SAFETY REGULATIONS

A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to continue racing shall advise the Race Committee via Channel 72 or, if reasonably practicable, pass close enough to a race committee vessel to signal its retirement, and advise the Regatta Office immediately on return to shore by signing a retirement declaration.

20. [NP] [DP] REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

20.1 Substitution of crew will not be allowed without the prior Race Committee verification of eligibility and crew weight of the substitute crew and the written approval of the Organising Authority.

20.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed without prior Technical Committee (or Delegate) verification the new equipment meets the class rules and the written approval of the Protest Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made in writing at the first reasonable opportunity.

20.3 After measurement until completion of racing, no boat, sail or any item of measured equipment shall leave the venue without being posted on the Official Equipment Sign-out Sheet on the Official Notice Board. It is the sole responsibility of each skipper to ensure proper recording.

20.4 After measurement until completion of racing, no sail shall be re-cut or altered. Repairs to sails pursuant to all applicable rules are permissible only upon written approval of the Protest Committee. All such sails may be subject to re-measurement on completion of repairs.

21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions which may include RRS 43 and Class Rules C.2.2 and C.3.2.

21.2 On the water, a boat can be instructed by the Race Committee, Technical Committee or the Protest Committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

22. OFFICIAL BOATS

Official boats may display the Metung Yacht Club Burgee.

23. [DP] COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS

23.1 Coach and support boats must be registered with the Organising Authority prior to acting as a coach or support boat and shall be marked with identifying numbers or flags issued by the Organising Authority. Boats shall display identifying numbers or flags at all times while they are acting as a coach or support boat.

23.2 All registered coach and support boats will carry on board and operate while on the water a VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on VHF Channels 16, 72, and 73 and agree to assist the Race Committee if directed to do so.

23.3 Competitors shall have no communication with, and boats shall not be tied to, coach or support boats from the first Warning Signal (or any other time the Organising Authority considers appropriate) of the day until racing has been concluded for the day. Between races, coach and support boats shall not approach, communicate with or transfer provisions or equipment to or from their supported boats unless in a medical or emergency requirement threatening the health of the crew or the flotation of the boat and only with the expressed permission of the Protest Committee or the Race Committee.

23.4 Registered coach and support boats and their personnel shall stay at least 100 metres below the starting line from the time of the Preparatory Signal until five minutes after the start of any race. After this time, coach and support boats may then proceed parallel to the course on the starboard side of the course facing the wind at a distance of at least 100 metres outside areas where boats are racing. Coach and support boats shall not go above the weather marks or the Course 1 finishing line or below the leeward marks or the Course 2 finishing line at any other time while boats are racing.

23.5 Any breach of SI 23.1, 23.2, 23.3 or 23.4 by a coach or support boat may result in a penalty being applied to any or all boats serviced by that coach or support boat. The penalty may be disqualification or some other penalty as determined by the Protest Committee.

23.6 Coach and support boats shall, when requested by the Race Committee, tow or assist boats not associated with them. Coach and support boats will monitor VHF channel 72 and shall follow all instructions from the Race Committee.

23.7 When the Race Committee displays code flag V with one long sound signal, all coach and support vessels shall monitor the race committee radio channel for search and rescue instructions.

24. [NP] [DP] HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

All boats shall be afloat before 0900 hours on Thursday 3 March and shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee and/or the Protest Committee.

25. [NP] [DP] PLASTIC POOLS & DIVING EQUIPMENT

Plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around competing yachts between the close of registration and the end of the regatta.

26. [NP] [DP] RADIO COMMUNICATION

26.1 This supplements, but does not change, RRS 2 and 41 for the IECA. All boats shall carry a marine band VHF receiver capable of transmitting and receiving channels 16, 72 & 73. As per SI 19, boats may use the radio to report retirement from racing or to request assistance in an emergency. No other transmissions are permitted by competing yachts during each racing day from the first Warning Signal until racing has been completed for the day.

26.2 The Race Committee may use the radio to advise competitors of race information.

26.3 The use of mobile/cell phones or any device capable of sending and/or receiving external electronic communication and/or connecting to the internet is prohibited after the first Warning Signal (or any other time considered appropriate by the Organising Authority) on each race day until the boat has completed its days racing, except as provided in clause 26.1, 26.2 or clause 18 or in an emergency threatening the safety of any member of the crew or the flotation of the boat.

27. PRIZES

As detailed in the Notice of Race.

28. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

28.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. It is the competitor's decision to enter the Championship or to start or continue in any race. Competitors' 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."

28.2 The Organising Authority is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. The Organising Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

29. INSURANCE

All boats competing are required to carry current Third-Party Property Liability Insurance of not less than AUD\$10,000,000. All insurance cover shall be maintained during the period of racing.