



MIDDLE HARBOUR 16ft SKIFF CLUB

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS - SEASON 2017/18

Under the Authority of the NSW 16ft Skiff Association and Yachting NSW Inc.

1 Rules

The Middle Harbour (MH) 16ft Skiff Club racing series and interclub regattas will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) as amended, the prescriptions and special regulations of Australian Sailing (AS), including Part 2 – Off the Beach Boats, the rules of the Australian & NSW 16ft Skiff Associations only where they do not conflict with the RRS, and AS Prescriptions and Special Regulations, except as any of these are altered by the Sailing Instructions (SI).

2 Notices to Competitors

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located inside the southern entry to the boatshed.

2.2 A briefing for competitors, race officials and support crews may be held one and half hours before the start of the race or the 1st race of the day.

3 Changes in Sailing Instructions

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1230 hrs on the day it will take effect, on the official notice board.

3.2 Any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hrs on the day before it will take effect, considering the impact on participation and point scores.

4 Signals Made Ashore

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the club's flagpole, located on the north eastern corner of the upper deck or, from the committee boat anchored in front of the club house when the flagpole cannot be accessed.

4.2 When the AP is displayed ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after AP is lowered. This amends Race Signal 'AP'.

5 Schedule of Races

5.1 Races are scheduled as per the racing calendar published on the MH 16ft Skiff Club website www.middleharbourskiffs.com.au and displayed on the official notice board.

5.2 The racing calendar includes:

5.2.1 Point Score Series, the Club Championship and Crew's Trophy.

5.2.2 Sprint Races, which includes 4 races per scheduled race day, unless otherwise indicated on the committee boat at the finish line.

5.3 No warning Signal will be made after 1600 hrs, except for sprint races, where no warning signal will be made after 1645 hrs.

6 The Racing Area and Courses

6.1 All races shall be sailed as a windward-leeward course.

6.2 The race area and 'set' course maps, is as per MH 16ft Skiff Club courses published on the MH 16ft Skiff Club website www.middleharbourskiffs.com.au and displayed on the official notice board. The course maps include the number of legs to be sailed and the side on which each mark is to be left.

6.3 Diagrams in Addendum A and B show the alternative compass bearing courses.

6.4 In accordance with RRS 27.1, no later than the warning signal, a board indicating, which 'set' course will be sailed or the approximate compass bearing of the windward mark, will be displayed on the committee boat. For a compass bearing course, a numeral flag will also be displayed, indicating the number of times to the windward mark is to be sailed.

6.5 No later than the warning signal the committee boat will display a board indicating "WL" for a windward/leeward compass bearing course or "G" for a gated compass bearing course.

6.6 In the event of a "gated" compass bearing course skiffs will finish "downwind" through the finish line and are not required to pass through the gate on their final leg to the finish. Skiffs are also permitted to carry their spinnakers through the finish line if a gated course is in use.

6.7 Courses will be determined by the Race Officer of the day. Compass bearing courses will be set within the race area of the 'set' courses.

7 Class Flag

7.1 16 ft. Skiffs - The class flag shall be a white flag with the numeral "16" superimposed in black.

7.2 13 ft. Skiffs - The class flag is the 13 ft skiff logo (speeding red '13') displayed on a white background.

8 Marks

8.1 The rounding Marks are large yellow conical inflatables with MH16'SC printed in black, except where indicated on the course maps.

8.2 The committee and support boats will be identified by flying the MH6 ft Skiff Club burgee.

8.3 The change of course mark is a large yellow, cylindrical inflatable with a black band. Refer SI 11.1

9 The Start

9.1 All races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal, except for sprint races, where the warning signal will be made 3 minutes before the starting signal.

9.2 For handicap starts, races will start as follows, this changes RRS26. At one minute before the start, the preparatory flag shall be replaced by the electronic numeral board displaying the numeral 1 minute greater than the highest handicap for the day. As the electronic numeral changes to the highest handicap of the day the class flag is removed signaling the first start. Numerals will count down in minutes and seconds to zero. A Skiff's start will be when their handicap time is displayed with: 00 seconds remaining. Handicaps will be displayed on the official notice board on the scheduled race day.

9.3 Start sequences

Signal	Flag and Sound	Minutes before starting signal	Changes for sprint series. Refer SI 9.2	Changes for all handicap starts. Refer SI 9.3
Warning	Class flag; 1 sound	5	3	5
Preparatory	P, I, U, Z, Z with I, or black flag; 1 sound	4	2	4
One-minute	Preparatory flag removed; 1 long sound	1	1	1 - Electronic Timer displays highest handicap +1 minute and begins countdown to zero
Starting	Class flag removed; 1 sound	0	0	0 - Electronic Timer continues countdown to zero

9.4 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and the mark displaying an orange flag on the port end.

9.5 A skiff seen in the vicinity of the starting line after the warning signal will be counted as a starter even if it does not actually start. This amends RRS Appendix A4.

9.6 A skiff not seen in the vicinity of the start line after the warning signal and attempting to start later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This amends RRS Appendix A4.

9.7 The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

9.8 Skiffs whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the start sequence for other races.

10 Individual Recall

10.1 In addition to RRS 29.1, at the first windward mark after the start, a committee boat may display an OCS board advising a boat that they have scored OCS. A sound signal may be used to draw attention to the board.

11 Change of Course after the Start

11.1 A change of course after the start will be signaled in accordance with RRS 33 before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not then be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated to maintain the original course configuration. When in a subsequent change of course a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced with a mark of the characteristics of the original mark.

11.2 A starter may shorten the course in accordance with RRS 32 where paragraph (c) is altered to read 'because it is assessed by the Race Officer that the majority of the fleet will not finish within the time limit'.

12 The Finish

12.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and the mark displaying an orange flag on the port end.

12.2 The committee boat on the finish line will display a blue flag.

12.3 Code Flag C over L displayed on the committee boat on the finish line indicates sail checking will take place. Refer SI 19.2.

13 Time Limit

13.1 Club Championship, Crew's Trophy and Point Score races. Skiffs failing to finish within the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS 35 and Appendix A4.

13.1.1 One race scheduled for the day: The time limit will be 3 hours from the last starting signal OR 45 minutes after the first skiffs finishing time, whichever is the shorter total time.

13.1.2 Two races scheduled for the day: The time limit will be 1.5 hours from the last starting signal OR 25 minutes after the first skiffs finishing time, whichever is the shorter total time.

13.2 Sprint races

The time limit will be 5 minutes after the first skiff's finishing time. Skiffs failing to finish within the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS 35 and Appendix A4.

14 Safety Regulations

14.1 A skiff that retires from a race must **notify** the Race Officer of the day as soon as possible, either on course OR by contacting the Race Officer as soon as possible.

14.2 Specific Regulation R1, Personal Buoyancy, shall comply with such that 'all crew members shall wear, whilst afloat, a personal flotation device'. This changes RRS 40.1.

15 Protests

15.1 Sub-paragraph (2) of RRS Rule 61.1(a) is deleted (i.e. “if the hull length of the protesting boat is less than 6 metres, she need not display the red flag;”). Thus, a skiff wishing to protest against another skiff for an incident in the racing area SHALL conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity and continue to display it until she is no longer racing.

15.2 Protests shall be written on forms available from the Sailing Secretary or their representative and returned completed to a member of the Race Committee within 60 minutes after the time of the last skiff’s finish time. Amends RRS 61.3.

15.3 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt as soon as possible.

15.4 As required by RRS 63.2 protest notices will be posted on the official notice board within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses. The posting of such notice is notification to all parties for the purpose of RRS 63.2.

15.5 For the purposes of RRS 64.3(b), the qualified authority is the MH16ft Skiff Club official measurer.

16 Scoring

16.1 The scoring system is as follows:

The Low Point System and other relevant provisions of the RRS Appendix A will apply, except as altered below:

a) A boat that scores DNC will be awarded points equal to the number of boats that are registered with the MH16’SC on the date of the race plus two (2) placings. Amends RRS A9.

16.2 Club Championship Series

16.2.1 Points are awarded on the basis of scratch results. A minimum of seven (7) races are scheduled for each series, of which five (5) races shall be completed to constitute a series.

16.2.2 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores. Amends RRS A2.

16.2.3 When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

16.3 Annual Point Score Series

16.3.1 Points are awarded on the basis of handicap results.

16.3.2 Twelve (12) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

16.3.3 If twelve (12) to seventeen (17) races are completed a boats series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

16.3.4 If eighteen (18) or more races have been completed a boats series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two (2) worst scores. Amends RRS A2.

16.4 1st and 2nd Half Annual Point Score Series

16.4.1 Points are awarded on the basis of handicap results.

16.4.2 Races will be assigned to either the 1st half or 2nd half Point Scores in the race calendar as follows: Point Score Races 1 to 10 (1st half) and Point Score Races 11 to 20 (2nd half).

16.4.3 Six (6) races in the 1st Half Point Score are required to be completed to constitute that series.

16.4.4 Six (6) races in the 2nd Half Point Score are required to be completed to constitute that series.

16.4.5 If six (6) to ten (10) races are completed in a series (1st or 2nd Half), a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores in that series, excluding her worst score for that series.

16.5 Crew's Trophy Series

16.5.1 Points are awarded on the basis of handicap results.

16.5.2 Seven (7) races are scheduled for the series, of which five (5) races shall be completed to constitute a series.

16.5.3 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. Amends RRS A2.

16.5.4 When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her series scores excluding her worst score.

16.6 Sprint Series

16.6.1 Points are awarded on the basis of scratch results.

16.6.2 Twelve (12) races are scheduled for the series of which eight (8) shall be completed to constitute a series.

16.6.3 When fewer than nine (9) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. This amends RRS A2

16.6.4 If nine (9) to eleven (11) races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

16.6.5 If twelve (12) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two (2) worst scores. Amends RRS A2.

16.7 Average Points

16.7.1 Any boat representing the MH16'SC during the National 16ft Skiff Championship, State 16ft Skiff Championships, Inter-Club Regatta Championships or Dumaresq Cup sanctioned by the NSW 16ft Skiff Association or any Inter-Club Sprint Series sanctioned by the NSW 16ft Skiff Association will be given average points for any point score or other scheduled series races conducted by the MH16'SC on the same day as one of those events.

16.7.2 "Representing the MH16'SC" means that the boat must start in the Association Event on the day of the MH16'SC series race, except in the case of the National Championships. The boat need not to have finished in the Association event.

16.7.3 A boat shall be deemed to have sailed in a MH16'SC point score or other scheduled series race if it is eligible for average points in accordance with SI 16.7.1

16.8 Allocation of Average Points

16.8.1 The Average Points are to be allocated at the time of the particular event using the points gained in the three (3) consecutive races prior to the race in question for the particular series. If three (3) consecutive races have not been completed, the three (3) point scores results for the particular series closest to the particular Association event will be used (either before or after that event).

16.8.2 The allocation of Average Points will be determined from results scored in the current sailing season only.

17 Prizes

17.1 Eligibility for prize money includes:

17.1.1 70% of point score races must be attended to be eligible for a Club Championship result.

17.1.2 70% of sailing meetings each season must be attended by a representative from each skiff. Failure to attend 70% of the sailing meetings will result in the loss of 30% of a skiff's eligible prize money.

17.1.3 If a skiff does not achieve both the above 70% criteria they will not receive prize money – this will be enforced.

17.2 Attendance at a sanctioned NSW Association event on a race day will be counted as a club race attendance.

17.3 Winners and place getters for that day's racing will be acknowledged at the completion of the day's racing. Trophies and prize money will be awarded at a presentation night as specified on the sailing calendar, after completion of the season.

18 Registration

18.1 A skiff shall be currently registered with the NSW 16ft Skiff Association and shall hold a current measurement certificate and able to be produced on demand.

18.2 A skiff shall be currently registered with the MH 16ft Skiff Club.

18.3 All crew shall be sailing members of the MH 16ft Skiff Club.

18.4 A guest cannot sail more than three (3) races (other than social races) without making a bona fide application for sailing membership.

18.5 All sailors shall be current SA Members

18.6 All skiffs must have all club registration, state registration, SA membership, shed rent and race sponsorship documents and payments all completed by close of business on the first day of club racing. If a skiff has not completed the required documents and payments by this date they will be scored DNS for all races until all payments and documents have been completed. They will continue to be scored DNS until all paperwork and payments have been lodged.

18.7 A replacement skipper shall be nominated on a change of skipper form, given to the Race Officer of the day at least one hour prior to the scheduled race start time.

18.8 If replacement crew is selected from the junior sailing division, the junior crew shall be nominated on a change of crew form and given to the Race Officer of the day at least one hour

prior to the scheduled race start time. A junior replacement crew will attract a 2 minute addition to the skipper's handicap for that race only.

18.9 All 16ft skiffs must sail under the ensign registered with the 16ft Skiff Association. A 16ft skiff cannot sail more than three (3) races without a registered ensign on the mail sail. Any request for exception to this rule must be put in writing to the Race Committee at least one hour prior to the scheduled race time. A change in ensign can be made by submitting a change of colours form to the Race Officer of the Day at least one hour prior to the scheduled race start time.

19 Measurement

19.1 All skiffs and their equipment must be checked, measured and weighed, for compliance with the class rules, by the club measurers, and recorded in the book provided for that purpose. Skiffs may be selected for checking after any race. Selected skiffs will be notified immediately after finishing any race by a committee boat. Any selected skiff shall not leave the immediate area and shall then comply with any instructions issued by a Race or Measurement Officer. Failure to adhere to this SI may result in disqualification without a hearing, amends RRS 63.1 and Appendix A5.

19.2 Sail checking and verification may take place at the finish of each race. Whilst the committee boat on the finish line is displaying Code Flag C over L all finished skiffs shall proceed to the sail checking boat and area to have their sails checked.

19.3 The sail checking boat will be a committee boat also displaying Code flag C over L and will be positioned in an immediate area beyond the finishing line.

19.4 For permission to sail a skiff that does not comply with the current class rules for club racing, an application must be made to the Commodore in writing and put to a vote of the sailors at a sailing meeting or at the briefing on race day. Refer SI 2.2.

20 Disclaimer

20.1 All those taking part in the Middle Harbour 16ft Skiff Club racing do so at their own risk and responsibility. Attention is drawn to RRS 4 (decision to race).

20.2 Middle Harbour 16 ft Skiff Club, their servants and agents and all parties involved with the organization of the racing disclaim any and every responsibility whatsoever for loss, damage, injury, death or inconvenience that might occur to person and or goods, both ashore and at sea as a consequence of participation in the races covered by these Sailing Instructions.

21 Race and Protest Committee

21.1 The Race Committee of the MH 16ft Skiff Club constitutes the Commodore, Secretary and Race Officers.

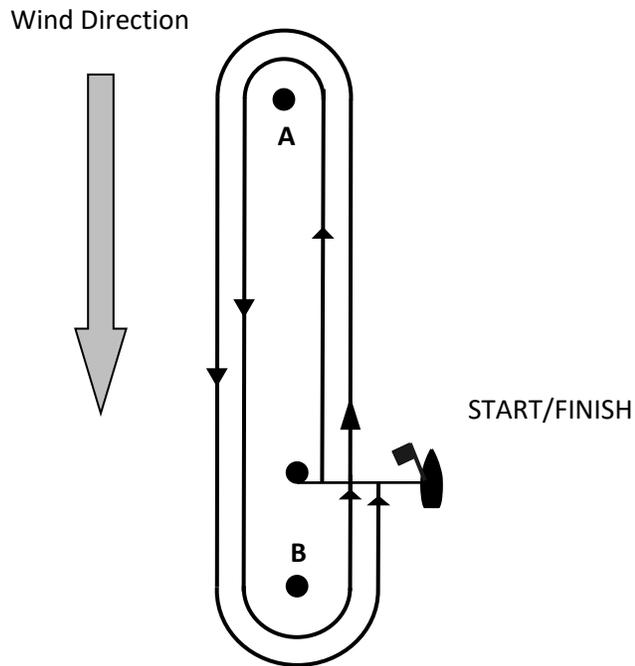
21.2 The Protest Committee is elected at the Annual General Sailing meeting of the MH 16ft Skiff Club. In the event a protest involves a member of the Protest Committee, an alternate member will be nominated for that protest hearing.

22 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS - for Racing in the "Sound".

22.1 NSW Roads and Maritime Services have published a regulation which places an "exclusion zone" around Manly ferries whilst they are under way. The exclusion zone extends 200 metres forward of the bow of the ferry and 60 metres from each side and the stern. No sailing vessel is to enter this zone whilst the ferry is underway.

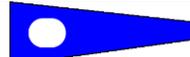
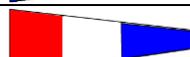
If a formal complaint is received from either Sydney Ferries or NSW Roads and Maritime Services about a skiff interfering with the passage of a Manly ferry, the skiff will be disqualified from the race by the Race Committee without a hearing. This amends RRS 63.1.

ADDENDUM A - Windward-Leeward Compass Bearing Course



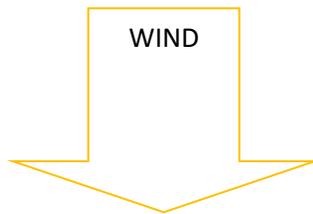
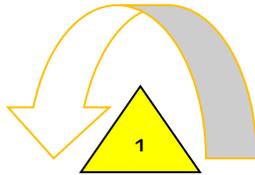
Start – A – B – A – B – Finish

For a compass bearing course, the approximate compass bearing of the windward mark, will be displayed on the committee boat with a numeral pennant, indicating the number of laps (times around the windward mark) to be sailed as follows: e.g. in the diagram the numeral pennant 2 would be displayed on the committee boat. A boat is not obliged to pass through the start/finish line whilst competing in a race other than to start and finish that race.

Numeral Pennant	Pennant Number	Number of laps
	Pennant 1	1
	Pennant 2	2
	Pennant 3	3
	Pennant 4	4
	Pennant 5	5

ADDENDUM B - Gated Compass Bearing Course Diagram

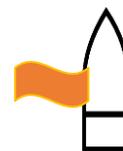
Note: Course diagram is NOT to scale and is showing approximate mark locations only.



Skiffs may round either Mark 2P or 2S



Start/Finish line



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Mark 1 is passed to port.

Mark 2P is passed to port.

Mark 2S is passed to starboard.

When approaching downwind skiffs may round either Mark 2P or 2S.

Skiffs sailing their last leg to the finish are not required to pass between Marks 2P and 2S.

Designation	Sequence of mark rounding
16's course	Start - 1 - 2S or 2P - 1 – Finish (The total number of times to Mark 1 will be displayed on Race Committee boat prior to warning signal)

Numeral pennants/course to be sailed:

- 1  Start-1-Finish
- 2  Start-1-2S/2P-1-Finish
- 3  Start-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-Finish
- 4  Start-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-Finish
- 5  Start-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-Finish
- 6  Start-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-Finish
- 7  Start-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-2S/2P-1-Finish