

ORCV Special Regulations

Introduction

ORCV races are conducted within the regulatory framework prescribed by World Sailing and Australian Sailing and the Rating Authorities, including the Racing Rules of Sailing and the Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 1 (2021-2024) as amended by Australian Sailing from time to time.

The ORCV has the capacity to impose additional requirements, to amend certain Racing Rules and, in limited circumstances approved by Australian Sailing, to grant dispensation from certain Australian Sailing Special Regulations. Such amendments are detailed in full or by reference to this document in the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions for individual events.

This document, "the ORCV's Special Regulations", provides a guide to the additional requirements and amendments to the above rules and regulations which are generally applied by the ORCV in Category 2 and Category 3 offshore races for which it is the Organising Authority. It is emphasised that the provisions of the Notice of Race and the Sailing instructions for the relevant event prevail in the event of conflict or uncertainty.

Nothing in the WS, AS or ORCV Special Regulations negates the need to adhere to relevant Government Maritime regulations or the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.

ORCV amendments to World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the Special Regulations of Australian Sailing contained in an ORCV Notice of Race shall apply only to those details specifically identified therein. In every other respect the World Sailing Rules and Australian Sailing prescriptions hold good and shall be observed.

ORCV offshore races are defined as events which are conducted in full or in part outside Port Phillip.

Changes to AS Special Regulations

Minimum Fuel Requirements including electric motors

- The minimum required fuel for yachts equipped with diesel propulsion engines for Cat.3 and Cat 2 races other than the Westcoaster shall not be less than the recommended amount of fuel specified in the AS Special regulations in clause 3.24.5(c).
- In the case of the Westcoaster, the minimum required fuel for yachts equipped with diesel propulsion engines shall not be less than the recommended amount of fuel specified in the AS Special regulations in clause 3.24.5(c) for a Category 1 event.

- Yachts equipped with electric propulsion engines shall, by use of batteries and generating capacity, shall have sufficient power to proceed under motor with an effective range of:-
 - 60 NM in the case of a Cat 3 event
 - 120 NM for Cat 2 events other than the Westcoaster
 - 220 NM for the Westcoaster

Radios and Satellite Phones

Australian Sailing Special Regulation 3.25.1 provides for the use of HF radio or permanently installed satellite phones for communications in Category 1 and 2 Races.

The ORCV Special Regulations further provide that except in races where VHF is specified in the NOR for communication purposes:-

- yachts equipped with HF radio shall use that equipment for the sign-on and all position reports; and
- yachts using permanently installed satellite phones in lieu of HF radio shall comply with the following additional conditions:
 - Satellite phones must be powered up and monitored at all times while racing;
 - Demonstrated speed dialling capability.
 - Demonstrated ability to send and receive text messages and to receive weather warnings;
 - The yacht must also be equipped with a fully functional DSC VHF radio with the yacht's own MMSI number configured and a GPS receiver connected for position information.

Racing Divisions

All ORCV offshore races include an Unrestricted Monohull Division with yachts competing fully crewed, with Autohelm plus a maximum of 4 crew or double handed.

Races will normally also offer a Double Handed Division. This is an optional additional division. All boats racing in this additional division must also enter, and will also be scored in, the Unrestricted Monohull Division.

Rating Certificates.

Yachts entered in the AMS and ORC Handicap Categories shall have a valid Rating Certificate which includes a spinnaker with a measured area of at least 130% of the area of the yacht's fore triangle where the foretriangle area is defined as $0.5 * FL * J$ measured in accordance with the AMS rules.

Yachts entering the ORC Handicap Category must hold either an ORCi Rating Certificate or an Endorsed ORCc Rating Certificate based on data submitted to Yachting Australia by an accredited measurer

Two-Handed measurement system handicaps (including ratings, TCF and/or allowances) are not used in the calculation of race results in the Unrestricted Monohull and Double Handed Divisions.

Race specific restrictions may apply to amendment of rating certificates within 7 days of the start of the race.

Changes to Racing Rules of Sailing

RRS 41: While racing, a boat may retrieve data from any website even if that page is not freely available to all competitors.

RRS 51: A yacht with movable ballast or variable ballast (within the meaning of those terms in the Special Regulations) may move that ballast for the purpose of changing trim or stability to the extent permitted by their stability rating.

RRS 52: The rule shall be modified:

- to allow self-steering equipment to be used by yachts sailing in the Double-Handed Division and in the Unrestricted Monohull Division with a maximum of four (4) persons on board;
- to allow the adjustment of movable water ballast or canting keels on any yacht and the use of stored power to do so, and
- to allow the use of stored power for sail handling and sail trimming on any yacht.

RRS 55: Fixed and retractable spinnaker poles and bowsprits will be permitted for the purpose of setting asymmetrical spinnakers.

RRS 61.3: There is no time limit on protests by the Race Committee or the Protest Committee.

RRS 90.3: No time limit shall apply for the correction of incorrect published results.

Use of Engines

RRS 42.3 5: An engine may be used for charging batteries, pumping bilges, or otherwise supply power (with the propeller disengaged) and to keep clear of commercial shipping. Use of the engines where necessary to avoid commercial shipping is appropriate but must be logged and declared at the completion of each race.

A yacht that has not yet arrived in the vicinity of the start line when the preparatory signal has been made may use her engine for the purpose of enabling her to arrive within 100 meters of the start line. A yacht availing herself of this privilege shall cease using her engine and then complete a 360° turn including one tack and one gybe before she crosses the starting line. Such usage must be detailed in the yachts finishing declaration.

Yachts Starting Late

RRS 45 : For Ocean Races, yachts may elect to start at any time up to the latest time stated in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions. Yachts intending to take this option shall respond when called at the pre-race sign on schedule and state their intentions. They shall

subsequently respond to all routine schedules in accordance with the provisions of the Sailing Instructions.

Temporary Discontinuance from Racing

RRS 42 & 45: A yacht, after starting a race, may use its engine to assist with anchoring or berthing when:

- taking shelter from extreme weather; or
- disembarking sick or injured crew who will take no further part in the race (such crew shall not be replaced); or
- attempting repairs wholly on board,

For this purpose, the engine may be used only to assist with berthing or anchoring. Crew intending to continue to race may go ashore solely for the purpose of making fast and thereafter shall immediately re-embark. No outside assistance (apart from medical assistance) shall be accepted by the boat or the crew other than as provided in RRS 41.

During any such period of discontinuance from racing, a yacht's elapsed time shall continue to accrue. Details shall be logged and included in an incident report at the end of the race.

Other provisions

Port Phillip Heads Exclusion Zone

For races exiting Port Phillip Heads, the Sailing Instructions typically include an Exclusion Zone designed to keep yachts clear of commercial shipping channels to the extent possible. Yachts shall not enter the Exclusion Zone and skippers shall be in a position to demonstrate compliance by SMS submission of a screen shot of their chart plotter track past the Exclusion Zone. For this purpose, yachts shall retain an electronic copy of their screen shot for not less than 7 days from the start of the race.

Measurer

The measurer for any race or series will be the Race Director but, in the event that none has been appointed, then the ORCV Sail Captain shall be the measurer.

AIS

Yachts equipped with AIS transmitters shall operate that equipment at all times when racing, this transmission to include the boat's name and MMSI.

Valid from 1 July 2022