

136th Sailing Season – Club Racing

Off the Beach | 05 September 2020 – 01 April 2021

Off the Beach

Sailing Instructions

Revision 1 Posted 11/09/2020

The Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron

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Race Committee	Sailing Manager Chairperson of Sailing Committee The Nominated Flag Officer Race Officer
Sailing Office	James Tapp – Sailing Manager Karyn Ralph – Sailing Administrator Susie Jones – Volunteer Coordinator
Sailing Committee	Todd Anderson Louise Davis Steve Tapsall Noel Paterson Helen Warneke
Race Officers	Louise Davis (IRO) Guy Morton (NRO) John O'Brien (NRO) Alan Crawford (NRO) Don Murray (CRO) Mark Campbell (CRO) Yvonne Walsh (CRO) Paul Bolton (CRO) Chris Langford (CRO) Susie Jones (CRO) John Meehan (CRO)
Protest Committee	Nev Willis (IJ/NU) (Chairperson) Rosemary Collins (IJ) Mark Gallagher (NJ) Christine Bridge (SJ) Jan Kemp (CJ) Michael O'Neill Matt Chew Greg Kemp
Call Sign	RQ90 (VHF Channel 90) RQ91 (VHF Channel 91) RQ77 (VHF Channel 77) RQ72 (VHF Channel 72)
Contact Details	The Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron 578 Royal Esplanade, MANLY, QLD 4179 07 3396 8666 sailing@rqys.com.au

INTRODUCTION

This is the 136th Sailing Season at the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron. Seasons racing has been a regular part of the Squadrons activities during that period, first on the Brisbane River, and then on the bay, predating the clubs move to its current location in Manly.

Off the Beach and Etchells Sailing at the Squadron encompasses a range of classes on a number of courses, with Saturdays sometimes featuring several different variety's of sailing occurring over the day and on the bay.

Off the Beach refers to dinghies, catamarans, boards, sportsboats and skiffs. Most of this racing is one-design (OD) and the club has long fostered strong OD classes. There is also an element of Yardstick (VYC – Class Based Handicapped) for boats that do not have enough entries to constitute a division.

As a parallel to Off the Beach racing, the Squadron's Etchells fleet also races on Saturdays, sharing the Northern Course with the Multihulls, Skiffs and Sportsboats.

For a class to warrant its own OD (scratch) score, five (5) or more of that class need to be entered in the Seasons Points Series, which runs most Saturdays from Opening Day (05 September 2020) through to the Easter School Holidays in 2021. Every race will contribute to the pointscore for the **Seasons Points** series, as it runs for the length of the season, while **Squadron Championship** series will be raced as a part of this on selected weekends, with a varying schedule for OTB, Etchells and Division Yachts.

2020 - 2021 SAILING SEASON – POLICY

CLUB PARTICIPATION RULES

- Following participation with a RQYS Day Pass Membership (or sailing membership to another club) in any three (3) Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron Ltd. (RQYS) races other than invitation events, any owner or skipper of a participating boat with a **Casual Entry**, is required to become a member, in the appropriate category, of RQYS. Crew can sail up to twelve (12) with a RQYS Day Pass Membership (or participate with sailing membership to another club).
- Only current financial members of the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron (in the correct category of Membership) are eligible for a **Season Entry**.
- It is the responsibility of the owner/skipper to ensure that all crew competing on the boat hold a current membership of Australian Sailing or equivalent membership of a yachting authority recognised by World Sailing (RQYS Day Pass or Sailing Membership of another club), and the boat has \$10,000,000 third-party insurance for the duration of racing or being on the RQYS premises.
- All members intending to race shall pre-pay and register with a Season Entry or Casual Entry prior to racing. Failure to pay the outlined fee and/or register shall result in positions not being recorded and forfeited by the competitor. Members who continue to race without paying or registering shall be disciplined by General Committee.

ONSHORE RACE ABANDONMENT

- Any decision to race, postpone or abandon racing shall be made by any two (2) members of the Race Committee in consultation with either the Sailing Manager or Sailing Committee Chairperson.
- A decision to race on any given day does not relieve any competitor of his/her obligation under RRS Fundamental Rule 4. Competitors are reminded of the range of abilities and equipment that vary fleet to fleet and class to class, competitors should make their decisions based on their own skills and equipment.
- For regular Saturday and Sunday racing the decision to race, postpone or abandon shall not be made before 1100 hours for Saturday racing and 0900 hours for Sunday racing on the day of the race unless circumstances dictate that an earlier decision would be appropriate noting:
 - Racing shall not be started if there is a current Gale (or higher), Tsunami or other severe weather warning that shall impact the race area.
 - Races shall only be abandoned after careful consideration of all weather conditions and their likely impact on the course area(s).

1. RULES

- 1.1 The series will be governed by the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The prescriptions and special regulations of Australian Sailing (AS) Part 2 will apply (See Attachment C).
- 1.3 Boards must comply with the current RRS Appendix B Windsurfing Competition Rules.
- 1.4 Etchells and Sportsboats shall comply with AS Special Regulations Part 1, Category 7 (See Attachment C).
- 1.5 RRS Appendix T - Arbitration shall apply.

(ADD)

- 1.6 Finn Class: Class rule P5 (flags O and R) will apply

*It is likely that a new version of the Racing Rules of Sailing will be published mid-season. In this event, the new RRS will be implemented **EXCEPT for any scoring / results related changes.**

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on the [Online Notice Board](#).

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions shall be posted two (2) hours prior to the first warning signal on the day it shall take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races shall be posted by 1800 on the day before it shall take effect.
- 3.2 Changes may also be made to the Sailing Instructions prior to the first warning signal by displaying code flag L on the race committee vessel and advising of the change by hailing the competitors of the class concerned.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the official flag pole located adjacent to the RQYS VIP Docks.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in the race signal AP.
- 4.3 When a visual signal is displayed over a course flag or class flag, it applies to that course area/class only.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The schedule of races is detailed in the RQYS [2020 - 2021 Sailing Program](#).

Race	First Warning Signal
Southern & Northern Course	1330 hours

6. CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 Class flags shall be:

Fleet	Flag
Etchells	White with Blue Class Insignia
Hobie 16	Blue with Black Class Insignia
Mixed Catamarans	Start with Hobie 16 Class
VX One	VX One Class Flag
Contenders	C Flag
Sportsboats	Start with VX One Class
Elliott 6s	Yellow Flag
12ft, 14ft, 16ft and 18ft Skiffs, and Moths	White with Black Moth Class Insignia
Laser Full Rig	White with Red Class Insignia
Laser Radial	Green with Red Class Insignia
Laser 4.7	Yellow with Red Class Insignia
Sabre	White with Red Class Insignia
Windsurfing (incl. Foilers)	White with Red Bic Techno Insignia
Flying 11	White with Blue Flying 11 Insignia
Optimist and Sabot	White with Optimist Black Insignia

29er	White with Red Insignia
All Boats/Mixed Classes	Yellow Flag
(ADD) Finn	White with Blue Insignia

- 6.2 In the event that any class has insufficient seasons and casual entries to constitute a division they will be started under the All Boats/Mixed Classes flag.
- 6.3 Additional classes may be added should there be sufficient entries.

7. RACING AREAS

- 7.1 Attachment A shows the approximate location of racing areas.
- 7.2 Classes may race on the Eastern Course – this will be notified by an Amendment, one (1) week prior to scheduled date.
- 7.3 It is the intention that only Northern and Southern course areas are used to cover all Off the Beach classes.
- 7.4 The indicative race area split is as per below:
 Southern Course – Lasers, Boards, Contenders, Sabres, Flying 11s, Optimists
 Northern Course – Etchells, Skiffs, 9ers, VX Ones, Catamarans, Finns

8. COURSES

- 8.1 Courses to be sailed, including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left are contained in the RQYS 2020/2021 Off the Beach Course Booklet.
- 8.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat shall display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg and the course to be sailed.

9. MARKS

- 9.1 Marks (including start and finish marks) are described in the RQYS 2020/2021 Off the Beach Course Booklet.

10. THE START

- 10.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the start vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 10.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag shall be displayed with one (1) sound at least five (5) minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 10.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other classes.
- 10.4 A boat starting later than four (4) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a change mark and remove the original one. To change this again, the original mark will replace the change mark, and so on.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing boat and the course side of the finishing mark.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1 For the foilers skiff and multihull, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty.

14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 The time limit for the first boat in each class will be 80 minutes.
- 14.2 With the exception of the Optimist and Flying 11 classes, boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes shall be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.
- 14.3 Optimist and Flying 11 boats failing to finish within 25 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes shall be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1 Protest forms are available at the RQYS Sailing Office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes (90 minutes for any class when they sail on the course east of Green Island) after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 15.3 Notices shall be posted on the online notice board no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings shall be held in the specified protest room, beginning at the time posted.
- 15.4 Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee shall be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 15.5 Breaches of SI 10.4, 14.2 and 14.3, 16, 17 and 20.2 shall not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 15.6 Discretionary penalties may be applied by the Protest Committee.
- 15.7 All marine incidents must be reported to the Race Committee in addition to regulatory requirements to report marine incidents to Marine Safety Queensland (MSQ).

16 SCORING

- 16.1 Score discards shall be as per the following:
 - a. For Squadron Championship series, there will be 1 discard per 7 completed races.
 - b. For Seasons Points series, there will be 1 discard per 5 completed races.
- 16.2 Average points may be requested for season entries when racing is missed due to competing at a National or International class regatta or a World Sailing ranked event in the competitor's class, or in any other circumstance approved by the Sailing Committee.
 - 16.2.1 These points shall be awarded for no more than four (4) days in a season.
 - 16.2.2 To receive average points, sailors must request average points in advance by emailing sailing@rqys.com.au and have this approved by the Sailing Office BEFORE the missed day's racing.
 - 16.2.3 Average Points will be awarded as per RRS A10 (b) only if there have been two (2) races in the series before the race the competitor is applying for average points for. If there have not been two (2) races in the series already, the Race Committee will determine the application of average points.
- 16.3 A boat which Does Not Compete (DNC) in a race shall be scored the number competitors within the fleet at the starting area, plus an additional three (3) points. This changes RRS A9.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 All skippers shall SIGN ON before racing each day and SIGN OFF at the earliest possible time after the completion of racing (but not later than the end of protest time).
- 17.2 The skipper of a boat that retires or does not intend to continue racing is required to SIGN OFF immediately on return to shore.
- 17.3 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 17.4 Competitors shall comply with the following harbour bylaws:
 - a. All sailing vessels shall give way to powered vessels at all times whilst inside the Manly Boat Harbour.
 - b. Once outside the Manly Boat Harbour, competitors are to as soon as possible stay outside of the main channel, keeping clear of powered vessels.
 - c. No Spinnakers are to be flown in the Manly Harbour 6-knot area.
- 17.5 Boats failing to comply with SI17 may be protested by the Race Committee and receive a penalty less than DSQ as decided by the Protest Committee. This changes rules 63.1, A4 and A5.

18 REPLACEMENTS OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 18.1 Skippers may change boats, sails and equipment throughout the season and retain points if they remain in the same class.
- 18.2 If a skipper changes classes or divisions, points for their season entry will remain with the class / division they received these points in.
- 18.3 Boats intending to race with a sail number other than stipulated on their entry shall complete the Change to Sail Number register prior to racing. Failure to comply shall result in the boat being scored DNC without a hearing for

all races on that day. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

19.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and Sailing Instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector, safety auditor or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

20. OFFICIAL BOATS

20.1 Official boats shall be marked with a white flag or sticker with black letters 'RC'.

20.2 Club Coaches may provide advice to any competitor during club racing but not in races for which Squadron Championship points shall be awarded.

21 RADIO COMMUNICATION

21.1 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

21.2 The Race Committee may communicate with boats on VHF Channel 72.

22 PRIZES

22.1 The 2020/2021 Presentations of Trophies for Seasons Points and Squadron Championships and other events will take place in a Squadron Function Room, to be advised by invitation in future. A list of major trophies is at Attachment B.

22.2 Only Season Entrants are eligible for Seasons Points or Squadron Championship awards at the Junior and/or Senior Presentation of Trophies.

22.3 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

23 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

23.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Fundamental Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority shall not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

24 INSURANCE

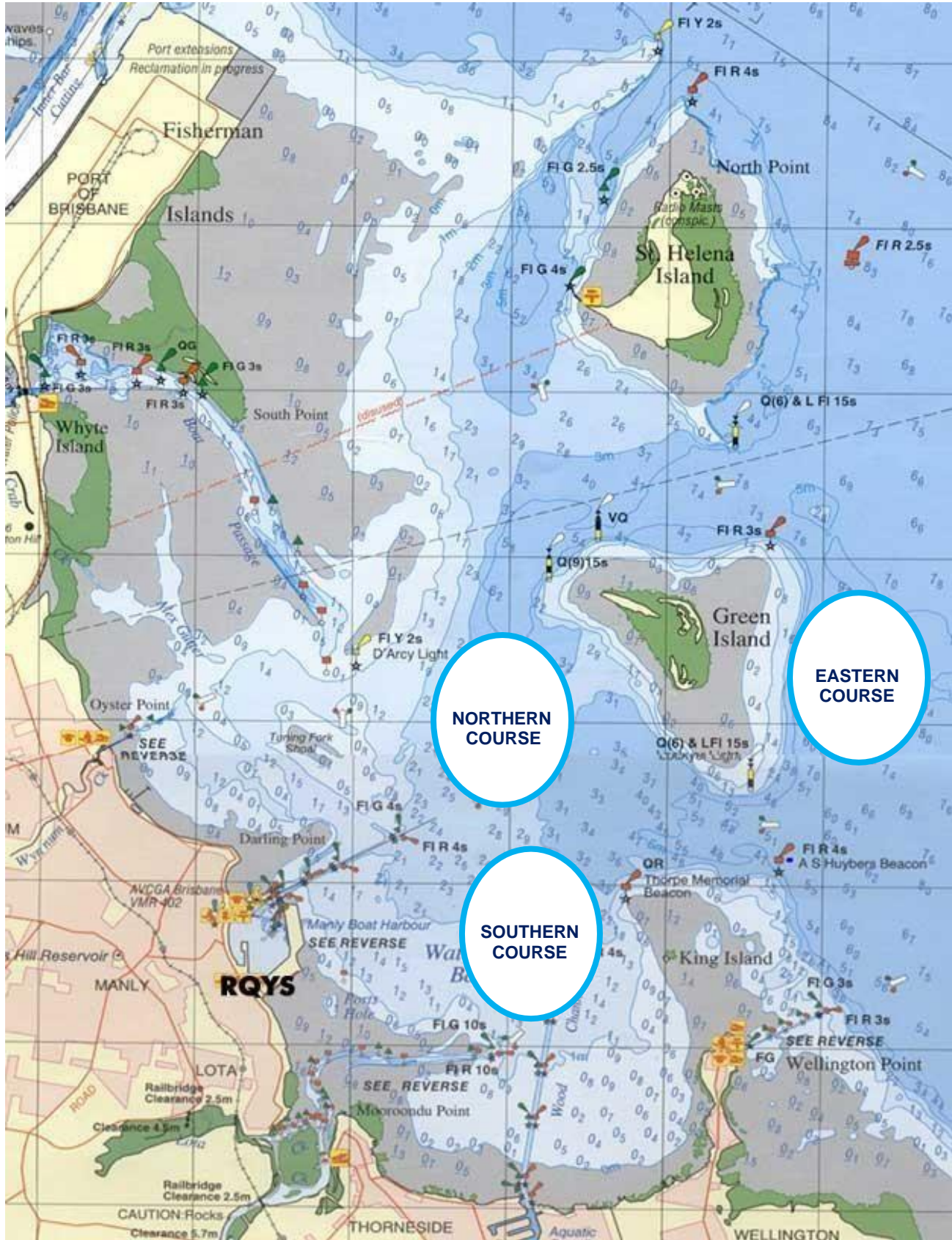
24.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000AUD per incident or the equivalent.

24.2 All Skippers of any vessel participating in this event, must maintain on board and produce upon demand by the Race Committee, a copy of a current, valid Certificate of Currency, with respect to the third party property and third party personal injury insurance for the vessel.

25 RESULTS

Results shall be published online at www.rqys.com.au/result

ATTACHMENT A APPROXIMATE COURSE LOCATIONS



ATTACHMENT B

RQYS MAJOR SAILING AWARDS

Most Consistent Skipper in a Junior Class

~ Harold Dean Memorial Trophy ~

Best Result at a National Regatta

~ Vidgen Perpetual Trophy ~

Most Improved Junior Skipper

~ T E Passey Trophy ~

Junior Sailor of the Year

~ Lady Stonehaven Challenge Cup ~

Youth Sailor of the Year

~ W A O'Hare Memorial Trophy ~

Squadron Champion for an Olympic Class

~ Astra Trophy ~

Longest Serving Member of a Season Points Winner

~ The Governor's Trophy ~

Most Consistent Skipper in a Senior Class

~ Callisto Cup – AM Greenfield Trophy ~

Most Consistent Contributor

~ Maurice Tilley Perpetual Trophy ~

Corinthian Yachtsman of the Year

~ Model Elliott ~

Best Performing Female Crew

~ Erica Blumson Trophy ~

Best Performance in an Olympic Class

~ John H Robinson Memorial Trophy ~

Keelboat Crew of the Year

~ E Sparkes Trophy ~

Sailor of the Year

~ Hardy Brothers Jewellers Trophy ~

ATTACHMENT C

ENDORISING SAFETY EQUIPMENT AUDIT

SAFETY FIRST

As part of a national incentive by Australian Sailing, RQYS will be adopting 'Whole of Fleet' Safety Audits appropriate to your race category starting from the beginning of the 136th Sailing Season.

So why extend equipment audits to all of our fleet?

The simple answer is compliance and good safety practice within the club. We have a Duty of Care to those participating in RQYS events and this extends beyond RQYS responsibility to boat owners and skippers.

Nationally, self audits have not, in the majority of cases, been completed to a satisfactory standard and it is our intention to engender into our sailors a culture of safety which benefits us all.

Chris Morgan, a division yacht owner and Queensland's Senior Sailing Australia Equipment Safety Auditor, has agreed to undertake the management of this program alongside the sailing office.

- All yacht owners and off the beach boats will be required to complete the appropriate Sailing Australia category form applicable to the club racing they intend to enter.
[Off the Beach Checklist](#) (most recent version at July 2019)
[AS SR Safety Equipment Checklists](#)
- Owners will then be required to contact an RQYS approved auditors to arrange an inspection and sign off.
- For off the beach craft and school boats the form is very simple for 'Safety Officers' to undertake this task on race days.

It is not our intention to be heavy handed and disqualify boats that do not have an audited form on race day, but we want all participants to build a culture of safety in the club from the juniors up.

Starting in September 2019, Chris and his audit team will be running an information night after WAGS and providing articles in "In The Wind" to help you prepare for an audit.

Below is a list of our current RQYS auditors and we will be running an additional course in September to approve further auditors. If you are interested in becoming an auditor please contact Chris, it would be great to get some Multihull and Etchells owners involved.

RQYS AUDITORS for Division Yachts

Ben Davis	0437853523	bdavis4179@gmail.com
Ian Davis	0419799958	hoodsailmakers@gmail.com
Paul King	0409725488	paulkingmwa@gmail.com
Dave Richards		davidrichards30.dr@gmail.com
Chris Morgan	0418767591	chrismorgan5@outlook.com
Christopher Wren	0448999800	cwwren@bigpond.net.au
Helen Warneke	0429347481	helen.warneke@uccommunity.org.au

RQYS SAFETY INSPECTORS for Off the Beach Boats

Training sessions available through expression of interest. Approved names to be advised via correspondence.

