

2006 12ft Skiff Australian Championships

Sailing Instructions

71st Australian Championships
Friday 14th April 06 to Monday 17th April 06



CONDUCTED BY ABBOTSFORD 12^{FT} FLYING SQUADRON INC.

ON BEHALF OF THE

N.S.W. 12^{FT} SKIFF ASSOCIATION

1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The organising authority for the regatta is Abbotsford 12' Flying Squadron Inc. (A12FS) on behalf of the NSW 12ft Skiff Association Inc.

2 RULES

The regatta will be governed by the current rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (2005-2008) and the prescriptions of the AYF, the rules of the respective 12' Skiff Associations (except as any of these are altered by these sailing instructions) and by the sailing instructions and attachments.

3 ADVERTISING

The regatta is classified as a Category C event.

4 ENTRIES & ELIGIBILITY

The event is open to all skiffs as long as they fall within the measurement rules of the NSW 12 Foot Sailing Skiff Association, or the QLD 12 Foot Skiff Association.

Eligible skiffs may enter the regatta by completing the official entry form available from the A12FS, the NSW 12's or each respective body's website. Entries must be received by the A12FS race secretary no later than 11 am on Friday 14th 2006.

5 MEASUREMENT

Random measurement checks, including weight, may be carried out at any time during the regatta.

Each skiff must carry a registered sail insignia. This can only be altered with the permission of the Starters, and then only when applied for, in writing, prior to the warning signal being raised.

6 RACE HEADQUARTERS & NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Race Headquarters will be the clubhouse of A12FS at Werrell Reserve, Abbotsford Point.

A Regatta Office will be established in the clubhouse.

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the downstairs area of the clubhouse.

7 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the sailing instructions, as approved by the Race Committee, will be posted before 11.00 a.m. on the day it will take effect.

Changes to the race format may be made at the race committees discretion at anytime through out the regatta. Changes to the race format will be posted on the official notice board following the days races by 7.00 p.m.

8 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be flown from the starters box located on the eastern side of the clubhouse. In the event that the Answering Pennant is flown there shall be at least thirty (30) minutes between the lowering of the flag and the start of the race. This amends Race Signals.

9 SIGNALS MADE AFLOAT

Flag AP over H [Races not started are postponed. Further signals ashore]. This signal may be displayed during a race, but not prior to the first skiff finishing that race. It does not signify the finish or abandonment of that race, but is a notice to the finished competitors to return to race headquarters (ashore) and wait for further instructions.

10 SCHEDULE OF RACES & SERIES PRIZEGIVING

Registration	Friday 14 th April	9.00 – 11.00 a.m.
Welcome Briefing	Friday 14 th April	11.00 a.m.
Heat 1	Friday 14 th April	1.00 p.m.
Heat 2	Friday 14 th April	after Heat 1.
Heat 3	Saturday 15 th April	1.00 p.m.
Heat 4	Saturday 15 th April	after Heat 3.
Heat 5	Sunday 16 th April	2.00 p.m.
Heat 6	Monday 17 th April	2.00 p.m.
Prize Giving	Monday 17 th April	5.00 p.m.

NB. The Race Committee reserves the right to change the schedule to suit weather conditions. Changes will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

The warning signal for Heat 2 & Heat 4 shall be as soon as practicable after the earlier of:

- a) all skiffs have finished the prior race or
- b) the expiry of time limits.

11 CLASS FLAG

The 12' Skiff class flag will be the warning signal for all races. It is designated as a black 12 on a yellow background.

12 RACING AREA

The Racing Area is shown in **(Attachment B)** and will be the Parramatta River between the Gladesville Bridge and the Putney Punt.

13 COURSES

The courses to be sailed including the course designations, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side to which each mark is to be rounded is shown in **(Attachment A)**.

The course to be raced shall be determined by the Principal Race Officer (PRO) as to best suit the prevailing weather conditions, at the time.

At or prior to the warning signal, a course board designating the course to be sailed will be displayed from the Race Committee Vessel.

14 MARKS

Rounding marks will be flag marks displaying the 12 Foot Skiff Class Flag (Black 12 on yellow background).

15 MOORED VESSELS

Skiffs shall not pass between any boat on a permanent mooring and the nearest shore. For the purposes of this rule, these boats shall be treated as marks of the course, to be passed on the hand placing them between the competitor and the nearest shore.

16 COMMITTEE VESSEL & OTHER OFFICIAL VESSELS

The committee vessel for the regatta will fly the Abbotsford 12' Flying Squadron Inc. burgee.

Other official vessels will fly a Abbotsford 12' Flying Squadron Inc. burgee or the 12 foot skiff class flag.

17 THE START

- 17.1 Races will be started using the system in accordance with RRS 26. Visual signals shall govern. Failure of a sound signal shall be disregarded.
- 17.2 A lone starter shall constitute a race.
- 17.3 A skiff shall not start more than **15** minutes after her starting signal.
- 17.4 A skiff in breach of SI 17.3 shall be ranked as Did Not Start (DNS).
- 17.5 The start line shall be between the flagstaff on the committee vessel displaying an Abbotsford 12' Flying Squadron Inc. burgee and a mark carrying a Black 12 on a Yellow background.
- 17.6 For the second and subsequent races, per round, a minimum of 1 minute shall elapse between lowering of the previous race finish 'On Station' flag (blue) and the Warning Signal'.
- 17.7 The Race Committee Vessel may hold station by using engines. Any effects shall not be grounds for granting redress. This alters RRS 62.1b and 62.2.

18 THE FINISH

- 18.1 The finish line shall be between the north-eastern corner of the clubhouse and a white post on the Gladesville shore to the north-east.
- 18.2 Skiffs will finish by crossing the finishing line from the direction of the last mark.

19 ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES FOR INFRINGING A RULE OF PART 2

The 720 degree turns penalty, RRS 44.1 & RRS 44.2 will apply, except that the 720 degree turns is replaced by a 360 degree turn including one tack and one gybe.

20 TIME LIMIT

- 20.1 The time limit for the first boat for each race is 180 minutes for a Long Course (Courses 1 to 4) and 120 minutes for a short course (courses 5 – 8). If the first boat has not completed the course within the time limit, the race shall be abandoned. If no boat has rounded the first mark within 40 minutes of the start the race shall be abandoned.
- 20.2 Any boats failing to finish within 45 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored Did Not finish. (Amends RRS 35).

21 SHORTEN COURSE

The PRO may elect to shorten course in accordance with RRS 32.1.

If the Race Committee signals shorten course (displays flag S on a mark of the course, or from an official vessel adjacent to a mark of the course) boats shall round that mark as designated in the course sheet and proceed directly to the finish line.

22 PROTESTS

- 22.1 Protests shall be written on forms available from the regatta office and shall be lodged there together with the applicable fee within the protest time limit.
- 22.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the time of the last boats finish of the final race each day (amends RRS 61.3).
- 22.3 **Protests for an infringement if a rule of Parts 2, 3 or 4 of the RRS shall incur a fee of \$75.**
- 22.4 Notices will be posted as soon as possible after a protest is lodged to inform crews where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a protest or named as witnesses.

- 22.5 Protest mediation will be used prior to formal protest hearings where the protest alleges breach of a rule of Part 2 or Part 4. For information on mediation refer to Attachment C. If a party to a protest acknowledges that they have breached a rule of Part 2 or Part 4 during mediation they will be penalised 50% of the points they scored in the race [not consistent with Attach C, 5 (d)] in which the incident occurred.
- 22.6 The Protest Committee Chairman and the Protest Committee will be appointed by the Race Committee.

23 SCORING

- 23.1 The number of scheduled races is detailed in SI 10. Three completed races will be required to constitute a series.
- 23.2 a) In the event that only 4 or less races have been completed, a boat's score shall be the sum of the scores in all races in that series. There will be no discards.
- b) When 5 races have been completed, a boat's score shall be the sum of all scores for all races in that series, excluding her worst score in accordance with RRS A2.
- 23.3 *Championship:* The Bonus Points Scoring System of RRS Appendix A shall apply.
- 23.4 *Handicap:* The Bonus Points Scoring System of RRS Appendix A shall apply.
- 23.5 *Ties:* Ties shall be broken according to RRS A8.1. When a tie still remains, the discarded heat points shall be added to form the skiffs total points to break the tie. (Amends RRS Appendix A8.2). When the tie still remains, then RRS Appendix A8.2 will apply.

24 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 24.1 All entrants must sign-on prior to the first race of each day and sign-off after their last race of each day. Failure to do so will result in disqualification. The sign-on/off form will be located near the regatta notice board.
- 24.2 All crew members shall wear, whilst afloat, a personal flotation device (PFD) secured about their persons in a manner appropriate to the design of the device. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy.
- 24.3 Specific attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4, which states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."
- 24.4 Races may not be started if the wind speed exceeds **30** knots consistently over a period of time or as assessed by the race committee or PRO, or any lesser wind strength, if in the opinion of the race committee or PRO the actual or expected conditions are likely to be unsafe for racing, taking into account all factors, including knowledge of local waters and available rescue facilities.
- 24.5 If conditions deteriorate after the race has started, abandonment of the race is at the discretion of the race committee or PRO.
- 24.6 A skiff shall attempt to notify an official vessel of their intention to withdraw from a race and proceed to race headquarters or other shore areas.

25 RACE COMMITTEE

25.1 The Race Committee for the regatta will comprise:

Bruce Wilson - Principal Race Officer (PRO)

Beryl Wilson

Geoff Dempsey

25.2 All communications shall be addressed to the PRO.

25.3 A quorum for a meeting of the Race Committee shall be **2** members.

26 SUBSTITUTE SKIPPER / CREW

Substitution of competitors during the event will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee. Application to be made in writing to the Race Committee before 10:30 a.m. on the day it will take effect.

27 TROPHIES and PRIZEMONEY

Trophies and Prize money/Prizes will be given as follows:

Australian Championship	1st, 2nd, 3rd placing's.
Overall Handicap	1st, 2nd, 3rd placing's
Veterans (skipper over 45 years old)	1st place
Juniors (skipper & crew under 21 year old)	1st place

28 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with a valid third-party liability insurance for racing with a minimum cover of \$5 million.

29 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing 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.

Competitors shall accept that their participation in this Event is at their exclusive risk in every respect. By way of entry in this event competitors shall indemnify the Organising Authority i.e. the Abbotsford 12' Flying Squadron Inc., and their officers, members, servants and agents in respect to all claims and demands of whatever nature which may be made upon them in connection with or howsoever arising from their participation or intended participation in an Event.

ATTACHMENT A - COURSE SHEET**LONG COURSES**

Number 1 – North East Wind	Number 2 – East Wind
Start	Start
1. Five Dock Point (P.H.)	3. Abbotsford Bay (S.H.)
2. France Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
1. Five Dock Point (P.H.)	3. Abbotsford Bay (S.H.)
2. France Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
1. Five Dock Point (P.H.)	3. Abbotsford Bay (S.H.)
2. France Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
Finish of Club	Finish of Club

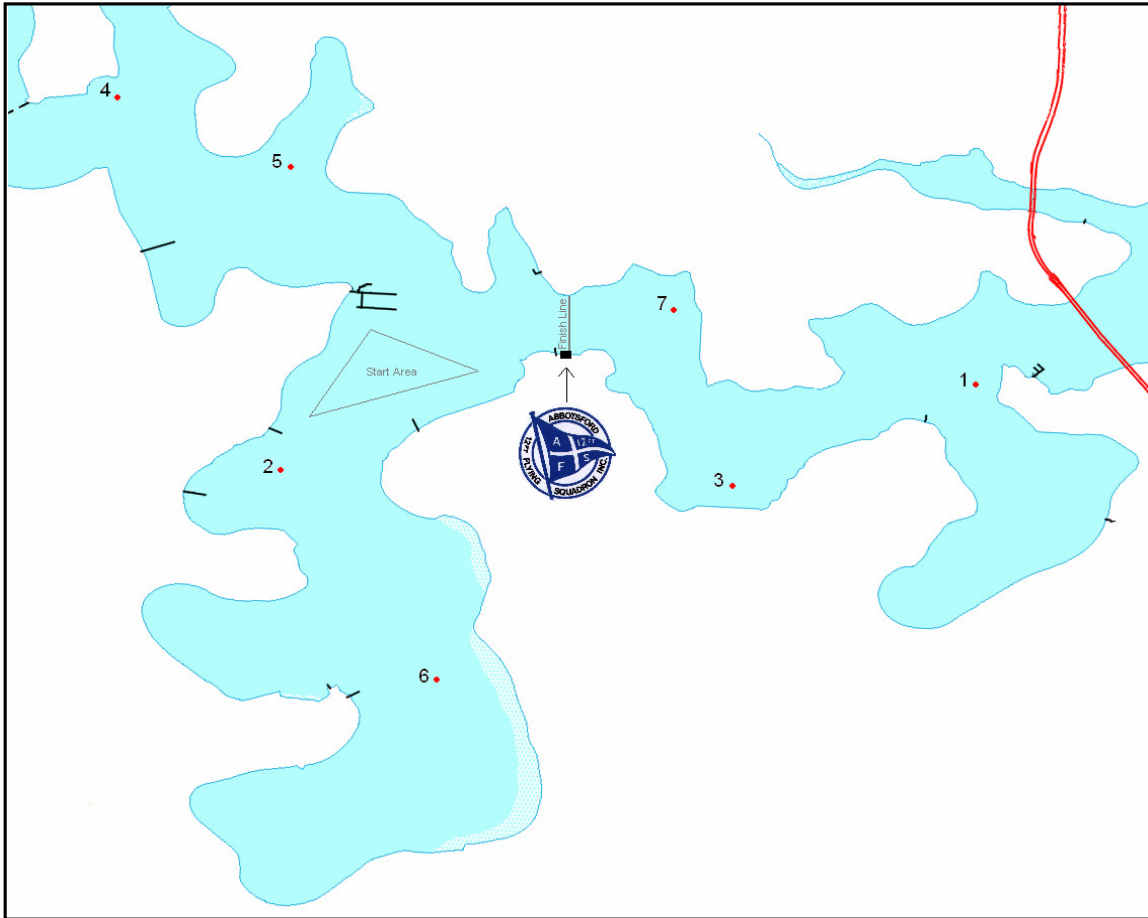
Number 3 - South Wind	Number 4 - West Wind
Start	Start
6. Exile Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
4. Putney (P.H.)	7. Bedlam Bay (P.H.)
6. Exile Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
4. Putney (P.H.)	7. Bedlam Bay (P.H.)
6. Exile Bay (P.H.)	5. Glades Bay (P.H.)
4. Putney (P.H.)	7. Bedlam Bay (P.H.)
Finish off Clubhouse.	4. Putney (P.H.)
	Finish off Clubhouse.

SHORT COURSES

Number 5 – North East Wind	Number 6 – East Wind
Start	Start
1. Five Dock Point (P.H.)	3. Abbotsford Bay (S.H.)
2. France Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
1. Five Dock Point (P.H.)	3. Abbotsford Bay (S.H.)
2. France Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
Finish of Club	Finish of Club

Number 7 - South Wind	Number 8 - West Wind
Start	Start
6. Exile Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
4. Putney (P.H.)	7. Bedlam Bay (P.H.)
6. Exile Bay (P.H.)	4. Putney (P.H.)
4. Putney (P.H.)	7. Bedlam Bay (P.H.)
Finish off Clubhouse.	5. Glades Bay (P.H.)
	Finish off Clubhouse.

ATTACHMENT B - RACING AREA



ATTACHMENT C - PROTEST MEDIATION

1. A mediation hearing will be conducted for all protests lodged in accordance with RRS 61, which allege a breach of a rule of Part 2 or Part 4.
2. The Mediator will be appointed by the Protest Committee Chairman and may be a member of the Protest Committee.
3. The mediation hearing will be conducted as soon as reasonably possible after the protest is delivered and prior to the scheduling of the protest hearing. The time and place of the mediation hearing will be decided by the Mediator and such advice will be given verbally.
4. One representative of each boat may attend the mediation hearing and no witnesses (except the Mediator) shall be allowed. The Mediator shall decide the manner in which testimony is taken.
5. After taking testimony at a mediation hearing the Mediator shall make one of the following conclusions:
 - a) The protest does not comply with rule 61 and the protester may withdraw the protest.
 - b) The protest shall proceed to a protest hearing. (This may be:
 - because rules other than Part 2 or 4 are or may be involved, or
 - because evidence is too complex or divergent to reach a reasonable and timely conclusion, or
 - because of the apparent severity of the alleged breach, or
 - for any other reason decided by the Mediator.)
 - c) There was no breach of the rules and the protester may withdraw the protest.
 - d) There has been a breach of the rules by one or more of the boats involved, the boat(s) which have broken a rule may accept scoring points to the value of the average of the points scored for that race plus the points for DNF and if so accepted, the protester shall withdraw the protest. (the points of other boats shall not be adjusted.)

Should a mediated protest proceed to a protest hearing the Mediator may be present throughout the hearing (changes RRS 63.3 (a)) and may be called to give evidence and may be questioned by the Protest Committee or any of the parties to the hearing, but he/she shall not question any person who gives evidence and shall not be present while the Protest Committee is discussing and deciding the protest, unless the mediator is a member of the Protest Committee.

6. A mediation hearing shall not be re-opened. No conclusion of a Mediator shall be subject to appeal, nor be grounds for redress.
7. Should it be the opinion of the Protest Committee that proper advice was given with point 3 above, or that every reasonable attempt was made to advise the parties to a protest of the time and place of the mediation's hearing, and a representative of one or more of the boats involved does not come to the mediation hearing, then the following conclusions may be made without a further hearing (changes RRS 63.1);
 - a) If the protesting boat does not come to the mediation hearing - Conclusion: The protester requests to withdraw the protest.
 - b) If a protested boat does not come to the mediation hearing - Conclusion: The protestee accepts the scoring points in accordance with 5(d) and the protester requests to withdraw the protest.