



# Sailing Information

## Ancient Mariner Social Sailing 2021/22

This Sailing Instruction is provided to give guidance to sailors wishing to participate in Ancient Mariner Social Sailing (AMSS) which is a Category 5 event, conducted by the Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club. It is to be sailed on Lake Victoria, Lake King and within the McMillan Straits. This SI should be read in conjunction with the annual updated GLYC Summer Series documents.

### ***Ancient Mariners Sailing Windows:***

- Ancient Mariner – Winter Series (*conducted during the months of autumn & winter with a possible 26 sailing days*);
- Ancient Mariner – Summer Series (*conducted during months of Spring & Summer with a possible 23 sailing days*);
- A challenge Series will be conducted throughout the year in conjunction with both winter and summer sailing as weather condition allow.

Note: Ancient Mariners Winter & Summer Social Sailing Series are stern chaser's held every Thursday unless circumstances prevent access then it may be postponed until the Friday or else cancelled. The GLYC Sailing calendar shows individual sail dates and is located on the sailglyc website.

### ***Rules:***

- All sailing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing;
- All Sternchaser events will be classified as 'No Extras' i.e., no spinnakers.

### ***Duty Officer:***

- The Duty Officer (DO) is appointed annually by the GLYC Committee;

### ***Adverse Weather Conditions:***

- Weather Forecast - The DO of the day is to obtain the latest possible Bureau of Meteorology weather forecast and wind strength report on the day of the event.
- Sailing Abandonment – There will be an automatic abandon/postponement and notification by email prior to 10am should the BOM weather site show a *“Strong wind warning or greater for the Gippsland Lakes”*
- The Duty Officer also has the authority to abandon/postpone the event should the forecast weather conditions on the day be not conducive to sailing. This decision is to be based on existing and forecast weather conditions, with due respect to the Safety Category under which the event is being conducted. Sail abandonment/postponement may be decided prior to the start of an event, or when necessary, be decided during a sail.
- The electronic mobile messaging service will only be used for notification after 11am and/or in emergency situations, all other communication will be by email.
- The accepted sailing range is:
  - Temperature is too hot (*> 38 degrees*) or too cold (*< 5 degrees*);
  - Fresh winds as shown on the BOM weather site (*> 20 knots*) or light winds (*<3 knots*) however if a Strong wind warning or greater for the Gippsland Lakes is posted the AM Social sailing will automatically be cancelled or postponed;

- Once an event has commenced and conditions be considered too strong the DO is to contact the control tower Radio (*VHF Channel 77*), to indicate all boats should return to shore/dock with all haste possible.

Should Thursday's sailing be postponed due to extreme weather conditions or other reasons associated with Club operations it will be resailed on the following day (Friday).

- When, for any reason Thursday is postponed Friday sailing can have a flexible start time;
- The DO can choose an earlier start time in the hope of gaining a better chance of getting the fleet on the water under safer sailing conditions;
- The start times can only be changed to - on the hour, between 10 am and 2 pm. (*e.g. An 11am start would mean sailing between 11.00 and 13.30 hours with the aim of having all boats home and off the water by 1400 hours*);
- Friday's sailing briefing will be sent out the night before to allow time for anyone who has to travel some distance. Should conditions change overnight an SMS message would be sent indicating the change;

It is not seen that a change to start times to 'Sailing with Wind' will occur very often, but it does allow flexibility and may help to get more sailing time in during inclement weather periods.

N.B. Wherever possible when the wind is sailable the start times will always be 1300 hours.

### ***Eligibility & Entry***

- The AMS is restricted to Division 2 boats & keel boats. Entrants are advised that they must comply with:
  - Category 6 – All trailer sailing & Keel boats with the exception of Etchells, Dragons and Tumblaren class;
  - Category 7 – All Etchells, Dragons, and Tumblaren class.
- Where a large number of one design boats exists (i.e. Etchells) a separate division will be formed:
  - If 5 or more of the one design start an AM sail they would form a single division within the fleet and will be awarded a separate finish;
  - Where there is less than 5 one design boats start they would join with all the other boats;
  - Nothing would change from the way the social sail is currently conducted with the exception of possible multiple winners;
  - This is aimed at giving all boats on the water a chance at sailing against boats with similar handicaps.
- There are no designated supports craft attending the Ancient Mariner fleet, however should a yacht get into difficulty the closest yachts are to provide assistance. An appropriate time will be allowed towards final finish times;
- Off the beach boats are not eligible to sail in these events;
- A VHF radio (CH77) must be carried and monitored during the period of the sail. Prior to the start of the event the skipper is to conducted a radio check with the tower and state the number of persons on board;
- Casual entries may, at the discretion of the DO, be accepted up to one (1) hour before the scheduled start time on the day;
- The GLYC Sailing Entry & Declaration Form for the current season must be submitted along with the Safety Declaration and conformation provides that the required insurance coverage is in place before an entry will be accepted. Any boat not lodging the required documentation shall be considered not to have entered and be ineligible to appear in the event results;

- The event will be monitored at the GLYC starters box and sailors are requested to electronically sign on at <https://sailglyc.com/sailing-sign-on/> before 12.30pm, and you will be signed off by tower as you cross the finish line *All competitors must be listed on the sign on program or will be awarded a DNS*);
- The DO may at any time require a competitor to leave an event where they believe the safety of the competitor or others during the event may be at risk. *(Such action will be reported to the Club Committee who may take any further action if deemed necessary)*.
- The DO will forward an electronic brief to all competitors registered for AM Social Sailing. The briefing will include:
  - The weather and wind condition for the time on the water;
  - A copy of the course of the day;
  - The link to the sign on register;
  - Any safety or club update notices.
- The starting times & course will also be displayed at the bench located on the east side breezeway door;
- While the social aspect of AM sailing is on hold for COVID 19 no snake contribution fee is required.

## ***Schedule***

The sailing schedule of dates is shown in the GLYC Sailing Calendar available on the website

- Ancient Mariner Summer Series - Commencing on the first Thursday in October and concludes on the last Thursday in March;
- Ancient Mariner Winter Series - Commencing on the first Thursday in April and concludes on the last Thursday in September.

## ***Courses***

- The course to be sailed will be taken from Ancient Mariner Course sheets and determined on the day depending on wind strength and direction. The DO can notify the sailors a set course in the sail briefing email;
- Although the Ancient Mariners Course Sheet provides a selection of courses, the sailors on the day can decide to sail an alternate course when the majority of sailors are in agreement;
- A copy of the course diagram will be sent by email to all competitors and will be available on the day of sail at the Club;

## **Shortening of Course**

The shortening of a course maybe be carried out at the discretion of the DO of the day by:

- Reducing the length of an existing course under agreement with the sailors prior to the sail commencing (*i.e. drop a leg*);
- Notifying by Radio, after boats have commenced the sailing, and gaining confirmation of their understanding. *(This would normally be carried out by the tower officer under instructions from the DO of the day)*.

## **Course Extension**

If the first boat reaches the five knot mark heading for the finish line on the final leg before 3pm, tower control can make *(but not necessarily as wind and weather can effect this decision)*, the decision to lengthen the course by:

- sending the fleet back to Bluff Head (thereby adding two additional legs) and a starboard turn to the finish line at the Centre 5 Knot Mark (this is to maintain clearance between boats on the run to the finish line and the late arrivals that still have the additional legs to sail).

The notification to extend will be by radio so a normal radio watch is required although by the time the first boat reaches the 5 knot mark it will give you a good indication of what is required.

*Please Note: when reaching the 5 knot mark off Montague Point the normal starboard turn will have to be taken as a **port rounding** so the call will be given on the approach to the mark to give the skipper time to ready the boat for a port turn, and to know what additional mark he is to include.*

## ***Collision Avoidance***

When approaching a port turning mark in company with other boats the lead boat closest to the mark determines the point of turn once entering the 20 metre turn radius. All other boats are to follow though the turn, or should a danger of collision exists are to turn with the lead boat irrespective if they have entered the 20 metres turn radius.

Communication between boats while sailing in close company is a fundamental part of Collision avoidance. This is social sailing so make sure other boats in the close vicinity of your boat are aware you sail intentions.

## ***Prizes***

The following will be presented to the skipper:

- A bottle of wine - to the first boat home on each sail day;
- A memento - to the best performing boat for each series;
- A memento/bottle of wine – to the best performing boat for each challenge.

*Note: The prizes are Sponsored by Lightfoot Wines or purchased from the snake contribution fee.*

## ***Ancient Mariner Series***

The AM Sailing is conducted every Thursday all year round with the exception of 3 weeks over the Christmas / New Year period:

- Start 1300hrs (*No briefing during COVID period as all notifications will be by email and radio*);
- Standard finish 1530hrs, however the DO has the option to extend the finish time to 1630hrs with notice. Wherever possible the notice to extend the finish time is to be included in the morning briefing, however the extension can be done on the water if the conditions & course demand it.

## ***COVID 19 – Special Requirements for AM Social sailing***

This SI is to be read in conjunction with the GLYC COVIDSafe Plan and State Government restrictions. In addition the following is to occur:

- The DO will also be the responsible COVIDSafe Officer;
- Face masks are to be carried by both skipper and crew and must be worn where social distancing cannot be maintained on land or signage is displayed for masks to be worn;
- All skippers and crew must sign-on to sailing electronically on the days event (*The boat and crew can be COVID registered using the usual crew system which makes the electronic sign on easier*);
- Clubhouse grounds have a limit of 200 people as long as social distancing occurs or masks are worn.
- There is no open access to the clubhouse or facilitates. Each person entering must QR code in to gain access. i.e., toilet/showers, main hall etc.

- The GLYC launching ramp and retrieval area for boats is limited to a maximum of 20 people. *(This may mean that boats have to park up with no more than 4 boats on the ramp access jetty at any one time)*

**N.B:** If these restrictions cannot be met the boat is unable to participate in AM social sailing

### ***COVIDSafe Non-compliance Penalties***

Should consistent COVIDSafe non-compliance occur during boat preparation, on water competition or boat pack-up then penalties will transpire:

- Crews repeatedly seen to be not attempting social distancing on land or on the water will be disqualified (DSQ) from the sailing results;
- Crews seen to be not wearing masks as required by the current regulations will be DSQ from the sailing results;
- Repeat infringements will result in a boat's DSQ from the series (The AM series are of 6 month duration).

These penalties have been recommended by Australian Sailing as a COVIDSafe control measure.

### ***General Information***

The Ancient Mariner Series is run on a similar format to the Tuesday Twilight Series but with some variations as noted below.

- This is a non-spinnaker event;
- The start and finish lines will be the extension of a line projected from a yellow line on the GLYC starters box through to the light pole marked with yellow stripes on the Grassy Point Jetty (Sailability), bounded by the opposite bank;
- A digital clock will display the official time for starts and will be located on the GLYC loft balcony. The time displayed is the official time and sailors may have to set their clocks accordingly;
- Boats are to remain clear of the start line and not restrict other competitors from starting or finishing;
- All fixed navigation marks are marks of the course and to be passed on the correct side;
- The marks of the course are the fixed marks of the Lake and you need to imagine a radius of 20 metres around each mark. A turn/pass must be conducted anywhere within that 20 metre radius as long as you are leaving the mark on its correct side.
- 5 knot marks are to be physically rounded to Port with the exception of the final leg and run to the Club finish line when 5 knot mark it is to be considered as a hitch mark, and rounded to Starboard (*Note: This is the only Starboard rounding on the courses to be sail*);
- Should a boat complete the course within the allocated time the remainder of the fleet is to continue sailing to cross the finish line to be eligible for an allocated placing. There is an allowance of 1 hour after 1530 or the nominated extension time for all boats to finish. Any boat not finishing within the time period is to be awarded a DNF;
- Should no boat cross the finish line by 1530hrs or the nominated extension time, the event will conclude on the water and placings noted (*Boats are required to radio the tower with their placings*);
- Once the sail has commenced and the weather declines to outside the accepted sailing range for the series, the DO will abandon sailing for the day.

**Note:** *No rescue boat will be available for this series and it is the responsibility of every competitor to provide assistance to any boat in difficulty and time taken will be recognised in the sail results.*

## ***Insurance***

All competing yachts shall have public liability insurance covering a racing risk extension or social racing for an amount of not less than Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000)