

Academy Graduates Development Regatta 2025

Join us on the Harbour for the seventh annual Academy Graduates Development Regatta in the Club's fleet of Force 24 inshore keelboats.

Saturday 15th November 2025

... if you are ready to try something fun and you're keen to put your newfound sailing skills into practice, come and join us for this great event!

We're delivering this exciting regatta to help our emerging Sailing Academy graduates make the transition from training into racing.

Six crews will be formed from individual registrations and they will be supported by one of our Academy's Mentor Skippers – to encourage crews to swap roles (including helming if interested) during the regatta – providing opportunities to develop skills in all areas.

A Training Morning will be held from 8:30am to 12:30pm to allow newly-formed crews to practise and work on their boat handling & teamwork prior to the regatta in the afternoon from 1:30pm.

A racing rules & race management briefing will be provided as part of the Training Morning to enhance our groups' knowledge of racing prior to hitting the water.

The day is all about learning and development and not about winning, so you can enjoy this new challenge in a supportive environment.



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NOTICE OF RACE

1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

1.1 The Organising Authority (OA) is the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC).

2 VENUE

2.1 The event will be conducted from the NCYC Clubhouse – 95 Hannell Street Wickham.

2.2 Racing will be conducted on the waters of Newcastle Harbour. The racing area will be in the vicinity of Honeysuckle Hotel – in The Basin.

3 RULES

3.1 The event will be conducted by:

- a) The rules, as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing;
- b) The Prescriptions, Amendments and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing; and
- c) This Notice of Race, except in the event of a conflict with the Sailing Instructions in which case the Sailing Instructions will take precedence.
- d) RRS 44.1 is changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one gybe is required.

4 ELIGIBILITY

4.1 The event is open to Graduates of the NCYC Sailing Academy. Following this if any places remain, the regatta opens up to NCYC members.

4.2 A "Sailing Academy Graduate" is defined as any sailor who has attended a course conducted by the NCYC Sailing Academy including Start Crewing, Start Helming etc, Women's Sailing, *OutThere Sailing* or sessions of 'Give it a Go' Racing, Friday Twilight Sailing, Family Sailing Adventures, Frontline Sailing or a 'Discover Sailing' Experience.

4.3 The minimum age for participation is 14 years on the first day of the regatta.

4.4 An allocated NCYC Mentor Skipper shall be onboard the boat at all times during the event.

4.5 The number of crew on each boat (including the allocated Mentor Skipper) shall be four (4) or five (5).

4.6 The OA will allocate individual competitors to teams based on experience to equalize crews. Participants may indicate on their entry registration who they would like to sail with.

4.7 Crew members may substitute as helmsperson for each race. Crew members are not required to skipper if they do not wish to. Changes to helmsperson may only occur between races or in the case of a Mentor Skipper taking over the helm.

5 ENTRY

5.1 Individual Graduates may register by completing the online entry via the RevSport booking system - <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/ncyc/events/295563>

5.2 Entries shall be accompanied by a \$130 Entry Fee which includes: Event training & racing access to boats, a mentor skipper for the full day, on-water snacks, lunch & refreshments (in the Clubhouse), prizegiving celebration and prizes.

5.3 Up to 24 Academy Graduates will be accepted by the OA on a first come first served basis.

5.4 Team Allocations will be advised by the OA no later than 1700hrs Thursday 13th November.

5.5 A "Reserve List" will be created should there be greater numbers of Graduates than spaces available. A Reserve List Application will be available on the event webpage when registrations are full.

6 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 6.1 The event shall be windward/leeward 'fleet racing' format.
- 6.2 There shall be a maximum of four (4) races.
- 6.3 Subsequent races will be started as soon as practical after the preceding race.
- 6.4 The Schedule will be as follows:

Date	Time	Event
Saturday, 15th November 2025	8:30am	Registration in the Clubhouse upstairs in <i>The Bridge</i>
	09:00am	Crew Education - Rules & Race Management Training Session
	09:45am	Rig Boats and spinnaker training (ashore)
	10:00am	On-water Training Session
	12:30pm	Lunch in <i>The Foredeck</i>
	1:30pm	Competitor Briefing
	1:40pm	Rig Boats & get onto the water
	2:00pm	First Warning Signal (up to 4 races)
	4:00pm	Latest Warning Signal
	4:30pm	Off water, stow sails and boats
	5:00pm	Celebration & Prizegiving Ceremony in <i>The Foredeck</i>

**The OA may alter this schedule at any time.*

7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 7.1 The Sailing Instructions will be posted on the event webpage by 1700hours on Thursday 13th November 2025.

8 SUPPLIED YACHTS

- 8.1 The boats to be used for the series will be the Sailing Academy's Force 24 class yachts.
- 8.2 Up to six (6) yachts will be provided and allocated by the OA.
- 8.3 One Mainsail and Jib will be provided and a spinnaker with each yacht.
- 8.4 Yachts will be allocated by the OA

9 SCORING

- 9.1 The event will consist of a maximum of four (4) races.
- 9.2 The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A5.2 of the RRS will apply.
- 9.3 All scores will be counted; no score shall be excluded.

10 PRIZES

- 10.1 Prizes to competitors and teams will be awarded at the discretion of the OA.

11 MEDIA, IMAGES & SOUND

- 11.1** The conditions of entry include that competitors acknowledge that the OA owns all media rights to the event and may exercise those rights as it sees fit and that the OA has the unconditional perpetual right to publish and broadcast, for the purpose of promoting sailing and the NCYC in any media, photographs and video and audio recordings taken of boats and competitors during the event.

12 DISCLAIMER

- 12.1** All those participating in the series do so at their own risk and responsibility. Competitors must acknowledge this prior to participating and release the NCYC and its sponsors and their respective officers, employees, volunteers and members from all liability by completing the online registration form as a part of the entry process. 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"*

13 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 13.1** Email: sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au
Phone: (02) 4940 8188
Web: <https://www.ncyc.net.au/inshore-racing/graduates-development-regatta/>