

**Taipan Catamaran Association
of Australia Incorporated**

By Laws

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1. ORGANISATION AND POWERS

The TCAA shall be affiliated with Yachting Australia and shall pay such fees as are prescribed by Yachting Australia.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Membership of the TCAA shall consist of the following classes:

- 2.1.1 Member, being persons who are registered Taipan owners and have paid annual subscription.
- 2.1.2 Associate Member, being persons who have paid annual subscription
- 2.1.3 Life members, being persons who have rendered special service to TCAA and who have been recommended for "life" membership and subsequently elected by a resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting.

3. CHANGES TO BY-LAWS

The TCAA may from time to time make, amend or repeal by-laws in respect of any subject or matter for the general care and good government of the TCAA.

4. THE COMMITTEE

3.1 In addition to the Rules of Association in which specific officers are listed and provisions for general committee members exist the TCAA Committee shall also include the following specific officers:

- 3.1.1 Technical Officer
- 3.1.2 Marketing/Publicity Officer
- 3.1.3 One financial member from each State or Territory of Australia

5. DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE

5.1 The duties of the Committee are detailed in the Rules of Association. For the Committee positions added in this document, the TCAA By Laws, the duties are:

- 5.1.1 The Technical Officer shall:
 - Coordinate the review of the Class Rules.
 - Act as Measurer or recommend to the committee delegated measurers for State and National events.
 - Ensure compliance of Class Rules and provide guidance to members relating to the interpretation of the Rules.
- 5.1.2 The Marketing/Publicity Officer shall:
 - Coordinate any sponsorship relating to the TCAA and associated events.
 - Ensure the National Website is up to date and informative.
 - Ensure that results for National Championship are published daily.
 - Coordinate and ensure reports are published in the print and electronic media for all major events.
- 5.1.3 The State and Territory Representatives shall:
 - Organise State titles
 - Liaise with host Club
 - Establish budget

- Issue Notice of Race
 - Organise trophy's
 - Collect entry fee and membership forms and fees
 - Via Treasurer pay suppliers and yacht club
 - Provide Treasurer with financial statement, receipts and balance of money
 - Provide Secretary with any new membership details
 - Collect the results and forward them to our webmaster
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- Publish a list of Taipan friendly regattas and/or organise a Travellers series.
 - Act as a contact point for any prospective members in their state
 - Contribute articles to relevant publications

6. RACING BY-LAWS

6.1 National Titles

- 6.1.1 The TCAA shall conduct National Titles on an annual basis for Taipan 4.9 Cat and Sloop Rigged, and 5.7 Catamarans.
- 6.1.2 A National Title shall deem to exist when a minimum of 3 boats shall compete for any class.
- 6.1.3 The conducting of the National Titles will be the responsibility of the TCAA and a nominated sub-committee.
- 6.1.4 To be eligible to compete at International, National or State Taipan championships, each registered Taipan Catamaran must be crewed by a member of the TCAA.

6.2 Location of National Titles

- 6.2.1 Australian National Titles are to be held annually in the following rotation system, VIC, SA, QLD, NSW subject to the availability of a suitable venue and willingness of members to conduct the event.
- 6.2.2 The TCAA shall notify all members of the venue of the next Australian Titles at the Annual General Meeting of the proceeding Titles.

6.3 Notice of Regatta

- 6.3.1 The Notice of Regatta will be in accordance with the following wording in Appendix 1. Adjustments may be made to comply with local requirements and Yachting Association Rules.

6.4 Championship Rules

- 6.4.1 The National Championships will be conducted in accordance with the Championship Rules of the Taipan Class, see Appendix 3. Adjustments may be made to comply with Yachting Association regulations or ISAF Rules.

6.5 Sailing Instructions

- 6.5.1 The Sailing Instructions will be in accordance with the following wording in Appendix 2. Adjustments may be made to comply with local requirements and State Yachting Association regulations.

APPENDIX 1 – NOTICE OF REGATTA

**TAIPAN AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
CONDUCTED BY (CLUB)
(YEAR)
NOTICE OF REGATTA**

1 Invitation

- 1.1 The *(name)* Club invites sailors of Taipan catamarans to sail in the *(year)* Taipan National Championships to be held between *(dates of races)* at *(name)* Club, *(address)*.

2 Program

- 2.1 *(Specify the date and time of :* Measurement
Invitation Race
Heats
Resails

3 Rules

- 3.1 The National Titles will be governed by the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions and special regulations of the AYF, the Championship Rules of the TCAA, the rules of the Taipan Class (except as any of these altered by the sailing instructions) and by the sailing instructions.

4 Eligibility

- 4.1 Each competitor entering the Championships shall have a current Measurement Certificate for the yacht.
4.2 All Competitors shall be financial members of the TCAA.
4.3 All boats shall have Public Liability Insurance to the value of at least the amount approved by the Committee.

5 Entries and registration

Entries on the prescribed form of entry shall be lodged with the Secretary of the TCAA by *(date of lodgment)* and be accompanied by a fee of *(amount)*.

Late entries will be accepted by the *(name)* Club, Regatta Headquarters, on the official TCAA Entry Form until *(time)* on the *(date)*, with a late entry fee of \$*(amount)*.

6 Scoring system

To be determined.

7 Sailing Instructions

Sailing Instructions will be available at the *(name)* Club, *(address)* from *(time)* on the *(date)*.

8 Measurement procedure

To be determined.

9 Alternative penalties

To be determined.

10 Prizes

To be determined.

APPENDIX 2 – SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

TAIPAN AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
CONDUCTED BY (CLUB)
(YEAR)
Sailing Instructions

1 Rules

1.1 *The regatta will be governed by*

- (a) *The current ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) , except as changed by these sailing instructions;*
- (b) *The prescriptions of national Sailing authority the Yachting Federation ;*
- (c) *The Championship Rules of the TCAA and Taipan Class Rules;*
- (d) *These Sailing Instructions (S.I.), Including changes made in compliance with instructions 3 and 4.*

1.2 *Entrants in the regatta shall comply with the ISAF Eligibility Rules as provided in Appendix 2.*

1.3 *Boats that display advertising shall comply with Category C in accordance with RRS Appendix 1, 20.3.1.*

2 Notices to Competitors

3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will posted not less than 2 hours prior to the start of the first race on the day it will take effect except that any change to the Schedule of races shall be posted prior to 2000hrs on the day before it will take effect.

4 Signals Made Ashore

5 Format

6 Schedule of Races

7 Class Flags

8 Racing Areas

9 The Courses

The Course will be the Taipan Championship Course as detailed in the Championship Rules.

10 Marks

11 The Start

12 Change of Position of the Next Mark

A change of the position of the next mark will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark (SI 10) may not then be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain the original course configuration, and such marks will be original course marks. When in a subsequent change of the new mark is replaced, it will be replaced with an original mark.

13 The Finish

The finish line will be between a staff displaying a “ “ on the Race Committee Vessel and the Finishing Mark.

14 Penalty System

15 Protests

16 Safety Regulations

Competitors attention is drawn to fundamental RRS 1 and 4. Competitors shall make their own decision to start or proceed in a race, taking into consideration the prevailing conditions at the time.

APPENDIX 3 – CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

Taipan Catamaran Association of Australia Championship Rules

1.0 Responsibility for Venue and Organisation

- 1.1** *A copy of these rules will be supplied to the Host Club who must in turn assure the Taipan Catamaran Association of Australia (herein after referred to as “the TCAA”) that they can comply with these rules.*
- 1.2** *Participation by sponsors shall be as prescribed by the ISAF. Naming of the event shall be approved by the TCAA.*

2.0 Appointment of a Protest Committee and their terms of reference.

- 2.1** *A Protest Committee shall be appointed as provided under the ISAF Racing Rules Appendix Q.*
- 2.2** *The Protest Committee shall include at least one person with experience in a Catamaran Class.*
- 2.3** *The Protest Committee shall be approved by the TCAA.*

3.0 Eligibility and Entries

- 3.1** *The skipper or crew of each yacht shall be a member of the TCAA*
- 3.2** *After the first race of the series, helmsperson or crew substitutes shall be allowed in case of sickness, accident or special circumstances and only with written permission of the Race Committee.*

4.0 Measurement

- 4.1** *The host club shall provide facilities for the complete measurement of boats.*
- 4.2** *The Technical Officer shall be the Chief Measurer or shall delegate (subject to Committee approval) that responsibility*
- 4.3** *A boat may not be allowed to race unless a valid measurement certificate (acceptable to the measurer).*
- 4.4** *Minimum check measurements selected from Class Rules shall be determined by the Chief Measurer. This may be used in place of a measurement certificate at the discretion of the Chief Measurer.*
- 4.5** *Other measurements may be required by the Chief Measurer.*
- 4.6** *All Sails to be used at an event shall measure in accordance with Class Rules. It is the Skipper’s responsibility to ensure the sails conform with the class rules. Sail tags must be signed and affixed to all 4.9 sails manufactured after November 1998.*
- 4.7** *Each Boat may measure only one complete set of equipment, which includes one mainsail for cat-rigged boats and one mainsail and two headsails for sloop rigged boats. The Race Committee may allow replacement of any items damaged beyond repair. Such items must measure within the Class Rules to the satisfaction of the Chief Measurer.*
- 4.8** *The Measurer must sign the nominated sails, Eg: Nats 200# Sail Number (Signature). Measurement will be provided at the Club to allow any competitor to check their conformity with the Class Rules within the nominated measurement period detailed in the sailing instructions.*
- 4.9** *Any repairs which could affect measurement shall be reported to and be under the control of the Race/Protest Committee.*

- 4.10** *No official measurement shall take place after Race 1 except as the result of protest, or due to replacement, alteration or repair of any item.*
- 4.11** *No competitor may protest a question of measurement later than the normal protest time applying to Race 1 – except on the grounds that there has been subsequent alteration of the boat or its equipment.*
- 4.12** *Corrector weights where necessary must be affixed to the boat in a visible position.*

5.0 *Racing Rules and Conditions*

- 5.1** *All Taipan Class Regattas shall be governed by the current ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) except as modified by the Taipan Class Rules, these Championship Rules and the Sailing Instructions for each event.*
- 5.2** *The Sailing Instructions must conform to the RRS and must be approved by the TCAA prior to the commencement of the event.*
- 5.3** *Races may be abandoned if the Race Committee believes that fair sailing has been compromised.*
- 5.4** *There shall be a minimum of two rescue boats on the water for any race to be started or continued.*
- 5.5** *No races shall be started if the average wind is less than 4 knots or more than 22 knots.*

6.0 *Notices to Competitors Made Ashore*

- 6.1** *Notices to Competitors including any changes to the Schedule of Races or the Sailing Instructions shall be made on an official notice board located near the Host Club.*
- 6.2** *Signals made ashore will be displayed on a flagstaff located near the Host Club.*
- 6.3** *Any changes to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted before 09:00 hours on the day that they take effect except any change to the Schedule of Races shall be posted prior to 20:00 hours on the day before it will take effect.*

7.0 *The Course*

- 7.1** *The Taipan Championship Course is shown in Appendix 3.*
- 7.2** *The Sequence of mark roundings for the Taipan Championship Course shall be: Start – 1 – 2 – 3A/3B – 1 – 2 – 3A/3B – 1 – 2 – 3A – 4 – Y (Finish)*
- 7.3** *The windward marks 1 and 2 shall be rounded to port.*
- 7.4** *The leeward marks 3A and 3B shall be set as a gate. All boats shall pass through the gate entering from the direction of Mark 2 before rounding Mark 3A to port or 3B to starboard.*
- 7.5** *The course length shall normally be set so the race will last approximately 40-60 minutes in the anticipated wind conditions. A race time outside this shall not be grounds for redress.*
- 7.6** *The starting line should be the length in metres approximately 2.5 times the number of boats starting. Eg: 50 Boats in largest division, Start line 125 metres (50*2.5)*
- 7.7** *The leeward gate should be 6 boat lengths apart. For large fleets (50 or greater) this distance may be extended to 8 boat lengths if necessary.*
- 7.8** *A change of course after the start will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not yet be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated to maintain the original configuration. When in a subsequent change of course a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced with the original mark.*
- 7.9** *A change of course will be signaled by the Race Committee boat, which will display code flag “C” to indicate the next mark has been shifted. Sound signals will be made to alert competitors.*

8.0 The Start/Finish

- 8.1** Races shall be started in accordance with RRS 26
- 8.2** The start line and the finish line shall be between the flagstaff on the start/finish boat and a mark as described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 8.3** Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29, 30.1 and 30.3 only.

9.0 Time Limit

- 9.1** A race shall be abandoned if no boat finishes within 90 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat shall be deemed not to have finished and shall be scored as a DNF.
- 9.2** If the wind reduces to less than 3 knots for a period of 15 minutes or more before the first boat finishes, then the race should be abandoned.
- 9.3** If during a race the wind significantly shifts to preclude fair sailing, as determined by the Race Committee, the race should be abandoned.

10.0 Scoring

- 10.1** The Low Point System as in Appendix A of the RRS shall be used.
- 10.2** Any race not conducted in compliance with the Class Championship Rules as determined by TCAA may be disregarded.
- 10.3** Provisional results should be posted on the Regatta Notice Board as soon as possible after the completion of each race.
- 10.4** If four races are sailed, all four shall count.
If five races are sailed, four shall count.
If six races are sailed, five shall count.
If seven races are sailed, six shall count.
If eight races are sailed, seven shall count
If nine races are sailed, seven shall count.
If ten races are sailed, eight shall count.
If eleven races are sailed, nine shall count.
If twelve races are sailed, ten shall count.

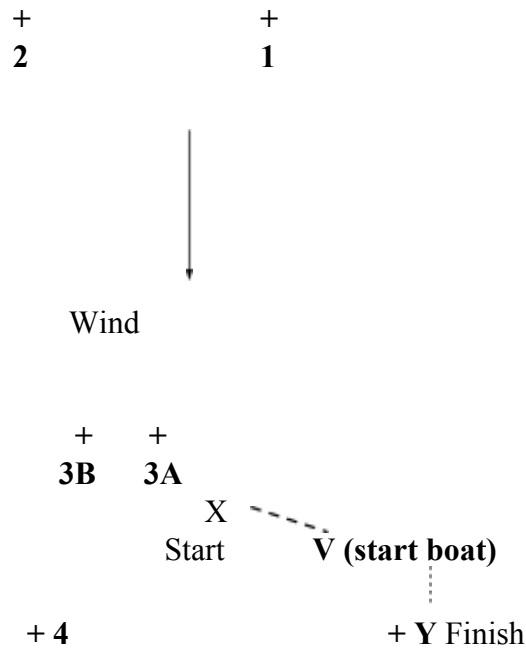
11.0 Protests

- 11.1** Protests shall be written on the forms available from the host club Regatta Office no later than one hour after the Race Committee returns to Shore after the last race of the day. There shall be no protest fee.
- 11.2** When a boat infringes a rule of RRS Part 2, the Alternative Penalty Rule 44.2 shall apply, except that the 720 degree turn shall be replaced by a 360 degree turn and shall include one tack and one gybe.

12.0 Insurance and Disclaimer

- 12.1** A valid third party insurance for a minimum amount set by the TCAA committee shall exist for each participating boat and proof of this insurance shall be available at all times.

13.0 COURSE DIAGRAM



- 1** Windward Mark
- 2** Reaching Mark
- 3A** Leeward Port Rounding Buoy
- 3B** Leeward Starboard Rounding Buoy
- V** Race Committee Vessel
- X** Start Buoy
- 4** ID Mark
- Y** Finish Mark

The Sequence of mark roundings for the Taipan Championship Course shall be:

Start (X-V) – 1 – 2 – 3A/3B – 1 – 2 – 3A/3B – 1 – 2 – 4 –Finish (V-Y)

The windward marks **1** and **2** shall be rounded to port.

The leeward marks **3A** and **3B** shall be set as a gate. All boats shall pass through the gate entering from the direction of mark **2** before rounding Mark **3A** to port or **3B** to starboard.

When finishing mark **4** must be taken to port.

The Finish Line shall be between The Start Boat and mark **Y**.

14.0 Recommendations to Organising & Race Committees

- 14.1** *The primary purpose of the Taipan Championship Rules is to simplify the Sailing Instructions for each event. In summary, the only points that should be required for the Sailing Instructions are:-*
- *The Venue, Host Club Name and National Authority organising the event.*
 - *The colour of the original course and altered course marks.*
 - *The Start/Finish mark.*
 - *The dates and schedule of races.*
 - *The social calendar.*
- 14.2** *The Windward-Leeward distance should vary between 0.6nm for light wind and 1-1.2nm in strong wind. This distance can also vary depending on fleet size.*
- 14.3** *When greater than 2 races per day are being sailed the target time for the race should be closer to 40 minutes than 60 minutes.*
- 14.4** *The wind strength shall be measured and recorded at regular intervals using a wind meter when the lower and upper limits may be in question as described in the Championship Rules. These readings should be made available to the Association if required.*
1. **14.5** *In relation to Championship Rule 9.0 apart from the Flags/Signals used for racing, no other flags shall be flown from the Start/Finish Vessel without prior permission of the Association.*

APPENDIX 4 – CLASS RULES TAIPAN 4.9

Insert Taipan 4.9 Class Rules.

APPENDIX 4 – CLASS RULES TAIPAN 5.79

Insert Taipan 5.7 Class Rules.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
20151230B	30/12/2015	Appendix 3, 7.10 Restriction to prevent race shortening, removed - AGM 30/1/2015