Notice of Race

For the

81st Vee Ess 15'Skiff Australian Championships

The Vee Ess Sailing Association Inc
Invites entries to race at
Teralba Amateur Sailing Club
on Lake Macquarie January 24th to January 26th 2026

Web site: www.vs.asn.au

Organising Authority - Vee Ess Sailing Association Inc (VSSA).
Host club - Teralba Amateur Sailing Club (TASC).

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1. Rules

1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

1.2 Australian Sailing Special Regulations, Part 2 Off the Beach Boats, will apply. It is the responsibility of all competitors to ensure that life jackets comply with a standard equivalent to those listed in the regulations.

1.3 The relevant class rules and by-laws will apply, except as altered by the Sailing Instructions or this Notice of Race.

1.4 Appendix T will apply .

1.5 [DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 64.

1.6 [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1.7 If there is conflict between any of the rules or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing Instructions will prevail.

2 [NP] [DP] ADVERTISING

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen & supplied by the Organising Authority.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY -Vee Ess

3.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the Vee Ess Class that have registered their capitation for the current season with the Registrar of the V.S.S.A. Inc.

3.2 All competitors:

(i) Must be financial members of the VSSA Inc.

Note: The VS Committee may accept membership of the VSSA Inc. after receiving a completed Membership Application and prescribed membership fee at least ninety minutes before the start of the day's racing. Membership is $10.00.

(ii) Must either hold a current Australian Sailing number or take up a Sail Pass through Teralba Amateur Sailing Club – Available at the Club on the first day of scheduled racing.

3.3 Each Vee Ess whose entry is accepted shall be sailed by the skipper & crew nominated on the Entry Form. In special circumstances only, the Race Committee may, at their discretion, allow for changes of this skipper & crew where a legitimate reason exists. In all circumstances the replacement sailors shall meet the eligibility requirements of the series. ***The intention of this clause is to ensure fair competition, and this will be considered if any crew application change is lodged. The decision of the Race Committee is final.***

3.4 Eligible boats may enter on the Entry Form available on the VSSA website which must be lodged with the Vee Ess Committee by 1200 hours on the 24th January 2026 with the required fee. Entries can be emailed to the contacts later described or physically at the Club on Saturday 24th January 2026.

3.5 The Vee Ess Sailing Association reserves the right to refuse any entry.

4 FEES

Entry Fee for **VS** boats into the regatta is $150.00 per boat. This fee includes a T-shirt for each crew nominated on the entry form if size details are provided prior to 24 December 2026. There is no discount to the entry fee where a T-shirt is not provided.

Preferred payment is by direct deposit to the VS Sailing Association.

5 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

5.1 The Australian Championships will consist of nine (9) races scheduled over three (3) days of racing.

5.2 Three (3) races are scheduled to be sailed on Saturday 24 January 2026 starting no earlier than 1400hrs. These races will be sailed back-to-back.

5.3 A sausage sizzle and informal presentation may be held after racing, details will be available at registration.

5.4 Three (3)races are scheduled to be sailed on Sunday 25 January 2026 starting no earlier than 1400 hrs. These races will be sailed back-to-back.

5.5 A competitors, volunteers and supporters dinner will be held at the Club from around 1830 hrs (pending extent of racing for the day) $20.00 includes dinner and a desert.

5.6 Three (3) races are scheduled to be sailed on Monday 26 January 2026 starting no earlier than 1400hrs. These races will be sailed back-to-back. No race shall start later than 1700hrs.

5.7 A presentation will be held at the club after results have been finalized after the final race of the series on Monday 26th January, 2026.

5.8 In the event that a race or races cannot be run on any day due to weather, timing out or other extraneous events, the Race Committee may alter the racing schedule to include additional races on following days and will notify competitors by posting a revised schedule of racing on the official noticeboard no later than 1900 hrs the day before any amendments to the schedule. This can include bringing the scheduled first race of any day forward but racing will not commence after 1700hrs on the last day, Monday 26th January 2026.

6 [NP] [DP] REGISTRATION AND MEASUREMENT

6.1 Eligible boats shall register with the Organising Authority prior to or at TASC.

6.2 For the Vee Ess class, the Vee Ess measurer will be available for sail & other measurement checks or as requested by competitors. Random checks may be made at any time throughout the regatta to check compliance of items such as tow rings, pole end caps, proof of sail measurement, etc.

7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available on the VS website no later than 1000hrs Saturday 24th January, 2026. Some printed hard copies of the SI's may be available at the Club.

8 RACING AREA

The races will be conducted on Lake Macquarie on the courses of Teralba Amateur Sailing Club.

9 COURSES

Race courses will be a Windward/Leeward configuration as described in the Sailing Instructions.

10 PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns penalty is replaced by a One-Turn penalty.

11 SCORING

11.1 Nine (9) races are scheduled of which five (5) races are required to constitute the Championship.

11.2 Each boat's score will be the total of her race scores with the following discards applied depending on the number of races completed.

11.3 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

11.4 When from six (6) to eight (8) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

11.5 When nine (9) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

11.6 For Vee Ess's the VSSA handicap system will apply for handicap results and scoring. The VSSA handicap committee reserves the right to change a boat's handicap at any time and without notice.

12 BOAT STORAGE & TRAILER PARKING

12.1 Trailers may be left adjacent to TASC, however it should be noted this in NOT a secure area & that all trailers are left at the owners discretion.

12.2 Boats may be left in the rigging area overnight however all liability for loss or damage to any article left at TASC remains with the owner.

12.3 Smaller items such as sails & foils may be stored within the TASC boatshed as directed by a TASC representative.

13 PRIZES -Vee Ess

13.1 Prizes and Trophies will include:

Perpetual trophies will be presented to the overall winners of the National Scratch Title and the National Handicap Title.

The Coal Board Shield will be presented to the scratch winner of the last race of the series.

14 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. Neither the Organising Authority nor the Host Club will accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

15 RISK WARNING

This Risk Warning is issued jointly by the VS Sailing Association and TASC, pursuant to the Civil Liability Act 2002, to all persons wishing to participate in the sailing activities conducted by the VS Sailing Association and TASC.

Participants are warned that, regardless of the precautions, which might be taken by reasonable and experienced persons, sailing can be a dangerous pursuit and participants are exposed to significant risk of property damage, physical harm and possibly death. As an indication, these risks may include, but are not limited to:

a) The extremes of weather and sea conditions.
b) The potential that control of vessels may be lost, resulting in collision with objects and other vessels.
c) The sudden movement of the vessel at any time and the possibility that participants may fall or be thrown overboard, resulting in drowning.
d) The possibility that participants may be injured by equipment on the vessel.
e) The absence of immediate medical care and the likelihood that significant delays may occur before medical care is available.
f) Exposure to the elements for extended periods.

VSSA, TASC and RMS (NSW Maritime) also warn participants that regardless of their best intentions, they may be unable to render assistance to participants who are in distress. Participants are warned to consider the above risks and all other risks before deciding to participate in this sailing event.

16 INSURANCE

16.1. All yachts competing in the Regatta are required to carry current Third Party Personal and Property Liability Insurance cover of a minimum recommended Aud $10,000,000 or equivalent thereof in any other currency for any one accident.

16.2. All owners/competitors who sign the Entry Form are deemed to have made a declaration that they hold such cover. Competitors may be required to produce evidence of such insurance and any competitor not holding this cover shall withdraw their entry.

16.3. Each Skipper and/or co-skipper is liable for any third-party property and personal injury claims.

17 FURTHER INFORMATION

The class rules of the Vee Ess do not require compliance with rule 50.1 requiring the use of quick release harnesses.

For the avoidance of doubt, devices that allow GPS signals to be used to provide information to crews such as compass bearings, speed, distances, provided they do not facilitate other outside assistance while racing.

Full canteen services will be available throughout the regatta.

Sailors should also note that during the regatta, 26 January, has in the recent past seen large numbers of the public gather at TASC to observe Australia Day celebrations. It is envisaged that sailing and boat storage will be impacted by these crowds.

For further information on the regatta Visit or contact

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