



66TH HERON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

4 - 9 JANUARY 2027

Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club

24 Boreen Parade, Boreen Point 4565



NOTICE OF RACE

1 INVITATION

- 1.1 Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club (LCSC), in conjunction with the National Heron Sailing Association of Australia Inc. (NHSAA), invites entries to the 66th Heron National Championships to be held on Lake Cootharaba, Qld from Monday 4 January 2027 to Saturday 9 January 2027.

2 ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

- 2.1 The Organizing Authority (OA) for this event is the Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club Inc. (ABN 30 624 557 096)

3 RULES

- 3.1 The 66th Heron National Championship (the championship) will be governed by the Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations Part 2 "Off the Beach Boats" and the NHSAA Class Rules (except where any of these are altered by the Sailing Instructions).
- 3.2 The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 3.3 Competitors should take note that the organisers will consider any overly aggressive behaviour, especially at or in the presence of children, to be a form of misconduct and will take appropriate action in accordance with Rule 69 should it occur. In particular, instances of yelling (other than that allowed within the RRS) and/or the use of foul language will not be tolerated.

4 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 The sailing instructions will be available prior to the first day of racing at the event website www.héronsailing.com.au. Although no hard copies of the sailing instructions will be provided to competitors, a copy will be posted on the LCSC official noticeboard.

5 COMMUNICATION

- 5.1 The official notice board will be located on the external wall of the LCSC clubhouse adjacent to the stairs leading up to the club entrance.

6 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 6.1 The championship is open to all “A” class Heron boats registered with the NHSAA.
- 6.2 All skippers must be financial members of the NHSAA.
- 6.3 All skippers and crews must be financial members of a yacht club affiliated with Australian Sailing.
- 6.4 Eligible boats may enter by completing the on-line entry on the NHSAA online entry and payment portal at www.héronsailing.com.au.

7 GENOA

- 7.1 Competitors may use a genoa subject to compliance with paragraph 16.7 of the NHSAA By-laws (18 Oct 2023) as follows:
 - 7.1.1 The combined weight of the skipper and crew, is equal to or greater than 135kg; or
 - 7.1.2 The combined weight of the skipper and crew is equal to or greater than 125kg and the boat is fitted with additional corrector weights of at least the difference between the crew weight and 135kg. Corrector weights must be fixed under the front thwart of the boat in accordance with class rules.
 - 7.1.3 Crews intending to use a genoa must be weighed at registration wearing shorts and t-shirt. An allowance of 3.2kg per crew member will be added to the measured combined weight to allow for basic sailing gear.
 - 7.1.4 Corrector weights required under this rule may be of any material, including water filled containers appropriately sealed by an official class measurer or his/her delegate.
 - 7.1.5 Corrector weights required under this rule may be inspected for compliance at any time. Boats found to be in breach of this rule will be scored DSQ for that days racing. (NP)
 - 7.1.6 Competitors may be reweighed at any time during the championship.
 - 7.1.7 Competitors using a genoa shall do so in all races.

8 FEES

- 8.1 The entry fee is A\$250 per boat. This includes the cost of the welcome BBQ for each skipper and crew. Additional tickets for the welcome BBQ can be purchased for \$10 and are available at the time of entry or at the bar at LCSC.
- 8.2 The cost of merchandising and for the presentation dinner and party will be provided separately.

9 CREW LIMITATIONS

- 9.1 Substitution of crews will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee. Requests for substitution of crews shall be made on a Crew Substitution Form available at the LCSC Race Office.

9.2 The nominated skipper shall not be substituted (except for the Crews Race).

10 ADVERTISING

10.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 will apply. [NP]

11 SCHEDULE

11.1 The regatta will consist of a series of up to 8 races.

11.2 The Race Committee will endeavour to keep race sessions to a max of 3 hours on the water (NP). Multiple race sessions may be run on the same day with competitors returning to the beach between sessions.

11.3 There will be a maximum of 3 races in one day.

11.4 The following table indicates the planned schedule of events:

Date	Time	Event
Mon 4 Jan	0900 – 1200	Measurement / Registration / Briefing
	Not before 1430	Invitation Race
	From 1700	Opening Ceremony and Welcome BBQ
Tue 5 Jan	Not before 1330	Championship Racing
Wed 6 Jan	Not before 1330	Championship Racing
	From 1800	Heron Idol
Thu 7 Jan	Reserve Day	
Fri 8 Jan	Not before 1330	Championship Racing
Sat 9 Jan	Not before 1030	Championship Racing
	From 1830	Presentation of prizes and closing party
Notes:		
1. On Sat 9 Jan no start will be after 1430		

12 TROPHIES AND PRIZES

12.1 Perpetual trophies and prizes will be awarded as follows:

12.1.1 First placed boat – perpetual Heron National Championship Trophy, winning skipper's silver platter, and winning crew trophy;

12.1.2 Second to sixth placed boats – skipper and crew trophies;

12.1.3 First placed boat invitation race – perpetual Don Jamieson Trophy, skipper and crew trophies;

12.1.4 First placed boat crew's race – perpetual trophy, skipper and crew trophies

12.1.5 Highest placed boat with a female skipper – perpetual trophy, skipper and crew trophies

12.1.6 Highest placed boat with a junior skipper and crew – perpetual trophy, skipper and crew

12.1.7 Highest placed boat with a veteran skipper - skipper and crew trophies

12.1.8 Highest placed boat with skipper and crew from the same family – skipper and crew trophies

12.1.9 First three boats on handicap – skipper and crew trophies

12.2 The winners of prizes in categories 12.1.1 and 12.1.2 will not be eligible to win a prize in categories 12.1.7, 12.1.8 or 12.1.9.

12.3 For categories 12.1.7, 12.1.8 and 12.1.9,:

12.3.1 the winners of each category will be confirmed in the order in which they appear in the list above; and

12.3.2 the awards are mutually exclusive.

12.4 Other trophies and prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the NHSAA or NSWHSa.

12.5 The following definitions apply to this section:

12.5.1 A Junior is defined as 18 years or under as of the 1 January 2027;

12.5.2 A Veteran is defined as 55 years or older as of the 1 January 2027; and

12.5.3 To qualify for the same family trophy, the skipper and crew(s) must fall into one of the following categories:

- Parent and child;
- Grandparent and grandchild;
- Step parent and step child; or
- Legal guardian and a child subject to the guardianship order.

13 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

13.1 The Race Committee reserves the right to inspect any boat, to confirm compliance with the rules at any time during the championship.

- 13.2 One set of sails may be registered for the championship. Sails should be certified by an approved class measurer prior to arrival at Boreen Point.
- 13.3 If sails have not been measured and certified prior to arrival, a measurer may be available to do so at LCSC. Please let the organisers know beforehand if you do need sails measured so appropriate arrangements can be made. An early arrival at Boreen Point may also be necessary.

14 EQUIPMENT SUBSTITUTION

- 14.1 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the Technical Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made at the first reasonable opportunity on the Equipment Substitution Form available at the LCSC Race Office.

15 COURSES

- 15.1 Racing will take place on Lake Cootharaba which is the largest lake on the Noosa River system. With a circumference of around 25km and an average depth of approximately 1.5M, the lake is a noted location for regattas and sailboat racing. Location maps are provided in Appendix A.
- 15.2 The courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

16 RIGHT TO USE LIKENESS

- 16.1 By entering this event, a competitor:
- 16.1.1 gives permission for video footage and/or photographs of themselves and/or their boats and/or their crew to be published in any way provided it is for legal purposes;
 - 16.1.2 declares that they have briefed anyone 18 years and over who will be crewing for them during the event of the contents of this paragraph and their crew(s) has/have agreed to the terms of paragraph 16.1.1; and
 - 16.1.3 declares that they have briefed a parent or legal guardian of anyone under 18 years who will be crewing for them during the event of the contents of this paragraph and the parent or legal guardian has given their permission for the crew(s) to participate subject to the terms of paragraph 16.1.1.

17 RISK STATEMENT AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

- 17.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.'
- 17.2 The risks associated with participation in sailing regattas include, but are not limited to, strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.
- 17.3 These risks are exacerbated by the possibility that on-water assistance and the attendance of medical support may be delayed.
- 17.4 By entering this event, a competitor acknowledges that they:

- 17.4.1 have read and understood RRS 3;
- 17.4.2 agree that their participation is entirely at their own risk;
- 17.4.3 absolve the OA, the NHSAA and the officers and members of both organisations from all liability arising from personal injury or death, sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta;
- 17.4.4 have briefed anyone 18 years and over who will be crewing for them during the event of the contents of this Notice of Race in general and this section 17 in particular and their crew(s) has/have agreed to participate subject to the terms of paragraphs 17.4.1, 17.4.2, and 17.4.3; and
- 17.4.5 have briefed a parent or legal guardian of anyone under 18 years who will be crewing for them during the event of the contents of this Notice of Race in general and this section 17 in particular and the parent or legal guardian has given their permission for the crew(s) to participate subject to the terms of paragraphs 17.4.1, 17.4.2, and 17.4.3.

18 INSURANCE

- 18.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000 per incident or equivalent. Evidence of the existence of cover shall be made available upon request.
- 18.2 By entering the event, each competitor declares that they have the required insurance cover. Neither the OA nor the NHSAA will be liable if a competitor declares that they have insurance, and it subsequently transpires that this was not true whether or not evidence of the existence of that cover was provided.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 19.1 Further information can be obtained from:
 - Regatta web page:
 - NHSAA website: www.héronsailing.com.au
 - LCSC website: www.lcsc.org.au
 - NHSAA President, Justin Carey: justinpvcarey@gmail.com or 0455 068 101
 - LCSC Commodore, Paul Armstrong: paularmstrong@optusnet.com.au or 0413 071 650

20 ACCOMMODATION, FOOD & BOATING SUPPLIES

- The campground at the lake requires early booking via the Noosa Shire Council <http://www.noosaholidayparks.com.au/boreen-point>.
- The Apollonian Hotel has dormitory style rooms and a limited number of camping and caravan spots: email admin@apollonianhotel.com.au or call Lou on 0498 981 426.
- The Lake Cootharaba Motel has limited 3-star accommodation but is very close to the

sailing club - <https://www.cootharabamotel.com/>.

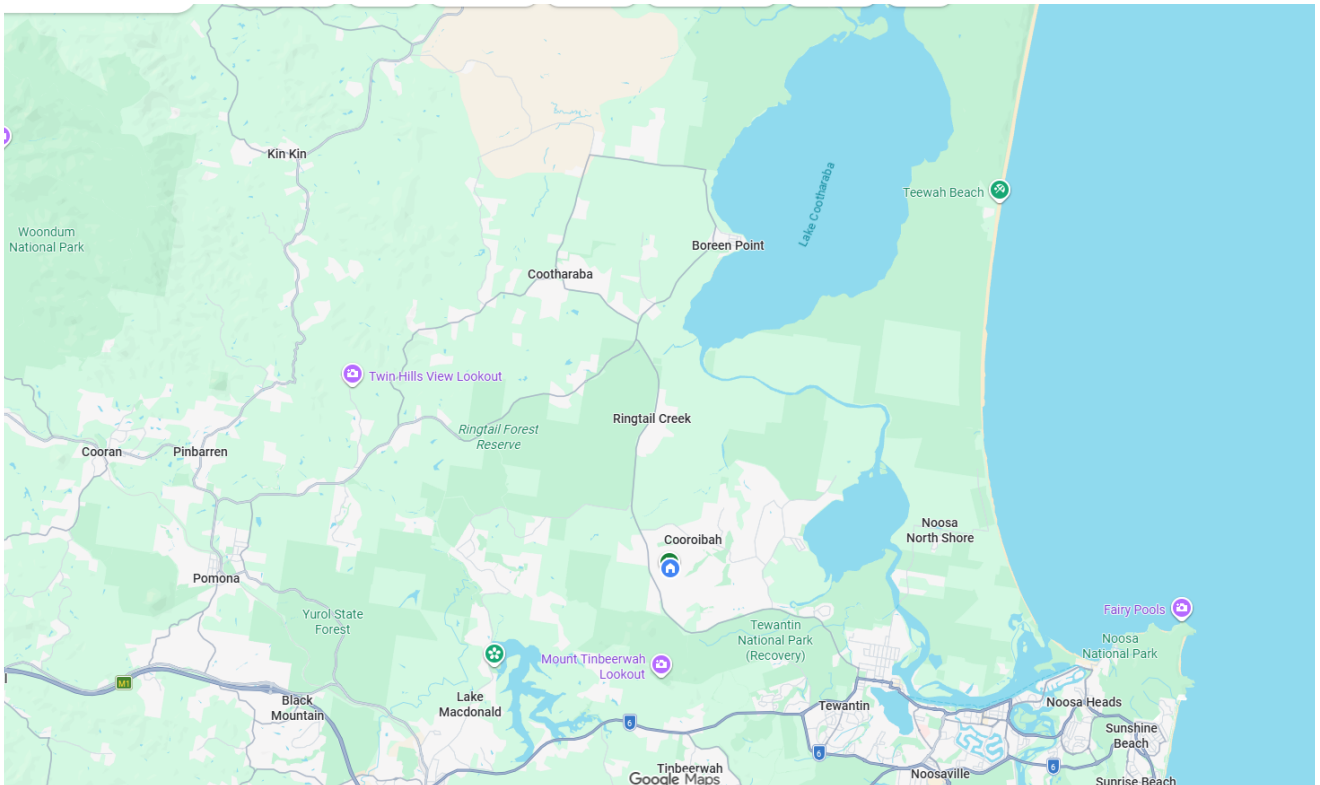
- For other accommodation options please visit the LCSC website <https://lcsc.org.au/accommodation/>
- If you can't find something in Boreen Point then try holiday accommodation in Tewantin or Noosaville (about 20 minutes' drive from Boreen Point)
- A kiosk selling coffee and snacks is located below the clubhouse and will be open during the event. Lunches can be pre-ordered.
- The Apollonian Hotel provides excellent pub food.
- There are no convenience stores in Boreen Point. The nearest shops are at Tewantin and Pomona (both around 20 minutes' drive away). Tewantin has a reasonably sized Woolies that is open until 8:00pm most evenings (94 Poinciana Ave, Tewantin, QLD 4565).
- Boating stores are located at:
 - BCF, Shop EB1/5, Noosa Civic Showroom Precinct, 28 Eenie Creek Road, Noosaville, Qld, 4566 (about 20 minutes drive from Boreen Point)
 - Whitworths, Nicklin Way, Minyama QLD 4575 (about an hour's drive from Boreen Point)

21 TRAILER PARKING, SPEED LIMITS AND RESPECT FOR THE COMMUNITY

- The speed limit on the roads leading to the LCSC clubhouse and along the foreshore is 20kph and it is important for the safety of pedestrians that this is adhered to. A 40kph speed limit applies to most other roads in Boreen Point.
- Only limited parking is available adjacent to the main beach at Boreen Point and all competitors are asked to off load their boats and then take their road trailers back to their accommodation. If this is not possible, the club's storage compound will be open, and competitors are asked to take their trailers there. The compound is around 300 metres away from the beach and volunteers will be on hand to provide directions.
- Competitors are also reminded that Boreen Point is a quiet community, and we share the beach and the surrounding areas with local residents. Every effort should be made to respect the rights of others to enjoy the area as much as we do. Please do not park in front of residents' garages and driveways even if it looks like no one is home.

APPENDIX A – Locality Map and Course Area

Northern End of the Sunshine Coast



Course Area

