



Officer of the Day Duties

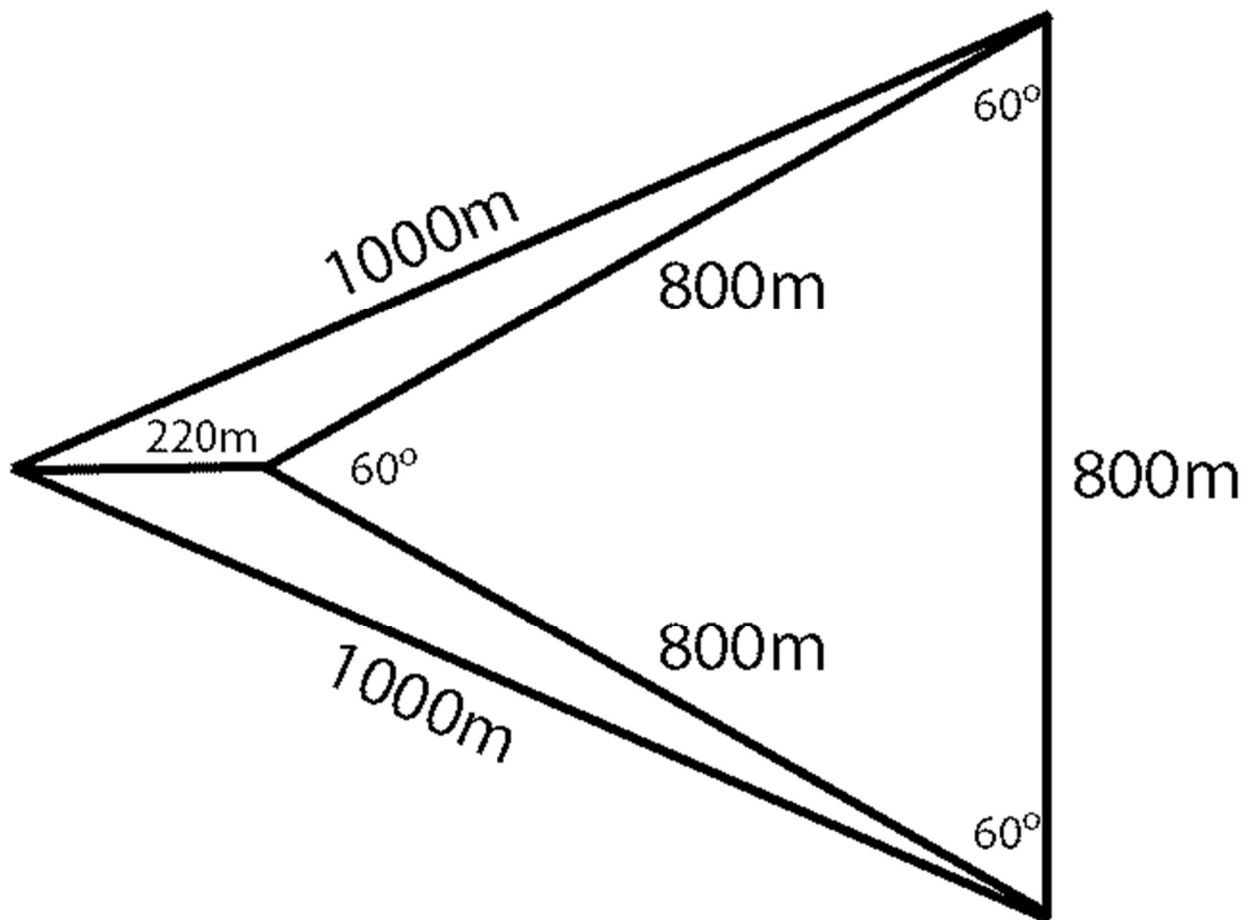
Setting a Course

The safety of all those on the water takes priority

Rescue first, race second

- Decide on course lake location, with attention to the distance the fleet has to travel to the start and return after finishing. Decide on a port (better) or starboard course.
- Decide on course length. Shorter in lighter conditions.

Our Usual Course Dimensions:



Setting Courses:

For all courses, determine the average wind strength and direction:

- Determine basic wind strength and direction by taking readings at 3-minute intervals for 12 minutes in the middle of the lake, use the [Australian Sailing Wind Graph](#).

Using a GPS to set a course

Setting a New Course:

- Motor to position of bottom (downwind) mark.
- Add waypoint
- Select this waypoint, and then select "Go To"
- Motor to windward and read distance from waypoint ("Go to" function continues to point at bottom mark and display distance to it), Slow at 700m and stop at 800m.
- lay top mark. Add waypoint
- Use the 'Go To' function to check distance from top & bottom mark (the 2 waypoints you've saved). At 800m distance from each, lay monohull's wing-mark. Add waypoint
- Select this waypoint, and then select "Go To"
- Motor at right angles to the wind for 220m, then lay catamaran wing mark.

Use the man overboard function on the GPS:

This will give you distance and bearing to the bottom mark just positioned. Combine with compass to set top and wing marks.

Setting a course using pre-set waypoints:

- Determine basic wind direction; NE, SE, or NW. Turn on GPS and select corresponding waypoint. Refer to back of this document for sample courses.
- To set bottom mark:
 - Select waypoint for example NESBOT for North-east wind, starboard course, bottom mark
 - Select "go to" and proceed to location. The arrow does not work when stationary; you must be moving for the GPS to determine directions. Set buoy
- Repeat procedure for top mark, and wing marks
 - select that new waypoint (for example NESTOP, NESMW monohull wing-mark, and NESCW cat wing-mark), and "go to".
 - There are also port courses for E, NE, NW, S, SE, SSE and a waypoint for the Clubhouse (CLUB). Please provide feedback on the pre set courses.

Using a compass and range finder.

- Motor to position of bottom (downwind) mark. Lay mark. Take compass bearing to top mark straight upwind. GPS man overboard function can assist.
- Motor to top mark, following bearing, setting distance using range finder to bottom mark. Lay Mark.
- Calculate bearing to wing mark (add 60 degrees or use guides). Motor to wing mark. Lay Mark. Check bearing and distance to bottom mark.
- Add cat mark by motoring 220metres along a bearing at 90 degrees to the work bearing. Lay mark.
- Using a compass and range finder.

Setting the Start and Finish Line:

- The start/finish line may be set anywhere along the windward leg, but ideally at the mid-way point of the work.
- The length of the start line should be:
 - The number of boats x the average length of the boat PLUS 10% to 200%.
Factors to consider are:
 - Size and manoeuvrability of the boats
 - Sea conditions
 - Wind strength
 - Current
 - Lay buoy for Port end of line
 - Use flag or streamer to determine wind direction.
 - Motor above the desired final start boat location and lay the anchor. Drift back down wind to desired location so that the start line is at 90 degrees to or slightly below the wind direction. Tie the anchor off and watch for the boat drifting off location.
- The line can be shortened significantly for the finish if you want.

Aids to Setting the Sailing Course

Wind direction _____ Wind speed _____ Port/starboard course

Compass face may be useful, when setting course legs.

Record the bearings for each leg of the course and the length of each leg on the diagram below.

To calculate back bearing add 200 then minus 20.

Web app. **setcourses.com**

