



THE GUIDE TO ENTERING

2026 is the 78th anniversary of the Gladstone Ports Corporation Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race. The Notice of Race sets out in careful detail the requirements for entering the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race. This document is intended as an overview of race requirements and the entry process, technical aspects should be read in conjunction with the Notice of Race.

KEY DATES

	DATE
Entries close	before 1700 hours on Monday 16 th March 2026.
All documents to be submitted	before 1700 hours on Wednesday 25 th March 2026.
Race Briefing	1830 hrs on Wednesday 1 st April 2026.
Race start	1100 hrs Good Friday 3 rd April 2026.

CATEGORIES AND DIVISIONS

IRC, IRC Two Handed, ORCi, AMS, PHRF and Cruising Division. Current measurement and rating certificates are required where applicable.

Boats can enter as many of these categories as they are eligible for. Boats may also form teams of three to enter the Federation Cup. The team's event is free to enter and is open to all boats who finish the race.

THE YACHT

Your boat Shall • have an overall length (LOA) not more than 30.48 metres and not less than 9.0 metres and a waterline length (LWL) not less than 7.3 metres or all multihull yachts that comply with the safety requirements defined below • have a working Automatic Identification System (AIS) system installed in accordance with Special Regulation 3.25.5(a) • comply with Special Regulations Part I and its amendments for Race Category 3 as amended by the NOR; and • have a crew that satisfies the requirements of Notice of Race 5.12. and comply with Australian Sailing Special Regulations Safety Category Three Uprated, the Safety Audit Form can be downloaded from the race website. The Uprated requirements are attached to the standard Category Three audit form as an additional checklist. Please note that as of July 2022 Australian Sailing Special Regulations Safety Category Three require boats to have AIS.

Uprated requirements (in addition to standard Category 3 requirements) include:

- Bunks fitted with lee cloths or similar for at least half the crew.

- Two bilge pumps, one of which must be of manual operation.
- Additional drinking water.
- An inboard engine.
- Extra medical supplies.
- A portable air horn.
- A second hand held GPS unit in addition to the permanently installed one.
- A Lifebuoy within reach of helmsman which shall have a pole, flag, whistle, drogue and light. At least one lifebuoy must have permanent buoyancy.

Plus some extra safety gear, all of which can be hired:

- A Sat Phone for skeds and communication
- A coastal Life raft sufficient to carry the entire crew
- An EPIRB unit for each Life raft you have on board
- PLB's (GPS capable) for each crew member

If you are entering as a Two Handed boat you will also need an extension speaker for your VHF or an additional handheld unit.

QUALIFYING RACE OR PASSAGE

Each boat entering the race needs to complete one of the following:

- the Offshore Division of the 2026 Surf to City Yacht Race, or
- an alternative qualifying race of longer than 80 nautical miles, or
- a 12 hour nonstop passage within six months prior to the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race.

CREW ELIGIBILITY

- All crew require an Australian Sailing Number or Temporary Sail Pass.
- If you wish to enter PHRF you cannot pay your crew other than reasonable expenses.
- Crew members must be over 16 years of age. Juvenile Consent Forms are required for those under 18 years of age as at the date of the race.
- The skipper / person in charge on a boat must have a current Australian Sailing Safety and Sea Survival Course certificate, or an approved equivalent. A second member of the crew must at some point in the last ten years also have completed the course. Both crew members on two handed boats must have current certification.
- At least one member of the crew (both for two handed) shall hold a Applied First Aid Certificate or equivalent qualification or be a practicing medical practitioner. It is strongly recommended that skippers ensure two crew members have completed first aid training.
- At least one crew member on a boat (both for two handed) shall hold a Marine Radio Operators VHF Certificate of Proficiency.
- In terms of crew experience:
 - at least two people on the boat (including the skipper / person in charge) must have completed a previous Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race or a Category One, Two or Three race. This can have been on any boat.
 - in addition to this requirement at least 50% of the entire crew (including the two above) shall have either:
 - competed in the Offshore Division of the 2026 Surf to City on the boat entered in the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race, or
 - completed at least 80nm of offshore racing, including a night at sea, on the boat entered in the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race, or
 - completed an equivalent passage on the boat entered in the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race.

As you can see, the best option is to have two people with prior experience and then the entire crew enter the Offshore Division of the 2026 Surf to City Yacht Race.

Some rules are different for Two Handed boats; please read the Notice of Race for more information.

THE ENTRY PROCESS AND DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

ENTER THE RACE

Entry is via the SailSys online race management system via the link on the race website.

If you have used the SailSys system before your boat details will be pre-populated and all you have to do is check them. If you are new to SailSys you will need to set up an account, which can be done by clicking on the entry link on the race website.

Complete Payment including the race entry fee, select the number of crew you will have on board and any additional categories you wish to enter. Once this stage is processed, you may continue with the compliance section of your entry or come back to it by clicking on the link in the acknowledgement email generated by SailSys.

SUPPLY YOUR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

You will need to provide the following compliance documents and declarations. Downloadable forms and templates are available on the race website.

- **Declaration of Stability and supporting documentation** – view the online declaration, then upload the appropriate supporting evidence.
- **Audited Special Regulations Form for Category 3 Up rated or higher** – download the online Safety Audit form, have an approved national auditor complete the inspection form then upload to the online entry system.
- **PHRF and/or Cruising Category eligibility declaration** – only required for boats entering PHRF categories. A declaration to be completed in the online entry form if applicable.
- **Life Raft Inspection Certificate(s)** – if you are hiring your life raft, this will be sent to you by the hire company. Most hire companies will provide a Certificate of Inspection once you have booked and paid, i.e. prior to taking delivery, so do request this so you can upload it to your entry early to avoid any last minute stress.
- **Marine Communications Inspection Form** The form is available on the Race website and can be uploaded to the online entry system when completed. Note, technicians get booked out so try to have this completed well ahead of time.
- **Keel and Rudder Inspection Form** – form available on the race website. Again, it is wise to not leave this until the last minute, book your boat in early.
- **Measurement and Rating Certificates** – if applicable
- **Verification of qualifying race or ocean passage** – If you entered the 2026 Surf to City Yacht Race, QCYC will have a record of this. If not, you will need to upload evidence of your other qualifying race, e.g. a copy of the results, or a log of your ocean passage with images of your chart plotter etc., whichever is applicable. A Log template is available on race website.

- **Gladstone Marina Mooring Application** – see the link provided on the race website and in the online entry form to organise mooring directly with Gladstone Marina.
- **Certificate of Currency of Insurance** – this must include marine legal liability with a minimum cover of A\$10 million for any one incident **and** state that the boat is covered for the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race or that it is covered for boat races of a length greater than 308 nautical miles. Note: A copy of this insurance policy shall be carried on board during the race.
- **Proof of Australian Sailing Safety and Sea Survival Course participation** or acceptable equivalent – this evidence is required for the skipper / person in charge (within the last five years) and one other crew member (within the last 10 years). On two handed boats, both crew members must have current certification.
- **Applied First Aid Certificate** or acceptable equivalent for at least one crew member. On two handed boats, both crew members must have current certification.
- **Marine Radio Operators Certificate** for at least one crew member, both crew members for two handed boats.
- **Juvenile Consent Forms** as applicable – download the form from the race website and upload with your entry. The form is to be completed by a parent/guardian.
- **Conditions of Entry Declaration** – a form on the race website to be acknowledged in the online entry by the owner/charterer.
- **Crew Disclaimer and Acknowledgment of Rights form** signed by each crew member – online form. If necessary more than one copy of the form can be uploaded (e.g. if not all crew are able to sign one form).

CREW DETAILS

All crew members must complete a Crew Account in SailSys. Information required includes name and contact details, emergency contact name and phone number, Australian Sailing Number, PLB Hex Id, sailing experience and medical conditions. When this information is complete in Crew Accounts it is simply a matter of syncing the details into the entry form, therefore it is strongly recommended that you ensure your crew have checked and updated the details in their Crew Accounts.

Invite crew via your Crew Register in SailSys. To do this all you need is their name and email address. See the SailSys 'Help' article at [SailSys Help Center | Managing your Crew Register \(tawk.help\)](#) for further assistance if required.

A note re crew PLBs – Each crew member must have a PLB registered in their own name, borrowing is not permitted. Hex Id numbers are long and easy to mistype, wherever possible it is recommended that these be copied and pasted into SailSys Crew Accounts and the online entry form if adding manually. AMSA requires the Organising Authority to submit a list of all crew names and PLB Hex Ids prior to the race and these are checked against the details of the registered owner. Crew members cannot start the race without valid PLB details. It is therefore very important that correct details are provided.

HELP IF YOU NEED IT

Throughout the process we send out news and advice through a dedicated Facebook group and via emails. If you have any queries or problems with your entry, please feel free to contact Linda Honey via raceentries@qcyc.com.au or David Hamilton, QCYC Commodore at commodore@qcyc.com.au .