

# ST. GEORGE POWER BOAT CLUB

## RACING RULES FOR 2024 2025 SEASON

Racing will generally be conducted in compliance with the APBA rules. The following St. George PBC rules are complementary and relate to the management of races and allocation of points.

Due to the increasing number of boats participating in our club days, for which we are extremely grateful, the following rules will apply for the 2024 - 2025 season:-

The Club Day races will be known as the St George Super Series.

### 1. ENTRIES

- Entries must be submitted through the St. George Power Boat Club website and received prior to the “entries close” date determined by the race committee and published through the clubs social and electronic media, unless prior arrangements are made with the race committee
- Entries will need to be accompanied by the entry fee.
- On race days entry forms should be collected from the sign in desk, together with a blank scrutineering form and presented to a club scrutineer.
- Breath testing will be conducted at sign in and wrist bands will be issued to those passing the breath test.
- Breath testing will be conducted on drivers, crews and volunteers.
- Random drug and alcohol testing may take place during race days.
- Entries forms must contain full details as required by the APBA and will be checked against APBA records
- Day licences may be paid for prior to race day through the club website. A completed day licence form must be presented at sign in.

### 2. CLASSES: The classes to be run will be:-

- Unlimited – Cell boats only
- F2– Cell boats only
- Superstock Inboards
- Mono
- 550 cc

5 litre cell boats may enter the Unlimited or Superstock Inboard Classes

### 3. RACING FORMAT

#### Race Program

All races will be of 3 laps duration

Points will be allocated as per the St George PBC points system, other than the Bailey Scratch Race which will use the APBA point score system.

The order of classes will be determined by the race committee prior to race day.

The race committee may change the race class order on the day should factors require the change. Generally, races for each class shall be grouped into a number of sessions, usually two sessions per day, to minimise the number of movements to and from the boat ramp.

All races for a class may be merged into one session if there are compelling reasons to do so. Conversely a session for a class may be split into any combination of races or single races.

Factors the race committee may wish to consider in making their determination include, but are not limited to, the following:-

- weather and water conditions,
- the total number of boats entered for the day,
- the number of boats entered per class,
- the fuel capacity of the participating boats
- the number of volunteers available for the day; and,
- other factors it considers relevant.

Display races may be inserted into the program when considered beneficial, such as to fill gaps in the program due to refuelling between races.

## **4. CLASS RULES**

### **4.1 550cc Class**

The 550cc class drivers have requested that they only compete in scratch races.

The Annual trophy for the 550cc class scratch race is the Glen “Corky” Thompson trophy

This makes the 550cc class ineligible for the W.J. George trophy.

- Pole positions will be allocated prior to the start of each race.
- 550cc boats will compete in two scratch races per session
- Race 1 will be conducted as per the allocated pole positions
- Race 2 will be conducted with reversed pole positions
- Pole positions for subsequent races will be allocated from the tower
- The number of boats entered, course conditions and other factors will determine the number of 550cc sessions to be conducted.
- At least 2 sessions will be conducted (total of 4 races)
- A third session may be conducted comprising 2 further scratch races or 1 enduro race (6 laps)

### **4.2 All Other Classes**

#### **Race Program**

##### **Session 1**

All classes will complete a three-lap warm up /sighting / timing run at the start of racing for their class.

Following the warm up run two handicap races will be conducted.

At the conclusion of the two handicap races boats are to return to the boat ramp or visitors berth as per the arrangements made on the day.

Prior to retuning to the ramp, the next class of boats will be called into the milling area of the course, or other area determined on the day.

Priority will be given to sending boats out for the next race over retrieving boats from the previous race.

Boats in danger of sinking will be given priority to other boats on the ramp

## **Session 2**

The second session for each class will comprise one handicap race and one class scratch race.

## **Session 3**

The third session will be the Graham Bailey scratch for the fastest boats on the day, the number of boats (up to 12 boats) will be determined by the nature of the eligible boats.

The event may be conducted over two divisions.

Not all boats will have a third session

## **4.3 Warmup Laps**

- The first lap will be a sighting lap
- Boats on sighting laps should make room for boats on a timed lap
- The second lap for each boat will be a timed lap to determine the handicap time for each boat
- The timed lap starts and ends at the start/finish line.
- Boats should cross the line at race speed and continue around the course
- The third lap is a wind down lap and should be driven as if finished a race
- During the third lap boats should move to the outside lane of the course and make room for boats still completing their timed lap
- After rounding the southern turn buoy boats should safely move off the course to the milling area (currently in front of the race tower), there is no need to wait for a black flag
- Multiple boats may be on the course at the same time
- Boats may start their 3 laps when shown the green flag, ensuring they enter and leave the course in a safe manner.
- Handicap times for the first handicap race will be allocated from the tower once all boats have completed their 3 lap warm up.

#### 4.4 Handicap Races

- All competitors should ensure they have their handicap time prior to the white flag being shown from the tower.
- Once drivers have been allocated their times, the white flag will be shown from the tower and the clock will be started from zero.
- Handicap times will be given in minutes and seconds but no handicap time will be given that is less than one minute. This provides boats at least one minute to get from the front of the tower to the milling area.
- Boats should cross the start finish line at, or as close as possible to their allocated handicap time. This will require drivers to estimate how long it will take them to get from the milling area from a standing start to reach the start finish line.
- Crossing the line ahead of the allocated handicap time will be classified as an early start and will be penalised.
- Should boats have the identical start time, pole positions will be allocated
- APBA Flag rules will apply, i.e. a yellow flag will be shown for the last lap, chequered flag to finish, black flag to return to the tower, or ramp or visitors berth, as required.
- After the chequered flag, boats are to continue around the course at reduced speed. After rounding the southern turn buoy, boats are to make their way off the course.
- Points will be awarded for each handicap race as per the StGPBC points system
- Points will accumulate toward the W.J George Trophy at the end of the season.
- Points will also accumulate toward the total points for the day.
- Where there are too many boats entered for a class, the field may be split into divisions.
- The selection of competitors for each division will be based on previous race results times so as to ensure an even distribution of competitive boats in each heat.

##### Reasons

- This is to avoid the selection where slower boats in a class could attract more race points than the slowest boat in the other heat.
- To ensure not all novice drivers are in the one race, so that they might learn from more experience drivers
- Each division of a class shall be awarded points as though each division was a separate class.

(This ensures boats competing in classes with a large number of entries have an equitable chance of collecting points as do boats in other smaller classes.)

#### **4.5 Class Scratch Races**

- One scratch race will be conducted for each class of boat following their handicap races. (see rule 8.2)
- Scratch races will be conducted as per APBA rules.
- Pole positions will be determined from each boats' times in the handicap races
- Inside poles will be awarded to the faster boats
- Novice drivers will be allocated outside pole positions unless other factors require otherwise, e.g. the inclusion of hydroplanes in the race.
- Points will be awarded for the scratch race as per the St George PBC points system
- Points will accumulate toward the Class Scratch Series Trophy at the end of the season
- Points will also accumulate towards the total point for the day.
- Where there are too many boats entered for a class, the field may be split into divisions.
- The selection of competitors for each division will be based on previous race result times. The fastest boats will be placed in Heat A.
- Only one set of points will be distributed across both heats. This ensures that there is a clear hierarchy of points for the class scratch race unless boats finish on the same time, in which case both boats will be awarded the points for the position in which they have finished.

#### **4.6 Graham Bailey Scratch Race**

Following the conclusion of all class handicap and scratch races, the fastest 10 or 12 boats will be invited to participate in the Graham Bailey scratch race.

Selection for the Graham Bailey Scratch races will be based upon the times achieved during the Class scratch race and Class handicap races.

- The race will be conducted over two divisions
- The fastest boats will be in Division A
- Points will be allocated following the completion of the races for both divisions
- Points will be based on race (finish) times
- The Points System will be the APBA points system
- Points accumulated in the Bailey Scratch Race will not be counted towards the daily point score tally.

#### **4.7 Daily Trophies**

Points achieved within each class shall determine the places for that class for the day. Points will accumulate from

- Class Handicap Races
- Class Scratch Race

Super Series trophies will be presented to the First, Second and Third placegetters in each class.

Points across all classes will be counted towards determining the overall winner of the daily trophy. Points will accumulate from

- Class Handicap Races
- Class Scratch Race

#### **4.8 Additional Races**

Additional races may be added to each class on any given race day depending on the number of boats competing on that day. Any additional races shall not attract points towards the annual point score for and across classes.

Practice races may be held prior to point scoring races for any class where the race committee determines that it would be advantageous to do so based on safety or other factors. E.g. where there are a significant number of novice drivers competing or stepping up a class.

### **5. ANNUAL POINT SCORE TROPHIES**

Cumulative points for the races throughout the season will determine the place getters for the following trophies. Place getters will be presented with the corresponding trophy and prize money at the presentation night following the conclusion of the racing season.

- W.J. George Handicap Trophy
- Glen "Corky" Thompson trophy for 550cc
- Bill Ward Scratch Race series for Superstock Inboards
- "TUCK" Scratch Race Series for Monos
- F2 Scratch Race series trophy
- Unlimited Scratch race series trophy
- Graham Bailey Scratch Race Series

## 6. DAILY TROPHIES

A daily trophy will be awarded to the boat achieving the highest total points across their class handicap and scratch races on race day. The following trophies have been allocated as the daily trophies

- Sid Anderson Trophy
- Burgess Gold Cup
- Lance Reed Trophy
- Gordon Page Trophy

## 7. POINT SCORES

St George Power Boat Club Points are allocated as follows:

First:	25 points
Second:	20 points
Third:	15 points
Fourth:	10 points
All other boats	
Start:	3 points
Finish:	2 points
Early Start:	2 points (as per finishing, no 3 points for start)
Broke Handicap Time:	3 points (as per starting, but not finishing correctly)

n.b. Start and Finish points are not allocated to the first four places.

## APBA POINTS TABLE

PLACE	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS
1	400	8	53
2	300	9	40
3	225	10	30
4	169	11	22
5	127	12	17
6	95	13	13
7	71	14	9

## **8. SUPPLEMENTARY RACING RULES**

- 8.1 The racing committee may, if they consider it expedient, refuse an entry
- 8.2 To be eligible to participate in a scratch race, boat must have competed in at least 2 handicap races
- 8.3 The race committee may waive the requirements of rule 8.2 if they consider it is the best interests of racing to do so
- 8.4 Any boat improving its handicap time will be re-handicapped accordingly
- 8.5 Every boat competing in handicap races must go fairly around the course, and shall only slow down or stop, i) to avoid a collision or ii) if aquatic conditions are such that full speed endangers the boat or driver.
- 8.6 Every boat new to the club's register, shall, before competing in a handicap race, be timed over the course by a race committee member from the tower.
- 8.7 Every boat must fairly go around the course, including the nominated turn buoys. Any boat that fouls a turn buoy may be disqualified and required to pay for the damage caused to the buoy or other property, unless it is established that the boat was wrongly compelled to do so by another boat, in which case the other boat shall be disqualified and required to pay for the damage caused.
- 8.8 All competing boats that cannot race due to a lack of other boats for that class will receive 25 points for the day. To be eligible for non start points, boats must be in attendance prior to the first race for their class. For the purposes of this rule, three or more boats constitute a race.
- 8.9 Boats and crews breaching these rules may be subject to penalties, such penalties to be determined by the race committee based on the circumstances of the breach.
- 8.10 Any breaches of the APBA rules will be subject to APBA disciplinary processes.