



MELBOURNE OSAKA CUP
Double-Handed Yacht Race 2025

Notice to Competitors No.9

Position Schedule Communications Changes and additional Search and Rescue information outside of Australian waters

Finish Line Changes

A revised Melbourne Osaka Cup NTC 9 dated 01/03/2025, and an updated Melbourne Osaka Cup Sailing Instructions V4.0 have been published on the Melbourne Osaka Cup [website](#).

1. Changes to include WhatsApp group for yacht position schedules and other race management communications

Amendments to the Sailing Instructions include:

A1 Race Communications

A1.1. Race communications shall be via VHF radio, satellite phone (voice and text) and email.

— VHF frequencies will be Channels 12, 16, 19, 20, 72, 73 and 82.

— Email contact shall be rd@melbourneosaka.com

— Satellite phone calls and text will be to +61 494 355 324 and Secondary Race Director Phone +61 418 396 605

Has been amended to (changes in bold text):

A1.1. Race communications shall be via VHF radio, satellite phone/**Starlink** (voice, text, email and **WhatsApp**)

— VHF frequencies will be Channels 12, 16, 19, 20, 72, 73 and 82.

— Email contact shall be rd@melbourneosaka.com

— Satellite phone calls and text will be to +61 494 355 324 and Secondary Race Director Phone +61 418 396 605

— **WhatsApp Group called “Osaka Race Management”. Note an invitation to join this WhatsApp group will be sent to all yacht devices and crew phone numbers. Either the crews’ mobile phone or yacht device may be used to send messages to broadcast on this WhatsApp Group.**

— **All yachts Primary Satellite phone shall be turned on and operational at all times. The Race Director may call a yacht and then ask them to ensure their WhatsApp Satellite Internet connection is turned on and then request a phone call to be via WhatsApp.**

A5 Routine Position Reports

A5.1. Position reporting will be via satellite phone SMS text message.

Yachts are required to report their position at 0600 and 1800 AEST (See 1. Rules Para 1.2 regarding AEST/AEDT) by satellite phone direct message daily to the Primary Race Director phone **61 494 355 324**

A5.7. The first reports and schedules in accordance with the above will be at 1800 AEST on the day of a boat's start.

Note: Prior to the times set for position reports, important information may be sent to all yachts' satellite phones including any weather forecast.

Have been amended to (changes in bold text):

A5.1 Position reporting will be via **WhatsApp "Osaka Race Management" Group, email** or satellite phone SMS txt message. **Preference is for position reports to be via the WhatsApp Group then email, unless there is an issue with the Satellite Internet connection.**

Yachts are required to report their position at 0600 and 1800 AEST (See 1. Rules Para 1.2 regarding AEST/AEDT) by **WhatsApp "Osaka Race Management" Group or email** or satellite phone SMS text message daily to the Primary Race Director phone 61 494 355 324

A5.7. The first reports and schedules in accordance with the above will be at 1800 AEST on the day of a boat's start.

*Note: Prior to the times set for position reports, important information may be sent to all yachts' via **WhatsApp Group or email, including any weather forecast.***

A7 Mandatory Reporting Positions

A7.1. All yachts shall report by satellite phone or email after passing latitudes listed below and make a declaration confirming their time of passing as well as the following:

- Satellite phones are operational
- Liferaft and all essential safety equipment is on board
- Engine and batteries are operational
- Yacht and crew are in a satisfactory condition to continue
- The skipper has comprehensively considered the most current weather forecast, and the yacht and crew are fully prepared for the conditions forecast.

Has been amended to (changes in bold text):

A7.1. All yachts shall report by **WhatsApp "Osaka Race Management" Group** or email **or SMS** after passing latitudes listed below and make a declaration confirming their time of passing as well as the following:

- Satellite phones are operational



- Liferaft and all essential safety equipment is on board
- Engine and batteries are operational
- Yacht and crew are in a satisfactory condition to continue
- The skipper has comprehensively considered the most current weather forecast, and the yacht and crew are fully prepared for the conditions forecast.

2. Changes to Search and Rescue contact details to cover all the international regions

Amendments to the Sailing Instructions include:

A12 Difficulty or Distress (SatellitePhone/HF/VHF)

A12.5. The direct line to the Australian Maritime SAR (Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre in Australia) is +61 2 6230 6811

Has been amended to (changes in bold text):

A12.5. **During the race all yachts will sail across the following Search and Rescue regions, with the following contact details to be used for the purposes for search and rescue communication requirements:**

Search & Rescue Region (SRR)	Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RCC)	Phone	Email
Australia	JRCC Australia / AMSA	+61 2 6230 6811	rccaus@amsa.gov.au
Papua New Guinea	MRCC Papua New Guinea	+675 735 17017	PNGmrcc@nmsa.gov.pg
Solomon Islands	MRCC Honiara	+667 21609	mrcc@solomon.com.sb
Guam	JRSC Guam (USCG Sector Guam)	+1 671 355 4824	rccguam@uscg.mil
Japan	JCG HQ - Tokyo (Operations Centre)	+81 3 3591 9812	jcg-op@mlit.go.jp

Source: <https://sarcontacts.info/>



3. Finish Line Changes

7.1 The Finish

1.1. The finish line will be between the following two marks:

MARK - OsakaFinishP	
Latitude	34 40 261n
Longitude	135 23 045e

MARK - OsakaFinishS	
Latitude	34 40 224n
Longitude	135 23 091e

Mark OsakaFinishP shall be passed to Port and OsakaFinishS shall be passed to Starboard.

Has been amended to (changes in bold text):

1.2. 7.1 The finish line will be between the following two marks:

MARK – Ichimonji Lighthouse	
Latitude	34 40 20.418 N
Longitude	135 21 34.368 E

MARK – OHYC HQ	
Latitude	34 39 56.356 N
Longitude	135 23 20.429 E





A9 Finishing Schedules

- A9.1 After passing the Yuraseto (see Appendix C – Approaches to Osaka Bay), yachts must call Osaka Port Radio on VHF Channel 16 and identify themselves as Melbourne Osaka Cup Double-Handed Race entrants, advise of their yacht name and ETA for Osaka North Port (estimated finishing time).
- A9.2. Yachts must also call Osaka Finish on VHF Ch74 when 2 hours from the finish. If the yacht is not able to contact the Osaka Finish on VHF radio, an SMS to the Race Director phone must be used to notify the Race Director of their finishing ETA.
- A9.3. After calling Osaka Port Radio on VHF Channel 16 (as per A9.1), all communications between entrants and the Race Director will be on VHF Channel 74.

Have been amended to (changes in bold text):

- A9.1. **After passing the Yuraseto (see Appendix C – Approaches to Osaka Bay), yachts may be called by Osaka Port Radio on VHF Channel 16. If you are called. Yachts shall identify themselves as Melbourne Osaka Cup Double-Handed Race entrants.**
- A9.2. **Yachts shall also call Osaka HQ on VHF Ch74 when 2 hours from the finish.** If the yacht is not able to contact the Osaka Finish on VHF radio, an SMS to the Race Director phone must be used to notify the Race Director of their finishing ETA.
- A9.3. **After finishing, yachts shall monitor VHF 74, for escort to the Temporary marina.**



Paul Roberts
ORCV Sail Captain
01/03/2025

