SPRING BAY BOAT CLUB

South Maria Race 2025

16/02/2025

Supplementary Sailing instructions to be read in conjunction with current SBBC RACE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS.

The South Maria Race forms the second of three races in the long-distance race series to be decided for competitors in SBBC sailing events.

1. Time Limit – The time limit is "sunset" as defined by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) for Triabunna.
2. Communication and Signals – As per current SBBC RACE SAIL INSTRUCTIONS.
3. Start/Finish Line will be the East Coaster start line at 11:00hrs, unless either of both are altered by the Race Officer.
4. Marks - NOTE the co-ordinates are new, chosen for better ease of plotting and tracking, but are in the same general area. The coordinates are expressed in DMM. See notes on plotting coordinates overleaf.
    a. Lachlan Island (eastern side)
    b. South Maria virtual mark at **42º43.000' S, 148º00.000' E** - 10.7 NM as the crow flies from the start.
    c. South Maria shortened course virtual mark at **42º40.000' S, 147º59.500' E** - 7.9 NM as the crow flies from the start.
5. Competitors need a GPS enabled device eg. "Chart Plotter", or GPS enabled "Smart Phone, Tablet or Computer" to locate virtual marks. Competitors using dead reckoning, or map, chart and compass would be wise to err on the side caution when rounding a virtual mark to avoid protests from other competitors.
6. Course – Start (Eastcoaster), pass to the East of Lachlan Island (i.e. starboard mark), round the specified South Maria virtual mark (port mark) pass to the East of Lachlan Island (i.e. port mark), Finish at Eastcoaster.
7. Do not enter any marine lease.

Plotting points (e.g. virtual marks)

Most consumer computer devices can run, the nautical chart and GPS subscription program “Navionics” (owned by Garmin). Alternative GPS based nautical navigation programs of varying usefulness, are available.

Plotting a coordinate in “Navionics” on a phone, tablet or computer.

Firstly, access to the plotting capability is from the Navionics home (opening) page, not the menu. After that it is more self-explanatory. If you're having trouble get help before race day.

Secondly, “Navionics” may not, in my experience on multiple devices and platforms, always plot .000 seconds but will often round down to .999 in the preceding minute, i.e. an error of 0.001 minutes. It is a quirk, but of no consequence in finding the virtual mark. The discrepancy is 1 metre of north to south, and less than one metre of east to west, which is likely less than the movement of a laid mark in 20 metres of open water!

NOTE: this is the reasonable accuracy of the GPS system if used without further trickery. Survey standard accuracy, irrelevant for our purposes, is obtained by using GPS receivers with more channels, taking multiple readings at a site over time, and correcting the results, using real time deviations of GPS Satellite readings from local fixed points from known survey standard co-ordinates.