



RISK WARNING

All sailing activities conducted on Newcastle Harbour, Port Stephens and surrounding waters by the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (herein known as NCYC) are under Sailing Event Notification Systems issued by NSW Roads & Maritime Service (herein known as RMS).

This Risk Warning is issued jointly by the NCYC and RMS, pursuant to the Civil Liability Act 2002 to all persons wishing to participate in the sailing activities conducted by the NCYC.

Participants are warned that, regardless of the precautions, which might be taken by reasonable and experienced persons, sailing can be a dangerous pursuit and participants are exposed to significant risk of property damage, physical harm and possibly death.

Participants are advised of the risks relating to Newcastle Harbour and Port Stephens, and that both waterways are salt water coastal inlets with deep water access to the open ocean. Bulk carriers and other large vessels (commercial & recreational) are present in the Harbour and on the Bay and present a risk of collision. Sharks, dolphins and other marine animals are present in the waterways and present a risk of injury.

As an indication, these risks may include, but are not limited to:

- severe and unpredictable weather and sea conditions;
- the potential that control of vessels may be lost, resulting in collision with objects and other vessels;
- the sudden movement of the vessel at any time;
- the possibility that participants may fall or be thrown overboard, resulting in drowning;
- the possibility that participants may be injured by equipment on the vessel;
- the absence of immediate medical care and the likelihood that significant delays may occur before medical care is available;
- exposure to the elements for extended periods;
- exposure to waterborne pollutants, algae and contaminants; and
- the presence of dangerous marine life.

The NCYC and RMS also warn participants that regardless of their best intentions, they may be unable to render assistance to participants who are in distress. There is a risk that emergency medical assistance may be delayed.

Participants are warned to consider the above risks and all other risks before deciding to participate in any sailing event with the NCYC.

Ends.