



## Keelboat Racing Calendar for Summer 2024/2025.

FSC Keelboat Racing Section is excited to announce a major revamp of the sailing calendar for the 2024/2025 Summer Sailing Season. The revised program is designed to declutter the sailing calendar delivering a range of choices to the sailors of FSC from short around the buoys to ocean passages to overseas destinations. A copy of the program is attached.

A set of Guiding Principles was used as the basis of design for the 2024/2025 summer calendar which included the following:

- Produce an integrated FSC keelboat sailing program with a single NOR for all events except Bluewater.
- Remove conflicts between FSC events by combining and rationalising the number of events during the year.
- Provide options for those that want to sail occasionally through to those that love an event every weekend.
- Work with Hillarys, TCYC and MOSFC to develop and promote joint events such as Catalpa, Pot of Gold and Mandurah weekend.
- Increase the social aspects of keelboat racing by:
  - Aiming to finish all boats by 5 pm and within a window of less than 2 hours
  - Results announced 45 minutes after the last finisher.
  - Creating an off-water program of talks (e.g. Sydney Hobart, Sail Selection & Trim, Passage Planning) and training (e.g. SSSC, 1<sup>st</sup> Aid, Navigation and Heavy Weather)
- Avoid conflict with iconic Ocean Racing events such as Bunbury, Naturaliste, Geraldton, Indonesia and Exmouth.
- Incorporate options for Association results in any series, e.g. Fast 30's, S97's.
- Create a pathway for sailors that are looking to increase their skills and challenge. The pathway runs from the introductory Terry Fisher series through to the Blue Water series and the oceanic Fremantle to Exmouth.

The calendar consists of four distinct series, Terry Fisher, Club Championship, Coastal Cup, Success Cup plus Saturday afternoon Consistency racing. The structure of the calendar is to ensure that there is minimal overlap on any weekend between the series allowing sailors the option to participate in all or some combination of any series including the Consistency events.

- The **Terry Fisher** is a Sunday morning series and designed as a good introduction to sailing in the ocean as it is generally in light breeze with a social atmosphere. It is also well suited to the Fast 30 fleet and doublehanded sailors. It will be a six-race series with one discard after five races.

- The **Club Championship** is the premier inshore series for FSC, it is focused on short around the buoy racing and has a long history with many significant FSC sailors names on this trophy. This will be a seven-race series with one discard after six races.
- The **Coastal Cup** is designed to give sailors an introduction to offshore sailing, it consists of races along the coast to Rockingham or Hillarys. A number of these are escorted hence providing good opportunity for Inshore sailors from all Clubs to compete. These events will potentially form part of a Fast 30 series. Entry to participate in the Coastal Cup will be open to sailors from all WA clubs for a small entry fee. The series consists of six races with one discard after five races.
- The **Success Cup** consists of FSC's iconic short course ocean races and in cooperation with Hillarys includes the highly popular Pot of Gold. All races are Category 4 running multiple divisions on course lengths designed to ensure that all fleets finish at a similar time, and before sunset. Entry to participate in the Success Cup will be open to sailors from all WA clubs for the standard entry fee. It will be five races with a discard if five are sailed.
- The **Consistency Series** is designed for those that enjoy regular Saturday afternoon Sailing around the buoys. Combining the Championship events it is a sixteen race series which also includes a number of the premier inshore trophy races such as the Ken Cook, Max Shean and Ron Warren. The program avoids conflict on the weekend with the Success and Coastal Cups. Consisting of sixteen races with the first discard after seven races and three if all sixteen races are sailed.
- The FSC **Blue Water** races have been shown in the calendar and the calendar has been designed to have minimal overlap with the key races such as Bunbury, Naturaliste and a potential event in early April. The finalisation of these dates is subject to discussions between the relevant club and ORWA. In the case where there is overlap each FSC series allows one drop as well as the ability to take average points for one other race in a series to encourage sailors to compete in these events. The dates for West Coaster and Indonesia have been finalised and approved by FSC Keelboat Section.

The revised program for the 2024/2025 Summer Sailing Season has been designed by a subcommittee of FSC Inshore and Offshore sailors including John Rayner, Steve Laws, Murray Smith, Ron MacArthur, Alan Stein, Bill Henson, Scott Nunn and Anthony Kirke and reviewed and approved by the Keelboat Racing Section. They are currently working to finalise a recommendation to the Keelboat Racing Section of the 2025 Winter Series which will be published shortly.

For more information, please talk to the Boating Office Scott Nunn, the Keelboat Captain John Rayner or the Rear Commodore Sail Steve Parkinson.