



2026 DYSC Marine Supplies Winter and Novice Return Series

NOTICE TO COMPETITORS No.2: Flare Drill Procedure

This Notice to Competitors outlines the procedures for the ORCV on-water flare drill (the Drill), scheduled to take place on **Saturday, 20 June 2026 at approximately 0930 hours**.

The ORCV has obtained all necessary permits from relevant authorities. All participating vessels and crew must adhere to the following instructions:

Drill Location

The Drill will be conducted in the waters west of the **Sandringham Yacht Club**, within the following boundaries:

- Between **0.75 and 1.75 nautical miles west** of the Breakwater
- No further **north than SYC3** and no further **south than SYC4**

The **Committee Vessel** for the Drill will be **Endeavor IV** from SYC, positioned at the **eastern edge** of the designated area. If an alternative vessel is used, details will be communicated to all boats before the Drill begins.

All participating yachts must position themselves **to the west of the Committee Vessel**, maintaining safe distances from both the Committee Vessel and other yachts.

Timing and Procedure

All participating yachts must monitor **VHF Channel 82** from **0915 hours** for instructions from the Committee Vessel.

The Drill is expected to run from **0930 to 0945 hours**, subject to the following conditions:

Flares must NOT be discharged until both of the following have occurred:

- A radio broadcast on Channel 82 advising that the Drill has commenced, AND
- An orange smoke flare has been discharged from the Committee Vessel

Flares must cease being discharged if:

- The Drill end time of 0945 has been reached, OR
- A radio broadcast advises that the Drill has concluded, OR
- Any aircraft is observed in the vicinity of the Drill area

Permitted flare types include:

- Red handheld
- Orange smoke
- Parachute or rocket flares not exceeding 300 metres in height

Responsibility and Safety

The **person in charge** of each yacht is responsible for the conduct of their vessel and the safety of their crew during the Drill.

Crew members unfamiliar with flare use must be supervised by experienced crew.

All flares must be handled according to **manufacturer instructions** and discharged in a way that avoids injury or damage, including risks from delayed ignition or malfunction.

Flares must not be discharged to windward.

The ORCV **strongly recommends** the following personal protective equipment be worn by those handling flares:

- Safety glasses
- Protective leather gloves (flares can become extremely hot)
- Enclosed, sturdy footwear

Each vessel must have a **metal or heatproof bucket of water** readily accessible for cooling discharged flare cartridges.

Environmental Considerations

Discharged flare cartridges can be messy and require appropriate handling.

All spent cartridges and associated plastic waste must be taken ashore for **proper disposal**, preferably using a metal container.

David Schuller
Sail Captain, ORCV
15 June 2026