



SVITZER

Work Boat Convoy 2023: Instructions and Information for Participants

Information for Captains, Masters, Skippers and Crew participating in the Work Boat Convoy at Balmain Regatta 2023 is provided below.

1. **Date/time:** Balmain Regatta is on Sunday 29 October 2022. The Convoy is the first event for the day with sailing events to follow. The start time is **1100 sharp. (We will be underway for 1-1.5 hours)**.
2. **Marshalling Area.** Please arrive at the Marshalling Area at Birchgrove **by 1030 at the latest**. The Marshalling Area is shown on the Course Map and will also be indicated by a Balmain Sailing Club (BSC) burgee (yellow cross on black) flying on the roof of a tall Victorian terrace.
3. **VHF.** Each boat will require a working VHF radio (or hand held). Please have your VHF on when you arrive. Regatta Officials will provide instructions on VHF. **The working channel for the Regatta is VHF 72.**
4. **Format.** A tug from event sponsor, Svitzer, will lead the Convoy. Parameters as follows:
 - a. Maximum speed <6 knots set by the Svitzer lead tug to avoid excessive wash and to keep the convoy together;
 - b. If you wish to be in contention for the winner's prize, on review of the course please submit your predicted course time by return email or phone call (accounting for the 6 knot speed);
 - c. The overall 'winner' will be the boat finishing in the time closest to their prediction;
 - d. As the Club time keepers for the sailing event will also record our start/finish times can you please advise your Registration Number and hull colour by return email.
5. **Courses.** There are two courses:
 - i. **Main Down Harbour Course:** The Convoy will start at the Balmain Sailing Club at **11 am sharp** before sailing events depart. The main Down Harbour Course will proceed around Cockatoo Island to Fort Denison before returning for a final loop around Cockatoo Island. The Course Map is attached.
 - ii. **Optional Inner Harbour Course for Small/Slower vessels:** A shorter course confined to the Inner Harbour has been established for smaller or slower vessels that do not wish to venture to Fort Denison. The Course Map is attached. Both courses will start together but, if you wish to remain on the Inner Harbour please start at the rear of the convoy.
6. **Order of Procession.** We are excited to welcome a larger fleet of commercial vessels to the 2023 Convoy. With a greater number of vessels (and some larger vessels) please note:
 - i. A safety buffer of **30m** is required behind the Svitzer lead (pace) boat (grouped with other large commercial tugs). Please remain **30m** behind the Svitzer lead tug at all times as this boat is **setting the maximum speed**;
 - ii. Commercial tugs follow behind the lead boat;
 - iii. Thereafter Convoy boats fit in where comfortable and safe. It would be nice for vessels with common background (eg, Navy, Nicholson Bros, Stannard Bros, HL, AWBs) to group together;
 - iv. At Goat Island, boats wishing to remain on the Inner Harbour proceed into White Bay and re-join the Convoy on the return leg;
 - v. Slower, smaller and less manoeuvrable vessels (and those taking the Inner Harbour Course) please bring up the rear.
7. **Start & Finishing Line.** The start and finish, as shown on the Course Map, will be between the Committee Boat displaying a Black and Yellow BSC Burgee and a BSC Yellow inflatable buoy set approximately in front of the BSC Clubhouse. The start will be announced on the VHF and will be indicated by a loud horn from the Committee Boat.
8. **Safety!:**
 - i. Ensure you have all the requisite safety equipment in working order for your vessel;
 - ii. Abide by all navigation rules;
 - iii. Safety of all involved takes priority. Navigate with caution while in proximity of other vessels and ensure safe distances and clear communications are maintained;
 - iv. Note that the Workboat Convoy is a part of a larger Balmain Regatta programme. Several sailing events will follow the Convoy. The Regatta Programme can be viewed at: <https://balmainsailingclub.com/balmain-regatta/day-programme>
9. **Guests Aboard.** There is *some* capacity for Club tenders to convey passengers to vessels from Balmain Sailing Club. Please advise by return email if you wish to avail yourselves of this service.



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10. **Awards.** The following awards will be presented at the Club after the Regatta:

- i. A most handsome perpetual trophy for the overall 'winner'. The boat name will be engraved on the trophy to be held at the Club. If you wish to be in contention please advise your predicted course time.
- ii. Best Dressed Award. We encourage you to dress your boat (eg, flags, etc). A prize will be presented for best dressed or best presented vessel. The prize will be a Svitzer Tug ride Certificate. This will allow you and a guest to ride aboard a Svitzer tug during a harbour towage job (on a day to be arranged with the Company).

11. **Presentation, Party and Moorings.** The presentation/BBQ/party (from 1 pm) will be held at the Club after the event. We encourage you to attend. Some moorings can be arranged by the Club. Please advise by return email or phone call if you would like help arranging a mooring to help you attend the event. Please come back to the Club after the event. If coming by road the club is at Water Street Birchgrove.

12. **Finally,** there is no entry fee for the event but if you feel inclined feel free to make a donation to Balmain Sailing Club (BSB 032020. A/c 105359). To those of you that made donations last year, this was greatly appreciated by the Club. Thank you.

Thank you for your support. As above, can you kindly advise the following information by return email (or call me if that is easier):

- Vessel registration number and hull colour;
- Would you like a mooring to help you attend the presentation/BBQ/party?

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries or would like any assistance.

Regards,

Michael Petrozzi, obo Balmain Sailing Club

Email: michael.petrozzi@edisonenvironmental.com.au

Mobile: 0458 336 031

Conditions of Entry

1. Participants in *The Workboat Convoy* acknowledge that the event involves boating on public waterways and are aware of the hazards involved. The hazards include, but are not limited to, condition of participant's boat, equipment, moorings, wharves, boat ramps, commercial operations, and actions of participants, spectators, organiser's personnel and weather conditions. By participating, entrants believe they have sufficient competence and experience to participate safely.

2. By participating, each participant, their executors, administrators, next of kin and assign as follows:

a) **WAIVER, RELEASE, AND DISCHARGE** from any and all liability for death, disability, personal injury, property damage, property theft, and all other foreseeable risks or claims or actions of any kind, whatever and however occurring, which they at any time had or have as a result of or in connection with, directly or indirectly, their participation in and travelling to and from the Convoy, the following persons or entities: Event organisers; Event Sponsors; volunteers; community organisations; and all State, Federal and Local Government authorities in which the Event may be staged and their (its) respective officers, directors, employees, independent contractors, representatives, agents and volunteers.

b) Participants **INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS** the persons or entities mentioned in paragraph 2a above from any and all liabilities, claims or actions whatever or however caused, arising as a result of or in connection with, directly or indirectly, their participation in and travelling to or from the Convoy.

3. Participants agree that their entry into the convoy is voluntary, and that they are responsible for the control, safety and insurance of their vessel and also for the safety of all persons aboard for the duration of the Convoy.

BALMAIN REGATTA 2023



VHF 72



Congregate by
10:30am @
Marshalling area



Start @ 11:00am

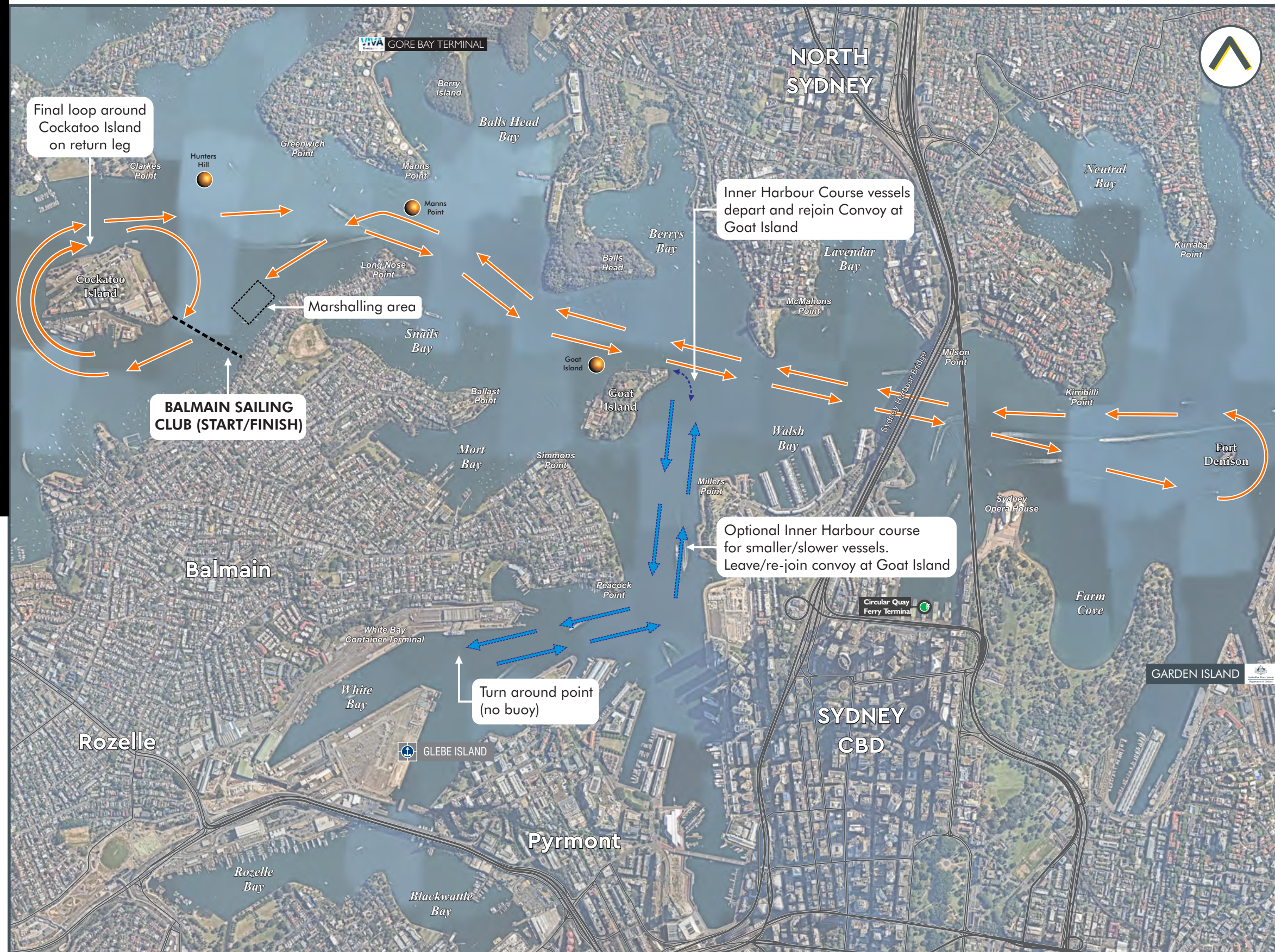


<6 Knots

Convoy
Sponsor:

SVITZER

Workboat Convoy Courses: Inner Harbour and Down Harbour courses



Please give the Svitzer lead boat 30m
safe working distance from your vessel

