

GREAT LAKES SAILING CLUB
WILDCAT REGATTA
2026

**Open to all classes of
off the beach catamarans**

**NOTICE OF
RACE**

Wallis Lake
Booti Booti National Park
3rd, 4th, & 5th October 2026



VENUE:

Great Lakes Sailing Club Inc. (GLSC)
Wallis Lake
4859 The Lakes Way
Booti Booti National Park

(Near) Forster NSW

Sign-posted approximately 10 kilometres south of Forster and approximately 4 kilometres north of Tiona if arriving from the south. The Lakes Way south of the club is picturesque and a known tourist route. However, it is steep in parts, narrow through the lower Myall Lakes district, carries a volume of traffic with only lay back zones for slow vehicles, and prone to road damage in the lower areas. Access through Failford is only 10 minutes slower and less stressful when towing.

DATE:

Labour Day Weekend (NSW) 3rd October to 5th October 2026

Briefing will be held at 11:00 on Saturday 3rd October 2026. Planned first start for all classes not before 13:00 on Saturday 3rd October 2026. Racing will end on Monday October 5th with no start sequence to commence after 13:00 on that day.

RULES:

The event is governed by the current “Racing Rules of Sailing” together with any and all associated amendments, the Sailing instructions as issued following registration and all local authority governance rulings.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

The sailing instructions shall be available following registration and will contain information pertinent to any regatta specific changes to the current “Racing Rules of Sailing” together with courses and general introductory information.

RISK STATEMENT:

RRS 3 states: ‘The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is his/hers alone.’ By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks.

These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

ELIGIBILITY:

- The event is open to all classes of off the beach catamarans and may include additional association titles yet to be announced.
- All boats shall carry as a minimum, appropriate third-party liability & property insurance (minimum \$1,000,000). Confirmation of this insurance must be provided at registration.
- Where a crew member is under the age of 18yrs their details are required to be

provided at registration in order that the race committee can monitor junior numbers on the water and take appropriate safety steps.

- Crews shall remain together for the entire regatta, exemptions to this are detailed in the sailing instructions.
- Starting Fleets will be defined at the initial briefing following finalisation of entries and class numbers.
- Entries will be accepted up to 10:30 am on Saturday October 4th subject to already completed entry numbers
- At least one crew member on each boat shall be a financial member of an appropriate sailing/yacht club.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND INSPECTION:

All crews shall wear a life jacket to Australian Standard AS 4758. This standard came into effect on the 1st January 2021.

No formal measuring or weighing shall take place unless the race committee see reason to do so.

ON SHORE ACTIVITIES

- Cafe de Palms is back in action with breakfast and lunches, cold and hot beverages, and an evening meal on Sunday Night prior to the NRL Grand Final. The Clubs barbeque facilities are available to competitors for evening meals except Sunday night. Please support the club through Café de Palms.
- Licenced “Drop Bar” will be open each afternoon until late serving a range of beers, and limited range of spirits and wine. Please do not bring off-licence alcohol products into our licenced bar area and immediate club grounds as it contravenes our Licence Regulations.
- Big Screen is also back for the NRL Grand Final and frivolities.

EVENT GUIDELINES:

- Great Lakes Sailing Club Inc. welcome all classes of off-the beach catamarans to Wildcat 2026.
- Online registration will open soon with a Race Fee payment of \$200 per entry including NPWS event fees and entry gifts. Total entries will be limited to approximately 100 entries due to the site constraints
- For anyone contemplating their first Wildcat, the Great Lakes Sailing Club is located on the eastern shore of Wallis Lake. The club facilities include a 5-bay single level building with separate male and female bathrooms, boatshed, storage bay, and kitchen. Outdoor improvements include a large undercover shelter, picnic tables, and grassed curtilage. The facilities are connected to grid electricity, town water, and sewer
- There are approximately 40 Camping sites within the club grounds. This is after allowing hardstand space for watercraft and people space on site.

- The provision of camping is principally for participating sailors and their immediate families. Subject to available camping space additional parties will need to pay camping fees of \$60 for the weekend payable at the canteen or at registration Saturday morning. This charge is necessary to satisfy NPWS scrutiny and enable GLSC to not increase 2026 regatta fees to legitimate competitors during this period of increased cost of living. Please assist our endeavours.
- Please be mindful of others travelling long distances to attend Wildcat 2026 and keep your camp site to a minimum to allow room for all who choose to camp on site.
- Trailer parking areas are to the immediate north of the gated entry point and to the end of the gravel road adjacent to the southern cable fence. Any opportune spots to the east of the club buildings are also acceptable. Please keep all motor vehicles off the grassed surfaces apart from when unloading boats. Overflow vehicle parking is available to the entry road from The Lakes Way.
- As in recent years, upon arrival you can decide to either enter the gate and unload to the waterfront, park your trailer to the north, and exit your vehicle through the southern gate. Alternately you can turn left adjacent to the gate and move behind the club buildings to unload and camp in the southern camping area. Once again unload your boat, park your trailer to the southern end of the site, and park your vehicle to the roadside or to the overflow parking to the entry road. Club members will be available to assist you upon arrival.
- The Wildcat Regatta operates under approval from the NSW NPWS. We have advised NPWS there will be no Wildcat arrivals/camping prior to PM Thursday 1st October. Please adhere to the constraints of our camping approval. Approval has been gained for stay over camping on Monday night 5th October to avoid traffic chaos to the south and tired driving into the night after 3 days of racing and frivolity.
- Please remember GLSC is located within Booti Booti National Park and is not an RV park with limited space and a volume of cabbage palms. The camping for competitors is restricted to tents and swags. Please do not bring any RVs or similar. There will be no available space and you will be asked to leave. In recent years several competitors have arrived with RVs as tow-vehicles and seeking an exemption. Please think of others please and make alternative arrangements. Camp Elim to the immediate north of the GLSC grounds has powered RV sites. Check availability early as it does book out prior to the long weekend
- Traditionally approximately half the fleet stay on site with the balance of sailors staying off site in the wide range of accommodation available from Pacific Palms to Forster Tuncurry.
- We would encourage all sailors to pre-register and indicate whether you intend to camp on site. We can then advise via social media of available spaces left for prospective competitors.
- Traditionally we have always squeezed campers in with the assistance of already set up camps. If you are not registered prior to the event, please do not arrive and set up camping equipment without contacting the club. You may be required to relocate to limited overflow areas depending on the number of registered sailors nominating for

camping. We are just trying to keep everybody happy within the constraints imposed by the NPWS.

- The Friday Eve to the Wildcat has always been about arriving, greetings, rigging, and shakedown sailing. The Earp Island Invitation Race will be held again on the afternoon of Friday 2nd October subject to the prevailing weather. Appropriate prizes for Line Honours and Yardstick Winners. Stay tuned for updates.
- Please remember the event is located within Booti Booti National Park therefore fires of any sort and domestic pets are specifically not permitted. NPWS have also stated that camping ropes are not to be tied to trees.
- It is strongly recommended that you stay home if you are experiencing any cold or flu like symptoms to reduce the risk to others.

We can't wait to see you all again for another Wildcat Long Weekend Festival of Sail with the site available for camping from PM Thursday 1st of October 2026 through to AM Tuesday 6th October 2026. It will once again be a great event with your participation, so don't miss out by registering online.

All general enquiries should initially be referred to greatlakessailingclub@gmail.com or the GLSC Facebook page. If required GLSC President, Tim Haffner can be contacted for specific enquiries on 0412 206 733.

GLSC Sailing Committee