1.0 INVITATION and EVENT DESCRIPTION

1.1 Preamble

The Moreton Bay Yacht Club invites eligible yachts to take part in its annual inter-club “PEARL CHALLENGE”.

The Pearl Challenge is aimed at sports and trailable yachts able to safely complete an “out and back” 40 nautical mile course within the Moreton Bay ‘partially smooth’ (sheltered) waters.

It will also include a separate miscellaneous division for keelboats (mixed fleet) and multihull participants by way of additional divisions and prizes.

1.2 Features of the event

The Pearl Challenge starts to the East of the Redcliffe Peninsula and, after a short leg along the foreshore, follows a course across Moreton Bay to M8 and then via the East Knoll By-pass to M3. The course then follows the Pearl Channel to the South West Spit, then southward to the Brisbane Road buoy. The final legs are to Reef Point and the finish within Deception Bay to the North of the entrance to the Scarborough Boat Harbour.

The event offers significant public exposure due to the close proximity of the start and first leg to the Redcliffe Peninsula foreshore.

Refreshments will be made available to finishing yachts.

*The generous sponsorship allows significant cash prizes.*

1.3 Organization and support groups

The Organizing Authority is the Moreton Bay Yacht Club Inc.

Supporting organizations include the Moreton Bay Boat Club (MBBC) and the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard - Redcliffe.

*The major sponsor for the Pearl Challenge is AV Homes.*

1.4 Event schedule

The event is scheduled for the weekend of 29th and 30th September, 2012 so as to provide a summer season opening event complementing the Fairway Challenge ocean race.

Maritime Safety Queensland requirements mandate a briefing for all competitors. That briefing will be held at the Moreton Bay Boat Club, Bird o’ Passage Parade, Scarborough on Tuesday 25th September 2012 commencing at 7:30 pm. At least one bone fide representative of each entered boat must attend that briefing.

Complementary berths and marina facilities will be available to all relevant participants from the Friday afternoon through to Sunday. Berthing on the Friday night will be limited therefore prior arrangement via the MBYC secretary is essential.

The start of the Pearl Challenge will be at 10:00 am on Saturday, 29th September 2012. The time limit for the event shall be 8:00 am on Sunday 30th September 2012.
A reasonable priced buffet breakfast on the MBBC boardwalk will be available to the crews of all participating yachts. This is scheduled to commence at 6:00 am Saturday 29th and 7:30 am on Sunday 30th September 2012.

Placing announcements and presentation of prizes will commence at 10:00 am Sunday 30th September 2012 (subject to any protest hearing). Shore activities are scheduled to conclude by 12 noon.

1.5 Rules

The event will be governed by this Notice of Race, the Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012 (RRS), the Yachting Australia Special Regulations 2009-2012, the Sailing Instructions and Maritime Safety requirements prescribed within the associated Aquatic Event Authority. The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (ColRegs) displace and overrule the RRS absolutely between official sunset and official sunrise. All relevant information and references will be included within the sailing instructions.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY

2.1 Statutory requirements and safety

Maritime Safety legislation

All participating yachts must comply with the safety requirements mandated by the Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation. Maritime Queensland resolves this down to a simple statement.

All owners and operators, masters and crew members must ensure the ship is:

- **safe**
- **properly equipped and crewed**
- **operated in a safe manner.**

Yachting Australia prescription

Yachts entering the Pearl Challenge will be required to satisfy the requirements of Yachting Australia Special Regulations 2009-2012 for Category 5(N) events.

Modifications to the special regulations to suit the type of event are outlined in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of modifications to YA SPECIAL REGULATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RRS 50.2 Fixed and retractable spinnaker poles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RRS 50.3 Bowsprits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RRS 51 Moveable ballast (as defined within the Special Regulations 2009-2012)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE:- The race entry returnable documents require the submission of an updated YA Category 5N checklist..
2.2 Racing handicap divisions

The Pearl Challenge event comprises two (2) trailable/sport yacht mono-hull race handicap divisions being a split above and below the statistical median handicap. It also includes a mixed fleet keelboat division. All 3 divisions will be restricted to Performance Handicap (PH) only.

A separate multihull division (MH) will be included subject to the registered entry numbers (refer Note 4)

NOTE 4:- If the number of entries in the multihull division is less than 3, that division will be cancelled and any fees paid will be refunded. If the number of entries in the multihull division is 3 or 4, only a first place prize will be awarded.

Current handicap indices must be provided by each entrant by way of a copy of a current PH (or arbitrary) based race result issued by a YA/YQ affiliated. The race committee reserves the right to adjust any submitted PH index on the grounds of reasonable equitability.

2.3 Entry lodgment and closing date

Race entry forms are available from the Fairway Challenge web site at www.fairwaychallengembyc.com or via the MBYC web site www.mbyc.com.au. Hard copy entries must include the entry fee (or EFT confirmation); be enclosed within a sealed envelope and be forwarded by hand or mail to the Moreton Bay Yacht Club by close of business on Wednesday 19th September 2012. Entries later than that date will incur a $20.00 late entry fee. Entries later than Friday 28th September 2012 cannot be accepted without hard evidence of exceptional circumstance or organizing authority error.

Emailed entries will be accepted if prior payment arrangements are agreed between the entrant and the organizing authority. The email address is secretary@mbyc.com.au.

Posted entries must be addressed to:-

Moreton Bay Yacht Club
P.O. Box 730
Redcliffe Qld. 4020

2.4 Entry fee

The race entry fee is $40.00 for each entry.
3.0 MANAGEMENT

3.1 Sailing Instructions

Sailing instructions will be available from the Fairway Challenge web site at www.fairwaychallengembyc.com or via the MBYC web site www.mbyc.com.au from 30th August 2012. Revisions to the sailing instructions will be advised to entrants via email and will be posted on the MBYC web site. Sailing Instructions will also be available at the briefing (refer 1.4 Event schedule).

3.2 Course to be sailed

The course diagram is attached to this notice. The start of the event is directly to the East of Margate Beach. The first mark of the course is at the location of the Brisbane to Gladstone race Redcliffe turn. The finish is within Deception Bay approximately 0.5 nautical miles North of the entrance to the Scarborough Boat Harbour. With the exception of brief intrusions into the shipping channels around M3 and M8, the designated course lies to the West of the Moreton Bay entrance shipping channels. The presence of sandbanks adjacent the nominated course mandates the use of a current northern Moreton Bay navigation chart (e.g. MSQ chart MB1 MORETON BAY Manly to Mooloolaba).

3.3 Communication

All flag signals will be flown from the committee boat. There will be no signals ashore. The committee boat can be identified by an orange flag displayed while on station.

The official radio communication channels will be VHF 77 (primary channel) and VHF 21 (secondary channel). Effective VHF communication is mandatory. This will be verified during “log on” and mandatory position (safety) transmissions.

Participants shall neither transmit nor receive event related information via radio or mobile phone communication not available to all participating boats.

Maritime Safety Queensland requires yachts to monitor VHF channel 12 while adjacent to or within shipping channels. These requirements will be included within the sailing instructions. Incidents involving errant participating yachts reported to Brisbane Port Control by commercial shipping may result in disqualification.

Mandatory safety radio transmission requirements will be advised within the sailing instructions. Shipping movements will be advised at the briefing and on the day.

3.4 Finishing, Berthing and Trailer Parking

After completing the event, entrants having pre-arranged complimentary berthing at the MBBC marina will have full use of the marina facilities. All yachts entering the harbour will receive complimentary beverage refreshment.

The Scarborough Harbour entrance is defined by a lit yellow special mark and an associated lit port lateral mark. The entrance channel is defined by synchronized port and starboard lateral marks (refer Beacon to Beacon extract).
Deeper draft yachts should keep to the centre of the entrance channel at the turn around the rock wall.

The harbour entrance least depth occurs within the West channel of the harbour between the rock wall and the Scarborough Marina (soon after the rock wall entrance). The following table gives least depth data related to Brisbane Bar tides.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tide at Brisbane Bar</th>
<th>Harbour Entrance Least depth</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tide at Brisbane Bar</th>
<th>Harbour Entrance Least depth</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tide at Brisbane Bar</th>
<th>Harbour Entrance Least depth</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>3.53</td>
<td>0851</td>
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<td>0927</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1505</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>1.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>2027</td>
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<td>2103</td>
<td>2.18</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>2136</td>
<td>2.11</td>
<td>3.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yachts entering the harbour will be met by a guide boat which will advise berthing locations and facilities information. Although the MBBC marina has significant visitor berthing space, yachts taking advantage of the complimentary berths must be prepared to raft if necessary.

The MBBC Marina is a ‘live aboard’ marina and as such general noise abatement, environmental protection and social activity responsibilities are identical to those associated within a normal urban area. Although permanent marina occupants will be aware of the event and the expected increased activity, visiting marina occupants are requested to give due cognizance to the amenity and privacy of permanent occupants.

A substantial public car and trailer park is situated adjacent to the MBBC premises. This is served by a public boat ramp at the NE of the harbour. Trailable yachts requiring a deeper water launch will be able to use either of the MBBC boat ramps within its secure area. However, due to member privilege, parking of visitor cars and trailers in this area is not permitted. Once visiting yachts are launched, cars and trailers must be returned to the public carpark.

A second public car and trailer park and associated public boat ramp are situated adjacent the Coast Guard premises accessible via Thurecht Pde.

The arrangements and rules governing berthing and parking at the MBBC will be further described and at the mandatory briefing.
3.5 Presentation and prizes

The presentation venue will be the MBBC clubhouse, Bird o’ Passage Pde. Scarborough, commencing at 9:30 am on Sunday 30th September, 2012. (subject to any protest hearing).

Awarding of prizes is conditional upon participating yacht representation at the presentation. Generally, prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each division and for line honours.

A “navigator” prize is given for the closest ETA to the finish advised via VHF 77 as yachts round the Brisbane Road Buoy.

3.6 Disclaimer of liability

Competitors participate in the event at their own risk. (refer RRS rule 4, Decision to Race).

The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the event.

3.7 Insurance

All yachts participating in the event must be covered by a current third party insurance policy (with appropriate racing cover) with a minimum public liability of $10,000,000.00. A copy of the certificate of currency (or an equivalent document) must be lodged with the entry form.

3.8 Enquiries

Enquiries should be directed to one of the following MBYC committee members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shona Lawrie</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>0450 080 799</td>
<td><a href="mailto:secretary@mbyc.com.au">secretary@mbyc.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darryl Wright</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>0408 936 962</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hank Kauffmann</td>
<td>Principal Race Officer</td>
<td>0427 427 448</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.0 COURSE DIAGRAM

The course diagram is for general reference only and must not be used for navigation. Each participant must have a current MSQ recognized chart of the race area for navigation purposes. Course diagrams are also available from the Fairway Challenge web site at www.fairwaychallengembyc.com or via the MBYC web site www.mbyc.com.au.