



V2 260802



# Lake Eyre Yacht Club 2026 Regatta

**Lake Killamperpunna (with an alternative deeper lake if required)**

**Etadunna Station**

**27 September – 3 October 2025**

## ABOUT:

The Lake Eyre Yacht Club's 2026 Regatta is an 7-day event in total with 5 nights at regatta site and 1 night before and after at the Clubhouse or elsewhere at Marree. Dates have been chosen in the overlap of each State's September/October school holidays. The Regatta Camp is off the Birdsville Track. Two-wheel drive access may be available providing the Birdsville Track from Marree to Etadunna has no restrictions. The event is for Lake Eyre Yacht Club members, families and members guests only. You may join the Club as a "Gunna" prior to the event – details on our web site's Membership page. If you were a "Gunna" at our last event and haven't upgraded to full membership it would help us balance the books.

## WHERE?

### **Lake Eyre Yacht Club, Marree**

All participants meet for a briefing the evening before departing to Regatta Camp the following morning.

### **Etadunna Pastoral Lease**

The lake has ample room for a traditional race triangular course and areas for adventure.

### **Presentation Night – Marree Hall** – Meal provided by Marree Hotel - Publicans Brenton & Jacki, Manager Simon

Participants break camp and return to Marree and the Marree Hall for the Presentation Night bringing the event to a close on the evening of 6 October.

## GETTING THERE

The Birdsville Track should be open Mungerannie to Birdsville. The Strzelecki Track should also be open by then but check road conditions and plan your trip before leaving. The Regatta Camp is a few hours comfortable drive up the Birdsville Track from Marree (135km).

## EVENTS

In keeping with the Club's fun approach to yachting in the outback events will be laid back and not run under strict racing rules with emphasis on enjoying the rare privilege of sailing in the desert. We are family/children/pet friendly and do not tolerate anti-social behaviour. Pets to be always kept under control.

## WHAT WILL BE SUPPLIED

- Bush camp area with pit toilets.
- Firewood - some supplied but would help if you brought your own.
- Lake/river water for washing (do not drink).
- Potable water now available at Clubhouse, Marree

## WHAT DO I BRING?

- An off the beach sized yacht with appropriate safety gear as required by SA Marine Authority.
- We urge you to have a UHF handheld on board (waterproof or in waterproof bag/case). Channel 13 for club use, channel 20 for station emergency contact. UHF in vehicle an advantage.
- We ask that you carry a smoke or hand flare on board in a waterproof case.
- Canoes and tinnies also permitted. Power boats for race supervision and rescue.
- Life jackets must be always worn when on the water.
- Outboards are allowed on yachts but must not be used when racing.
- While 2WD may be possible with care a 4WD is preferred, particularly when towing.
- Campers and off-road vans are OK.
- Trailers are often the weakest component. Consider beefing yours up and carry spare parts.
- Camping gear, gas cooking gear, food and **drinking water**.
- Starlink will be available but the more the merrier.
- Strong bags for rubbish and recyclables. Rubbish must be taken to Marree tip and cannot be disposed of in any way during trip. Recyclables left at Clubhouse or in trailer near admin tent. Penalties apply.

## Camping conditions are warm to hot. Discomfort ruins a holiday so be prepared:

- Insects – flies and mosquitos - can be a real problem. Currently no mosquitos.
- Adequate clothing and bedding for temperatures from 10-30 degrees. Average minimum is 12 and maximum 28 degrees.
- Proper sun hat with tie, sunscreen essential
- Sunglasses essential and take a spare pair.
- Wetsuits and spray jackets may be necessary.

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

This event is not intended to run at a profit. Main costs will include:

- Camping fee per vehicle (collected for the Station) \$200 for 5 nights at the Regatta Camp paid on registration at Clubhouse Sunday 27 September.
- Camping is free at the Clubhouse for participants. Showers \$5.
- If you prefer more comfortable accommodation, please support our sponsor **Marree Hotel, (08) 8675 8344**
- Competing boat \$40 to supply fuel for race control, trophies etc.
- Briefing Meal at Roadhouse \$TBA PP (mixed meats and vegetables, desert)
- Presentation Night Meal at Marree Hall \$TBA PP (Mixed grill and salads)

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED:

Any group from the same Club with 5 or more participants will be asked to supply a volunteer.

The Club needs help to run this event and we treasure and reward our volunteers. We are looking for:

- Assistance the week before for setup etc.
- Assistance with camp supervision
- Radio operator
- Safety control – race participant register and completion record supervisor •
- Camp walker
- Race officials (starters/timers) and a person experienced with *Sail/wave* handicapping software.

- Tinnie owners to help with race supervision, support and recovery

### **IMPORTANT:**

- All attendees and spectators must submit an entry form for each vehicle/boat and are subject varying fees paid before entry in cash.
- No firearms may be taken onto leases.
- No standing timber to be damaged.
- While some firewood is provided it is suggested participants purchase a bag of firewood as very little is found in this area
- Cooking/heating comfort fires only - NO BONFIRES as firewood and the environment is precious.
- Grouping of camps is mandatory to reduce firewood use and promote a community spirit.
- No generators. Solar panels, modern low power fridges and LED lighting are preferred.
- Children and pets are welcome but remember this is not a tourist resort. As there are many unfamiliar dangers in the desert, they must be always supervised by their parents/owners.
- As is normal for adventure activities a liability waiver is required to be signed at registration.

### **AND MORE...**

#### **The area is rich in history and has several locations of heritage significance:**

- The area is the traditional country of the Dieri and is on one of Australia's major indigenous trade routes that extended from the Gulf of Carpentaria to the Flinders Ranges and beyond.
- The iconic Birdsville Track and its pastoralists, drovers and mailmen.

To appreciate the historical significance and to maximise the personal experience of a visit to this area it is recommended that all participants read (or view) the following:

- *Land of Mirage* George Farwell
- *Back of Beyond* (DVD) Hellyer
- *Where Seasons Come and Go* Eric Bonython ISBN 0 958 9388 0 6 (available at Marree General Store)

Ask your local librarian for help to borrow the books. They are also often found in second-hand bookshops.

### **MAKE A HOLIDAY OF IT**

There is much to see and do in the wider area of NE South Australia either from a touring or boating perspective. Participants can be provided with information on request on how to make a complete holiday based on our event.

**TIMETABLE:**

|                                                      | Sat<br>26<br>Sept                                                                                 | Sun<br>27<br>Sept                                                                                                             | Mon<br>28<br>Sept                                                                                 | Tues<br>29<br>Sept                                                                                | Wed<br>30<br>Oct                                                                                   | Thur<br>1<br>Oct                                                                                    | Fri<br>2<br>Oct                                                                                     | Sat<br>3<br>Oct                                                                                     | Sun<br>4<br>Oct                                                                                     | Mon<br>5<br>Oct                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Vic & Qld School Holidays (19 September – 4 October) |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                    |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |
|                                                      | SA, NSW, Tas & WA School Holidays (26 September – 11 October)                                     |                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                    |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |
| A<br>M                                               |                                                                                                   | Travel to<br>Marree                                                                                                           | Drive<br>To Camp                                                                                  | 10:30am<br>Race<br>1                                                                              | Adventure<br>challenge                                                                             | 10:30am<br>Race<br>3                                                                                | Rear<br>Admirals<br>Mug                                                                             | Break<br>Camp                                                                                       | See the<br>area<br>and then<br>leave<br>Marree                                                      | LABOUR<br>DAY<br>PUBLIC<br>HOLIDAY<br>(ACT,<br>NSW &<br>SA)                                         |
| P<br>M                                               | AFL<br>GRAND<br>FINAL                                                                             |                                                                                                                               | Free sail<br>to<br>familiarise<br>with lake                                                       | 3pm<br>Race<br>2                                                                                  |                                                                                                    | 3pm<br>Race<br>4                                                                                    | Social<br>sail                                                                                      | Return to<br>Marree                                                                                 |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                     |
| E<br>V<br>E                                          |                                                                                                   | Briefing<br>at<br>Marree<br>Hall<br>8-9pm  |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                    |                                                                                                     |                | Presentation<br>Night<br>Marree Hall<br>6-10pm                                                      | Daylight<br>Saving<br>Starts                                                                        |                                                                                                     |
|                                                      | <br>25°<br>17° | <br>27°<br>12°                             | <br>29°<br>13° | <br>25°<br>13° | <br>25°<br>12° | <br>26°<br>14° | <br>27°<br>13° | <br>30°<br>12° | <br>26°<br>16° | <br>30°<br>12° |



# Birdsville Track Cooper Crossing

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