

HOBSONS BAY YACHT CLUB



MUSTER BOAT CREW (MB) – ROLE DESCRIPTION – v2.0

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to define the requirements of the on-duty 'Muster Boat' crew when assisting the Primary Committee/Start/Finish boat, either HBYC or alternative host Club running the event.

2. PRIMARY DUTY.

Work in association with the Boat Driver and liaise with the Race Officer (RO), Committee/Start/Finish boat, either HBYC or host Club running the event via the designated VHF race channel.

Be aware of the event Sailing Instructions and course selected. If unsure refer to the event RO.

An HBYC/RYCV course book is located in the HBYC Race Room.

Monitor all Commercial shipping in either the Williamstown or Port Melbourne Shipping Channels via VHF Ch 12 and/or Chart Plotter on 'HBYC 'Privateer' and/or a marine traffic app on either a smart phone or iPad.

Control/stop all boats in the event from passing within 500m of any Commercial ship including Tugs and Ferries.

All Skippers are reminded of their responsibility under rule 9(b) of the IRPCS, (b)

"A vessel of less than 20 metres in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway."

If you think a conflict situation is possible maintain a diligent listening watch on the VTS working channel (Ch 12) and respond promptly as necessary to calls from large vessels or the VTS.

Shipping Sound Signal Meanings:

- One short blast – I am altering course to starboard (right).
- Two short blasts – I am altering course to port (left).
- Three short blasts – I am operating engines astern (stopping).
- Five (or more) short blasts – I'm unsure of your intentions and I doubt whether you are taking enough avoiding action to avoid collision.

Reference should be made to the HBYC On-Water Safety Management Plan available at hbyc.org.au

3. REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1. Be at the Club one hour prior to Club activity and remain on duty until the Race Officer has confirmed that you can stand down.
- 3.2. Be familiar with the operation of a VHF radio and monitor race channel together with Ch 12 and 16 at all times.
- 3.3. During the event maintain a 'watch' at all times on
 - Both sides of the primary shipping channels.
 - Chart Plotter on 'HBYC 'Privateer' and/or marine traffic app on a smart phone or iPad.
- 3.4. Liaise at all times with the Race Officer, Committee/Start/Finish boat.
- 3.5. HBYC may assist in a Distress (MAYDAY) or urgency call (PAN PAN) however it is the water police and / or Marine Radio Victoria (MRV) who will take the lead role in these situations. Allow up to 10 seconds once a call is heard to see if the authorities have responded to such a call.