# Hobsons Bay Yacht Club

## Notice of Race

## Friday Night Dinghy Races

The Organising Authority for the 2026-27 Season is the Hobsons Bay Yacht Club (HBYC), with races to be run in conjunction with Williamstown Sailing Club (WSC) and Royal Yacht Club of Victoria (RYCV)

1. **Schedule:**
    a. Fridays between 29th January 2027 and 19th March 2027 (excluding 5th March).
    b. Times:
        i. 5.15pm – Competitor briefings
        ii. 5.45pm – First warning signal
    c. No warning signal will be made after 6.30pm
2. **Place:**
    a. Racing will be conducted in the waters between Williamstown and the Yarra River shipping channel.
    b. Competitor briefings will be held in the training room of HBYC.
    c. Post-race gathering and socialising will take place in the BBQ area of HBYC.
3. **Rules:**
    The Event will be governed by:
    a. the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS)
        i. Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty.
        ii. Rule 90.3(e) will apply.
        iii. Rule A5.1 is changed to allow DSQ without a hearing in certain circumstances.
        iv. Rule A5.3 will apply.
        v. Other Rules may be amended in the Sailing Instructions.
    b. the Special Regulations Part 2 of Australian Sailing.
    c. the yardsticks to be used for individual classes published by Australian Sailing; and
    d. the Ports Victoria (PV) Harbour Masters Directions.
4. **Eligibility:**
    a. The event is open to current financial members of a Club affiliated to Australian Sailing (i.e. who have an Australian Sailing number or hold a valid Sail Pass).
    b. Skippers must be under 30 years of age on 1st January 2027 or have been skippering a dinghy for less than 2 years on 1st January 2027. Other sailors are welcome to participate in racing but will be scored DSQ without a hearing.
        i. This changes Rule A5.1.
    c. Eligible classes are 'off the beach' classes with an Australian Sailing yardstick.
    d. Each participating boat shall be insured with a current Third-Party Liability Insurance with racing risk of not less than ten million dollars ($10,000,000).
5. **Registration:**
    a. Series entries will be via https://sailingresults.net/entry/default.aspx?ID=1569262
    b. Entries must be completed at least 60 minutes before the scheduled first warning signal to receive a score for a race and all subsequent races.
    c. Fees: there are no fees for participation in the Event.
6. **Communication:**
    a. All race documents and results will be published on the official noticeboard for the series available online at https://sailingresults.net/?ID=82452.
    b. Sailing Instructions will be available on the official noticeboard at least 12 hours before the first race.
7. **Scoring:**
    a. A boats finishing time will be corrected by:
        i. Normalising the number of laps sailed by each class of boat (i.e. dividing the elapsed time by the number of laps sailed and then multiplying by a standard number of laps'); and then
        ii. Applying the Australian Sailing yardstick for the class of boat.
    b. The Low Point Scoring system in Rule Appendix A will apply.
        i. When 4 or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

ii. When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

c. When a boat's skipper or crew (aged at least 14 years old on 1st January 2027) volunteers for race management duties, for that race the boat shall score points equal to the average of her points in all races sailed (except races for which her skipper has volunteered), rounded to the nearest tenth of a point. A boat may be scored this way for a maximum of 2 races in the series and may not be scored this way in the last scheduled race in the series.

d. 7 races are scheduled.

e. A minimum of 2 races must be scored to constitute a series.

f. Rule A5.3 will apply.

**8. Prizes:**

a. The following prizes shall be awarded:

i. Overall series winner – 1st skipper (and crew as applicable) based on corrected times using class yardsticks across all classes from the series results.

ii. Junior winner – 1st skipper aged under 14 years old on 1st January 2027 (and crew as applicable).

iii. Teens & 20s winner – 1st skipper aged at least 14 year old and under 30 years old on 1st January 2027 (and crew as applicable).

iv. Novice winner – 1st skipper with less than 2 years' experience skippering a dinghy on 1st January 2027 (and crew as applicable).

b. Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

**9. Equipment:**

a. A boat or equipment may be inspected by a member of the Organising Authority at any time for compliance with the rules.

b. A boat shall not carry equipment capable of making or receiving electronic transmissions. This includes mobile phones and smart watches.

c. Special Regulation 5.01 requires that each competitor shall always wear a compliant life jacket when afloat except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Please remember that wet suits and dry suits are not lifejackets.

**10. Conditions of entry:**

a. Rule 4 states that by participating in an event conducted under the rules, each competitor, boat owner, and support person agrees to accept and be bound by the rules.

b. Rule 3 states: The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is 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.

c. Competitors participate in the Event entirely at their own risk. The Organising Authority will not accept any liability for material damage to personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the Event.

d. The Organising Authority is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. The Organising Authority reserves the right to refuse an entry.

e. In participating in this Event, a competitor automatically grants to the Organising Authority the right in perpetuity, to make, use and show, from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or film television and other reproductions of him/her during the period of the competition for the said Event in which the competitor participates, and in all material related to the said Event, without compensation.

**11. Further Information:**

For further information contact the HBYC Sailing Administrator Stephen Cheney via email: racing@hbyc.org.au