

Hobsons Bay Yacht Club

Notice of Race

Friday Night Dinghy Races



The Organising Authority for the 2025-2026 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)

Schedule:

- Fridays between 30th January 2026 and 27th March 2026 (excluding 6th March).
- Times:
 - 5.15pm – Competitor briefings
 - 5.45pm – First warning signal
- No warning signal will be made after 6.30pm

Place:

- Racing will be conducted in the waters between Williamstown and the Yarra River shipping channel.
- Competitor briefings will be held in the training room of HBYC.

Rules:

The Event will be governed by:

- the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS)
 - Rule 90.3(e) will apply.
 - RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two – Turns Penalty is replaced by a One – Turn Penalty.
- the prescriptions and special regulations of Australian Sailing.
- the rules of the appropriate boat class association (Class Rules);
- the yardsticks to be used for individual classes published by Australian Sailing; and
- any applicable rules and regulations as required by the Ports Victoria Melbourne (PVM).

Eligibility:

- The event is open to current financial members of a Club affiliated to Australian Sailing who have an Australian Sailing number or hold a valid Sail Pass.
- Sailors must be under 30 years of age on 1st January 2026 or have been skippering a dinghy for less than 3 years on 1st January 2026. Other sailors are welcome to participate in racing but will be scored DSQ.
- Eligible boat classes are 'off the beach' classes with an Australian Sailing yardstick.
- 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).

Registration:

- Series entries will be via <https://sailingresults.net/entry/default.aspx?ID=1969184>
- 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.
- Fees: there are no fees for participation in the Event.

Communication:

- All race documents and results will be published on the HBYC website and will be distributed by email to registered competitors.
- Sailing Instructions will be available on the HBYC website at least 12 hours before the first race, and a hard copy will be available at the competitor briefings.
- Courses will be as published in the Sailing Instructions.

Scoring:

- The Low Point Scoring system in RRS Appendix A will apply.
 - When 4 or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - 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.

- Boats shall score points equal to the average of all races sailed in the series when their skipper (aged at least 14 year old on 1st January 2026) volunteers for race management duties
- 8 races are scheduled.
- A minimum of 2 races must be scored to constitute a series.
- Rule A5.3 will apply.

Prizes:

The following prizes shall be awarded:

- Overall series winner – 1st skipper (and crew as applicable) based on corrected times using class yardsticks across all classes from the series results.
- Junior winner – 1st skipper aged under 14 years old on 1st January 2026 (and crew as applicable).
- Teens & 20s winner – 1st skipper aged at least 14 year old and under 30 years old on 1st January 2026 (and crew as applicable).
- Novice winner – 1st skipper with less than 3 years' experience skippering a dinghy on 1st January 2026 (and crew as applicable).
- Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

Equipment:

- All equipment, including safety equipment, shall comply with Australian Sailing and IMCA recommendations.
- A boat or equipment may be inspected by a member of the Organising Authority at any time for compliance with the Class Rules and Sailing Instructions.
- Allegations of measurement deficiencies shall be by protest.
- A boat shall not carry equipment capable of making or receiving electronic transmissions except in accordance with Class Rules. This includes mobile phones and smart watches.
- Each competitor shall always wear a compliant personal flotation device when afloat except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.

Conditions of entry:

- Competitors agree to be bound by *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and by all other rules that govern this event.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Substitution of competitors or equipment will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

Further Information:

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