

Hobsons Bay Yacht Club

Cruising Rally Instructions



Amendments

Number	Date	Descriptions Changed	Summary of Amendment

1. Introduction

These HBYC Cruising Instructions are applicable for the conduct of Cruising Rallies that are officially recognized by HBYC and relate to events conducted within the waters of Port Phillip only.

It is recommended that these instructions should also be used for casual group cruising organized and arranged by the cruising participants.

Whilst these instructions cover the management of HBYC Cruising Rallies much of the content is based on good seamanship, adequate safety considerations and common-sense, all of which are relevant to the good risk management of any sailing event.

2. Management Plan

2.1 A boat is deemed to be participating in a HBYC Cruising Rally if:

- A Notice of Rally has been submitted and is acknowledged by the HBYC Sailing Committee.
- It has notified the racing office at racing@hbyc.org.au of its intention to participate and advised of boat name, number, POB and mobile contact number,
- Most importantly, it is conforming to the Daily Sail Plan as proposed by the Cruise Coordinator and agreed by the majority of cruise members.

2.2 The Rally will be under the overall supervision of a Cruise Coordinator.

2.3 A Rally shall be run in accordance all HBYC sailing policies -

- Solo Sailing Policy
- Inclement Weather Policy

3. Cruise Coordinator

The Cruise Coordinator will be the Land Officer for boats in the HBYC Passage Race destination cruises.

The main duties of the Cruise Coordinator are to:

- 3.1 Appoint and brief a deputy on another boat to assist and assume the Cruise Coordinator role and responsibilities if the Cruise Coordinator is unable to effectively perform those duties,
- 3.2 Formulate a Daily Sail Plan for the days passage acceptable to the majority of cruise participants, considering their knowledge of weather, tides, distances, times, ports and anchorages etc.
- 3.3 Monitor weather forecasts and encourage other boats to do likewise,
- 3.4 Receive participating boats 'log-on' including number of people on board (POB).
- 3.5 Maintain contact, preferably by radio (channel to be nominated), with participating boats during the rally.
- 3.6 Formulate and advise of a fallback plan if weather/sea conditions deteriorate during the days passage.
- 3.7 Where reasonably possible, and with consideration to the safety of boats and their crews, render or arrange assistance as may be required.
- 3.8 Maintain contact with any boats temporarily leaving the cruise to the extent possible and to log boats leaving and re-joining the cruise.
- 3.9 Monitor all boats to a 'safe harbor' post the rally.

4. General

As well as meeting all the requirements for participation in a rally as defined above, individual skippers must:

- 4.1 Advise the Cruise Coordinator if their boat is leaving the cruise, temporarily or permanently and of their intentions prior to leaving.
- 4.2 Ensure that their boat and all equipment including hull, spars, rigging, sails and engine, are all fully sound and thoroughly seaworthy and that it complies with the minimum safety requirements outlined by Australian Sailing and Safe Transport Victoria.
- 4.3 Make the final decision regarding whether or not to take their boat to sea, or remain at sea,
- 4.4 Monitor designated VHF Channels as specified in the Notice of Cruise prior to sailing and until logging off on completion of the passage and in 'Safe Harbor'.
- 4.5 **Log-on** with the Cruise Coordinator prior to the start of a passage including number of POB and **Log-off** with the Cruise Coordinator on completion of the passage, when safely in port,
- 4.6 Be aware of the times for radio schedules and be ready to supply position reports and any other relevant information when called.
- 4.7 Monitor weather reports and forecasts when on passage,
- 4.8 Recommended to keep mobile telephones charged, turned on and within audible range of the helm during the passage.
- 4.9 Operate their boat with care and in a seaman like manner observing the requirements of the
 - a International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea
 - b Victoria Marine Safety Regulations
 - c Harbour Master Directions, Melbourne – Section 5 (refer to Primary Sailing Instructions available on the HBYC website under Racing/Race Documents)
- 4.10 Ensure that their boat is adequately manned both for when cruising and if leaving the cruise temporarily or permanently,
- 4.11 Ensure all crew wear their PFDs, harnesses and tethers at times of heightened risk.
- 4.12 Cooperate with the Cruise Coordinator and other skippers in deciding on daily sail plans. The option of leaving the rally temporarily or permanently is always available if a skipper considers the sail plan unacceptable.

This plan may be varied by the Cruise Coordinator in the light of special or unforeseen circumstances.

A cruising rally will not proceed if in the opinion of the Cruise Coordinator either the weather conditions or the weather forecast is considered unfavorable.

5. Notice of Cruise

A **Notice of Cruise** will be issued for each Cruising Rally. The Notice of Cruise shall include:

- Cruise schedule,
- Communications, and
- Details of the Cruise Coordinator.

6. Briefing

A briefing of an intended Cruising Rally shall be conducted at a meeting prior to the planned event.

7. Indemnity

All those taking part in a HBYC Cruising Rally do so at their own risk and responsibility.

Acceptance of a boat's entry shall not cause or deem HBYC to be responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment/crew.