

Hobsons Bay Yacht Club

Youth Sailing Policy



The Sailing Committee, General Committee and HBYC as a club are very supportive of the youth sailors competing in Club racing events and the progression of youth sailors into racing aligns with the vision of the club.

This policy is intended to provide clarity to young people and their parents/guardians and to protect both club members and the club itself.

CRITERIA FOR RACING AS AN ALL-YOUTH CREW (13-18YRS)

NOTE: Crew members under age 13 are not considered 'competent crew'. This policy applies to young people aged 13-18 years.

- The boat ownership, boat register update, hardstand fees, and insurance shall be managed in accordance with HBYC policies
- The boat shall be Category 6 compliant and receives an independent audit to confirm
- A crew overboard (MOB) procedure shall be developed, understood, and demonstrated with 'Bob'
- Any all-youth crewed boat shall successfully complete at least 3 pursuit races (Thursday Twilight/Sunday Pursuit) with the same skipper before participating in any other club or PPNYC events
- Automatic Self-inflating PFDs with a crotch strap shall be worn at all times
- The yard crane and electric tug are only available to inducted personnel (who are over the age of 16). The launch and retrieval of boats kept on the hardstand shall be performed by an inducted person 16years or over.
- The parents of each youth shall complete the attached indemnity waiver form and confirm that the responsibility for the decision to race lies with the parents/guardians
- Any all-youth crew must radio the RO to communicate their intention to race as an all-youth crew prior to each event
 - The RO may veto the crew's participation in that particular event at their discretion.
- A code 'Y' flag shall be displayed on the backstay to identify the youth crew to the RO and other competitors
- It is recommended that the youth are escorted on their first few races. The club RIBs are available to suitably qualified parents for use in following the pursuit races. Having a RIB on the water is not a mandatory condition for racing.
- Skippers shall have completed the ***HBYC Youth Skipper Assessment***