



2023 Victorian Hobie Cat Championship

at

Port Melbourne Yacht Club

11th – 13th March 2023

Organising Authority

Port Melbourne Yacht Club Inc.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '*[NP]*' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

The notation '*[DP]*' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

1.1 The event is governed by:

- a) the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*; and
- b) The Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 2.

1.2 RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.

1.3 Reasonable actions by event officials to implement Covid-19 guidance, protocols or legislation, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions.

1.4 Alteration to Class Rules

The rules of the International Class Association will be altered as follows:

1.4.1 Maximum age for both skipper and the crew for the Youth Series, at the commencement of racing will be 21. (Proof of age will be required). This modifies IHCA Class Rules: General Rule 17.7.

1.4.2 For the purpose of the Youth Series, the minimum weight shall be 285 lbs (129.3kg). This modifies IHCA Hobie 16 Rule 7.3.

1.4.3 For the purpose of the Women's Series, the minimum weight shall be 285 lbs (129.3kg). This modifies IHCA Hobie 16 Rule 7.2.

1.4.4 Minimum age for the Master's Series is 45 years, for the skipper only, at the commencement of racing. (Proof of age will be required.) This modifies IHCA Class Rules: General Rule 17.8a.

1.4.5 Minimum age for the Grand Master's Series is 55 years, for the skipper only, at the commencement of racing. (Proof of age will be required.) The age of the crew member shall be open. This modifies IHCA Class Rules: General Rule 17.8b.

1.4.6 Minimum age for the Great Grand Master's Series is 65 years, for the skipper only, at the commencement of racing. (Proof of age will be required.) The age of the crew member shall be open. This modifies IHCA Class Rules: General Rule 17.8c.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 1 hour before the scheduled racing session on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official noticeboard located in the

clubhouse upstairs. Results, notices and Protest Time Limits will also be posted on the noticeboard located in the clubhouse upstairs.

- 3.2** The race office is in the Tower, which is upstairs in the Clubhouse. In an emergency the phone number for the Race Committee is 0407 116 401.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1** Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from an event official. Failure to comply may be considered as misconduct. [DP]

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1** Signals made ashore will be displayed at the signal mast near the club tower.
- 5.2** When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP.
- 5.3** Flag D with two sound signals means 'Boats shall not leave the shore until Flag D is lowered'. The warning signal will not be made less than 30 minutes after flag D is lowered with one sound signal. [DP]

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1** Dates of racing:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>First Warning Signal</i>
Saturday 11 th March 2023	Racing Session	13:00 hrs
Sunday 12 th March 2023	Racing Session	10:00 hrs
Monday 13 th March 2023	Racing Session	09:30 hrs

- 6.2** To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 6.3** No Warning Signal shall be made after 14:00 hrs on Monday 13th March 2023.

7 CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1** The class flags are:

Hobie Tiger/ Wildcat	Pink flag with Hobie emblem
Hobie 16	Red flag with Hobie emblem
Hobie 14/ Hobie 14 Turbo	White flag with Hobie emblem
Hobie Dragoon/ Hobie 18	Yellow flag with Hobie emblem

8 RACING AREA

- 8.1** The racing area is on Port Phillip within the vicinity of Port Melbourne Yacht Club.

9 COURSES

- 9.1** The diagram in Attachment A shows the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

- 9.2** No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.
- 9.3** Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 33.

10 MARKS

- 10.1** Marks will be as described on the course diagrams in Attachment A.
- 10.2** Where only 1 mark is present where there should be a gate that remaining mark shall be rounded on the same hand as all other marks.

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1** For boats that have started, the start line is classed as an obstruction. Passing through it in either direction while an orange flag or shape is displayed will be scored DNF without a hearing.

This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

- 11.2** The finish line is an obstruction and a boat sailing through it in either direction, other than when finishing, will be scored DSQ without a hearing.

This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

- 11.3** No boating zones exist along the shoreline starting at Lagoon Pier in an Easterly direction towards St. Kilda extending on average 50 metres to seaward. They are designated at the sea mark by a yellow pole with diagonal cross. A boat entering the no boating zone area while racing will be scored DSQ.

See the official noticeboard for details.

- 11.4** There is a 75 metre Waterside Restricted Zone around Station Pier.

12 THE START

- 12.1** Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.2** The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 12.3** Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races. [NP] [DP]
- 12.4** A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1** See 9.3. Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 33.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1** The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal vessel and the course side of the start/finish pin mark.
- 14.2** When the Blue flag is flying from the signal vessel, a boat shall not cross the start/finish line unless finishing. [NP] [DP]

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1** RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1** The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Target Time	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
30 Minutes	35 Minutes	60 Minutes	15 Minutes

- 16.2** If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 16.3** The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat of class sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.
- 16.4** Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

17 HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1** For each class, the protest time limit is **60** minutes after the last boat in that class finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.2** Hearing request forms are available from the race office.
- 17.3** Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in a location to be advised within the PMYC property, beginning at the time posted.

18 SCORING

- 18.1** There are up to **12** races of which **1** race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.2** A minimum of **2** boats is required to constitute a class.
- 18.3** (a) When fewer than **4** races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- (b) When from **4** to **10** races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the

total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

(c) When **11** or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

19.1 Signing On

Prior to each racing session skippers shall sign-on using the My Sailor App or on the electronic device located in the clubhouse. Failure to sign-on will result in the boat concerned being scored DNS for the first race of the session without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5. [\[NP\]](#)

19.2 Signing Off

After each racing session skippers shall sign-off using the My Sailor App or on the electronic device located in the clubhouse within 60 minutes of the last boat finishing the last race of the session. Failure to sign-off will result in the boat concerned being scored DNF for the last race of the session without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5. [\[NP\]](#)

19.3 Retirement

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity. Promptly after returning to shore, the boat shall complete a retirement declaration form, located at the sign-on/off desk. [\[NP\]](#) [\[DP\]](#)

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

20.1 Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee. [\[DP\]](#)

20.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorized in writing by Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race. [\[DP\]](#)

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

21.2 When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection. [\[DP\]](#)

21.3 Boats may use digital watches and single function electronic compasses. [\[DP\]](#)

22 TRASH DISPOSAL

22.1 Trash may be placed aboard official or support person vessels.

23 PRIZES

23.1 Prizes will be given at the discretion of the (Organising Authority) HCAV.

24 RISK STATEMENT

- 24.1** RRS 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.

25 INSURANCE

- 25.1** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$5,000,000 (recommended \$10,000,000) per incident or the equivalent.

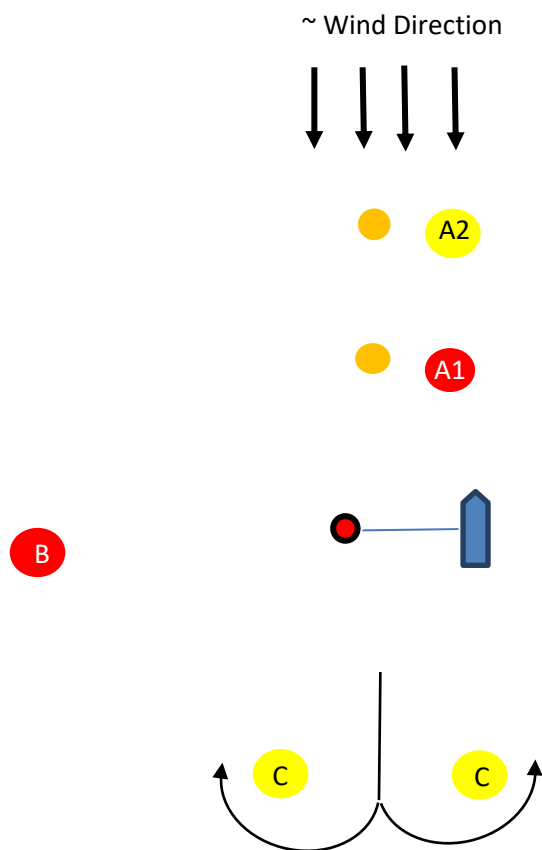
Attachment A

IHCA Standard Courses

No.	Course	Finish	Options for the Race Committee		
1	(S) A C A	(F) Downwind	1 G	1 O	1 GO
2	(S) A C A C A	(F) Downwind	2 G	2 O	2 GO
3	(S) A C A B C	(F) Upwind		3 O	
4	((S) A, C, A, B, C, A	(F) Downwind		4 O	
5	(S) A C	(F) Upwind	5 G	5 O	5 GO
6	(S) A C A C	(F) Upwind	6 G	6 O	6 GO
7	(S) A C A B C A C	(F) Upwind		7 O	

S = start, A = weather mark, B = reaching mark, C = leeward mark, G = gate, F = finish, O = offset mark is used.

"B" MARK LOCATION: The Race Committee will endeavor to locate "B" Mark, the reaching mark, at either the windward or leeward end of the course approximately 90 to 105 degrees abeam of the windward or leeward mark.



- A1 Inner Top Mark – Red Conical inflatable buoy (Dragoon)
- Offset Mark – Orange Cylindrical Inflatable Buoy
- A2 Outer Top Mark – Yellow Conical inflatable buoy (Hobie 14/ Hobie 14 Turbo/ Hobie 16/ Tiger/Wildcat)
- Offset Mark – Orange Cylindrical Inflatable Buoy
- B Wing Mark – Red Conical inflatable buoy
- C Gate – Yellow Conical inflatable buoys
- Start/Finish Pin – Red Cylindrical inflatable buoy with Black Band