



2025 Victorian Hobie Cat Championships

at

Rosebud Yacht Club

8th-10th March 2025

Organising Authority:

Rosebud Yacht Club

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:
 - 1.1.1. The rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing; and
 - 1.1.2. The Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 2; and
- 1.2. The class rules of the International Hobie Class Association (IHCA) will apply
- 1.3. Racing rule 40 will be changed as follows:
 - 1.3.1. Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices whilst afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wetsuits and drysuits are not personal flotation devices. This changes RRS Rule 40.
- 1.4. RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.
- 1.5. 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.
- 1.6. Alteration to Class Rules. The rules of the International Class Association will be altered as follows:
 - 1.6.1. 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.
 - 1.6.2. For the purpose of the Youth Series, the minimum weight shall be 285 lbs (129.3kg). This modifies IHCA Hobie 16 Rule 7.3.
 - 1.6.3. 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.
 - 1.6.4. 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.
 - 1.6.5. 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.

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 downstairs on the front of the yacht club. Results, notices and Protest Time Limits will also be posted here.

- 3.2. The race office is upstairs in the tower of the Clubhouse. In an emergency the phone number for the Race Committee is 0439 611 994.
- 3.3. There will be a sailor's meeting at 1130hrs on Saturday 8th March 2025. Other sailor's meeting may be scheduled as required.

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 top of the boat ramp.
- 5.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 15 minutes' in the race signal AP.

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>First Warning Signal</i>
Saturday 8 th March 2025	Sailor's Meeting	11:30 hrs
Saturday 8 th March 2025	Racing Session	Not before 13:00 hrs
Sunday 9 th March 2025	Racing Session 1	Not before 10:00 hrs
Sunday 9 th March 2025	Racing Session 2	Not before 13:00 hrs
Monday 10 th March 2025	Racing Session 1	Not before 09:30 hrs
Monday 10 th March 2025	Racing Session 2	Not before 12:30 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. No Warning Signal shall be made after 14:00 hrs on Monday 10th March 2025.
- 6.3. Racing may be back to back (max. of 4 races per session and max. two sessions per day) with a maximum of 12 races over the three days

7. CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1. The class flags are:

Hobie Tiger/Wildcat/Hobie 18/Hobie 17	Pink flag with Hobie emblem
Hobie 16	Red flag with Hobie emblem
Hobie 14 / Hobie 14 Turbo	White flag with Hobie emblem
Hobie Dragoon	Yellow flag with Hobie emblem

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1. The racing area is in Port Phillip Bay in the vicinity of Rosebud 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. The Signal Vessel shall display a Course board on the top of the cabin.

10. MARKS

- 10.1. Marks of the course will be large orange inflatable marks, with the Rosebud Yacht Club logo on them. The offset mark will be a Code Flag Y flag on a staff. The pin end of the start line will be a smaller red inflatable mark. The finish mark will be a small orange triangle mark. These will be shown at a competitor briefing.
- 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. Competitors are advised to keep rudders and centreboards up until they have passed the 5knot markers when heading out, and raise them when coming in, to avoid damage from sandbars. Rosebud Yacht Club also requests all competitors to avoid the deep water harbor to the east of the club, as this will be a launching area for rescue craft and has large numbers of swimmers.

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.
- 12.5. No dip starts will be permitted at the start line under any circumstances. Competitors who do will be scored DSQ without a hearing, but not if the race is restarted or abandoned. This changes RRS Race Signals, and rules 63.1, A4 and A5.

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1. 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 finish pin mark. Refer attachment A course diagram.
- 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]
- 14.3. In the event of a shortened course (Code Flag S), competitors will sail from that mark directly to the finish line. The shortened course flag will be flown from a staff attached to the mark. In the event of a shortened course occurring from the gate, the flag will be flown from the nearest rescue boat and competitors will proceed directly to the finish line.

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, penalised 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 RoYC 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. When fewer than **4** races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 18.4. When from **5** to **8** races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 18.5. When **9** 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 sheets provided in the boat storage area of 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 sheets provided in the boat storage area of 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 authorised 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 Hobie Cat Association of Victoria.

24. RISK STATEMENT

- 24.1. It is the competitor's Decision to enter an event or to start and continue in any race. Competitors shall accept that their participation in an event is at their exclusive risk in every respect. **Attention is drawn to Fundamental Rule 3 – Decision to Race.** The Organising Authority, and the respective host class association(s), their officers, members, servants and agents accept no liability in respect of loss of life, personal injury or loss or damage to property which may be sustained by reason of their participation or intended participation in an event or how so ever arising in connection with an event.
- 24.2. The sponsors, organising authority and their officers, members, servants and agents and all parties involved in the organisation and conduct of the regatta shall not be liable in respect of loss of life, personal injury or loss or damage howsoever caused which may occur whether ashore or afloat during or in conjunction with the regatta.
- 24.3. The Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions do not limit or reduce the complete and unlimited responsibilities of each competitor for the management and care of a boat that he or she has entered in the regatta.
- 24.4. IHCA Safety Notes to Competitors:
- 24.4.1. If wind, wave or water conditions make you doubtful of your ability to handle the conditions, retire from the race.
 - 24.4.2. Before raising the mast and always whilst sailing, check for and avoid low overhead electrical power lines. If you see a power line, avoid it. A mast coming in contact or even near an electrical power line can cause serious injury or death to people on or touching the boat.

25. INSURANCE

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

26. ADVERTISING

- 26.1. Advertising will be as defined by ISAF Regulation 20.
- 26.2. If provided, boats shall be required to display and maintain Sponsorship stickers on port and starboard hulls, in a location acceptable to the organising authority.

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.

