



HOBIE CAT ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
THE FUN STARTS HERE...

2026 Victorian Hobie Cat Championships

at

Loch Sport Boat Club

7th – 9th March 2026

Organising Authority:

HCAV with Loch Sport Boat Club

NOTICE OF RACE

The notation '[NP]' in a rule 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 the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
- 1.2. The Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations Part 2 for Off the Beach Boats.
- 1.3. RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available from Friday 6th March 2026 on the Loch Sport Boat Club website (<https://www.loch-sport.net/>), the Victorian Hobie Cat Association Facebook page, and at registration.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online official notice board is located inside Loch Sport Boat Club adjacent to the sign on desk
- 3.2. While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. [DP]

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The event is open to all boats of the Hobie Catamaran classes.
- 4.2. All Skippers shall be financial members of an ANHCA affiliated Hobie Cat State Association (or their relevant national IHCA Association for international sailors).
- 4.3. Eligible boats may enter by completing the online entry form no later than COB on Friday 6th March 2026 with the required fee to secure your entry.
- 4.4. All sailors are to be a financial member of an Australian Sailing affiliated club.

5. FEES

5.1. The entry fees are as follows:

\$260 for a two person boat,

\$200 for a one person boat,

\$200 for a youth entry for 2 person boat with both Skipper and Crew under 21,

\$160 for a one person youth Hobie 14 under 21.

5.2. **The entry does not include the annual HCAV membership fee. Membership can be added at time of registration.**

5.3. Entries include race entry and dinner on Sunday evening for all competitors. Tickets for the dinner are available for non-sailors at registration.

5.4. Entries to be lodged no later than close of business 6th of March 2026. Note: entries received after this date may be accepted at the discretion of the HCAV.

6. ADVERTISING

6.1. Boats advertising shall conform to the World Sailing Advertising Code. [\[NP\]](#).

7. SCHEDULE

7.1. Registration:

<i>Date</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
th Saturday 7 March 2026	10:00 hrs	11:30am

7.2. Dates of racing:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>First Warning Signal</i>
th Saturday 7 March 2026	Racing Session	1:00pm
th Sunday 8 March 2026	Racing Session	10:00am
th Monday 9 March 2026	Racing Session	9:30am

7.3. No Warning Signal shall be made after 2:00pm on Monday 9 March 2026.

7.4. There will be up to 12 races over 3 days with a maximum of 5 races on any race day.

7.5. Other:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Time</i>
th Saturday 7 March 2026	Competitors Briefing	11:30am
th Saturday 7 March 2026	Dinner night	6:30pm
th Sunday 8 March 2026	HCAVAGM	5:30pm
th Sunday 8 March 2026	HCAV event dinner	7:30pm
th Monday 9 March 2026	Presentation	ASAP after racing

8. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 8.1. A measurement certificate is not required with the entry form, but it is the responsibility of each skipper to ensure their boat complies with the International Hobie Class Association rules.
- 8.2. Measurement checks and inspections may be carried out at any time. A boat notified of inspection shall follow the instructions of the Race Committee and also comply with RRS 78.1.
- 8.3. A competitor's clothing and equipment shall not weigh more than 10 kilograms, as permitted by RRS 50.1(b).

9. COURSES

- 9.1. The courses will be as described in the Sailing Instructions.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

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

11. SCORING

- 11.1. There are up to **12** races of which **1** race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 11.2. A minimum of **2** boats are required to constitute a class.
- 11.3.
 - (a) When up to **4** races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - (b) 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.
 - (c) 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.

12. BERTHING

- 12.1. All boats are to be kept in the rigging area at the direction of the boat club. A dedicated rigging and storage zone on the waterfront will be in place for duration of the event. Boats are not to be stored beyond this zone. The boat club may instruct competitors to move their boats to the carpark for storage overnight. **All boats are advised to have tie down capabilities, such as sand anchors, for the event.**
- 12.2. Trailers are to be stored at the direction of the yacht club
- 12.3. Early arrival at the club from midday on Friday 6th of March 2026. Competitors are advised to contact either the HCAV or Loch Sport Boat Club to ensure facilities are open prior to arrival.

13. RISK STATEMENT

13.1. General

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.

13.2. Sailors are strongly recommended to use trapeze harnesses with a quick release hookless system or a quick release hook, which meets the ISO 10862 standard.

13.3. If sailors wish to wear head protection, it is strongly recommended they use helmets of European standard EN1385.

13.4. ELECTRICAL POWER LINES – AVOID!!!

Before raising the mast, and always while 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!

14. INSURANCE

14.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of AUD \$10 million per incident or the equivalent. Skippers are required to produce valid insurance certificates at registration.

15. PRIZES

15.1. Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of HCAV.

16. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

16.1. In participating, a competitor automatically grants to the Organising Authorities, the Coordinating Authorities and the sponsors, 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 filmed television and other reproductions of him/her during the period of the competition in which the competitor participates and in all material related to the said Event without compensation.

17. CANCELLATION POLICY

- 17.1. The Organising Authority may cancel the event, cancel divisions and reject or cancel entries in its absolute discretion, subject to RRS 76.
- 17.2. If an entry is cancelled by a competitor before the 9th of February 2026, the entry fee may be refunded at the discretion of the HCAV Executive Committee.

18. AMENDMENTS

- 18.1. Any amendments to this Notice of Race will be posted online on the HCAV online portal or facebook page, and will also be posted on the official noticeboard inside Loch Sport Boat Club.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 19.1. For further information please contact:

Loch Sport Boat Club:
Hal Olgener
lsbc@loch-sport.net

Hobie Cat Association Victoria:
President:
Madeline Gillard Ph. 0411 803 484
mads_gillard@hotmail.com.

Secretary:
Sarah Venter hobievicsecretary@yahoo.com.au Ph. 0435 051 871