

Keelboat and Sportsboat Competitor Briefing

Season
2026-27



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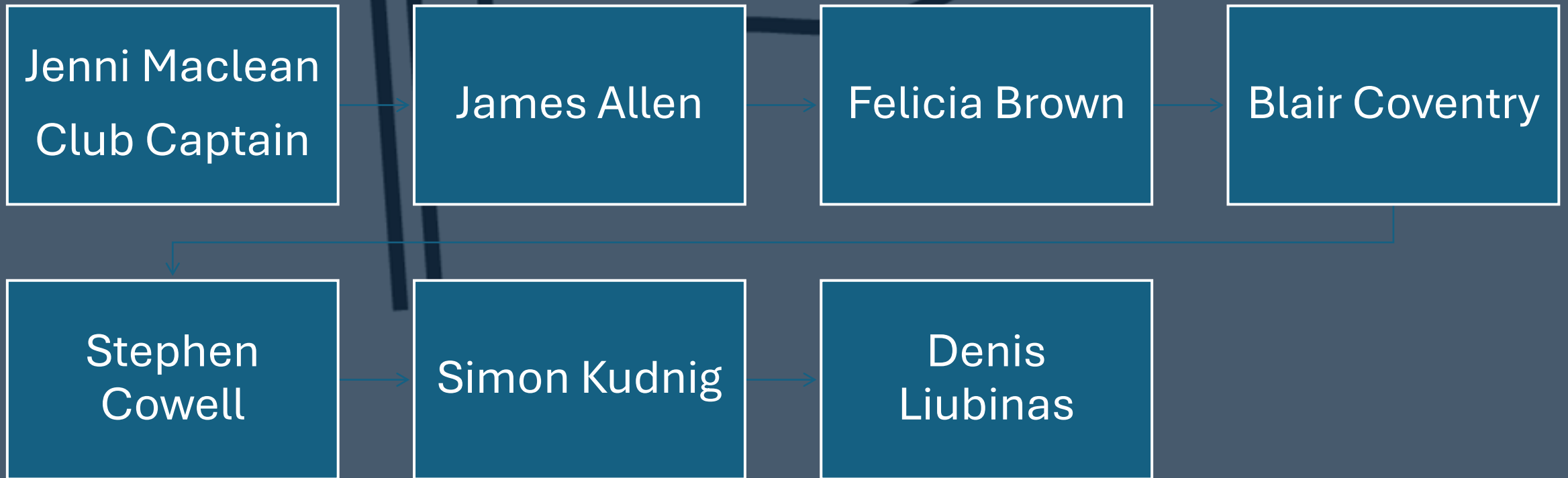


Aviso Specialty
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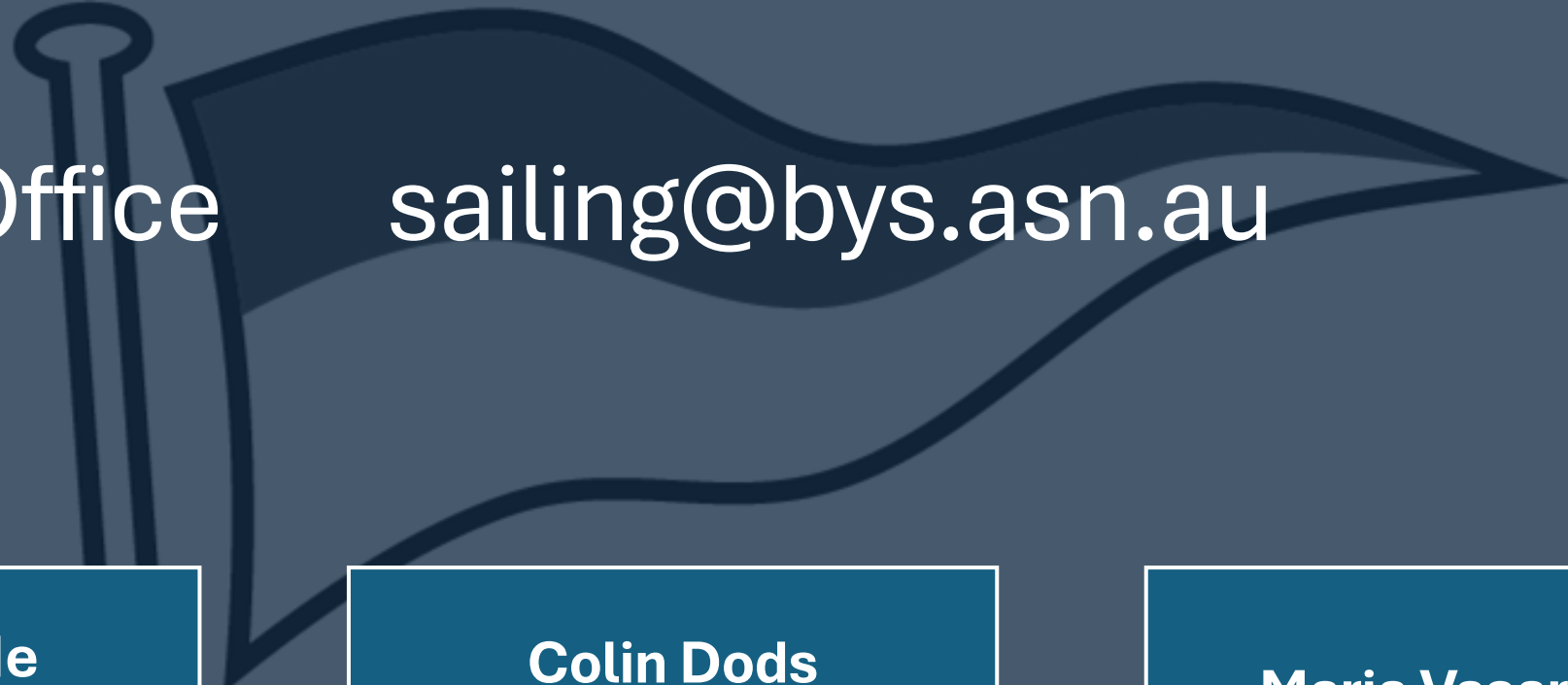
SPONSORS



Sailing Committee



HOWRIE YACHT SQUA



Sailing Office

sailing@bys.asn.au

**Michelle de
Blaquiere**

Head of Sailing

michelle@bys.asn.au

Colin Dods

Sailing Pathways &
Development Manager

training@bys.asn.au

Maria Vasardani

Sailing Coordinator – Racing

racing@bys.asn.au

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Safety



Cat 6 Safety equipment audit

Complete

- Complete self-assessment using form on BYS website

Book

- Book an audit with a club auditor

Submit

- Submit completed form to chosen auditor before the audit

Prepare

- Prepare for audit by setting out equipment ready for auditor inspection

Crew

- Involve your crew

Club auditors



MOB drill

MOB

- MOB drill and declaration is due by 31 October 2026

Contact

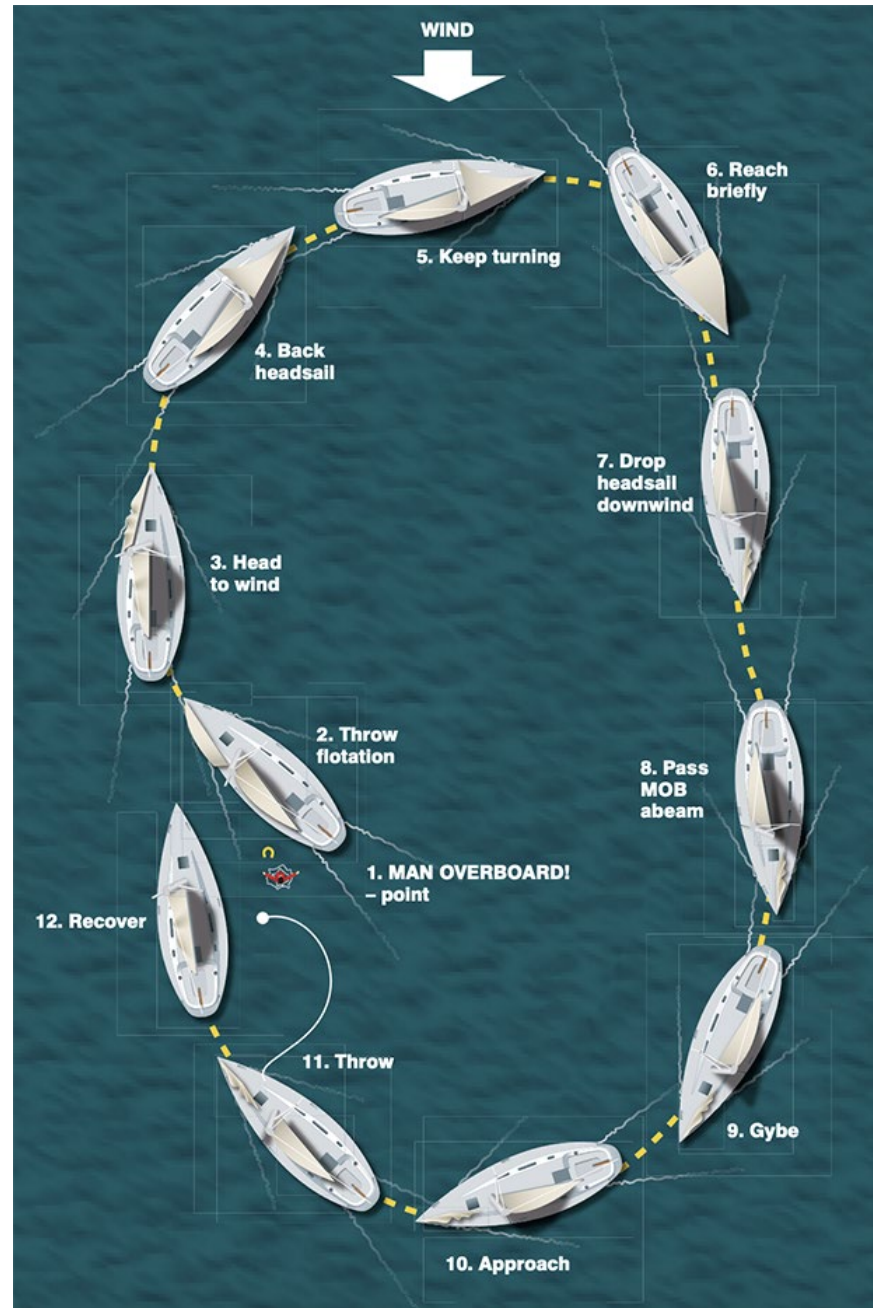
- Contact Blair Coventry for MOB coaching, using MOB dummy, if available

MOB drill



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MOB drill



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The RORC technique.
Credit: Practical Boat Owner

First aid



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First aid room is located inside the Spar Room



Defibrillator located in the junior lounge near the canteen



Defibrillator located inside the marina A/B row gatehouse

Decision to race

Racing Rules of Sailing

3 **DECISION TO RACE**

The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue [racing](#) is hers alone.

Decision to race

Special Regulations

1.02 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PERSON IN CHARGE

1.02.1 The safety of a boat and its crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the person in charge who shall do their best to ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who have undergone appropriate training and are physically fit to face bad weather. They must be satisfied as to the soundness of hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. They shall ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used. Attention is drawn to Regulation [2.04](#) that specifies the crew experience required for some races. They shall also nominate a person to take over the responsibilities of the person in charge in the event of his incapacitation.

Inform yourself



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Meteye: wind forecasts



BOM: Marine forecasts and warnings for Port Phillip



BOM: tide predictions at The Rip, South Channel and Rosebud



Bay Winds: actual wind at South Channel



Willy Weather



Melbourne Winds

Communication

- 3.2. [DP] All keelboats and sportsboats shall carry a VHF radio and maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 71 (or VHF Channel 82 for long races) unless otherwise advised and on standby for distress on VHF Channel 16.
- 3.3. On the water, the Race Committee may make courtesy broadcasts to keelboat and sportsboat competitors on VHF radio Channel 71 (or VHF Channel 82 for long races).



20.4 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee by VHF radio as soon as possible.

Signing off

Changed

20.3 [DP] [NP] All boats shall SIGN OFF at the earliest possible time after the completion of racing, but not later than the end of the protest time limit. Boats failing to sign off within the protest time limit shall result in a penalty of the boat's score being increased by 2 points, but not worse than the score for DSQ. All other boat's score shall remain the same. This changes RRS A5.1. A boat that fails to meet SI 20.2 more than three times in a series is subject to a protest by the Race Committee.

18.1 For each division, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the Race Committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.

Changes to
Notice of
Race, Sailing
Program and
Sailing
Instructions





SailPass

4.5. All skippers and crew shall be either a financial member of BYS with racing rights or comply with BYS's SailPass scheme. BYS Social members may enter a maximum of four races as a crew each membership year. Non-members shall apply for a BYS Sail Pass here: www.bys.asn.au/sailpass. Fees apply.

SailPass



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SailPASS

Experience the thrill of yacht racing with a Sail Pass!

Sail Pass is a temporary day membership that lets non-members join the crew of a competing yacht on race day. It includes access to our club facilities, an Australian Sailing number, and personal accident insurance for the day.

Registration is quick and simple, and you can access up to 12 Sail Pass visits in total. Your first six visits are free, with the next six available at just \$15 per visit.

www.bys.asn.au/sailpass

- Encourages visiting sailors to join BYS
- Skippers still need to sign on visiting sailors to the crew
- Makes it fair to BYS members

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Notice of Race

Races for Div A &
Div B:

A/B

Races for
Keelboats
Combined:

KBC

Handicaps:

ORC_WL

ORC_AP

PHS

Type of start:

denotes OTW

Type of race:

Long

Sternchaser

Notice of Race

SAT	10	1430	A/B	AGG	#	Aggregate Race 1	ORC_WL/PHS
SAT	10	1430	OTB	PERPT	#	Perpetual Shield Race 1 & 2, Commodore's Trophy	YS/PHS
SAT	17	1000				Competitors' season briefing - off the beach	
SAT	17	1430	A/B	TROPHY	#	Race 2 - Scott Trophy	ORC_AP/PHS
SAT	17	1430	OTB	AGG	#	Aggregate Race 1 & 2	YS/PHS
SAT	24	1000	VOL TRAINING			Mark Laying & Buoy Zone Workshop	
SAT	24	1000	KBC	SPRY	L	Blairgowrie Cup, Spry Series Race 1	ORC_AP/PHS
SAT	24	1430	KBC	AVISO		Aviso Specialty Series Race 1	PHS
SAT	24	1430	OTB	CLASS	#	Class Trophy Series Race 1 & 2, Nepean Trophy	YS/PHS
SUN	25	1030	VOL TRAINING			Race Tower Team Race Management Workshop	
SUN	25					Life members' & 50 year members' lunch	
SUN	25	1400	SB	AGG	#	Aggregate Race 1 & 2	CLASS
SAT	31	1430	A/B	TROPHY	#	Race 3 - Geoff Watson Trophy	ORC_AP/PHS
SAT	31	1430	OTB	AGG	#	Aggregate Race 3 & 4	YS/PHS
NOVEMBER 2026							
THU	5					Oaks Day Luncheon	
FRI	6	1730	A/B	NIRAS	S	NIRAS Twilight Sternchaser Race 1	PHS

Notice of Race and Sailing Program

Changes

- All KB Trophy races are OTW starts, then around fixed marks
- Friday Twilight races split into Division A and Division B
- Order of Spry Series races amended
- Lady Skippers' Race now a twilight race on Friday 8 January
- Sunset Series extended into March

Notice of Race

Retained

- January twilight racing on Wednesdays, 1630 warning, including during RS Aero Worlds
- Noelex Cup – 5 races

New

- Diamond Jubilee Easter Series

Scoring

11.8. A boat competing in a major event for its class (state, national, or other major event) may be awarded average points. Skippers must apply prior to the event in writing to the Race Committee c/o the Sailing Office. The average score points shall be calculated per RRS A9 (a).

THE AGGREGATE

The Aggregate is the longest-running series of races at BYS. It was first sailed in 1953-54, the club championship for Jubilees. Now awarded to the Club Champion for each division.

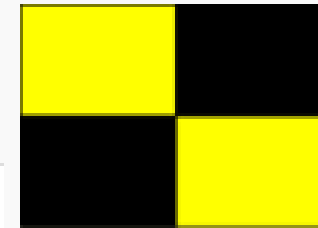


Scoring

Type of Communication Notice of Race

Number: 7

Issued Date: 02 Oct 2026 16:20



NOR 11.3 is amended to:

11.3 RRS Appendix A5.3 applies except that a boat that did not come to the starting area (DNC) shall be scored points equal to the number of boats that came to the starting area, plus **three** points.



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Keelboat courses



Club Start & Finish

KBC – in front of club (Courses 1 – 7)

KBC – to Capel Sound (Courses 8 – 13)

A/B (Courses 18 – 31)



Courses with laid mark in Camerons Bight (**CB Laid Mark**), Capel Sound (**CS Laid Mark**), and towards Rosebud (**RB Laid Mark**)



Coordinates of fixed and laid marks are given

Keelboat courses



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Courses with OTW start to laid turning mark in Camerons Bight (**Turning Mark**) then around fixed marks (Courses 32 – 35)



OTW Aggregate (Courses 36 & 37)

Keelboat courses



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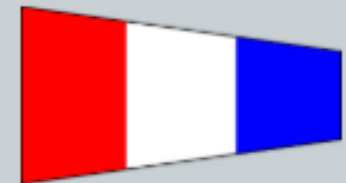
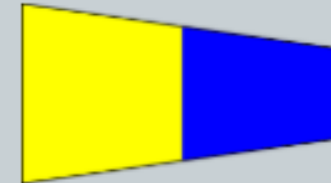
KBC Queenscliff and long courses (Courses 38 – 52)



Coordinates of navigation marks are given



Special Course is now Course 53



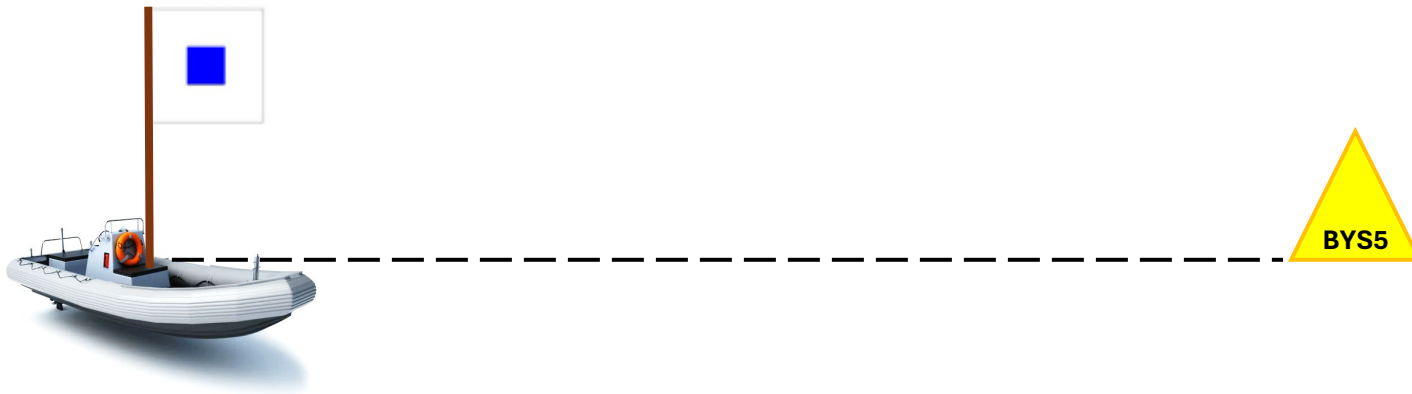
Sailing Instructions

13.5 Sternchaser races:

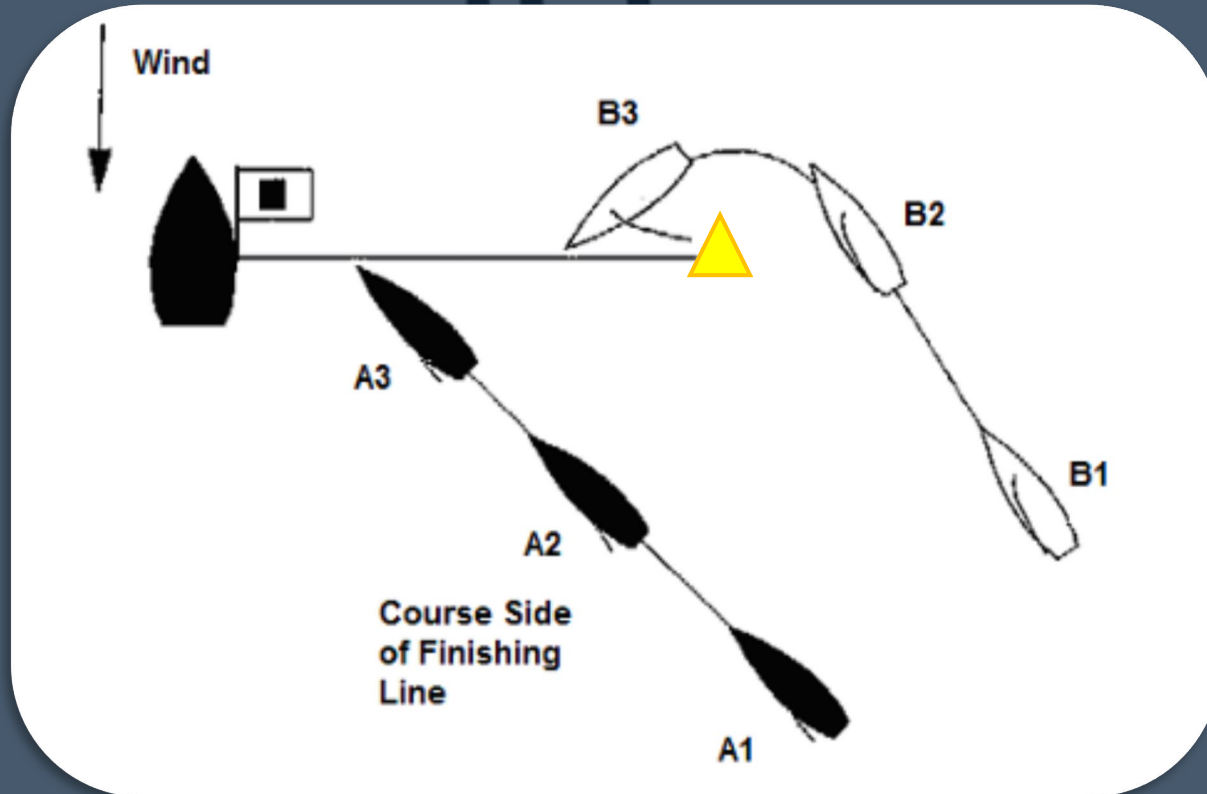
- 13.5.1 Sternchaser races shall use the Club Start procedure, with each boat allocated a starting time based on her handicap. The allocated starting time shall be expressed as a number of minutes after the Starting signal for the division, i.e. when all lights are extinguished. Start times will be published on the official notice board before the Warning signal.
- 13.5.2 The preparatory signal for a boat in a sternchaser race shall be 4 minutes before her allocated handicap start time. This changes RRS 26.
- 13.5.3 Boats racing in a sternchaser race shall not cross the start line between the Warning signal and one minute prior to their start time. Boats that fail to comply may be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1

SI 15.1 Shorten Course – Rule 32.2

- 32.2** To shorten the course, the race committee shall display flag S with two sounds before the first boat crosses the finishing line. If the course is shortened, the finishing line shall be,
- (a) at a rounding mark, between the mark and a staff displaying flag S;



SI 15.1 Shorten Course – Rule 32.2



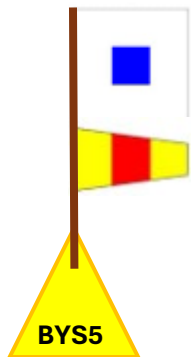
Boat A finishes correctly

The mark is no longer a rounding mark

Boats must cross the finishing line from the course side

SI 15.2 Shorten Course – BYS special procedure

15.2 Courses (excluding Course 36 and Course 37) may be shortened by Code Flag S over Code Flag 0 (zero) being flown **on** or **adjacent** to a rounding mark with two sound signals. All boats having to **round that mark** shall, after rounding it, then round or **pass BYS1** to starboard and **finish at the finishing line**. This changes RRS 32.2.



Regattas



Zhik J/70 Victorian Championships

20 – 22 November 2026

Entries now open – get your entry in!

Vakros RaceSense will be used

FRI	20		REG	REGATTA	#	J/70 Victorian Championship	
SAT	21	1430	A/B	MOODY		Moody's Motel Series Race 1	ORC_WL/PHS
SAT	21	1430	OTB	CLASS		Class Trophy Series Race 5	YS/PHS
SAT	21		REG	REGATTA	#	J/70 Victorian Championship	
SUN	22		REG	REGATTA	#	J/70 Victorian Championship	

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Petersville Regatta

27 – 30 December 2026

Entries now open – get your entry in!

SUN	27	1600	REG	REGATTA	#	Petersville Regatta	
SUN	27	1330	OTB	CAL		Calcutta Summer Series Race 2	YS/PHS
MON	28	1130	REG	REGATTA	#	Petersville Regatta	
MON	28	1330	OTB	CAL		Calcutta Summer Series Race 3	YS/PHS
TUE	29	1130	REG	REGATTA	#	Petersville Regatta	
WED	30	1130	REG	REGATTA	#	Petersville Regatta	

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Diamond Jubilee Easter Series

26 – 28 March 2027

Coinciding with 75th Anniversary of BYS

Culminating with a special 75th Anniversary Celebration for the whole family

FRI	26	1600	A/B/SB	ANNIV		Diamond Jubilee Easter Series Race 1	ORC_AP/PHS
FRI	26	1600	OTB	ANNIV		Diamond Jubilee Easter Series Race 1	YS/PHS
SAT	27	1430	A/B/SB	ANNIV	#	Anniversary Cup Series Race 2 (plus provision for A/B Trophy race re-sail)	ORC_AP/PHS
SAT	27	1430	OTB	ANNIV	#	Diamond Jubilee Easter Series Race 2 & 3	YS/PHS
SUN	28	1130	A/B/SB	ANNIV	#	Diamond Jubilee Easter Series Race 3	ORC_AP/PHS
SUN	28	1130	OTB	ANNIV	#	Diamond Jubilee Easter Series Race 4 & 5	YS/PHS

More regattas at BYS



Women's Sportsboat
Regatta

20 – 21 March 2027



Youth Sportsboat
Regatta

17 – 18 April 2027

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Representing BYS at external regattas



If you're representing BYS, please share your news and photos.



Let the Sailing Office know before the event so we can celebrate your regatta participation



Spread the word that BYS is a fantastic place to sail, like and share our content on social media.



Tag us in your content

HOWRIE YACHT SQUA

Volunteering



Phone Admin Menu

PC Admin Menu

Sign on/off System

Crew Matching System

Volunteer System

Change/Update Clubs

Utilities

Refresh

Petersville Entry

Official Notice Board & Race Docs

Volunteer Roster

Today's races

Results

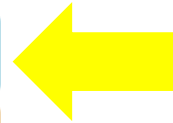
Club Emergency Contacts

Emergency Response Guidelines

Thank you



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Volunteering makes
racing possible

Everyone should have at
least 2 duties

Some generous members
have offered to be
rostered as often as
weekly

If you are unable to
complete a rostered duty,
please find someone to
fill in then notify Maria in
the Sailing Office

It is up to **you** to find a
replacement

Sign on for duty via the
Sailing Hub

Subscription rebate system



BLAIRGOWRIE YACHT SQUADRON



Rebate applied to Members' annual subscription in the following year



For performance of volunteer race management duties, recorded in Sailing Hub

Regatta Day = 2 duties



Complete 15 volunteer duties – get a 25% rebate.



Complete 30 volunteer duties – get a 50% rebate.



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Principal Race Officer (PRO)

The PRO supports the Course Race Officer/s (CRO) from shore and is the Incident Controller in an emergency situation.

The PRO will provide race management from shore where there is no Course Race Officer rostered – e.g. Club starts.

A CRO has complete control of their course area unless an incident is escalated to an emergency situation.



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Race management on VHF



When two start boats are on the water, two VHF channels will be used



Keelboats and sportsboats are on VHF 71 (Long races VHF 82)



A brief competitor update may be provided via VHF approximately 15 minutes before the warning signal, including course number, conditions etc.

Volunteer training online



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**AUSTRALIAN SAILING
LEARNING CENTRE**
EDUCATION & TRAINING FOR
SAILORS AND VOLUNTEERS

 **BLAIRGOWRIE
YACHT SQUADRON**

www.sailing.org.au/login

**BUILD YOUR SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE
THROUGH E-LEARNING AND RACE
MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS, THEN BUDDY UP,
VOLUNTEER AND HAVE A GO.**

- Powerboat Program Essential Skills
- Mark Layer
- Committee & Finish Boat
- Race Officer Introduction
- Scorer and Handicapper
- Judge - Protest Committee Member
- Equipment Auditor
- Introduction to Safety & Risk Management
- Safeguarding Children & Young People
- plus more!

**Access FREE e-learning courses with your
Australian Sailing Profile.**



Variety of training available



E-learning, self paced, free



Highly recommend 'Powerboat
Program Essential Skills', plus more



Access via your Australian Sailing
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Volunteer training at BYS



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RACE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS 2026/27
All volunteers welcome

MARK LAYING & BUOY ZONE
10-12, SAT 24 OCTOBER 2026

RACE TOWER TEAM
10.30-12, SUN 25 OCTOBER 2026

RACE OFFICER ESSENTIALS
10-12, SAT 7 NOVEMBER 2026

PRO RACE MANAGEMENT & SAFETY
9.30-11.30, SAT 5 DECEMBER 2026

START BOAT PROCEDURES
10-11.30, SAT 6 FEBRUARY 2027

VHF RADIO REFRESHER
10.30-11.30, SAT 13 MARCH 2027

SCORING & RESULTS ENTRY
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED

Practical training courses are also available for:
Powerboat Handling | Safety Boat Operator
VHF Marine Radio - Australian Waters Qualification.

Information and bookings
www.bys.asn.au/volunteering



Variety of training available



Race management workshops



RS Aero Worlds regatta volunteer training



Free and offered throughout the season



Visit [Volunteer Training - Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron](#) for more details and to register

Volunteer training – RS Aero Worlds

2027 Salty Dingo World
Championships regatta training:

Saturday 14 November, 10-1pm at BYS

Sunday 15 November, 10-1pm at BYS

Tuesday 17 November, 7.30-9.30pm on
Teams

Saturday 12 December, 10-1pm at BYS





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Regatta volunteers

Volunteers needed for upcoming regattas

- J/70 Vic Champs, 20 – 22 November 2026 ~ Get your entries in!
- Petersville Regatta, 27 – 30 December 2026 ~ Get your entries in!
- International Finn Victorian Championships, 6 – 8 March 2027
- Women's Sportsboat Regatta, 20 – 21 March 2027
- Youth Sportsboat Regatta, 17 – 18 April 2027

Can you help?

Thank you
for
participating



Questions

