

**YACHTING WESTERNPORT
2012 WESTERNPORT CHALLENGE
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
18th February Hosted by Hastings Yacht Club Inc**

1. Rules:

1.1 All races conducted by HYC will be governed by:

- The ***Racing Rules of Sailing*** (RRS), except as modified by the Sailing Instructions.
- Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Yachting Australia (YA).
- HYC Sailing Instructions.
- The Handicapping Rules of Yachting Victoria (YV), except as modified by the Sailing Instructions.
- Class Rules of the yachts racing.

1.2 The Organising Authority will be the Sailing Committee of HYC on behalf of Yachting Westernport. The race Committee shall be appointed by the Sailing Committee.

2. Entries

2.1 All competitors shall have signed on with Hastings Race Control on the race radio communications VHF channel 77 or 27.94 MHz at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start time for the race.

2.2 To be eligible to race, all competitors who are members of a Yachting Westernport affiliated club shall have paid the prescribed Race Entry fee prior to racing on 18th February 2012.

3. Safety Regulations

3.1 All boats competing in this race must comply with Category 6 YA Special Regulations Part 1 with the following inclusions:

- A Trailable Yachts shall have their keels fully lowered and pinned in position
- B Engine permanently installed or outboard to be mounted at all times
- C Operating VHF or 27 MHz marine radio
- D Lifebuoy and heaving line to be readily accessible

3.2 The race radio communications VHF Channel 77 or 27.94 MHz must remain functional from 1 hour prior to the notified start time and for the duration of the race.

3.3 A boat that retires from the race shall notify Hastings Race Control by radio as soon as it makes its decision to retire.

3.4 In the interests of safety, the race committee reserves the right to postpone or abandon the event at any time.

3.5 Racing for the day will be abandon if a Gale Force or higher warning as issued by the Bureau of Meteorology is still current on the morning the race is scheduled

3.6 All boats should report to Hastings Race Control any observed significant circumstances that may adversely affect the safety of any of the competitors in the race.

3.7 Boats shall report to Hastings Race Control all incidents that have resulted in injury or serious damage or are of an adverse nature that could affect the safety of the boat or crew while racing. Boats involved in the incident shall lodge with the HYC an Incident Declaration at the first reasonable opportunity.

3.8 Port Rule 62B for Victorian Proclaimed Ports, including the waters of Western Port, requires small vessels IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES to keep clear of Commercial Shipping. Boats found to have contravened this Rule will be subject to Disqualification.

4. Notice to Competitors

Notice to Competitors shall be posted on the Official Notice Board at least three hours before the advertised start time and may also be displayed on the HYC website as well as being announced one hour before racing on the race radio communications channels.

5. Changes in Sailing Instructions

Any changes to the sailing instructions shall be posted on the Official Notice Board at least three hours before the advertised start time and may also be displayed on the HYC website as well as being announced one hour before racing on the race radio communications channels.

6. Committee Vessels

All Committee Vessels shall fly the HYC Burgee

7. Class Flags

Class flags shall be!

Trailable Yachts, Division 1	Code Flag '1'
Keel Boats (including Noelex 30), Division 2	Code Flag '2'
Multi-hulls, Division 3	Code Flag '3'

8. Protests

8.1 Protests shall be in writing and lodged at the HYC Office prior to 1500 hrs on the first after the race. Protest forms are available at the HYC Office.

8.2 Arbitration will be considered an appropriate alternative precursor to a full protest hearing.

8.3 The notice of a protest hearing will be posted on the Official Notice Board prior to 1500 hrs on the first Wednesday after the race, informing competitors of the date, time and location of the hearing to which they are parties or named as witnesses.

9. Scoring

9.1 The Low Point Scoring System of the rules Appendix A shall apply to all races except as modified by the sailing instructions.

9.2 Overall Team Scoring: Each Club with a minimum of three finishers is automatically eligible to be considered for a place in the team results. To encourage greater participation a Club may enter more than the minimum number of boats and not be penalised for this. The calculation to determine the winning Yacht Club shall be the aggregate of the first three boats results.

9.3 Average points may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee to a competitor who has been disadvantaged through an act of sportsmanship.

10. Starters, Race Results, Trophies and Prizes

10.1 Two starters shall constitute a race

10.2 Race Results shall be displayed on the Official Notice Board in the Clubhouse and as soon as practicable on the HYC website. Results may also be announced in the Clubhouse

10.3 All race results shall be considered provisional until the Trophies and Prizes are presented.

10.4 Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the YW committee. Individual prizes per division and the Westernport Challenge Shield perpetual trophy for the best team will be presented at the Annual General Meeting of Yachting Westernport.

11. Marks

Start / Finish: Staff mark with an Orange flag attached (in the vicinity CYC)

SPB: Sandy Point Buoy - Red

B11, 14, 15 etc: Shipping Channel Buoys

Cowes: Orange Inflatable Buoy (in the vicinity CYC)

12. Courses

12.1 Courses are detailed in Appendix A

12.2 The course number shall be displayed on the Committee Vessel and relayed on the race radio communications VHF channel 77 and 27.94 MHz

13. The Start

13.1 Races will be started in accordance with Rule 26

13.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying the class flag for the division to start on a Committee Vessel and the start mark.

13.3 A crowding buoy may be laid off the transom of the Committee Vessel and shall be considered part of that vessel.

13.4 Boats are requested to keep clear of the start line before their preparatory signal.

13.5 A boat that starts later than 15 minutes after her start time shall be scored did not start (DNS). This amends Rule 35, A4 & A5

14. Recalls

Recalls shall be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.1 or 29.2

15. Shortening Course

Courses shall be shortened in accordance with Rule 32.

16. The Finish

16.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying the Club Burgee on a Committee Vessel and the finish mark.

16.2 Boats crossing the finish line will receive a sound signal indicating that they have finished the race.

16.3 A boat that re-crosses the finishing line after she has finished racing shall be disqualified (DSQ).

16.4 Boats that cross the finish line after sailing the course shall be deemed to have signed off

16.5 In the event that the Committee Vessel is not on station for the finish, all competitors shall pass the finish buoy, as notified on the race radio communication VHF channel 77 and 27.94 MHz, and record their finish time. This recorded time shall be passed onto the Race Committee at the first available opportunity as determined by the circumstances.

17. Time Limit

17.1 The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish is 6 Hours.

17.2 The time limit may be extended at the discretion of the Race Committee. If the time limit is to be extended, it will be announced with the course information on the race radio communications VHF channel 77 and 27.94 MHz before the commencement of the race.

17.3 Boats failing to finish within the time limit or within 90 minutes of the first boat in her division to finish, whichever is the later, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This amends Rules 35, A4 & A5

18. Propulsion

A boat observed by a member of the Race Committee to have broken Rule 42 shall be Disqualified (DSQ) without a hearing.

Appendix A (COURSES)

Course 1 (All marks to Starboard)

Start
Cowes
B14
B15
Cowes
SPB
Cowes
B14
B15
Finish

Course 2 (All marks to Port)

Start
B15
B14
Cowes
SPB
Cowes
B15
B14
Cowes
Finish

Course 3 (All marks to Starboard)

Start
B11
B14
Cowes
B11
Cowes
B11
B14
Cowes
Finish

Course 4 (All marks to Port)

Start
Cowes
B14
B11
Cowes
B11
Cowes
B14
B11
Cowes
Finish