

2020 WESTERNPORT CHALLENGE TY/KEEL/MULTIHULL Sailing Instructions



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1st February 2020 Hosted by Hastings Yacht Club Inc.

Resail: 16th February 2020

1 Rules:

1.1 All races conducted by Hastings Yacht Club Inc. will be governed by:

- The **Racing Rules of Sailing** (RRS), except as modified by the Sailing Instructions.
- Prescriptions and Special Regulations of Australian Sailing.
- The handicapping rules of Australian Sailing, except as modified by the Sailing Instructions.
- Class or association rules of the yachts racing.

1.2 The Organising Authority will be the Sailing Committee of Hastings Yacht Club Inc. on behalf of Yachting Westernport. The Race Committee shall be appointed by Hastings Yacht Club Inc.

2 Safety Regulations

2.1 All Boats must comply with Category 6 safety regulations specified in the RRS Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 1 for Racing Boats with the following inclusions:

- 3.07.4 Removable hatches to have locks and lanyards
- 3.04.2 Trailable Yachts shall have their keels fully lowered and pinned in position.
- 3.24.3 Engine, permanently installed or outboard
- 3.24.4 Outboard motors for boats, to be mounted at all times
- 3.24.5(a) Engine to provide minimum speed into 12 knot headwind
- 3.24.5(c) Sufficient fuel for 1 hour of motoring at minimum speed (3.24.5(a)).
- 3.25 Marine VHF transceiver installed as specified
- 4.21.1 Lifebuoy or other approved device with drogue
- 4.23.1 Heaving line accessible to cockpit

2.2 All competitors shall have signed on with Hastings Yacht Club Race Control **call sign Hastings Race Control** on the race radio communications **VHF channel 77** between 1200hrs and 1240hrs. **Entrants to state:** Boat Name, Division (1, 2 or 3), Sail Number, Number of People on Board.

2.3 All boats must maintain a radio watch on VHF Channel 77 and must remain functional from 1 hour prior to the notified start time and for the duration of the race.

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

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

2.6 Racing for the day will be abandoned if a Gale Force or higher warning is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology and is still current on the morning the race is scheduled.

2.7 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.

2.8 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 Hastings Yacht Club an Incident Declaration at the first reasonable opportunity.

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

3 Notice to Competitors

Notice to Competitors shall be posted on the Hastings Yacht Club Official Notice Board or Website at least two hours before the advertised start time as well as being announced one hour before racing on the radio communications channel VHF 77.

4 Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any changes to the sailing instructions shall be posted on the Hastings Yacht Club Official Notice Board at least two hours before the advertised start time signaled by raising code flag 'L' on the committee boat as well as being announced one hour before racing on the radio communications channel VHF 77.

5 Schedule of Races

5.1 The Westernport Challenge Race is scheduled on Saturday, 1st February 2020. Starting signal 13:00 hrs.

5.2 The Re-sail, if required will be held on Sunday, 16th February 2020. Starting signal 13:00 hrs.

6 Committee Vessels

All Race Committee Vessels shall be marked with or fly the HYC Burgee.

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7 Class Flags

Class flags shall be as follows:

Trailable Yachts, Division 1	Numeral Pennant 1
Keel Boats (including Noelex 30), Division 2	Numeral Pennant 2
Multi-hulls, Division 3	Numeral Pennant 3

8 Courses

8.1 Course for the days race to be relayed on the race radio communications VHF channel 77.

8.2 The rounding direction shall be declared by the raising of a Red (Port rounding) or Green (Starboard rounding) flag on the committee boat at the same time the course is announced to the fleet.

9 Marks

Start	Imaginary line between Tortoise Head Buoy (THB) and the Hastings Yacht Club committee vessel
Finish	Imaginary line between a mark of the course and the Hastings Yacht Club committee vessel
Course Marks	Westernport Channel Buoys/Marks
Other Marks	Inflatable Buoy laid by Cowes Yacht Club, position announced with the course instructions.

10 Excluded Areas

All racing is prohibited within the Parks Victoria 5 knot inshore restricted zones. Any boat detected sailing deliberately within the restricted zones while racing by the Hastings Race Committee will be disqualified (DSQ) without a hearing. Please refer to the Parks Victoria website (<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au>) for details of the restricted zones and signage. All racing marks are outside these zones.

11 The Start

11.1 Races will be started in accordance with Rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

11.2 Successive starts will be made on a 5 minute sequence, as follows:

- 1st Start Division 1 – Trailable Yachts 0 minutes
- 2nd Start Division 2 – Keelboats +5 minutes
- 3rd Start Division 3 – Multihulls +10 minutes

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11.3 The starting line will be an imaginary line between the start mark and a staff displaying the Hastings Yacht Club Burgee on the Hastings Committee Vessel.

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

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

11.6 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

12 Recalls

Recalls shall be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.1 or 29.2

13 Shortening Course

Courses shall be shortened in accordance with Rule 32.

14 The Finish

14.1 The finish line will be an imaginary line between the finish mark and the Hastings Committee Vessel.

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

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

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

15 Time Limit

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

15.2 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 on the race radio communications VHF channel 77.

15.3 A boat 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

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16 Retirement of a Boat

A boat that retires for whatever reason shall sign off by radio with the Hastings Race Control on VHF Channel 77.

17 Protests

17.1 Protests shall be in writing accompanied by a \$50 admin fee and are to be lodged with Hastings Race Control up to one hour after the last boat has finished the race. Protest forms are available from Hastings Race Control.

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

17.3 The notice of a protest hearing will be posted on the Official Notice Board not more than 24 hours after the race finish time, informing competitors of the date, time and location of the hearing to which they are parties or named as witnesses.

18 Scoring

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

18.2 Overall Club Team Scoring: Each Club with a minimum of three finishers is eligible to be considered for a place in the club team results. The club team score is calculated by adding the top three results covering all divisions for that Club. However, any division must have 2 or more Westernport yacht clubs represented for their results for that division to be counted for the overall team score. This is to avoid single club division bias. To encourage greater participation a Club may enter more than the minimum number of boats and not be penalised for this.

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

19 Starters, Race Results, Trophies and Prizes

19.1 Three starters per division shall constitute a race.

19.2 Race Results shall be displayed as soon as practicable on the Hastings Yacht Club website.

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

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19.4 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 club team will be presented at the Annual General Meeting of Yachting Westernport.

20 Propulsion

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

21 Handicaps

Class Handicaps listed by Australian Sailing will be used wherever possible. The final decision of the CBH or handicap allocated for the race, rests with the Hastings Yacht Club Race Committee. Please note: A home club performance handicap will not necessarily be acceptable; its acceptance will be at the full discretion of the Hastings Yacht Club Race Committee.

22 Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participating in the race do so at their own risk. Attention is drawn to the fundamental rule: "It shall be the responsibility of each skipper to decide whether to race or to continue." The organising authority will not accept any liability for damage to property or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the race.

23 Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party legal liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000 per event or the equivalent and adequate racing insurance.