

# Portland Yacht Club

Incorporated

## 2022 - 2023

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

#### ORGANISING AUTHORITY AND VENUE

The 2022 - 2023 Sailing Season will be conducted from Sunday 2nd October 2022 to Sunday 30th April, 2023 inclusive, by the Portland Yacht Club Inc. on the waters of Portland Bay, Victoria.

#### 1. RULES

The season will be governed by the rules as defined in the current *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) (Appendix E for RC Laser), the prescriptions of Australian Sailing (AS), the Rules of the relevant Class Association of Victoria which pertain to each yacht participating, except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions.

#### 2. ELIGIBILITY

Eligible boats shall comply with the Rules of their relevant Class Association.

Eligible competitors shall be financial members of the Portland Yacht Club Inc. or a Yacht Club currently affiliated with AS and hold a current AS membership.

Eligible boats may be of any class of Off the Beach Monohull or any class of Catamaran, or any class of Trailable Yacht, or any class of Keel Boat.

Craft competing in keelboat long races shall submit their Cat 5 paperwork to the Sailing Committee prior to racing, to be eligible.

If any Club boats are to be used, competitors must ensure the Club Boat Register has been filled out and the appropriate hire fee is paid prior to use.

#### 3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the West wall of the Clubhouse.

#### 4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board one (1) hour before the commencement of a race on the day it will take effect. International code flag "L" will be hoisted from the clubhouse mast accompanied by one sound signal.

#### 5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Clubhouse mast.

International Code Flag "AP", with two sound signals (and one when lowered) means "the race is postponed". The Warning Signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after the "AP" is lowered.

**6. SCHEDULE OF RACES AND TIMES**

The current Sailing Calendar is available on the Portland Yacht Club website <https://www.portlandyachtclub.com.au/documentation/> and may be posted on the official notice board.

**7. DIVISIONS AND CLASSES**

For a Division to be valid there needs to be a minimum of two (2) boats entered and start in races where points will be awarded.

Division 1 will consist of Catamarans

Division 2 will consist of Trailables & Monos

Division 3 will consist of Keel Boats

Division 4 will consist of Green Fleet

Division 5 will consist of all divisions (for a mass start)

Division Flags will be the Numeral Pennant corresponding to each Division. Classes will start in accordance to their relevant Division.

**8. INTENTION TO RACE**

For each race, any boat intending to race shall enter its details on the sign on/sign off sheet located in the Portland Yacht Club near the official notice board. Each boat shall sign off no later than 90 minutes from the last boat to complete that race. Boats failing to comply may be scored "Did Not Finish". Keelboats and Trailerable yachts shall radio the Committee Boat prior to the starting sequence and state the number of crew on board. No radio transmissions are to be made during the starting sequence.

**9. COURSE**

The courses for each race will be displayed on the Club course board situated at the Southern end of the Clubhouse. A briefing will be given 60 minutes prior to the Warning Signal of the first Division.

Courses, marks, and start/finish locations may be changed to suit prevailing conditions. If there is a conflict between these sailing instructions and the information on the course board, precedence will always be given to the information on the course board.

**10. MARKS**

Senior course marks will be:

Orange inflatable tear drops and/or permanent cylindrical barrels.

The Port End start and finishing mark will be a white plastic drum.

The Starboard End start and finish mark will be a white plastic drum.

The Clearance Mark will be a small green tear drop.

Green Fleet course marks will be:

Windward mark - green inflatable tear drop.

Gybe and leeward marks – orange inflatable tear drop.

The Port End start and finishing mark will be a white inflatable tear drop.

The Starboard End start and finish mark will be a white inflatable tear drop.

**11. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

The following areas are designated obstructions:

- The rock wall which defines the harbour
- The town reef directly out from the water tower.
- All jetties, wharves and marinas

## 12. THE START

Senior Races will be started by using Rule 26, with the warning signal made five (5) minutes before the start.

Green Fleet Races will be started by using the three (3) minute starting sequence.

Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

The starting line will be between the two white start drums, unless otherwise noted on the course board. In the absence of two white drums, the start shall be between the committee boat and a white drum.

Two (2) or more Divisions may be started at the same time.

### Seniors:

Signal	Flag and sound	Minutes before starting Signal	
		Seniors	Green Fleet
Warning	Class Flag; one (1) sound	5	3
Preparatory	P and Class Flag; one (1) sound	4	2
One- Minute	P flag removed: one (1) long sound	1	1
Start	Class flag removed: one (1) sound	0	0

Boats whose Preparatory Signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose Preparatory Signal has been made.

Any recalls will be signalled in accordance with Rule 29.

## 13. SHORTENED COURSE

Courses may be shortened in accordance with Rule 32.

To shorten the course, a buoy with the 'S' flag attached will be attached to a mark of the course accompanied by two (2) sounds. When the lead boat rounds this mark they shall proceed to the prescribed finish. This changes rule 32.2.

Long Keelboat courses may be shortened by radio if necessary. The Committee Boat shall radio all vessels with the intention to shorten course. All vessels are required to radio back to the Committee Boat confirm the shortening of the course. Only after all vessels confirm transmission can the Committee Boat confirm the shortening of the course. This changes rule 32.

## 14. FINISH

The Finish Line will be positioned at the same location as the Starting Line, unless otherwise noted on the course board.

Boats shall not cross the finish line unless finishing. Any boat which fails to comply with this may be scored "D.S.Q".

## 15. PENALTIES.

Rule 44 will apply for all divisions.

For Divisions 2, 3, and 4 A Two-Turn Penalty will apply.

For Division 1, rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turn Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

## 16. TIME LIMIT

In Division Three, provided that one yacht has finished within 30 minutes of the official sunset on the day of the race, the race will be valid for all yachts in that race. The time limit for Divisions 1, 2, & 4 will be three (3) hours. Boats failing to finish within one hour after

the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored "Did Not Finish" (DNF). This changes rule 35, A4 and A5.

**17. PROTESTS AND HEARINGS**

Protests shall be written on forms available at the Clubhouse and delivered to the Sailing Committee within one (1) hour after the time of the last boats finish. Protests will be heard in the order of receipt as soon as possible. Protest notices will be posted on the official notice board within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses.

**18. SCORING**

The Low Point scoring system, Appendix A, will apply.

Three races are required to constitute a series.

All races in the short and long race series will count.

For every five (5) pennant races sailed, one (1) drop will be applied.

**19. SAFETY**

The AS Special Regulations as contained in RRS, Part 1 for Division 3 - Keelboats and Division 2 - Trailable and fixed-keel boats, and Part 2 for Off the Beach boats shall apply. Class Rules shall prevail in the event of any conflict between requirements. All crew members of any boat not fitted with full length life lines shall wear an approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) while racing. A wetsuit or dry suit is not considered to provide adequate personal buoyancy.

All keelboats/Trailable yachts competing in long races shall submit their Cat 5 paperwork to Sailing Committee prior to racing.

The Rescue Craft shall be launched and ready for use on all sailing days.

If keelboats are conducting a long race with no need for the Rescue Craft, a competitor must be assigned as a radio vessel and must be noted on the declaration sheet in the Clubhouse. Radio checks must be carried out and all vessels must be contactable. The radio vessel shall notify coastguard of its intentions when leaving and returning to the harbour.

Any competitor planning to do any solo racing must ensure they meet, and abide by, all requirements by the RRS and AS.

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Officer as soon as possible and mark DNF on sign on/sign off sheet.

Races shall not be started if the wind strength is above an average of 25 knots over any 10 minute period. Racing may be cancelled at any time the Race Officer deems conditions "unsafe"

**20. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. Boats with radios must have them switched on in case of emergency. Radio communication for the Portland Yacht Club Inc. and its Rescue Craft is VHF Channel 73.

**21. RACE RESULTS**

Race results shall be posted on the Club notice board and/or the Club Newsletter.

**22. PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded to Divisions as follows:

Three boats or less                      -                      First place only.

Four to six boats - First and Second places only.  
Seven or more boats - First, Second and Third places.  
Other trophies may be awarded at the discretion of the Sailing Committee.

**23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in Club racing entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, decision to race. The Portland Yacht Club Inc. will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after our club racing. The Portland Yacht Club Inc. reserves the right to refuse an entry.

**24. INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of ten million dollars per event. By signing on and entering a race, the skipper is confirming they have adequate insurance cover in place. (Not required for RC Laser Racing)