

# Portland Yacht Club

Incorporated

## 2014 - 2015

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

#### ORGANISING AUTHORITY AND VENUE

The 2014 - 2015 Sailing Season will be conducted from Sunday 5th October, 2014 to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 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), the prescriptions of Yachting Australia (YA), 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.

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 Y.A. and hold a current Y.A. Silver/Gold Card. 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.

#### 2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

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

#### 3. 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.

#### 4. 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.

#### 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES and TIMES

Race Calendars are available from the Race Committee, and should be posted on the official notice board at all times.

**6. 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 Juniors

Division 5 will consist of all divisions (all divisions will start together)

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

**7. INTENTION TO RACE**

For each race, any boat intending to race shall enter its details on the sign on/sign off sheet located 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”.

**8. 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.

**9. MARKS**

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 teardrop

**10. 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.

**11. THE START**

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

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.

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

<b>Signal</b>	<b>Flag and sound</b>	<b>Minutes before starting Signal</b>
Warning	Class Flag; one (1) sound	5
Preparatory	P and Class Flag; one (1) sound	4
One- Minute	P flag removed: one (1) long sound	1
Start	Class flag removed: one (1) sound	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.

**12. SHORTENED COURSE**

Courses may be shortened in accordance with Rule 32.

To shorten the course, a buoy with the 'S' flag attached will be placed adjacent to a mark of the course accompanied by two sounds. After the lead boat rounds this mark all other boats must complete the lead boats course before proceeding to the prescribed finish. This changes rule 32.2

**13. FINISH**

The Finish Line will be positioned at the same location as the Starting Line.

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

**14. 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.

**15. TIME LIMIT**

In Division Four, 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, & 3 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.

**16. PROTESTS AND HEARINGS**

Protests shall be written on forms available at the clubhouse and delivered to the Race 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.

**17. SCORING**

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

Three races are required to constitute a series.

All races will count.

**18. SAFETY**

The YA Special Regulations as contained in RRS 2013-2016, Part 1 for Division 3 - Keelboats and Division 2 - Trailables 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.

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

**19. 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 27mhz Channel 91.

**20. RACE RESULTS**

Race results will be posted on the Club Notice Board and/or the Club Newsletter.

**21. 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 Race Committee.

**22. 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.

**23. INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minium cover of five million dollars per event.