ROYAL YACHT CLUB OF VICTORIA

Standard Sailing Instructions v1.1

Including Supplementary Sailing Instructions:

A.	Wednesday Afternoon Pursuit Races
B.	Wednesday Twilight Fleet Racing
C.	Sunday Pursuit Races
D.	Saturday Fixed Mark Races
E.	Phoenix Trophy Passage towards Queenscliff
F.	Saturday Laid Course Races
G.	Sunday Single Handed Races
H.	Val Hodge Race
I.	Black Bottle Race
J.	Navigators Challenge Overnight Race
K.	Class Monkeys Winter Racing

For all other series/races refer to the appropriate Host Club as nominated on the Sailing Calendar or *RYCV NOR Annexure 3 2026-27* available via the Club Website. In these Sailing Instructions the term Home Club means where the boat is registered. In these sailing instructions the term Home Club means the Club where the boat is registered.

1 [SP] CREW DECLARATIONS

1.1 All boats shall register their Crew Declarations via the TopYacht Entry System.

1.2 Crew declarations shall be completed after 0100hrs on the day of the race and **no later than 15 mins** prior to the warning signal of the boats first race of the day via the link in clause 1.5 below.

1.3 Mandatory information for all crew shall be - name, contact number, a valid Australian Sailing number and emergency contact details.

1.4 Failure to lodge a compliant crew declaration will result in the boat being scored DSQ without hearing for each race the boat fails to lodge a crew declaration for on that day.

1.5 The crew declaration link for all races will be:

https://topyacht.com.au/db/kb2/mob_crew_login.php

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 The Official Notice Board for RYCV is online at:

https://rycv.com.au/sailing/keelboat/notice-to-competitors/

2.2 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0800 on the day it will take effect. Any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect .

2.3 The Host Club may publish notices to competitors on their website .Attention may be drawn to the notice by SMS and/or email.

2.4 A copy of the notice may be posted on the notice board at the Western entrance to the Club.

2.5 Signals made ashore may be displayed on the Host club's flagpole and may be repeated at other clubs on their flag poles. When flag AP is displayed ashore '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in the race signal AP.

2.6 Oral amendments to the Sailing Instructions may be made over the radio channel designated in the Supplementary Sailing Instructions (SSI) immediately prior to the warning signal of the race. Code Flag L may be displayed on the Race Committee Vessel to signal

the change. These amendments may be repeated during the race. This amends RRS Race Signals.

2.7 Competitors under the age of eighteen (18) years shall have a suitably experienced adult onboard the vessel at all times while racing. Any request for exemption from this requirement must be submitted in writing to the Sailing Committee prior to the event. Exemptions may be granted at the sole discretion of the Sailing Committee and, where approved, will be confirmed in writing to the competitor. All skippers, regardless of age, are required to have and maintain a sound working knowledge of the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS), and all applicable Port of Melbourne regulations at all times while in command of a vessel departing or returning to RYCV.

3 RADIO COMMUNICATION

3.1 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 [DP] AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Refer to *PPNYC Standard Sailing Instruction – Attachment 1, Courses and Mark.*

4.2 It is a requirement that competitors keep clear of commercial shipping. See Appendix A of this document.

4.3 While racing, a boat that has started shall not cross the finishing line in either direction except:

(a) to finish;
(b) to correct an error in sailing the course made at the finishing line;
(c) when necessary to comply with RRS 44.2; or
(d) where the course expressly requires her to cross that line.

4.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

5 HEARING REQUESTS

5.1 Protest Forms are available at : https://rycv.com.au/sailing/protests/

5.2 Protests shall be lodged at the host club within two (2) hours after the finishing time of the last boat of any division to finish. Protest forms may be lodged by email.

5.3 Protests/Arbitration will generally be heard at 1930 at the Host Club the following Thursday. Video Conference technology may be used at the Protest Committee's discretion.

Host club contact details are as follows:

Club	Email	Phone
Hobsons Bay Yacht Club	racing@hbyc.org.au	9376393
Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron	boating@rmys.com.au	9534 0227
Royal Yacht Club of Victoria	sailing@rycv.asn.au	93971277

6 OFFICIAL VESSELS

6.1 Official vessels will display the burgee of the club hosting the event.

7 Designated VHF Radio Channel

The designated VHF radio channel for all events shall be VHF Ch 69, unless advised.

8 Inclement Weather

Reference should be made to the PPNYC Inclement Weather Policy published on the HBYC website.

9 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

Owen Church
Sailing Admin
sailing@rycv.asn.au
mobile 0416149167

Appendix A – Commercial Shipping

A1. Keeping clear of Commercial Shipping - meaning a vessel 50 metres LOA or greater, or a tug or lines boat assisting another vessel.

A1.1 [DP] [NP] A boat shall:
- keep out of the way of Commercial Shipping;
- not impede a vessel navigating in a shipping channel or fairway;
- not cross the projected course of Commercial Shipping less than 500 metres ahead of its bow;
- comply promptly with a safety instruction from the Race Committee, Melbourne VTS, the Harbour Master, or the master or pilot of Commercial Shipping.

A1.2 A breach is serious when:
- Commercial Shipping alters course or speed because of a boat's actions;
- five or more short blasts, or a VHF warning, are directed at the boat;
- the boat fails to comply promptly with a safety instruction; or
- the boat creates an immediate or material risk of collision.

A1.3 [SP] [NP]
A boat that the Race Committee determines has committed a serious breach shall be scored **DSQ** without a hearing.

A1.4 The Race Committee may base its decision on its own observations, information from Ports Victoria, Melbourne VTS, a report from the master or pilot involved, or objective electronic evidence.

A1.5 The Race Committee may notify the boat as soon as reasonably practicable.

A2. [DP] Using Engines to Avoid Shipping
- You may use your engine to avoid commercial shipping. RRS 42.3(i) provided the boat does not gain a significant advantage in the race.
- Report the details to the Race Committee within one hour of finishing.
- You must not gain an advantage from using your engine.
- After using the engine, bring your boat to a complete stop before continuing to race.

A3. Observe International Collision Regulations (COLREGS 1972), Marine Safety Regulations, rules made by port managers and the Harbour Master Directions.

A4. Bow Flare and Blind Spots
- Large ships can’t see you directly in front of their bow. Always stay visible to the ship’s bridge.
- Inside 500 metres, your boat may disappear from view because of bow flare or overhanging structures.

A5. VHF Radio
- You must carry a working VHF radio (Special Regulations Category 6).
- Keep it switched on and monitor the race channel and VHF Channel 12. (VTS)
- The Race Committee may use it to provide race updates or navigational warnings.
- If a boat is fitted with an Automatic Identifying System (AIS) it will be switched on to allow monitoring by the race committee and commercial vessels.

A6. Shipping Sound Signals
5+ short blasts – danger signal; the ship is unsure of your intentions. Large vessels cannot see a small boat close ahead because of bow flare or other structures. Competitors should never assume that they have been seen.

Appendix B – Course Areas

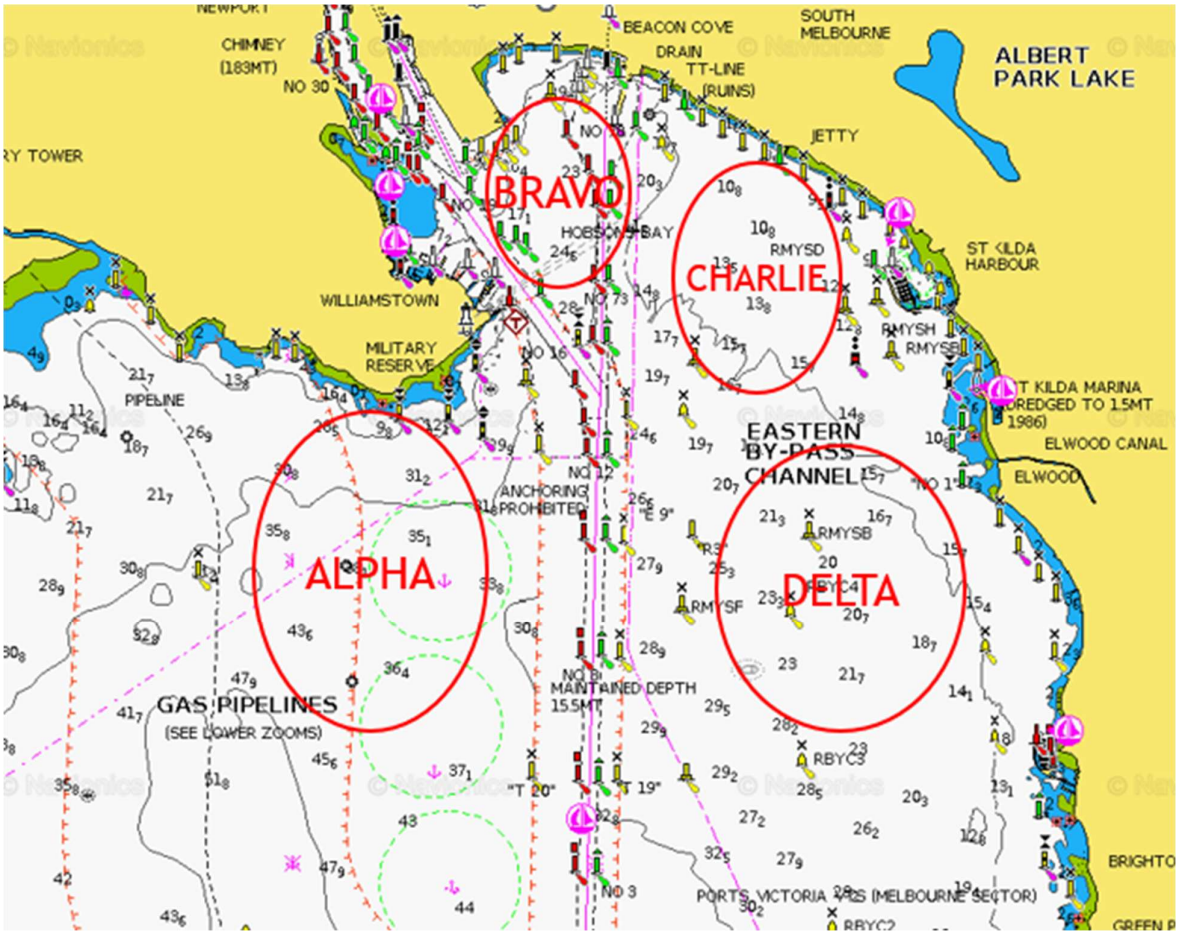


Figure 1 - General Overview of RYCV Course Areas