



Royal Geelong Yacht Club inc.

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178th Melbourne to Geelong Passage Race

Sailing Instructions

Sunday 24th January 2021

Royal Geelong Yacht Club Inc.
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Royal Geelong Yacht Club Inc. (RGYC) as the organising authority (OA) will conduct the MacGlide/NMW Melbourne to Geelong Passage Race (The Race) on the waters of Port Phillip and Corio Bay on Sunday 24th January 2021.

1. Rules

- 1.1 Races will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations.
- 1.2 COVID 19 restrictions apply.
- 1.3 RRS Appendix T shall apply.
- 1.4 For the Multihull class a two-turn penalty is replaced by a one-turn penalty. This changes RRS 44.1

1.5 Boats in Danger

Port Rule 62B for Victorian Proclaimed Ports, including the waters of Port Phillip and Corio Bay requires small vessels in all circumstances to keep clear of commercial shipping.

[DP] After starting and prior to finishing, any boat in the anticipated path of a commercial vessel may use every alternative means of propulsion to avoid collision provided that:

- Propulsion is used to drive the boat the minimum distance necessary to avoid collision.
- The course taken is no closer than 90 degrees to the direction of the next mark
- The engine use must be logged and be lodged with the Race Committee after finishing.
- The Race Committee will decide what penalties (if any) the boat shall be scored. This changes RRS 42 and 63.1

1.6 Australian Sailing (AS) Special Regulations Categories

As per the Notice of Race

1.7 Safety Requirements:

Deck-stowed anchors shall not protrude beyond the gunwale or bow of a boat racing.

1.8 Movable Ballast

Water ballast is permitted to be moved for the purpose of trim or stability. This changes RRS 51.

1.9 Manual Power

A boat's standing rigging, running rigging, spars and moveable hull appendages may be adjusted by power other than that provided by the crew. This changes RRS 52

2. Notices to Competitors

- 2.1 The Official Notice Board (ONB) is located in the RGYC Yard adjacent to the slipway.
- 2.2 The Race Office is located in the RGYC Clubhouse.
- 2.3 All radio communications will be conducted on VHF channel 71
- 2.4 The Race Committee may broadcast the names and or sail number of OCS boats and or other information of interest to competitors on VHF Channel 71.
- 2.5 Any failure of or defect in such broadcasts will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1 (b) and 62
- 2.6 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

- 2.7 All radio traffic will be directed through the Race Committee Vessel using the call sign “Race Committee” until boats are inside the Hopetoun Channel.
- 2.8 Boats inside the Hopetoun Channel will conduct radio traffic with RGYC using the call sign “RG Base”.

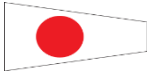
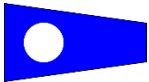
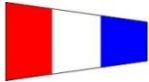
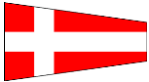
3. Changes to Sailing Instructions (SI’s)

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the **ONB and advised to skippers via direct email** before 09:00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the race schedule will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 Prior to the warning signal, the Race Committee may issue a change of SI’s from the Race Committee Vessel by displaying Flag 3rd Substitute with two sounds. Further instructions will be issued by radio on VHF 71.

4. Schedule of Races

- 4.1 The scheduled time for the first warning signal is 09:25
- 4.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of a race will start soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

5. Class Flags

Class and or Division	Flag Description
Cruising Spinnaker (Div 1,2, 3 & 4)	Numeral Pennant 1 
Cruising Non Spinnaker	Numeral Pennant 2 
Two-Handed	Numeral Pennant 3 
Multi Hull	Numeral Pennant 4 

6. Racing Areas

The racing area will be on Corio Bay and Port Philip.

7. The Course

COURSE MARK	MARK LOCATION	LEAVE TO
Start		
Wilson Spit Beacon	S 38°.08.135 E144°.30.108	Starboard
Alcoa (Northern) Lead	S 38°.06.83’ E 144°.27.721	Port
Hopetoun Channel 1	S 38° 07.05’ E 144° 26.76’	Starboard
Hopetoun Channel 10	S 38° 07.40’ E 144° 24.12’	Port
Finish		

8. Obstructions

8.1 The Marine Farm bounded by cardinal marks with approximate coordinates listed below is an obstruction.

- S 38° 03.00' E 144° 39.30'
- S 38° 03.56' E 144° 39.30'
- S 38° 03.00' E 144° 37.96'
- S 38° 03.56' E 144° 37.96'

8.2 The Oil Rig moored off Werribee and the surrounding water within 240 metres from it is an obstruction.

8.3 **The Explosives Pier exclusion zones.**

9. The Start

9.1 The starting area will be located in the vicinity of S 37° 53.3', E 144° 54.0'

9.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark (**red & white cone**).

9.3 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

9.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line during the two minutes before her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to broadcast her sail number on VHF channel 71. Any failure of, or defect in, such broadcasts will not be grounds for redress by a boat. This changes RRS 62.1(b) and 62.

9.5 A boat that does not *start* within ten (10) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

9.6 Following the First Start, the Race Committee may delay the warning signal of subsequent starts as it deems appropriate.

9.7 The race committee shall determine the sequence of the divisions starting as it deems appropriate.

9.8 **A clearance or safety mark may be laid in the vicinity of the course side of the Race Committee Vessel but not necessarily on the start line. If laid, this mark shall be considered to be part of the Race Committee Vessel.**

10. The Finish

10.1 The finish line will be laid approximately 400 metres to the north east of the RGYC Marina.

10.2 The finish line will be between the staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark (orange truncated cone).

10.3 [DP] A boat no longer racing shall promptly clear the finish area and not interfere with another boat that is racing.

11. Time Limit

The Race Time Limit is 18:30 on Sunday 24th January 2021.

12. Hearing Requests

12.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the time limit expires.

12.2 Hearing request forms are available from the **RGYC Reception Desk**.

- 12.3 Notices will be posted no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of the time and place of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

13. Signing On

- 13.1 All boats shall report their intention to start the race.
- 13.2 The race committee will contact the nominated main contact of each boat by SMS between 07:30 and 08:30 on the morning of 24th January 2021.
- 13.3 The SMS message will provide a boat specific web link that must be opened on an internet browser.
- 13.4 Competitors must respond by 08:30 indicating her intention to start and the number of Persons on Board (POB).
- 13.5 Boats that have not responded by 08:30 will be deemed to be not starting the race.
- 13.6 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity. The SMS link described in SI 13.3 may be used as a satisfactory means of notification.

14. Code of Conduct

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

15. Risk Statement

RRS 3 states: *'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.'* By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.

Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

16. Disclaimer of Liability

The OA will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after racing.

17. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured, with racing risk, and valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000, per incident.

Revision Record

<i>Rev</i>	<i>Revision Date</i>	<i>Clause Affected/Notes</i>
VFINAL	12/1/2021	Final for release
VREVISED	13/1/2021	Removal of Attachment 1
VREVISED	21/01/2021	Multiple revisions
VREVISED	22/01/2021	Amendment of SI 1.9 Manual Power