



Royal Geelong Yacht Club inc.

**Keelboat Twilight Racing
Sailing Instructions
VRCA TWILIGHT SERIES**



**6st October 2021 to
30th March 2022**

**Royal Geelong Yacht Club Inc.
25 Eastern Beach Rd, Geelong, Victoria, 3220**

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[DP] – A rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the jury or protest committee.

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 Part 1.
- 1.2 COVID 19 restrictions, regulations and guidelines shall apply as specified by the Victorian State Government and the Australian Government.
- 1.3 **Boats in Danger**

Within the waters of Corio Bay, Commercial Shipping has right-of-way whether that Vessel is in a channel or otherwise. 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 boat completes a two-turn penalty immediately on resumption of racing.
- Nothing in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions relieves a boat of her responsibility under civil law to comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea or local regulations.
- Between sunset and sunrise, competitors are reminded that part of the definition of “room” includes taking into account the existing conditions (including visibility).

Refer to Appendix A for more information

1.4 AS Special Regulations Categories

- 1.4.1 AS Special Regulation Category 6 plus VHF radio.
- 1.4.2 As per Notice of Race 4.9 any boat that is found to be non-compliant with its required AS Special Regulation Category will be scored DSQ without a hearing for all races prior to successful completion of the audit. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

1.5 Safety Requirements

- 1.5.1 Every Crew Member of a boat not equipped with lifelines shall wear a lifejacket.
- 1.5.2 Deck-stowed anchors shall not protrude beyond the gunwale or bow of a boat racing
- 1.5.3 A Man Overboard (MOB) compliance declaration must be lodged with the RGYC office prior to 31st December 2021. MOB compliance forms are available [HERE](#).
- 1.5.4 A boat which has not lodged a MOB compliance declaration by that date will be scored DSQ without a hearing for all races prior to submission of the declaration. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

1.6 First race of the season

- 1.6.1 Boats intending to compete shall report to the race officials on the Race Committee Vessel (RCV) with all crew wearing an approved lifejacket before the warning signal for her first race of the season.
- 1.6.2 Subject to SI 1.5, crew may remove their lifejacket when acknowledged by race officials unless Flag Y is displayed from the RCV.

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- 1.6.3 Boats failing to comply may be scored Did Not Compete (DNC) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

1.7 Powered Winches

Powered winches are permitted. This changes RRS 52.

1.8 Sails

- 1.8.1 When headsails are being changed, a replacing sail may be fully set and trimmed before the replaced sail is lowered.
- 1.8.2 No sail shall be flown that is not part of the boats working sail plan ie: the upwind sail configuration of the boat.
- 1.8.3 Sails used must be attached to a permanent forestay or mast and not free flying or on a temporary forestay.
- 1.8.4 Sails such as symmetric spinnakers, asymmetric spinnakers, code 0's, screechers and specialist sails of similar ilk are not permitted.

1.9 Whisker Poles

One whisker pole shall be used at a time. When in use, it shall be attached to the foremost mast.

1.10 Retractable keels

Retractable keels must be locked down at all times when racing. Canting keels can be used.

1.11 Flag V – Search and Rescue

When the Race Committee displays Flag V with one sound, all boats and official & support vessels will, if possible, monitor the race committee communications channel for search and rescue instructions.

2 Changes to Sailing Instructions (SI's)

- 2.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions (other than as per SI 2.3) will be posted before 09:00 hours on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted with three (3) days clear notice. This notice will be displayed on the Official Notice Board (ONB) located East of the Club's slipway.
- 2.2 Flag "L" will be displayed from the Club's flag pole to signify that a notice to competitors has been posted.
- 2.3 The Race Committee may issue a change of SI's from the RCV by displaying Flag 3rd substitute with three sounds. Further instructions will be issued by radio.

3 Communications to Competitors

- 3.1 Start times for each boat shall be posted online and available from the box beside the results notice board in the Club's Members Bar prior to the start of the race
- 3.2 Notices to competitors will be posted on the ONB. Notices may also be placed on the notice board within the Club's Members Bar.
- 3.3 All radio communications will be conducted on VHF Channel 71.

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- 3.4** Boats are required to keep a listening watch on the designated radio frequency for their course plus channel 16 at all times during racing.
- 3.5** The Race Committee may broadcast the course to be sailed, names/sail numbers of OCS boats, and/or other information. Any failure of, or defect in, such a broadcast will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b) and 62.
- 3.6** [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 Signals Made Ashore

- 4.1** Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Club's flagpole located in the North-West corner of the Club's property.
- 4.2** When a signal is displayed over a class flag it applies to that class only.

5 Schedule of Races

- 5.1** Race dates and time of first warning signals are scheduled as per the RGYC Season 2021-2022 Racing Calendar and is available [HERE](#).

6 Class Flags and Course Number Flags

- 6.1** No division flags will be displayed. Both divisions will sail the course relevant to their divisional split as signified by the corresponding numeral pennant displayed on the RCV.

7 Racing Areas

- 7.1** The racing area will be on Corio Bay.
- 7.2** A total exclusion zone exists to the west of Corio Channel Beacons numbers 7, 9, 10 and 11 and encompassing the Refinery Pier and northern end of Lascelles wharf. Please note that significant fines may be imposed for entry to this area, accidental or not. The area is under constant video surveillance and competitors must make themselves aware of the exact zone limits.

8 Courses

- 8.1** These are listed in Appendix B

9 Marks

- 9.1** The starting and finishing mark when laid is an Orange Cone.
- 9.2** All course marks will be the Club's "CB" marks whose approximate latitude and longitude are located in Appendix C.

10 The Start

- 10.1** The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RCV at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 10.2** An alternate starting line may be announced via radio prior to the warning signal.

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11 The Handicap Start Procedure

- 11.1 A boat's preparatory signal is deemed made four minutes before the boat's starting time.
- 11.2 Preparatory signal Flag P will not be displayed.
- 11.3 Five minutes before the start time of the first boat(s), the course flag shall be displayed with one sound.
- 11.4 The course flag displayed over Flag R indicates that the course is to be sailed in the reverse direction, leaving marks on the opposite hand.
- 11.5 One minute before the start time of the first boat(s) a board with number zero "0" will be displayed with one sound
- 11.6 The start signal will be the replacing of the number zero board with a number one "1" board with one sound. This indicates the start of the first boat(s).
- 11.7 Subsequent starts will be when the number board is replaced each minute by one containing the next higher number in the sequence plus one sound.
- 11.8 Boats may start any time after their starting time has been displayed and removed.
- 11.9 This process changes RRS 26

12 Individual Recalls

- 12.1 Flag "X" shall remain displayed until the on-course-side boat has returned completely to the pre-start side of the starting line or one (1) minute after her start time, whichever is earlier. This changes RRS 29.1

13 The Finish

- 13.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the RCV and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 13.2 [DP] Once a boat has passed through the finish line, it is required to clear the area immediately and not create a hazard for any other boats yet to finish.

14 Time Limits

- 14.1 The time limit is 20:00 hrs.
- 14.2 Boats still racing after the time limit expires will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 & A5.2

15 Protests and Requests for Redress

15.1 Forms and Lodgement

Hearing Request forms are available from the box beside the results notice board located in the Club's Members Bar. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the Race Officer, Club Captain, Vice Commodore or the Sailing Manager within the appropriate time limit.

15.2 Protest Time Limit

The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the finishing time of the last boat.

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15.3 Notices will be posted as soon as practicable to inform competitors of the date, time and place of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

16 Scoring

16.1 Rule A5.3 applies.

16.2 Number of Races required

For each series, races required to be completed to constitute a series are;

Race Series	Races Required
Pre-Christmas Series	3
Post Christmas Series	3
Full Season	6

16.3 Number of Boats to Start

A minimum of three boats are required to start in a class or division for a race to be scored. This changes RRS 90.3 (a), A4 and A5.

16.4 Discards

Twilight Racing Div 1 and Div 2

Series	Races Completed	Discards
Pre-Christmas	1 – 3	0
Pre-Christmas	4 or more	1
Post-Christmas	1 – 3	0
Post-Christmas	4 or more	1
Full Season	1 – 6	0
Full Season	7 – 12	1
Full Season	13 or more	2

17 Resailed Events

17.1 Races not completed on the scheduled day shall not be rescheduled.

18 Changes to Boats

18.1 The Handicap Committee shall be notified in writing (email or letter) of any changes by 17:00 hours of the business day before the race. These changes include but not limited to;

- Change of Helmsperson, particularly of someone outside of regular crew
- New sails
- Changes to rig, ballast, LOA, rudder, keel etc

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19 Radio Sign On & Off

19.1 Sign On

Boats departing the Marina shall notify RG Base on VHF 71 of the name of the boat, the sail number and the number of people on board. If there is no response, boats shall notify the RCV.

19.2 Sign Off

- 19.2.1 Upon return to the marina boats shall notify RG Base VHF 71, the name of the boat sail number and the number of people on board. If there is no response, boats shall notify the RCV.
- 19.2.2 Boats failing to sign-on or sign-off may be scored their finish score plus five (5) points, but not worse than the score for DSQ, by the Race Committee without a hearing. The scores of other boats shall not be changed. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.
- 19.2.3 A boat that retires from a race shall notify RG Base or the Race Committee Vessel as soon as possible.

20 Crew Declarations

- 20.1 This crew declaration process is not substituted by the RGYC Site sign in required under current COVID restrictions and using the QR Code scan process.
- 20.2 No later than the boats start time the owner or delegate shall submit a Crew Declaration containing boat name, sail number and the full name & membership status of each person on board
- 20.3 This crew declaration shall be lodged electronically by downloading and lodging the declaration through the Memberpoint App. This app can be downloaded via the following links: For [Android devices, CLICK HERE](#), and [Apple devices, CLICK HERE](#)
- 20.4 Crew without RGYC membership, may obtain a Sailpass through the MemberPoint App prior to being available for selection as crew. Please note that the number of Sailpasses that an individual can obtain is currently limited to 12 (lifetime total).
- 20.5 Boats failing to comply may be scored DSQ by the Race Committee without a hearing. The scores of other boats shall not be changed. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

21 Handicapping

- 21.1 The handicapping system will be a variant of AS system. Details can be provided on application.
- 21.2 Allocated Handicap values will not be grounds for redress.

22 Equipment and Measurement Checks

- 22.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a Sailing and Boating Committee appointed Safety Officer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

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23 Disclaimer of Liability

23.1 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.**

24 Insurance

24.1 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.

APPENDIX A: Commercial Shipping

1 **Victoria Marine Safety Regulations and in particular Rule Part 6, 112 (2)**

Nothing in these Rules shall exonerate any vessel, or the owner, master or crew thereof, from the consequences of any neglect to comply with these Rules or of the neglect of any precaution which may be required by the ordinary practice of seamen, or by the special circumstances of the case.

In complying with these Rules due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision and to any special circumstances, including the limitations of the vessels involved, which may make a departure from these Rules necessary to avoid immediate danger.

If a boat is about to be involved in a collision, having stood or not given way in accordance with the Rule; every party involved is responsible in taking avoiding action to prevent a collision.

2 **Local Rules**

These Local Rules require sail craft to keep clear of commercial shipping. Pass at least 500m ahead of the ship's bow. Any boat not compliant shall be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS A4, A5 and 63.1.

3 **Bow Flare**

When closing on any vessel, to prevent being overrun, ensure you can sight the vessel's bridge. Beware of overhanging bows and other parts of ship that might obstruct this line of sight.

4 **Boats in Danger**

Within the waters of Port Philip and Corio Bay, Commercial Shipping has right-of-way whether that Vessel is in a channel or otherwise. Any boat-operator 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 boat completes a two-turn penalty immediately on resumption of racing.
- Nothing in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions relieves a boat of her responsibility under civil law to comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea or local regulations.
- Between sunset and sunrise, competitors are reminded that part of the definition of "room" includes taking into account the existing conditions (including visibility).

Competitors are reminded of their responsibility under rule 9(b) of the IRPCS, (b) "A vessel of less than 20 metres in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway."

5 **Shipping Sound Signal Meanings:**

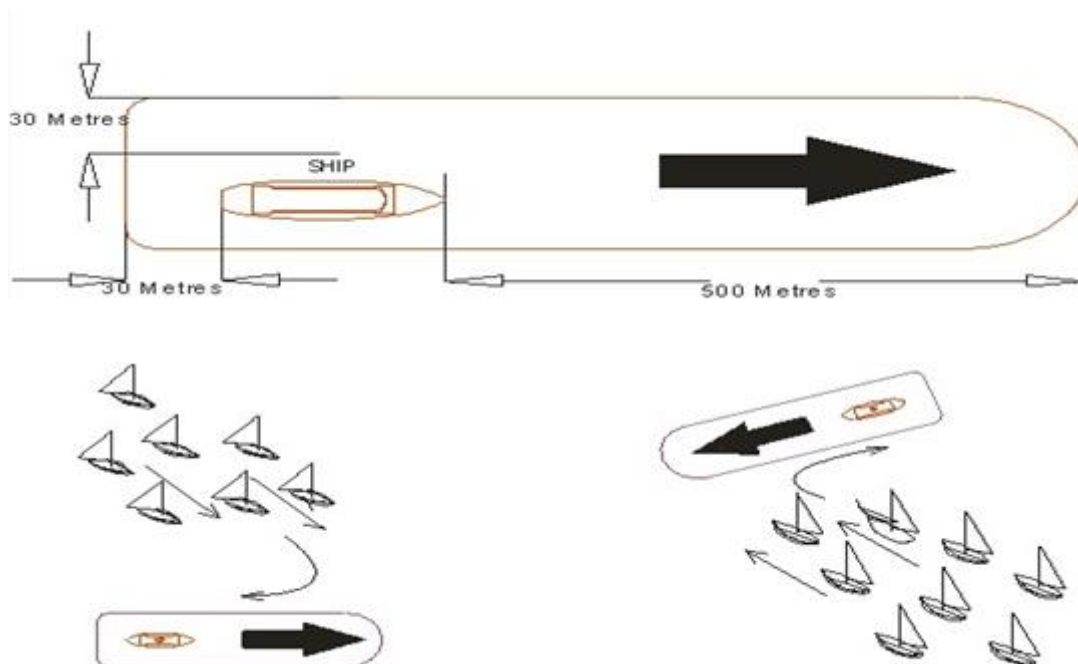
One short blast – *I am altering course to starboard (right).*

Two short blasts – *I am altering course to port (left).*

Three short blasts – *I am operating engines astern.*

Five (or more) short blasts – *I'm unsure of your intentions and doubt whether you are taking enough avoiding action to avoid collision.*

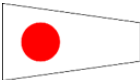
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KEEP CLEAR OF
BIG
SHIPS

Appendix B: Courses

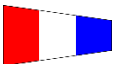
Course 1:

Designated by Numeral Pennant 1		
Div 1	Div 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 3 to Starboard • CB 2 to Port • CB 5 to Port • CB 2 to Port • CB 5 to Port • Finish <p>Course length 9.3 nm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 3 to Starboard • CB 2 to Port • CB 5 to Port • Finish <p>Course length 5.8 nm</p>	

Course 2:


Designated by Numeral Pennant 2		
Div 1	Div 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 3 to Starboard • CB 2 to Port • CB 1 to Port • CB 5 to Port • Finish <p>Course length 7.3 nm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 3 to Starboard • CB 2 to Port • CB 6 to Port • CB 5 to Port • Finish <p>Course length 6.1 nm</p>	

Course 3:

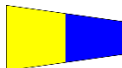
Designated by Numeral Pennant 3		
Div 1	Div 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 6 to Port • CB 1 to Port • Finish <p>Course length 6.6 nm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 6 to Port • Finish <p>Course length 4.7 nm</p>	

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Course 4:

Designated by Numeral Pennant 4		
Div 1	Div 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 5 to Starboard • CB 6 to Starboard • CB 2 to Starboard • Finish Course length 6.1 nm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 6 to Starboard • CB 2 to Starboard • Finish Course length 5.3 nm	

Course 5:


Designated by Numeral Pennant 5		
Div 1	Div 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 3 to Starboard • CB 2 to Port • CB 6 to Port • CB 5 to Port • Finish Course length 6.1 nm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 6 to Port • CB 5 to Port • Finish Course length 5.5 nm	

Course 6:

Designated by Numeral Pennant 6		
Div 1	Div 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 4 to Starboard • CB 2 to Port • CB 6 to Port • CB 5 to Port • CB 4 Port • Finish Course length 6.5 nm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 4 Starboard • CB 6 to Port • CB 5 to Port • CB 4 Port • Finish Course length 5.6 nm	

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Course 7:

Designated by Numeral Pennant 7		
Div 1	Div 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 4 Starboard • CB 5 to Starboard • CB 6 to Starboard • CB 2 to Starboard • CB 4 to Port • Finish <p>Course length 6.5 nm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start • CB 4 Starboard • CB 5 to Starboard • CB 2 to Starboard • CB 4 to Port • Finish <p>Course length 6.2 nm</p>	









Appendix C: Mark Coordinates

The listed coordinates of the Club Course Marks are Approximate

Mark	Latitude	Longitude
CB 1	S 38.05.552	E 144.24.206
CB 2	S 38.07.614	E 144.24.184
CB 3	S 38.07.601	E 144.23.549
CB 4	S 38.07.747	E 144.22.157
CB 5	S 38.06.205	E 144.22.932
CB 6	S 38.06.519	E 144.24.015

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Appendix D: Signal Flags Used in SI's

Flag Name	Design	Use
3 rd Sub		Change to SI on water (SI 2.3)
L		Notice to Competitors ashore (SI 2.2)
R		Course to be sailed in reverse direction (SI 11.4)
V		Search & Rescue request (SI 1.9)
X		Individual Recalls (SI 12.1)
Y		Lifejackets to be worn by skipper & all crew (1.6.2)
Orange		Starting line flag (S10)
Blue		Finishing line flag (SI 13)

Refer also to RRS for a complete outline of all race flags

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Revision Record

<i>Rev</i>	<i>Revision Date</i>	<i>Clause Affected/Notes</i>
VFINAL	05/10/21	Final version for release
VFINAL REVISED	18/10/21	Corrected error in SI 13.1 "a blue"