



Royal Geelong Yacht Club inc.

**Charlie Course
Sailing Instructions**

1st October 2023 to

30th September 2024

Royal Geelong Yacht Club Inc.

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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 2 and relevant Class rules.
- 1.2 Rule 42.3 (I) is changed to permit the use of any form of propulsion to avoid collision.
Refer to Appendix A for more information.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 Rule 42.3 (I) is changed to permit the use of any form of propulsion to avoid collision.
Refer to Appendix A for more information.

2 Changes to Sailing Instructions (SI's)

- 2.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions made ashore 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) at <https://rgyc.com.au>.
- 2.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions made on-water may be made prior to the warning signal and advised to competitors from the RCV by displaying the 3rd Substitute with three sounds. Instructions outlining the change will be issued by VHF radio.

3 Communications to Competitors

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the ONB.
- 3.2 All radio communications will be conducted on VHF Channel 74.
- 3.3 Boats are required to keep a listening watch on VHF Channel 74 and VHF Channel 16 at all times during racing.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 [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

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- 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.
- 4.3 When Flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes'. This changes RRS Race Signals AP.

5 Schedule of Races

- 4.4 Race dates and time of first warning signals are scheduled as per the RGYC Season 2023-2024 Racing Calendar and is available at <https://rgyc.com.au>.
- 4.5 Flag L displayed on the RCV at the finishing line indicates an additional race will be sailed.

6 Class Flags

6.1

Class	Flag Description
Etchells	Etchells Class Flag 
Sportsboats	Numeral Pennant 9 

7 Racing Areas

- 7.1 The racing area will be on Corio Bay.

8 Courses

The courses are described in Appendix B.

9 Marks

The Mark Descriptions are listed below

Marks	Description
Mark 1	Pink Cone
Mark 2	Pink Cone
Change Mark	Orange Cylinder with Black Band

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 a port-end starting mark as described in Appendix B.

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

10.3 A boat that came to the starting area but did not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

11 The Finish

11.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the RCV and the course side of the finish mark.

11.2 [DP] After finishing, boats shall clear the finish line and not interfere with any other boats still racing.

12 Time Limits

12.1 Time limits are shown with each course description.

12.1.1 Race Time Limit is 80 minutes. This is the time for the first boat to sail the course and finish.

12.1.2 Finishing Window is 20 minutes. This is the time limit for boats to finish after the first boat has sailed the course and finishes.

12.2 Boats still racing after the limit expires and not subsequently retiring, penalised or given redress, will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2

13 Penalty System

13.1 The first two sentences of RRS 44.1 are changed to: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or RRS 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty".

14 Protests and Requests for Redress

14.1 Hearing Request forms are available from the box beside the notice board located in the Club Member's Bar.

14.2 Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the Race Officer, Flag Officers or the Sailing Manager within the appropriate time limit.

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14.3 The protest lime limit is 60 minutes after the last boat in her division has finished the last race of the day or the Race Committee signals “No more racing today”, whichever is later.

14.4 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.

15 Scoring

15.1 Boats that join the series after one or more completed races will be scored DNC for each earlier race.

15.2 Discards

Races Completed	Discards
1 – 5	0
6 – 10	1
11 – 15	2
16 – 19	3
20 - 25	4
26 - 30	5
31 or more	6

15.3 Requests for allocated race score

15.3.1 A boat which completes in a Class Championship at State, National or World level may request the OA for an allocated score.

15.3.2 A boat which does not race because its crew has volunteered for race management duties on a particular race day may request the OA for an allocated score. Applications for allocated race scores are to be submitted in writing by email to sailing@rgyc.com.au.

15.3.3 Allocated scores will be applied as follows:

i) The boat’s allocated race score shall be the average of her previous five (5) race scores prior within this current season, prior to the date of the missed Club race day identified in the request, excluding other allocated scores will be scored DUT (Duty). In the event that five races have not been completed, the score will be allocated once five races are completed.

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- ii) The scores of other boats shall not be changed.
- iii) A boat may be given an allocated score for a maximum of 2 Club race days per season.

This changes RRS A4 and A5.

16 Resailed Events

16.1 Races not completed on the scheduled day may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Race Committee.

17 Replacement of Crew or Equipment

17.1 The OA shall be notified in writing via email to sailing@rgyc.com.au of any changes by 12:00 hours of the business day before the race. These changes include but are not limited to:

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

18 Radio Sign On & Off

18.1 Sign On

18.1.1 Boats departing the Marina shall notify "RG Base" on VHF Channel 71 of the name of the boat, the sail number and the number of people on board. In the absence of "RG Base" the RCV shall act as RG Base.

18.1.2 No Sign On communication should be made once the race start sequence has begun.

18.2 Sign Off

18.2.1 Upon return to the Marina boats shall notify RG Base on VHF Channel 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.

18.2.2 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.

18.2.3 A boat that retires from a race shall notify RG Base or the RCV as soon as possible.

18.2.4 If RG Base or the RCV cannot be contacted as per SI 18.2.3, boats shall call or SMS the Race Officer.

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19 Crew Declarations

- 19.1** No later than the boat's preparatory signal, the owner or delegate shall submit a Crew Declaration.
- 19.2** This crew declaration shall be lodged electronically through the MemberPoint App. Information regarding the use of MemberPoint can be found on the RGYC website at <https://rgyc.com.au>.
- 19.3** Crew without RGYC membership, shall 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 at RGYC is currently limited to 12 (lifetime total).
- 19.4** Boats failing to comply may be scored DSQ by the Race Committee without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

20 Equipment and Measurement Checks

- 20.1** A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.
- 20.2** [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

21 Prizes to be Awarded

The following Prizes are to be awarded.

Class	Trophy
Etchells Championship Aggregate	Apted Cup
Etchells Performance Handicap	Capt A.D. McPherson Trophy
Etchells Spring Aggregate	Harold Troon Memorial Thophy
Etchells Summer Aggregate	Martini Marine Perpetual Trophy

22 Risk Statement

- 22.1** 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,**

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catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

23 Insurance

23.1 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.

Revision Record

<i>Rev</i>	<i>Revision Date</i>	<i>Clause Affected/Notes</i>
VFINAL	03/10/2023	Final version for release and publication
VREVISED	03/10/2023	Deleted SI 1.4 referring to Appendix T Updated wording in 18.2.3

APPENDIX A: Commercial Shipping

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.

A2 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.

A3 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.

A4 Boats in Danger

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 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCS), “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.”

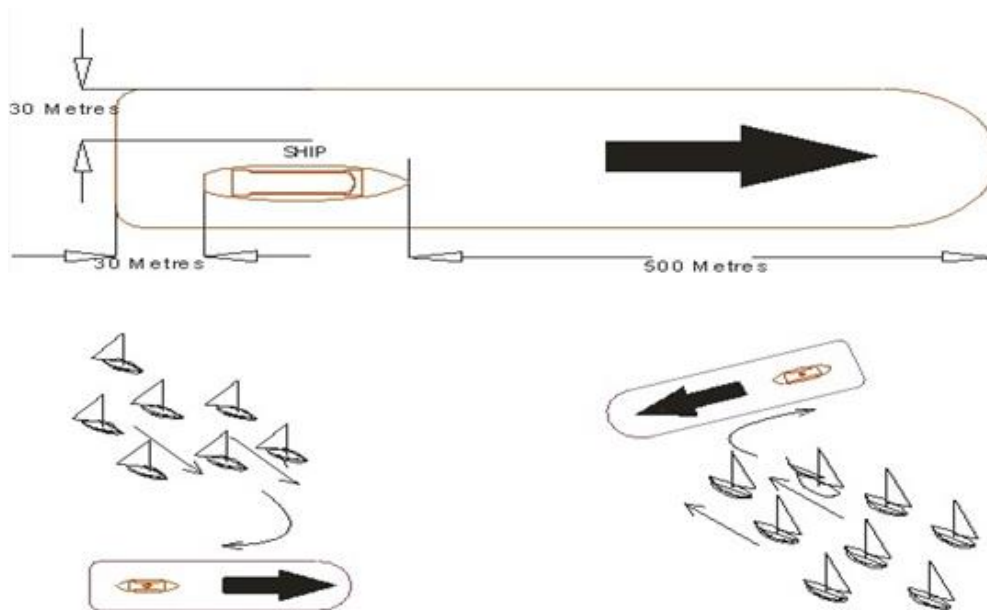
A5 Shipping Sound Signal Meanings:

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.*

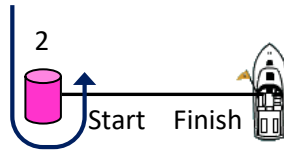
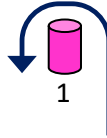
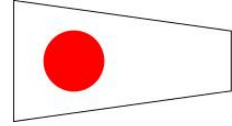


Appendix B: Courses

Windward-Leeward – Course 1

Windward – Leeward Course

Signal – Numeral Pennant 1

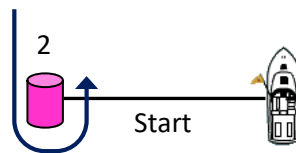
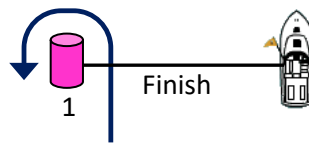


All marks shall be left to Port.

Course	Mark Rounding Order
All Classes	Start – 1 – 2 – 1 - Finish

Windward-Leeward – Course 2

Signal - Numeral Pennant 2

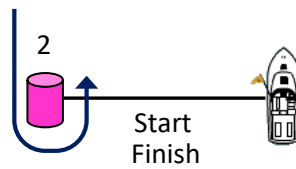
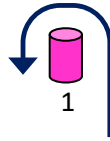
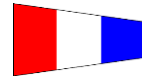


All marks shall be left to Port.

Course	Mark Rounding Order
All Classes	Start – 1 – 2 – 1 – 2 – Finish

Windward-Leeward – Course 3

Signal - Numeral Pennant 3



All marks shall be left to Port.

Course	Mark Rounding Order
All Classes	Start – 1 – 2 – 1 – 2 – 1 - Finish

Appendix C: Signal Flags Used in SI's

Flag Name	Design	Use
AP		Racing POSTPONED
1 st Sub		General Recall
3 rd Sub		Change to SI on water
L		Notice to Competitors ashore
P		Race Preparatory flag
V		Search & Rescue request
X		Individual recall
Orange		Starting line flag
Blue		Finishing line flag

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

Revision Record

<i>Rev</i>	<i>Revision Date</i>	<i>Clause Affected/Notes</i>
VFINAL	07/09/2023	Final version for release