



COMBINED CLUBS 2021-22 SAILING COMMUNICATION TO CLUB MEMBERS August 2021

The Combined Clubs Committee (CCC) and Working Group (WG), chaired by one of the clubs on a yearly rotating basis, consists of each club's Vice Commodore, Sailing Manager equivalent and a key sailing volunteer and takes guidance from each of the clubs' Sailing Committee. This arrangement is formalised under a Memorandum of Understanding and is an important reference as we prepare for the new sailing season.

This year, I'm honoured to chair the Combined Clubs Committee as the Vice Commodore of the Derwent Sailing Squadron and lead this year's development and promotion of sailing activities on behalf of the Combined Clubs.

In planning for the 2021-22 sailing season, we invited skippers to complete a survey which has assisted us in framing the summer racing format. Participation was positive and demonstrated our highest response rate for a Combined Clubs survey. With 53% of skippers providing feedback, combined with local historical participation and current national racing trends we have now developed a program which reflects the majority view and will offer a range of sailing formats across the season.

I am very pleased, on behalf of the Combined Clubs, to provide you with the final Combined Clubs schedule of races, found at the link <[HERE](#)>, with some specific detail following. Please do not hesitate to engage with your respective sailing office should you have any queries.

COMBINED CLUBS SUMMER PENNANT

The majority response from the Combined Clubs survey was that the number of race days for the Combined Clubs Summer Pennant remain at ten (10) over the season. In accordance with this feedback the sailing calendar will consist of a Harbour Race Series (5 race days) and a Long Race Series (5 race days). Importantly, competitors will be given the choice of entering only one series should they choose.

The Combined Clubs Summer Pennant will be determined on a combined score of the two series meaning that to be eligible for the Summer Pennant skippers will need to enter both series. A block (both series) TOPYACHT entry fee incentive will be offered.

The Harbour Series will consist of five race days, with up to two races per day scheduled. This format will provide flexibility to the Race Committee to offer a variety of race courses for all divisions. All races will be a midriver start and finish. To maximise racing opportunity for the Harbour Series, three (3) of the five (5) race days have been scheduled post-Christmas.

The Long Race Series will also consist of five race days with a midriver start and either Castray Esplanade or Victoria Esplanade finish, as determined by the host club. This will continue to see one race per race day scheduled for the series. The Long Race Series will be a total of five (5) race days, with three (3) of these pre-Christmas.

We hope that the race format will provide the flexibility for skippers and crews to enjoy the diversity of long and short course racing over the summer season.

COMBINED CLUBS WINTER PENNANT

The Combined Clubs Winter Pennant Series will be conducted between June and August 2022. The series will consist of 9 race days and will continue to take advantage of the Sunday morning weather conditions using

a midriver start and finish format. The last two years of this series has proven popular in offering regular racing over the winter period.

INDIVIDUAL CLUB PENNANTS

Each Club shall continue to determine its own eligibility criteria for awarding club pennants however in 2021-2022 all Clubs will use the scores from both the Long Race Series and Harbour Series to determine its summer pennant winners and the scores from the Winter Pennant series to determine its winter pennant winners.

TWO HANDED LONG RACE SERIES

The successful 2020-21 Two Handed Long Race Series has been retained in this year's calendar with four (4) Sunday race days being offered, post-Christmas. We hope to see this series continue to be well supported by Hobart competitors.

REGATTAS

The Combined Clubs encourages owners from all Clubs to support the following regattas:

- Pipe Opener Series (DSS/KYC) – 17 – 19 September 2021
- Crown Series Regatta (BYC) – 18 – 20 February 2022
- Combined Clubs Women's Keelboat Regatta – 5 March 2022

COMBINED CLUBS MIDWEEK SERIES – FOUR SERIES

The Combined Clubs Midweek Series continues to be very popular and the racing format will remain unchanged for the 2021-2022 season. The "mid-winter Midweek" or Midweek Series 4, has formally been added to the calendar and associated Midweek racing documents.

The Combined Clubs Midweek luncheons are a popular tradition and will continue to be conducted at the end of each series. Each boat entry is eligible for two (2) free meals tickets and any additional attendees will be at a cost of \$10 per meal ticket.

- Series 1 luncheon – 15 December 2021 – hosted by DSS
- Series 2 luncheon – 23 March 2022 – hosted by BYC
- Series 3 luncheon – 8 June 2022 – hosted by RYCT
- Series 4 – no luncheon

COMBINED CLUBS OFFSHORE PERPETUAL TROPHY

In recognition that offshore style racing is becoming a more desirable race format, both locally and nationally, the Combined Clubs Offshore Series will consist of only Category 3+ races for this season. Some races will see the use of virtual turning marks, an innovation being introduced elsewhere in Australia, particularly in Western Australia and more recently in Sydney by the CYCA.

The Combined Clubs Offshore Perpetual Trophy will be awarded based on the combined scores from the following races:

- BYC Overnight Race – 20 October 2021
- RYCT Maria Island Race – 12 November 2021
- DSS Two Capes Race – 27 November 2021
- RYCT Bruny Island Race – 12 February 2022

IMPORTANT reminders about changes that will affect our Category 3 races this year noting these are requirements under the AS Special Regulations that effect boats competing in Categories 1-3 racing.

- Compulsory safety audits for Cats 1 - 3 effective 1 July 2021
- Keel and Rudder Inspections Cats 1 - 3 effective 1 January 2022

Further detail of these changes can be found on the Australian Sailing Resources page [Home - Australian Sailing - Resources \(sailingresources.org.au\)](https://www.ausailing.org.au/resources) under the Safety tab and I would strongly encourage you to review the impact of these changes if you are considering offshore racing this season.

CREW DECLARATION (including COVID-19 tracing requirements)

The past 18 months has been momentous for our sailing community and the community more broadly. The impact of COVID-19 and our ability to go racing will continue to be an important focus as we navigate unpredictable and challenging circumstances of the pandemic to ensure the safety of our sailors. The *"COVID-19 Safety Plan for the conduct of keelboat racing 2021-22 Sailing Season"* is an important reference for all our sailors and is published on the Organising Clubs' websites for your information.

A Crew Declaration for each Combined Club's race will continue to be a requirement for the 2021-22 sailing season for Combined Clubs events. Your co-operation during the 2020-21 sailing season has been very much appreciated in regards to providing this important information.

IMPORTANT CHANGE TO CREW MEMBERSHIP

From 1 January 2022 the Australian Sailing prescription to RRS 46 requires that all crew are members of an affiliated club and registered with Australian Sailing - regardless of the number of races they have competed in.

This means that when you complete your Crew Declaration a crew list should include an Australian Sailing number for all crew as evidence of membership or a temporary SailPass Australian Sailing number included as a short-term arrangement.

Please be reminded that each of the Combined Clubs offer free Sail Passes for infrequent or new to sailing crew. More information can be found on your clubs' website or by contacting your Sailing Manager.

CHANGES TO PROTEST TIME LIMIT

The Combined Clubs have agreed to change the protest time limit on Combined Clubs events and Twilight racing. This year, *"Protests must be lodged at the RYCT, BYC or DSS **within two hours** of the last boat finishing in the last race of the day or the Race Committee signalling 'No More Racing Today'"*. This is a significantly reduced protest time limit from previous years.

OPENING DAY AND SAILING PROGRAM

The Opening Day for the 2021-22 sailing season will be held on Saturday 2 October 2021 and is hosted by the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania. Separate instructions will be issued and published on Club websites.

The full program for the 2021-22 Combined Clubs Race and Cruising Program is available and published on Club websites.

We look forward to delivering another successful season of sailing and providing you with a diverse and flexible sailing program.

Yours in Sailing

DSS Vice Commodore Will Justo
Chair
Combined Clubs Committee