



Newsletter No.3

16th November 2021

Topics Already Covered in VDL-C 2022 Newsletter No.1 (8th June 2021)

Choices Flooring VDL-C 2022 and the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The Registration Queue.

Safety Requirements: Frequently Asked Questions:

- radio communications,
- insurance *Certificate of Currency*,
- no pets on board,
- a minimum of two experienced crew on board,
- bilge pumps,
- emergency steering,
- AIS

Cruise Documentation.

Transport, Fuel and Provisioning.

Crew Change Possibilities.

Berthing Arrangements.

Onshore Events and Happenings.

Topics Already Covered in VDL-C 2022 Newsletter No.2 (2nd September 2021)

VDL-C 2022 and COVID-19.

HF Radio Certification:

- Some Helpful Hints,
- HF Radio Certifying Shore Stations.

VHF Radios.

Chart List.

Cruising Guides.

Anchoring & Berthing.

Entry Fee Invoices:

We are now getting to the pointy end of planning for *Choices Flooring* VDL-C 2022 and as of 15th November 2021, there remain 49 provisional entries for 45 places in the 2022 VDL-C fleet. Invoices have been sent by email to the first 45 boats in the provisional entry queue. They are payable by the due date: **26th November 2021**. Failure to remit the entry fee by then will mean your boat's place in the fleet will be removed from the fleet list of participating boats. If there is anyone still waiting with a queue no. greater than 45, your place will be offered to the next boat waiting in the queue.

Once you have made a decision not to participate this time around, rather than waiting for your entry to lapse after the due date, it would be very much appreciated if you could let us know immediately by email to Janelle Johns<membership@ryct.org.au> in the RYCT office.

Polo Shirt Orders:

Order forms for *Choices Flooring* VDL-C 2022 polo shirts have been sent to you by email. To be certain to have the shirts for the start of the cruise, this form should also be returned by **26th November 2021**.

Lodging polo shirt orders later than the due date risks the shirts not being available before the cruise leaves Hobart on 9th February 2022.

Some Cruise Planning Reminders.

HF Radio Certification:

One of the few irrevocable requirements for participation in *Choices Flooring* VDL-C 2022 is for each vessel to demonstrate they carry an effective HF radio installation on board. Details of how this demonstration can be achieved was given in Newsletter No.2. As of mid-November, very few boats have yet completed this demonstration.

You are once again reminded that:

Without this HF radio certification, your boat cannot join the Choices Flooring VDL-C 2022 fleet!

Berthing and Slipping Arrangements in Hobart:

As discussed in Newsletter No.1, vacant berths in the RYCT marina in Hobart before and, to a lesser extent, after the cruise are scarce. If you need a berth or to slip the boat, you would be well advised to make necessary arrangements well in advance.

The same caution applies to RYCT's excellent slipping facilities. In this regard, it is a *National Parks and Wildlife* requirement that vessels visiting Port Davey waters are required to have clean bottoms.

Missing Data:

On many original *Expressions of Interest* (EOI) forms submitted by prospective participants vital information was omitted, or the field was annotated with 'to be advised' or words to that effect. As a part of our duty of care it is most important we have this information available for us to be assured your vessel is properly equipped and most importantly, so it can be used in case of an emergency.

To find what is missing, please consult the data sheet attached to our acknowledgement of your EOI showing what information we are holding. If you can't find this data sheet we are happy to supply another copy.

Please contact Janelle Johns <membership@ryct.org.au> in the RYCT office with the details.

Insurance Certificate Required

As specified in the *Notice of Cruise*, you are required to possess a *Certificate of Currency* showing your boat carries public liability insurance of at least \$10M. (The RYCT has recently reduced this requirement from \$20M).

This certificate should be carried on board throughout the cruise; it also should be presented to the RYCT Office on or before your boat's arrival in the RYCT marina.

Photograph(s) of the Boat Required:

If you haven't already done so, please can you ensure the RYCT Office holds at least one current photograph clearly showing identifying characteristics of your boat. This is required for safety reasons; it will be filed for use in case of an emergency such as a search-and-rescue event.

Arriving in Tasmania – COVID Quarantine Protocols:

A set of rules has now been published concerning travel to Tasmania after the border controls are relaxed on 15th December 2021. A good place to start is: <https://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/transition-plan/travel-to-tasmania>.

In summary:

- Entry into Tasmania continues to require something called a *QR code permit* via the traveller registration system *Tas e-Travel*: <https://register.tasetravel.tas.gov.au>.
- After 15th December 2021, anyone wanting to enter aged over 12 years and 2 months must be fully vaccinated (unless exempt) without the need to quarantine.
- What else is required depends from whence you are coming – high, medium, low risk region of mainland Australia, or from another country.
- If you are coming by boat, (so far) entry requirements remain the same and details can be found at: <https://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/approved-ports-airports-and-maritime-tasmania>.
- There is little guarantee that these protocols will continue for very long; you would be well advised to keep a close eye on the *travel-to-tasmania* webpage (see above).
- Under the current protocols the only unvaccinated participants on the *Choices Flooring VDL-C 2022* cruise will be visitors who have a very-hard-to-obtain exemption, visitors who have lied and have fake vaccination certificates, or Tasmanian residents who have chosen not to be vaccinated.

Protocols When Arriving by Boat:

Specific information on maritime arrivals is available on the *Marine and Safety Tasmania* (MaST) website:

<https://mast.tas.gov.au> – click on *Safe Navigation* > *Cruising Tasmania* and scroll down to the section:

Advice to mariners travelling to Tasmania — COVID-19.

Included in this advice is the following:

Currently you must:

- enter Tasmania through a designated port of arrival (see below);
- report your pending arrival to *Biosecurity Tasmania* no less than 24 hours prior to arrival (details of information required and where to send it is given on the *approved-ports-airports* page of the Coronavirus website);
- have a valid **G2G** pass authorising your entry to Tasmania;
- be inspected by a *Biosecurity* officer (contact phone numbers are listed for NW, N and S regions).

Without prior approval from *Biosecurity Tasmania*, you cannot:

- disembark passengers, crew or goods;
- let anyone board the vessel;
- interact with any other vessels.

There is a list of 22 approved ports (and much else besides) on the ports and airports page of the coronavirus website: <https://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/approved-ports-airports-and-maritime-tasmania>.

Particularly relevant ports on this list include:

Bass Strait Islands: Grassy (King Is.),
Lady Barron (Flinders Is.);
N & NW Coast: Inspection Head (Beauty Point),
Devonport,
Stanley;
W Coast: Strahan;
E & SE Coast: St Helens,
Spring Bay (Triabunna),
Hobart.

So far, no change to these requirements after 15th December 2021 has been announced.

Pre-Cruise Briefings:

The *Cruise Plan* shows a briefing for cruise participants at 17:30 on Monday 7th February 2022 will be held at the RYCT, two days before departure of those boats leaving from Hobart. This briefing will be recorded, to be replayed at a place and date to be fixed, prior to departure of those boats planning to leave from Queenscliff.

It is strongly recommended that at least the skipper of each boat (or her/his representative) attend this event. It is the first opportunity for skippers to discuss the finer details of cruise organization, and to meet cruise officials who will sail with the fleet. Formal proceedings will be followed by a more informal social occasion involving nibbles and drinks.

At the briefing a **cruise satchel** containing many wonderful things will be issued to each boat, including:

- the latest reprint of the *Tasmanian Anchorage Guide*,
- a *Cruise Manual* – a handbook of useful cruise information,
- a blank *Log Book* that can be used to record your boat's progress on the cruise. (At the end of the cruise there is a prize for the best kept, and another for the most interesting of these.)
- the pre-ordered polo shirts,
- a 'brag' flag and bow stickers (the latter are too big to go in the bag and are supplied separately),
- ... *and much else besides!*

The Crew List and Safety Compliance Acknowledgement Forms:

It is most important that the organizers of the *Choices Flooring VDL-C 2022* have on record details of all crew members aboard each boat at all times. These records are held centrally at the RYCT in Hobart, available to be used in an emergency.

To this end, one of these forms **must be completed and lodged with the RYCT office before the boat puts to sea at the start of the cruise**. Each time there is a change of crew during the cruise, a new form must be completed and either lodged directly with the RYCT or with a *Choices Flooring VDL-C 2022* official accompanying the cruise.

Every *CLaSCA* form must be signed by the skipper, affirming the boat continues to conform to the *Cruise Safety Requirements*.

There are 10 blank *CLaSCA* forms included at the back of each *Cruise Manual*.

Life Jacket Standards.

Please note that from 1st January 2021, life jackets conforming to the AS4758 standard are the only ones legal in Tasmania. Any jackets marked PFD 1, 2 or 3 with Australian Standard codes AS1512, 1499 or 2260 should be replaced.

Full details of AS4758-compliant life jackets and when they must be worn can be found on the MaST website: <https://mast.tas.gov.au/safe-boating/safety-equipment/lifejackets/>.

Be warned: in Tasmania, wearing life jackets is strictly policed!

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