

# Hobson's Bay Yacht Club

# CRUISING INSTRUCTIONS 2015

## 1. Introduction

1. These HBYC Cruising Event Instructions are applicable to the conduct of Cruising Events that are officially recognised by the HBYC Cruising Group and the HBYC Sailing Committee and relate to cruising events conducted within the waters of Port Phillip.
2. Whilst these instructions cover the management of HBYC cruises-in-company, much of the content is based on good seamanship, adequate safety considerations and common- sense, all of which are relevant to the good risk management of any sailing event.

## 2. Management Plan

1. A yacht is deemed eligible to be participate in a HBYC Cruising Event per the "2015 Notice of cruising events schedule" if:
  - o It has completed and lodged the applicable On Line Cruise Entry for the series or event,
  - o It complies with and has submitted the required Category 6+ Cruising Safety Equipment Declaration Form (refer notice of event appendix 1) for the 2015.
  - o At least one person on board holds a Marine Radio Operators Certificate of Proficiency,
  - o Most importantly, it is conforming to the daily sail plan as proposed by the Cruise Coordinator and agreed by the cruise members.
2. The cruise will be conducted in accordance with -
  - o The Hobsons Bay Yacht Club, Notice of Cruising Events 2015
  - o The International Regulations for preventing collisions at sea
  - o The relevant Victoria regulations
  - o The Rules and Bylaws of the Hobsons Bay Yacht Club
3. The Cruising Event will be under the overall supervision of a Cruise Coordinator who will be a suitably experienced person appointed by the Cruising group coordinator..
4. A Cruising Event will not proceed from its starting port or subsequent overnight destination port if a gale warning has been issued for the intended sailing period for those waters.

## 3. Cruise Coordinator

The main duties of the Cruise Coordinator are to:

1. Appoint and brief a deputy on another yacht to assist them and to assume the Cruise Coordinator role and responsibilities in the event that the Cruise Coordinator is incapacitated or otherwise unable to effectively perform those duties,
2. Formulate a daily sail plan for the days passage acceptable to the majority of cruise participants, in light of their knowledge of weather, tides, distances, times, ports and anchorages etc.,

3. Monitor weather forecasts and encourage other yachts to do likewise,
4. Receive participating yachts log on including number of people on board. (POB)
5. Maintain contact, preferably by radio, with participating yachts during the cruising event,
6. Formulate and advise of a fall back plan in the event that weather and sea conditions deteriorate during the days passage,
7. Where reasonably possible, and with consideration to the safety of yachts and their crews, render or arrange assistance as may be required,
8. Maintain contact with any yacht temporarily leaving the cruise to the maximum extent possible and to log yachts leaving and re-joining the cruise,

## 4. General

As well as meeting all the requirements for participation in a cruising event as defined above, individual skippers must:

1. Advise the Cruise Coordinator if their yacht is leaving the cruise, temporarily or permanently and of their intentions prior to leaving,
2. Ensure that their yacht and all equipment including hull, spars, rigging, sails and engine, are all fully sound and thoroughly seaworthy,
3. Make the final decision regarding whether or not to take their yacht to sea, or remain at sea, including regular monitoring of weather forecasts and updates.
4. Monitor VHF Channels 16 and 73 (or as specified in the appendix to these instructions) prior to sailing and until logging off on completion of the passage. It is recommended that vessels also monitor the VHF 12 (Melbourne VTS) when approaching within 1 mile of maintained depth channels.
5. Log on with the Cruise Coordinator prior to the start of a passage including number of POB and log off with the Cruise Coordinator on completion of the passage, when safely in port,
6. Be aware of the times for radio schedules and be ready to supply position reports and any other relevant information when called,
7. Monitor weather reports and forecasts when on passage,
8. Recommended to keep their mobile telephone charged, turned on and within audible range of the helm during the passage,
9. Operate their yacht with care and in a seaman like manner observing the requirements of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea,
10. Ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and in date and that all crew are aware of the location and use of safety equipment and MOB procedures,
11. Ensure that their yacht is adequately manned both for when cruising in company and if leaving the cruise temporarily or permanently,
12. Ensure all crew wear their PFDs, harnesses and tethers when conditions warrant.
13. Cooperate with the Cruise Coordinator and other skippers in deciding on daily sail plans. The option of leaving the cruise event temporarily or permanently is always available if a skipper considers the sail plan unacceptable.
14. This plan may be varied by the Cruise Coordinator in the light of special or unforeseen circumstances.
15. A cruising event will not proceed if in the opinion of the Cruise Coordinator either the weather conditions or the weather forecast are considered unfavourable.

## 5. Briefing

A weather and Navigation briefing shall be conducted at the Cruising Group meeting prior to the planned event as per the Notice of Cruising events 2015.

## 8. Indemnity

1. All those taking part in a HBYC Cruising Event do so at their own risk and responsibility.

2. Acceptance of a boat's entry shall not cause or deem HBYC to be responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment/crew.