

Pitts Design and Construction

53rd Australian Hobie Cat National Championships



at
Geographe Bay Yacht Club,
1 King Street, Busselton WA 6280
Western Australia



27 December 2025 to 5 January 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

Series One:

Registration and Welcome Function, 27 December 2025

Race days, 28 to 31 December 2025

Series Two:

Registration, 01 January 2026

Race days, 02 to 05 January 2026

Organising Authority: Geographe Bay Yacht Club

Coordinating Team: Hobie Cat Association of WA

*We kindly thank the HCAWA partners for their ongoing support of
Hobie Cat Sailing in Western Australia*

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Vaikobi
OCEAN PERFORMANCE

Hobie
SAILING

The Organising Authority for the 53rd Australian Hobie Cat National Championships is Geographe Bay Yacht Club.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2. The Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 2 for Off the Beach Boats will apply.
- 1.3. The class rules of the International Hobie Class Association (IHCA) will apply except as changed by this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4. RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.
- 1.5. RRS 40.1 (Personal Flotation Devices) applies.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available on the ANHCA Hobie Nationals website <https://hobiecat.asn.au/hobie-cat-nationals/> after 30 November 2025.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The official notice board will be located at the GBYC Clubhouse.
- 3.2. [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The event is open to all boats of the International Hobie Class Association.
- 4.2. Hobie 16 Open Series One competitors and Hobie 14 Open and Hobie 18 Open Series Two competitors that meet the prerequisites for eligibility for Masters, Grandmasters and Great Grandmasters series shall only be eligible for one of these categories and will be placed in the maximum age bracket that the skippers date of birth falls within. Overall results for these divisions will be scored as a separate series.
- 4.3. A minimum of one entry is required to form a class for the purpose of an overall champion. At the discretion of the Race Committee, classes may be combined for racing and overall results for that combined fleet may be calculated using the Australian Sailing OTB Catamaran Yardsticks.
- 4.4. The helmsperson shall be a financial member of an association affiliated with the International Hobie Class Association. All competitors are encouraged to be a financial member of an IHCA affiliated Hobie Cat Association.
- 4.5. All competitors who reside in Australia shall comply with the Australian Sailing prescription to rule 46 in the Racing Rules of Sailing by being a financial member of an Australian Sailing affiliated club and have a valid AS number or hold a valid Sail Pass. International competitors shall be a current member of a club or other organisation affiliated to a World Sailing member national authority.
- 4.6. Eligible boats may enter by completing the registration form by 2359 (AWST) on Sunday 30 November 2025. The form is available via the ANHCA Hobie Nationals website <https://hobiecat.asn.au/hobie-cat-nationals/>
- 4.7. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.

- 4.8. Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee under the following conditions: Registration and payment of all fees (NoR 5.1) by close of registration for each series.
- 4.9. At the discretion of the Race Committee, Hobie 16 Open and Hobie 14 Open classes will include weight division categories that will be open to teams that do not finish in the top three of the Open class. Competitors will be placed in order of their overall position in the open results. Combined crew weight as follows:

Class	Flyweight (kgs)	Middy (kgs)	Magnum (kgs)
Hobie 16 Open	141 and below	142-155	Above 155
Hobie 14 Open	74 and below	75-85	above 85

5. FEES

- 5.1. Entry fees including race entry, event memento, tickets for competitors to the event function are as follows:

Class	Early Entry Fee until 01 September 2025	Standard Entry Fee until 30 November 2025	Late Entry Fee for accepted entries after 30 November
Series One (Hobie 16, 2 person)	\$360	\$385	\$410
Series Two (2 person boat)	\$360	\$385	\$410
Series Two (1 person boat)	\$290	\$315	\$340

Youth teams are eligible for a discount on their race entry fee. This will be provided as a reimbursement of \$40 at the discretion of the Race Committee to teams who have selected the Youth division on their entry form.

6. ADVERTISING

- 6.1. [DP] Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.
- 6.2. [DP] The organising authority may require competitors to wear garments as permitted by the World Sailing Advertising Code.

7. SCHEDULE

7.1. Registration and briefing:

	Date	From	To	Location
Series One Registration	Saturday 27 December 2025	13:00	15:00	Clubhouse, GBYC
Series One Welcome and briefing function	Saturday 27 December 2025	17:30		Shelter Brewing Co. 11 Foreshore Pde, Busselton WA
Series Two Registration	Thursday 01 January 2026	15:00	17:00	Clubhouse, GBYC
Series Two Welcome and briefing function	Thursday 01 January 2026	17:30		Clubhouse, GBYC

7.2. Dates of racing:

Date	Series	Class
Sunday 28 December 2025	Series One	Hobie 16 (O M GM GGM)
Monday 29 December 2025	Series One	Hobie 16 (O M GM GGM)
Tuesday 30 December 2025	Series One	Hobie 16 (O M GM GGM)
Wednesday 31 December 2025	Series One	Hobie 16 (O M GM GGM)
Date	Series	Class
Friday 02 January 2026	Series Two	Hobie Tiger Hobie Wildcat Hobie 18 Hobie 17 Hobie 16 (Y W) Hobie 16 Rookie Hobie 14 (O Y W non-trap) Hobie 14 Turbo Hobie Dragoon All other IHCA Hobie Cat sailboats
Saturday 03 January 2026	Series Two	Hobie Tiger Hobie Wildcat Hobie 18 Hobie 17 Hobie 16 (Y W) Hobie 16 Rookie Hobie 14 (O Y W non-trap) Hobie 14 Turbo Hobie Dragoon All other IHCA Hobie Cat sailboats

Sunday 04 January 2026	Series Two	Hobie Tiger Hobie Wildcat Hobie 18 Hobie 17 Hobie 16 (Y W) Hobie 16 Rookie Hobie 14 (O Y W non-trap) Hobie 14 Turbo Hobie Dragoon All other IHCA Hobie Cat sailboats
Monday 05 January 2026	Series Two	Hobie Tiger Hobie Wildcat Hobie 18 Hobie 17 Hobie 16 (Y W) Hobie 16 Rookie Hobie 14 (O Y W non-trap) Hobie 14 Turbo Hobie Dragoon All other IHCA Hobie Cat sailboats

- 7.3. A maximum of 16 races may be held for each class.
- 7.4. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 10:00.
- 7.5. On the last scheduled day of racing for each series no warning signal will be made after 15:00.

8. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 8.1. A measurement certificate is not required, but it is the responsibility of competitors to ensure their boat complies with the International Hobie Class Association rules.
- 8.2. Measurement checks and inspections may be carried out at any time. A boat notified of inspection shall follow the instructions of the Race Committee.

9. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- 9.1. A competitor's clothing and equipment shall not weigh more than 10 kilograms, as permitted by RRS 50.1(b).

10. VENUE

- 10.1. The event will be held at Geographe Bay Yacht Club (GBYC), 1 King Street, Busselton Western Australia. Refer to Attachment A.
- 10.2. The racing area will be the waters off GBYC as per Attachment B. Competitors must adhere to GBYC exclusion zones and obstructions.

11. COURSES

- 11.1. The courses will be as per International Hobie Class Association standard courses and will be as described in the Sailing Instructions.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 12.1. RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

13. SCORING

- 13.1. One race is required to constitute a series.

- 13.2. Each boat's series score shall, subject to RRS 90.3 (b), be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score as follows.
- a) When three (3) or fewer than four (4) races have been scored, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - b) When four (4) to ten (10) races have been scored, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
 - c) When eleven (11) to sixteen (16) races have been scored, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two (2) worst scores.

14. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

- 14.1. Support persons shall register their attendance with the Race Committee at the registration for each series and may be required to carry identification markings on their vessel.
- 14.2. When on the water support persons shall keep 100m clear of the course area after the warning signal and until the race has finished unless they are in an official Race Committee vessel or if they have been directed to assist by the Race Committee.
- 14.3. The Race Committee may implement additional requirements and failure to abide by, may result in penalties to the associated sailing team(s).

15. BERTHING

- 15.1. [DP] Boats shall be kept in designated boat park area. Boats may be assigned a bay and must remain in their allocated bay for the duration of the event at the direction of the Organising Authority.
- 15.2. Trailers are to be stored in the designated trailer parking area at direction of the Organising Authority.

16. RISK STATEMENT

- 16.1. 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.**
- 16.2. **ELECTRICAL POWER LINES – AVOID!!!** - Before raising the mast, and always while sailing, check for and avoid low overhead electrical power lines. If you see a power line, **AVOID IT! A MAST COMING IN CONTACT OR EVEN NEAR AN ELECTRICAL POWER LINE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO PEOPLE ON OR TOUCHING THE BOAT!**

17. INSURANCE

- 17.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of AUD \$10 million per incident or the equivalent.
- 17.2. Competitors are required to produce a valid insurance certificate at registration.

18. PRIZES

- 18.1. Prizes and awards will be awarded at the discretion of the coordinating team and may include but are not limited to ANHCA perpetual trophies and trophies for the overall winner of each division and / or class.

19. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

- 19.1. In participating, a competitor automatically grants to the organising authorities, the coordinating authorities and the sponsors, the right in perpetuity, to make, use and show, from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped, or filmed television and other reproductions of him/her/them during the period of the competition in which the competitor participates and, in all material, related to the said event without compensation.

20. CANCELLATION POLICY

- 20.1. The Organising Authority may cancel the event, cancel divisions, and reject or cancel entries in its absolute discretion, subject to RRS 76.
- 20.2. Should the organising authority cancel a division or reject an entry, the entry fee shall be refunded in full.
- 20.3. Should the Organising Authority cancel the event at least 36 hours prior to the scheduled start of race one the entry fee will be refunded less any costs incurred.
- 20.4. Should the organising authority cancel the event within 36 hours of the scheduled start of race one any refunds will be at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 20.5. If an entry is cancelled by a competitor before 01 December 2025, the entry fee may be refunded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

21. AMENDMENTS

- 21.1. Any amendments to this Notice of Race will be posted online on the ANHCA Hobie Nationals website <https://hobiecat.asn.au/hobie-cat-nationals/>

22. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 22.1. For further information please contact:

Cameron Owen
President
Hobie Cat Association of Western Australia
Email: hobieclasswa@gmail.com

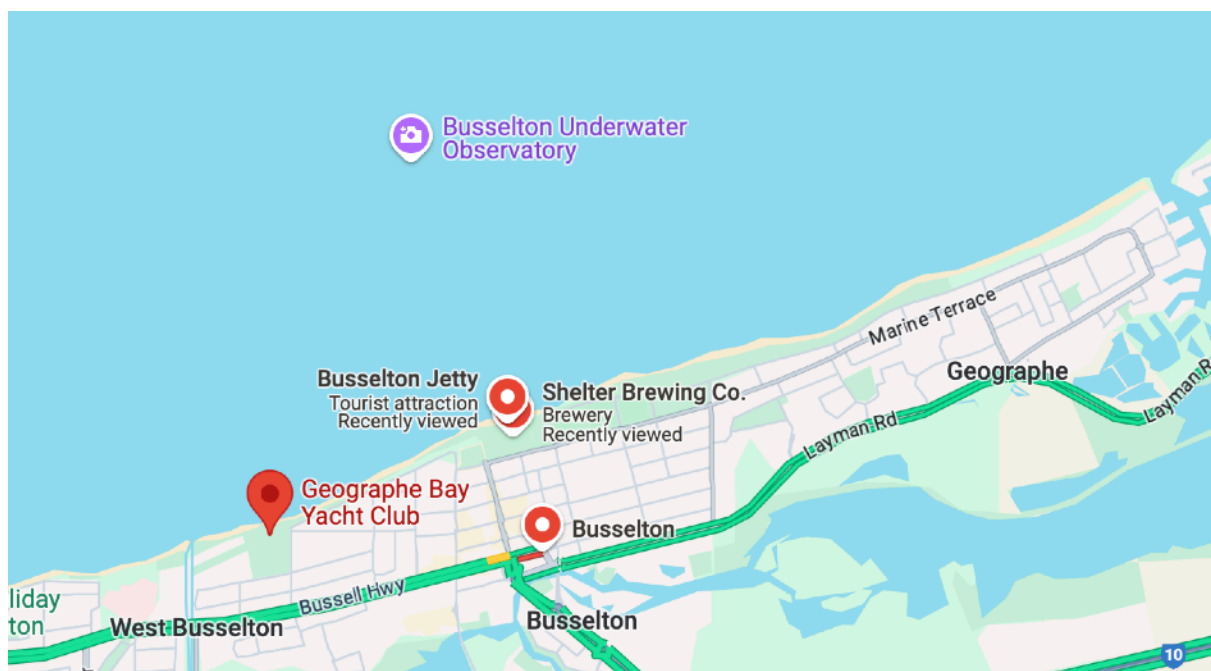
ATTACHMENT A - VENUE

Geographe Bay Yacht Club
1 King Street,
Busselton 6280
Western Australia

Phone: +61 (0) 8 9752 2522

Website: <https://www.gbyc.com.au/>

Email: admin@gbyc.com.au

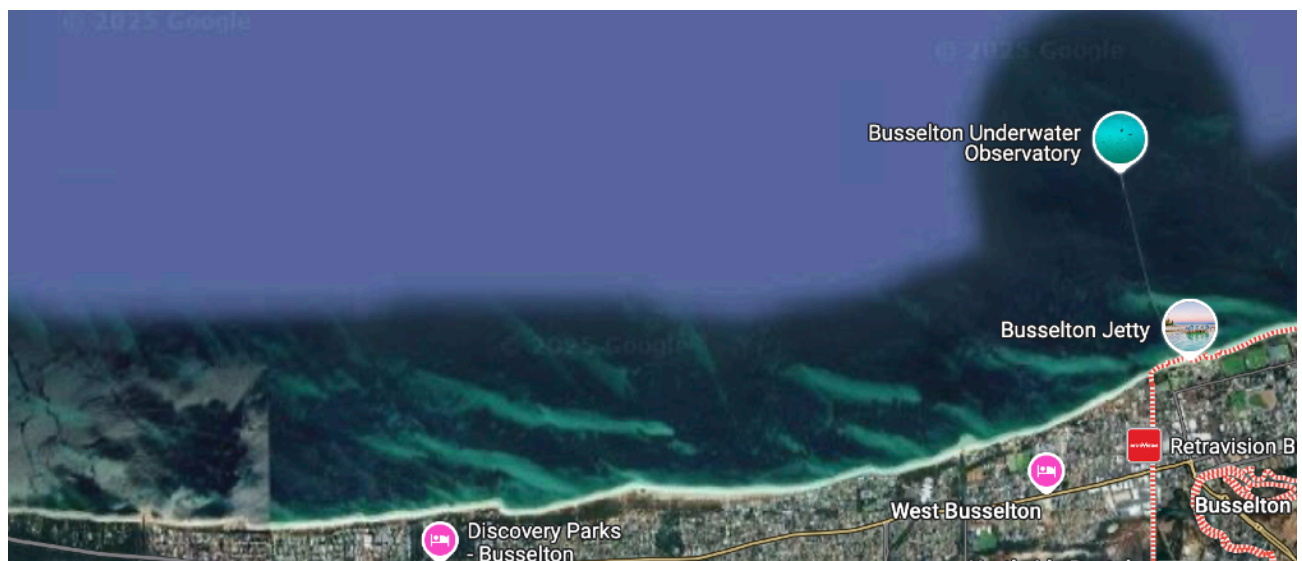


ATTACHMENT B – RACE AREA

Geographe Bay, Western Australia (South West Region)

The course area will be in the waters off GBYC and approximately to the western side of the Busselton Jetty.

The intention is that the racing will be within view of the Clubhouse and Busselton Jetty at the discretion of the Race Officer.



Busselton Jetty

