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Design and Construction



53rd Australian Hobie Cat National Championships
Geographe Bay Yacht Club • Busselton • Western Australia

COMPETITOR INFO



Geographe Bay Yacht Club,
1 King Street, Busselton WA 6280
Western Australia
27 December 2025 to 5 January 2026



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

Pitts Design and Construction

53rd Australian Hobie Cat National Championships



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REGATTA SCHEDULE

The following is the intended schedule for the event for your handy information. Registrations, briefings, social activities, race times, food and beverage. This is a guide, it is subject to change and not an official race document.

Registration:

Teams must register online prior to the deadline as stated in the Notice of Race.

Skipper and crew shall attend the registration desk in person during the following times for event weigh in, confirmation of registration and collection of event packs.

Series One:

- Saturday 27 December 2025, 13:00 to 15:00 at the GBYC clubhouse.

Series Two:

- Thursday 01 January 2026, 15:00 to 17:00 at the GBYC clubhouse.

Competitor briefing:

Series One - Welcome and briefing function:

- Saturday 27 December 2025, 17:30 at Shelter Brewing Co.
 - 11 Foreshore Parade, Busselton in the upstairs Function Room.
 - Nibbles provided, meals available to purchase.

Series Two - Welcome and briefing function:

- Thursday 01 January 2026, 17:30 at the GBYC clubhouse.
 - Briefing announcements, club bar open, no catering.

Racing:

The intention will be to have a break for lunch at around the middle of the day and continue racing in the afternoon. See Sailing Instructions for full race schedule.

Series One:

- Sunday 28 December 2025 to Wednesday 31 December 2025.
- Hobie 16 (O | M | GM | GGM)

Series Two:


- Friday 02 January 2026 to Monday 05 January 2026.
- 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


Social:

The intention is to conduct a daily presentation at approximately 60 minutes after all boats have returned to the shore after the last race of each day. Unless otherwise advised, this will be held at the Shelter Beach Bar on the lawn in front of the GBYC Clubhouse. A shore flag will be hoisted as a warning signal to alert sailors, volunteers and supporters to attend.

All participants, volunteers and supporters are encouraged to enjoy the Geographe Bay Yacht Club hospitality and socialise at the Shelter Beach Bar.

SERIES ONE	GBYC Bar and Shelter Beach Bar	GBYC kitchen	Other events
Saturday 27 Dec	Midday to late.	Kitchen open for meals purchase from 5pm.	Sailors will head to Shelter for a 5:30pm start of the welcome and race briefing function. Open event. Wrist band required for canapés service. Sailors bands in welcome pack.
Shelter	<p>Welcome and race briefing function at Shelter Brewing, 5:30pm start, upstairs in the Function Room.</p> <p>A light serving of canapés served during the welcome function.</p> <p>Open event, nibbles served to guests with wrist bands. All guests to purchase own beverages from the bar.</p> <p>Meals available to order from the menu in the Function Room.</p> <p>11 Foreshore Parade, alongside the Busselton Jetty and a 25 min stroll to the east along the beach from GBYC.</p>		
Sunday 28 Dec	Midday to late.	Kitchen open for meals purchase from midday.	Daily presentation at the Shelter Beach Bar on the lawn at GBYC. Approximately 60 mins after the last race of the day, watch for the shore flag.
Monday 29 Dec	Midday to late.	Kitchen closed.	Daily presentation at the Shelter Beach Bar on the lawn at GBYC. Approximately 60 mins after the last race of the day, watch for the shore flag. Casual dinner at Shelter. Sign up required.
Shelter	<p>Casual dinner at Shelter Brewing. Group booking of reserved tables on the verandah. Guests to purchase own food and beverage from the menu.</p> <p>Put your name down at the regatta office for a seat at the table prior to the first race of the day.</p>		

Tuesday 30 Dec	Midday to late.	Kitchen closed.	<p>Daily presentation at the Shelter Beach Bar on the lawn at GBYC.</p> <p>Approximately 60 mins after the last race of the day, watch for the shore flag.</p> <p>Casual dinner at Esplanade Hotel. Sign up required.</p>
	<p>Casual dinner at the Esplanade Hotel. Group booking of reserved tables. Guests to purchase own food and beverage from the menu. Put your name down at the regatta office for a seat at the table prior to the first race of the day.</p>		
Wednesday 31 Dec	<p>Midday to 6pm.</p> <p>The Club will close at approximately 6pm to allow for NYE party preparations.</p>	Kitchen closed.	<p>Series One presentation and NYE party at Shelter (ticketed event).</p> <p>GBYC NYE party (ticketed event).</p>
Shelter	<p>Presentation function and NYE party at Shelter Brewing, 6:30pm start, upstairs in the Function Room.</p> <p>Cocktail menu served for dinner. Tickets include food and three hour drinks package (Shelter beer (incl no-alc), local wine (prosecco, moscato, red, white, rose).</p> <p>Ticketed event. Included in welcome pack for competitors and additional tickets are available to purchase from the regatta office.</p> <p>The Hobie group has the Function Room with balcony overlooking the Busselton Foreshore booked through until closing after midnight. Stay on and celebrate the New Year with your Hobie friends!</p> <p>11 Foreshore Parade, alongside the Busselton Jetty and a 25 min stroll to the east along the beach from GBYC.</p>		
SERIES TWO			
Thursday 01 Jan	Approximately 3pm to after series two briefing concludes.	Kitchen closed.	<p>Series Two briefing at the GBYC Clubhouse, 5:30pm start.</p> <p>No catering provided.</p>
Friday 02 Jan	Midday to late.	Kitchen open for meals purchase from 5pm.	<p>Sailors will head to Shelter for an approximately 6pm start of the welcome function and daily presentation.</p> <p>Time to be announced after racing.</p> <p>Casual dinner, guests to purchase own from the menu.</p>

<h1>Shelter</h1>	<p>Series Two welcome function at Shelter Brewing, approximately 6pm start, upstairs in the Function Room.</p> <p>Meals available to order from the menu in the Function Room.</p> <p>11 Foreshore Parade, alongside the Busselton Jetty and a 25 min stroll to the east along the beach from GBYC.</p>		
<p>Saturday 03 Jan</p>	<p>Midday to late.</p>	<p>Kitchen open for meals purchase from 5pm.</p>	<p>Daily presentation at the Shelter Beach Bar on the lawn at GBYC.</p> <p>Approximately 60 mins after the last race of the day, watch for the shore flag.</p>
<p>Sunday 04 Jan</p>	<p>Midday to late.</p>	<p>Kitchen open for meals purchase from midday.</p>	<p>Daily presentation at the Shelter Beach Bar on the lawn at GBYC.</p> <p>Approximately 60 mins after the last race of the day, watch for the shore flag.</p>
<p>Monday 05 Jan</p>	<p>Midday to late.</p>	<p>Kitchen closed.</p>	<p>Series Two presentation and dinner at the GBYC Clubhouse.</p> <p>Open event. Tickets required for dinner.</p>
 <p>The logo for Geographe Bay Yacht Club, featuring a blue circle with a white sailboat in the center. The text 'GEOGRAPHE BAY YACHT CLUB' is written around the top inner edge of the circle, and 'BUSSELTON W.A.' is written around the bottom inner edge.</p>	<p>Presentation function and regatta closing party at Geographe Bay Yacht Club.</p> <p>Buffet dinner served to guests with a dinner ticket. Bar open, guests to purchase own beverage.</p> <p>Dinner tickets are included in welcome pack for competitors and additional tickets are available to purchase from the regatta office.</p>		
<p>Tuesday 06 Jan</p>	<p>Bump out day and beach clean!</p> <p>Please help us to ensure that the beach and club grounds are clean when you depart. We appreciate you picking up and rubbish and disposing of it correctly, thank you.</p>		

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 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 these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4. RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.
- 1.5. The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official noticeboard at the GBYC Clubhouse.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least one (1) hour before the scheduled racing session of the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 hours on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the GBYC flag mast.
- 4.2. When flag Answering Pennant [AP] is displayed with a Hobie class flag ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes'.
This changes race signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. Dates of racing - Series One:

Date	All Classes	First Warning Signal (not before)	Last Warning Signal (not after)
Sunday 28 December 2025	Racing	10:00 hrs	
Monday 29 December 2025	Racing	10:00 hrs	
Tuesday 30 December 2025	Racing	10:00 hrs	
Wednesday 31 December 2025	Racing	10:00 hrs	15:00 hrs

5.2. Dates of racing - Series Two:

Date	All Classes	First Warning Signal (not before)	Last Warning Signal (not after)
Friday 02 January 2026	Racing	10:00 hrs	
Saturday 03 January 2026	Racing	10:00 hrs	
Sunday 04 January 2026	Racing	10:00 hrs	
Monday 05 January 2026	Racing	10:00 hrs	15:00 hrs

5.3. A maximum of sixteen (16) races may be held for each class.

5.4. When back-to-back races are to be held, the race committee signal vessel will display AP flag. The warning signal for the next race will be made as soon as practicable after the finishing of the preceding race.

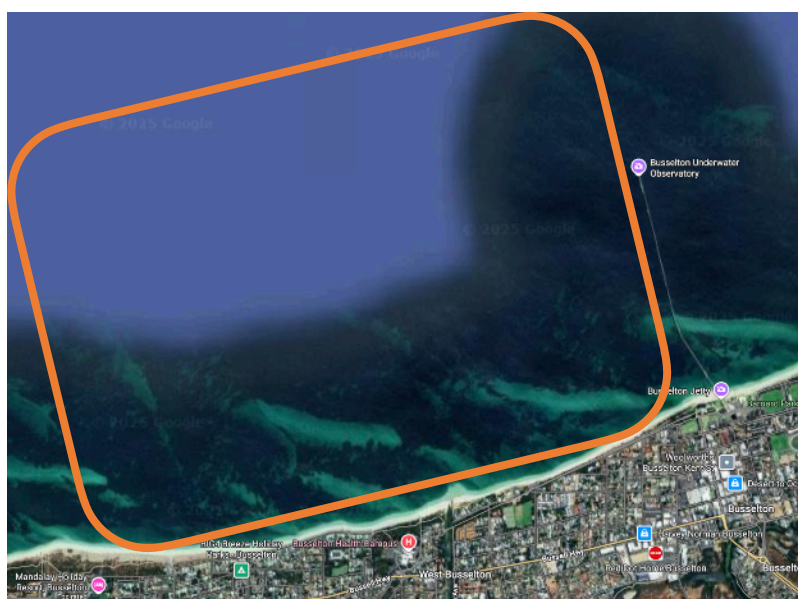
6. CLASS FLAG

6.1. The class flags are:

Hobie 16 Open	RED
Hobie 14 Open	RED
Hobie 16 Youth	YELLOW
Hobie 16 Womens	PINK
Hobie 16 Rookie	GREEN
Hobie 18 / Tiger / Wildcat	WHITE

7. RACING AREAS

7.1. The racing area will be in the waters of Geographe Bay in the vicinity of Geographe Bay Yacht Club. Approximate area:



8. THE COURSES

- 8.1. The IHCA standard courses will be used for this event. The diagrams in Attachment A show the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2. The race committee signal vessel will display course to be sailed on the course board.

9. MARKS

- 9.1. Marks A, C and G will be a pink truncated inflatable buoys.
- 9.2. Mark B, will be a red inflatable buoy.
- 9.3. Mark O will be a blue cylindrical inflatable buoy. Mark O is an offset mark located approximately 50m from Mark A and at right angles to the wind direction.
- 9.4. The starting and finishing marks will be the race committee signal vessel and a blue cylindrical inflatable buoy. Instruction 10.2 will describe the starting line and instruction 11.1 will describe the finishing line.
- 9.5. The race committee signal vessel may deploy a barging buoy.

10. THE START

- 10.1. Races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 10.2. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 10.3. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

11. THE FINISH

- 11.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee signal vessel and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 11.2. The finishing line shall rank as an obstruction unless a boat is finishing. [NP] [DP]

12. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 12.1. Time limits and target times are as follows:

Mark A Time Limit	Race Target Time	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
30 minutes	45 minutes	90 minutes	15 minutes

- 12.2. If no boat has passed Mark A within the Mark A Time Limit the race will be abandoned.
- 12.3. Failure to meet the Race Target Time will not be grounds to request redress. This changes rule 61(a).
- 12.4. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

14. HEARING REQUESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 14.1. Hearing request forms are available from the Clubhouse.
- 14.2. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the race committee within the protest time limit.
- 14.3. For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 14.4. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held at GBYC.

15. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 15.1. Check-Out (sign on) and Check-In (sign off) will apply. The sign on and sign off desk will be located at the GBYC clubhouse in the undercover area.

15.2. Check-Out

Prior to each racing session, skippers shall sign on at the sign on desk at GBYC. Failure to sign on will result in the boat concerned being scored DNF for the first race of the session without a hearing. This changes RRS A5. [NP]

15.3. Check-In

After each racing session, skippers shall sign off after returning to shore (not more than 20min). Support vessels may not be stood down until all vessels have signed out or been accounted for. Failure to sign off will result in the boat concerned being scored DNF for the last race of the session without a hearing. This changes RRS A5. [NP] [DP]

- 15.4. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity. Promptly after returning to the club, the boat shall sign a retirement form, located at the GBYC clubhouse. [NP] [DP]

16. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 16.1. Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee. [DP]
- 16.2. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity, and if granted, shall be supported by a written request at the first available opportunity. [DP]

17. ADVERTISING

- 17.1. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority. [DP]
- 17.2. Boats advertising shall conform to the World Sailing Advertising Code. [NP]

18. TRASH DISPOSAL

- 18.1. Boats shall not put trash in the water. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee vessels.

19. RACE COMMITTEE SUPPORT VESSELS

19.1. All race committee support vessels will display a green and white flag (rescue flag).

20. COMMUNICATION

20.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. [DP]

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

21.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. The organising authority, and the respective host class association(s), their officers, members, servants, and agents will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.



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