The Range Series 2026-27

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organising Authority (OA) for this event is the Host Club(s) on the following race days:

Host Club	Date
Royal Brighton Yacht Club	24 October 2026
Royal Yacht Club of Victoria	21 November 2026
Sandringham Yacht Club	6 February 2027
Port Phillip Northern Yacht Club (RMYS/RYCV/HBYC)	20 March 2027

1. RULES

1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* and the Notice of Race (NOR).

1.2. Marine VHF Radios shall be carried, which may be permanently installed or be waterproof handheld and must be capable of operating on channels 12, 15, 16, 17, 67, 69, 71, 72, 73 and 77.

1.3. RRS 52 shall not apply.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1. The Official Notice Board for the Range Series is at the following website: http://www.topyacht.com.au/notice_brd/notice_brd.php?ev=107.107.107.1.2011

2.2. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official noticeboard no later than 1600 on the day preceding the race for which they will take effect.

2.3. Notices to competitors will be broadcast on VHF Channel 77 at 1300 on the day that they take effect.

3. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

3.1. Signals made ashore at each Club will be made as follows:

Club	Signals made ashore
HBYC	Flagpole at the Northern end of the Clubhouse
RBYC	Flagpole on the beach side of the Clubhouse
RMYS	Flagpole above the Clubhouse
RYCV	Flagpole on Front Lawn
SYC	Flagpole at Ken King Centre

4. SCHEDULE

The schedule will be in accordance with the Notice of Race.

5. DIVISION FLAGS

5.1. The Division Flags will be as follows:

Division 1	Flag “W”
Division 2	Flag “E”
Division 3	Flag “T”

5.2. All competitors shall fly conspicuously from the backstay (in the absence of a backstay from the starboard shroud) an identifying flag approximately 300mm by 210mm as follows:

Division 1	Blue
Division 2	Orange
Division 3	White

6. RACING AREA

6.1. The racing area will be as per Appendix A.

6.2. The primary course area will be in the vicinity of R2 to the east of the main shipping channel.

7. COURSES

7.1. The diagrams in Appendix A show the courses.
7.2. All marks shall be rounded to port.
7.3. When a gate is laid, boats shall pass through the gate and then round either the port or starboard hand mark before commencing the next leg.
7.4. The course to be sailed will be designated by displaying an international numeral pennant corresponding to the course number.
7.5. The Race Committee Vessel may advise details of the courses to be sailed on VHF channel 77 approximately 15 minutes before the first warning signal for the race.

8. MARKS

8.1. Marks 1, 2 and Gate will be yellow inflatable buoys.
8.2. Mark 4 will be an orange inflatable mark.
8.3. For courses 1 and 2, Mark 2 will be an offset mark approximately 50 meters from Mark 1 at approximately 90 degrees from the first leg.
8.4. The Start pin mark will be an orange inflatable mark.
8.5. The Finish pin mark will be a blue inflatable mark.
8.6. A change mark will be the same colour as the mark it replaces, but with a black band.
8.7. In the event of a missing leeward gate mark, the remaining mark shall be left to port.

9. THE START

9.1. For the first race of each day, Divisions will start in the following order: 1,2,3.
9.2. The starting line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Vessel at the starboard end and the port end starting mark.
9.3. A crowding mark may be laid near the Race Committee Vessel, but not necessarily on the starting line. When laid, it shall have the same required side as the race committee boat. Boats shall not pass from the course side to the prestart side of the line between the crowding mark and the race committee boat.
9.4. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored ‘Did Not Start’ (DNS). This amends RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.
9.5. Boats that have correctly started and are racing shall not sail through the start line whilst subsequent divisions are in their start sequence.

10. CHANGE THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

10.1. A change of course after the start will be in accordance with RRS 33.
10.2. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the next mark may be relocated to maintain the original course configuration.

11. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between a mast or staff displaying a blue flag on a Race Committee Vessel and the finish mark.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

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

13. TIME LIMIT

13.1. The time limit for each Division will be two hours.
13.2. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in that division finishes or within the time limit, whichever is later, will be scored “Did Not Finish” (DNF). This changes RRS 35 and A4.

14. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

14.1. Protests shall be lodged at the host club within two (2) hours of the finishing time of the last boat of any division to finish. Protest forms may be lodged by email.

14.2. Alleged breaches of SI clause 5 or 16 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS Rule 60.1(a).

14.3. Protests will be heard at a time and place to be notified by the Host Club.

14.4. Host club contact details are as follows:

Club	Email	Phone
Royal Brighton Yacht Club	sailing@rbyc.org.au	9592 3092
Sandringham Yacht Club	James.sly@syc.com.au	0448 968 085
Royal Yacht Club of Victoria	sailing@rycv.asn.au	9397 1277
Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron	boating@rmys.com.au	9534 0227
Hobsons Bay Yacht Club	racing@hbyc.org.au	9397 6111

15. SCORING

Scoring will be in accordance with the Notice of Race.

16. SIGN ON AND SIGN OFF

16.1. A boat intending to race shall sign on by sailing on starboard tack past the stern of its Race Committee Vessel before the first warning signal for its division, hail her sail number, and receive acknowledgment from the Race Committee Vessel.

16.2. All boats shall sign on their crew through the TopYacht crew sign-on at http://tymob.net.au/mycrew.php?evid=2011 before their first warning signal of the day. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a penalty, without a hearing, with the boat's race score being increased by 5 points, but not worse than the score for DSQ, for the first race of the day. All other boats' scores will remain the same. This amends RRS 63.1 and Appendix A.

17. HANDICAPS AND RATINGS

Handicaps and ratings shall be in accordance with the Notice of Race.

18. COMMERCIAL SHIPPING

18.1. The PoMC Harbour Masters Directions require small vessels to keep clear of commercial shipping. Boats found to have contravened this rule will be subject to protest by the Race Committee.

18.2. Boats shall not sail at any time within The Transit Only Zone as defined by Safe Transport Victoria (bound by marks T1, T2, T26, PM17, PM71 and T25)

19. RISK STATEMENT

19.1. 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.

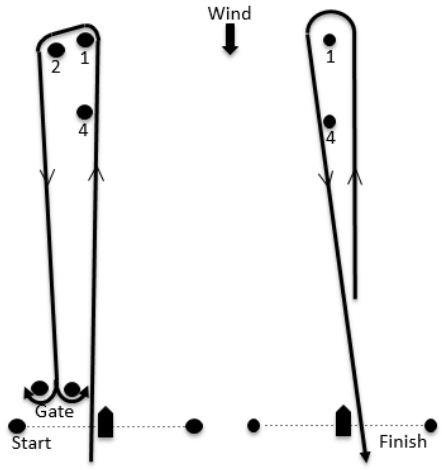
19.2. The Organising Authority, its staff, officers and volunteers accept no responsibility whatsoever for loss or damage to boats or equipment or personal injury or death associated with races conducted by it

20. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of Ten Million Dollars ($10,000,000), with racing risk extension.

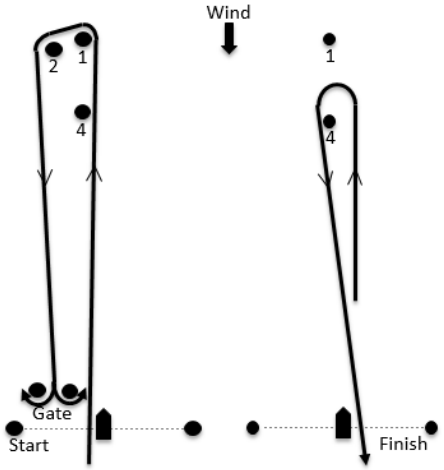
Appendix A - Courses

Course 1



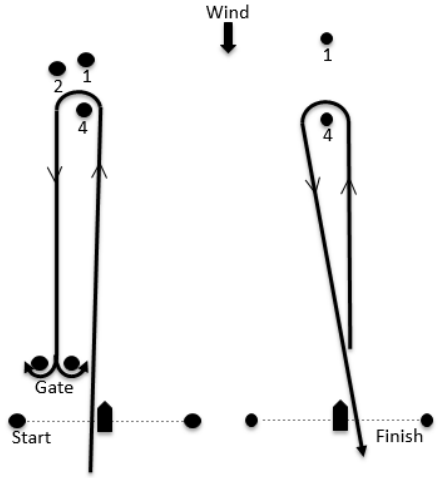
Start – 1 – 2 – Gate – 1 – Finish

Course 2



Start – 1 – 2 – Gate – 4 – Finish

Course 3



Start – 4 – Gate – 4 – Finish