



# 2026 Zhik Vic Youth Championships

11-12 April 2026



Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club, 3154 Point Nepean Rd, Sorrento VIC

## NOR Addendum 1 – Support Vessel Regulations [DP][SP]

**Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club values the contribution that support persons make; Youth Sailing would not be possible without you. These regulations are to help ensure the smooth running of the regatta, a fair event and getting everyone on the same page. We welcome the opportunity to work with you.**

### 1. GENERAL

These Support Vessel Regulations (SVR) shall apply at all times while the vessel is at the venue or engaged in the regatta.

1.1. Support Person is defined as: Any person who:

- (a) provides, or may provide, physical or advisory support to a competitor, including any coach, trainer, manager, team staff, medic, paramedic or any other person working with, treating or assisting a competitor in or preparing for the competition, or
- (b) is the parent or guardian of a competitor.

1.2. For the purposes of these regulations, a support vessel includes any vessel that a support person is on.

1.3. Local marine regulations specify the safety equipment to be carried and conditions under which life jackets are to be worn. Principally a PFD must be worn at times of heightened risk which includes being operated by the only person on board or under 4.8 meters. Vessels at the event are exempt from carrying and wearing PFD 1 lifejackets, provided all occupants are wearing a PFD1 or PFD2 at all times. More information is available at <https://safetransport.vic.gov.au/on-the-water/recreational-boating/safety-equipment/>.

1.4. The OA may inspect boats at any time to ensure that they comply with these regulations, and the person responsible for the boat shall facilitate such inspection.

1.5. An alleged breach of any of these regulations may be referred to the Protest Committee for a hearing. As a result of any hearing, they may instruct the OA to withdraw accreditation or limit access rights from the driver or person in charge, with or without the option of substitution, for a specified period.

1.6. The OA may change these regulations at any time. Any changes will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

1.7. The OA may, at its discretion, further restrict support vessels not deemed to be suitable (such as a Palm Beach 50). Generally, open vessels more than 4.0m and less than 7.5m in length and having minimal or no superstructure (cabin, coach house, bridge, etc) are considered suitable.

1.8. Unsuitable support vessels may have additional restrictions placed upon them.

1.9. Support vessels and designated drivers shall be registered at the Regatta Office either before leaving the venue by water for the first time or by 1800 on the day before the first race of the event that it is supporting, whichever is earlier.

1.9.1. Each vessel shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of AUD\$5,000,000 (or equivalent) per incident.

1.9.2. Only accredited support persons may be designated drivers.

1.9.3. The person registering the support vessel shall confirm that:

- (a) a valid insurance certificate showing proof of third-party liability coverage as required by 1.7.1 has been obtained;

- (b) each designated driver has a motorboat driving licence (or equivalent) recognised by a national authority appropriate to that vessel; and
- (c) anyone who will be using a radio has an appropriate radio operation licence recognised by a national authority.

## 2. SAILING VENUE

- 2.1. Launching is not available at the venue. Support vessels may be launched at the Sorrento Boat Ramp or arrive by water.
- 2.2. Support vessel trailers shall be stored at the competitors' accommodation. They shall not be stored in the carparks adjacent to the club or the camping grounds.
- 2.3. Rafting up on Med Moorings will be provided for Support Vessels that are RHIBS. In rare weather conditions - such as Northerly and North-westerly winds, these moorings may be unsuitable for rafting up and these support vessels may need to be moored elsewhere or retrieved overnight.
- 2.4. Moorings and berths will not be provided for other unsuitable vessels.
- 2.5. Use of the Jetty shall be restricted to pick up or drop off during times specified in a Notice to Support Persons.
- 2.6. Support vessels shall comply with the 5-knot speed limit within the mooring area at the club.

## 3. SAFETY

- 3.1. Support vessels shall carry on board:
  - 3.1.1. life jackets for all passengers and the driver;
  - 3.1.2. first-aid kit;
  - 3.1.3. working VHF radio capable of receiving the allocated VHF channels for this event;
  - 3.1.4. device for making a sound signal;
  - 3.1.5. compass;
  - 3.1.6. adequate anchor and tackle for conditions and depth;
  - 3.1.7. tow rope (minimum 15m long and 10mm thick);
  - 3.1.8. operational engine kill cord (also known as a safety lanyard or automatic engine immobiliser);
  - 3.1.9. hand pump or bailer;
  - 3.1.10. knife; and
  - 3.1.11. any additional safety equipment required by local maritime law.
  - 3.1.12. FLARES: Are not required where the vessel has a fixed VHF radio capable of transmitting at 25 watts.
- 3.2. All occupants of Support Vessels must wear Life jackets (PFDs) at all times while afloat. All drivers shall wear a kill cord at all times when the motor is in operation.
- 3.3. The maximum plated / certified passenger limits for the boat shall never be exceeded.
- 3.4. Team leaders are responsible for overseeing the safe operation of their support vessels on the water, including knowledge of who is afloat and ensuring their safe return to the venue.
- 3.5. At all times, the registered driver(s) of a support vessel shall comply with directions given by a Race Official. In particular, this includes assisting in rescue operations when instructed to do so.
- 3.6. RRS 37 - When a race committee displays code flag "V" with one sound, all boats and official and support vessels shall monitor the race committee communication channel for search and rescue instructions.

## 4. GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

- 4.1. Speed Limit of 5 knots until past the moorings.

- 4.2. The registered driver(s) of a support vessel will be responsible for the control of the vessel at all times and will be held responsible for any inappropriate behaviour, dangerous actions or improper practices, or actions affecting the fairness or safety of competition.
- 4.3. Support vessels shall not leave any device, piece of equipment, buoy, marker or similar item permanently in the water. Temporary use of floating objects is allowed for current measurement. These objects shall be removed as soon as the measurement has been taken.
- 4.4. Support vessels shall take particular care to minimise their wash when transiting the course areas. Support vessels shall not interfere with boats racing or official vessels, or create a wake that affects boats racing.
- 4.5. For foiling boards - Unless directed by the Race Committee, no support vessel shall tow a foiling board.

## 5. RACE AREA RESTRICTIONS

- 5.1. Unless giving all possible help to any person or vessel in danger, support vessels shall not be positioned:
  - 5.1.1. Closer than 50 metres of any boat racing
  - 5.1.2. Within 50 metres of the starting line its extensions and marks of the course, from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have left the starting area, or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
  - 5.1.3. Between any boat racing and the next mark of the course.
  - 5.1.4. Between the inner and outer trapezoid courses when boats are racing on both courses.
  - 5.1.5. Within 50 metres of any mark of the course while boats are in the vicinity of that mark.
  - 5.1.6. Within 50 metres of the finishing line and marks while boats are finishing.
- 5.2. In addition, support vessels that are motoring above 5 knots shall remain at least 150 metres from any boat racing.
- 5.3. Below is a diagram of race area restrictions.

### Trapezoid Course

