



54th AUSTRALIAN HOBIE CAT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The organising authority is the Vincentia Sailing Club (VSC), with coordination by the NSW Hobie Class Association (NSWHCA).

Series 1: 2nd – 5th January 2027

Hobie Waves, Hobie 16 Open, Hobie 17 & Hobie 18 Open

Series 2: 7th – 10th January 2027

Hobie 14, Hobie 14-Turbo, Hobie 16 & Hobie 18 Women/Youth
Hobie Waves, Dragoon, Tiger, Wildcat

Vincentia Sailing Club, Jervis Bay, NSW

Notice of Race (NOR)



1. RACING RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2. The prescriptions of Australian Sailing shall apply.
- 1.3. The current Class Rules of the International Hobie Class Association (IHCA) will apply.
- 1.4. Racing rule 40 will be changed as follows:
Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices whilst afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wetsuits and drysuits are not personal flotation devices. Changes RRS Rule 40.
- 1.5. IHCA Class Rule Penalty Policy shall apply.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The SIs will be available from on the Hobie Cat Nationals Website.
<https://hobiecat.asn.au/hobie-cat-nationals/>
- 2.2. No printed copies will be available at the VSC.
- 2.3. In case of any inconsistencies between the Sailing Instructions (SIs) and the NOR, the SIs overrule.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The Official Notice Board is located at the VSC clubhouse.
- 3.2. Event Notifications will be sent via the 54th Hobie Cat Nationals WhatsApp Group. Competitors will be added to the group upon submitting their entry to the regatta.

4. ADVERTISING

- 4.1. Advertising will be as defined by World Sailing Regulation 20.
- 4.2. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies.

5. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

- 5.1. The regatta is open to class legal boats of the International Hobie Class Association.
- 5.2. At least one person on each boat shall be a current member of an Association or fleet which is a financial member with the IHCA.
- 5.3. All competitors shall be members of a sailing club affiliated with Australian Sailing or a National Authority.
- 5.4. A minimum of 5 entries is required to form a class. If sufficient entries for a class are not received by 1st December 2026, the Organising Authority reserves the right to cancel racing for that class. Entrants in that class will be contacted by the organisers if this occurs.
- 5.5. Entry shall be made online at <https://hobiecat.asn.au/hobie-cat-nationals/>

6. FEES

Class	Enter Before 1st July 2026	Enter Before 1st October 2026	Enter Before 1st December 2026
Single-Handed Youth	\$235	\$285	\$385
Single-Handed Adult	\$275	\$325	\$425
Double-Handed Youth	\$260	\$310	\$410
Double-Handed Adult	\$300	\$350	\$450

Note: Presentation dinner is not included within the entry fee.

7. SCHEDULE

7.1. Regatta Calendar

DAY	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
Thursday	31st December '26	VSC's News Year's Eve Round the Bay Rally	VSC	TBC
Friday	1st January '27	Registration - Series 1	VSC	1500 - 1700 hrs
		Briefing - Series 1	VSC	1800 hrs
Saturday	2nd January '27	Racing	VSC	1100 hrs
Sunday	3rd January '27	Racing	VSC	1100 hrs
Monday	4th January '27	Racing	VSC	1100 hrs
Tuesday	5th January '27	Racing	VSC	1100 hrs
		Presentation	TBA	TBA
Wednesday	6th January '27	Registration - Series 2	VSC	1500 - 1700 hrs
		Briefing - Series 2	VSC	1800 hrs
Thursday	7th January '27	Racing	VSC	1100 hrs
Friday	8th January '27	Racing	VSC	1100 hrs
Saturday	9th January '27	Racing	VSC	1100 hrs
Sunday	10th January '27	Racing	VSC	1100 hrs
		Presentation	TBA	TBA

7.2. Races

Classes	No. of Races (Total)	No. of Races (per session)
All Classes	Up to 16	Up to 4

8. MEASUREMENT

- 8.1. Each boat shall comply with the International Hobie Class Rules and may be subject to inspection at any time during the regatta.
- 8.2. A boat shall comply with RRS 78.1 at all times during the regatta.

9. VENUE

Attachment A shows the venue and location of the racing area.

10. THE COURSES

The course(s) to be sailed will be as described in the Sailing Instructions.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

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

12. SCORING

- 12.1. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 12.2. When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 12.3. When from then 4 to 9 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.
- 12.4. When 10 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her two worst scores.
- 12.5. A cumulative point scoring system will be utilised for the *Hobie Waves*. Overall results will be determined after two rounds of racing during Series One & Two. A competitor(s) who races in both rounds will utilise their highest round score as their final ranking.

13. SAFETY

- 13.1. All competitors shall wear personal flotation devices whilst afloat which are in good condition and are in accordance with the specifications issued or approved by a National Authority or a Standards Organisation, or Certification Authority. Attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 1.2.

- 13.2. Sailors are strongly recommended to use trapeze harnesses with a quick release hookless system or a quick release hook, which meets the ISO 10862 standard.
- 13.3. HELMETS - If sailors wish to wear head protection, it is strongly recommended they use helmets of European standard EN1385.

14. SUPPORT BOATS

Team managers, coaches and other support personnel shall keep 100m clear of the course area after the warning signal, except in boats provided by the Organising Authority or when asked to assist by the Race Committee.

15. RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

16. BOAT STORAGE

Boats and trailers shall be kept in the areas assigned by the Organising Authority while off the water.

17. TROPHIES & PRIZES

These will be awarded to the following classes, depending on the number of entrants:

17.1. Series One

- Hobie 16 Open
 - Hobie 16 Masters, G Masters, GG Masters
- Hobie 17
- Hobie 18 Open
 - Hobie 18 Masters, G Masters, GG Masters
- Wave

17.2. Series Two

- Hobie 14 Open
 - Hobie 14 Women & Youth
 - Masters, G Masters, GG Masters
 - Weight Divisions
 - Vintage Vessels
- Hobie 14-Turbo
- Hobie 16 Women & Youth
- Hobie 18 Women & Youth
- Tiger & Wildcat
- Dragoon
- Wave

- 17.3. Series One & Two
- Hobie Family's Sportsmanship Award
 - Best Performed Family Team
 - Best Performed Rookie (First Time Competitor)
 - Bottoms Up Award
 - Race Officer's Award
- 17.4. All prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

18. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

In participating in an event, a competitor automatically grants the Organising Authority, the class and the sponsors of the event, 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 film television and other reproductions of him/her during the period of the competition for the said event in which the competitor participates and in all material related to the said event without compensation.

19. RISK STATEMENT

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk and they are reminded of the provisions of RRS 4, Decision to Race. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- 19.1. they are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and the boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- 19.2. they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- 19.3. they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- 19.4. by participating in any race, they are satisfied that their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- 19.5. the provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities; f) the provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- 19.6. These terms do not operate to exclude any provision of the Australian Consumer Law that applies and cannot be excluded by agreement.

20. INSURANCE

- 20.1. Each participating boat shall present a valid insurance certificate showing proof of third-party liability coverage of at least AUD \$10,000,000 per incident (or equivalent).

20.2. Competitors will be required to supply insurance details as part of the online entry.

21. CANCELLATION POLICY

21.1. The Organising Authority may cancel the event, cancel divisions, and reject or cancel entries in its absolute discretion, subject to RRS 76.

21.2. Should the organising authority cancel a division or reject an entry, the entry fee shall be refunded in full.

21.3. 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.

21.4. 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.

21.5. 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.

22. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the organisers directly via email:

info@nsw.hobiecat.asn.au

23. IHCA SAFETY NOTES TO THE SAILORS:

GENERAL: If wind, wave, or water conditions make you doubtful of your ability to handle the conditions, retire from the race.

24. 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!

25. ACCOMMODATION

Camping and holiday rental accommodation is available within walking distance to the venue, and hotels a short drive away. The Vincentia / Jervis Bay Area is one of the most popular holiday destinations in NSW, and competitors are advised to book accommodation as a matter of urgency. Please view all accommodation options via the Hobie Nationals Webpage: <https://hobiecat.asn.au/hobie-cat-nationals/>

26. NOTICE OF AGM

26.1. The Annual General Meeting of the Australian National Hobie Cat Association will be held at 1200hrs on the 1st of January 2027, at the Vincentia Sailing Club.

26.2. Date & Location are subject to change, and may be shifted in accordance with weather patterns and on-shore activities.

ATTACHMENT A

