

Top Of The Bay Interclub Challenge 2026

Saturday 14th February 2026

**at
Altona Yacht Club**



NOTICE OF RACE

INVITATION

The Altona Yacht Club Incorporated (AYC) as the Organising Authority in conjunction with
Albert Park Yacht Club
Albert Sailing Club
Elwood Sailing Club
Port Melbourne Yacht Club
Williamstown Sailing Club
Hobsons Bay Yacht Club
Royal Yacht Club of Victoria and
Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron

invites entries to the Top of The Bay Interclub Challenge to be conducted on the waters of Port Phillip on Saturday 14th February 2026.

1. RULES

1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and Australian Sailing Special Regulations

2. ADVERTISING

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 The Regatta is open to all classes with an official 2025/26 AS Yardstick or converted CBH that are on the register of one of the Participating Clubs.

3.2 Each competitor shall be a member of a participating club and hold an Australian Sailing Number.

3.3 No entry fees apply for boats from the Participating Clubs.

3.4 Entries close 1100 hrs Saturday 14th February 2026. Late entries may be accepted at the sole discretion of the Race Committee.

3.5 Eligible boats (i.e., those meeting the requirements of 3.1 and 3.2 above) must enter via the online registration system at <https://www.altonayachtclub.org.au> or via paper form and lodging it with any Participating Club or via email to sailingsecretary@altonayachtclub.org.au.

3.6 Participating Clubs will email the AYC race office sailingsecretary@altonayachtclub.org.au details of their respective entries, namely club, sail number, boat name, class, division and skipper name by 1:00pm on the race day.

3.7 Non eligible boats may be permitted to race upon successful completion of SailPass and payment of a race fee of \$15.00. They will be recognised as an entrant but will not be included in any Participating Club's team score.

4. DIVISIONS

Racing will be in separate divisions based on AS Yardstick.

5. SCHEDULE

Saturday 14th February 2024. First Warning Signal will be no earlier than 1357 hours.

The intention is that subsequent divisions will follow at 3 minute intervals but signals from the official start boat will prevail

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available by 10th February 2026 on the AYC website or from the AYC race office on the race day.

7. VENUE

7.1 Racing will be conducted on the waters of Port Phillip.

7.2 The Venue will be the Altona Yacht Club.

8. THE COURSE

The course to be sailed will be multiple roundings of a common triangular course. The course details will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

9. PENALTY SYSTEM

For the Multi-Hull classes only, rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

10. SCORING

10.1 Each boat's elapsed time will be corrected by the AS Yardstick or converted CBH to give its corrected time.

10.2 Each boat's corrected time will be reduced to one standard triangle giving its Average Corrected Time (ACT) per triangle.

10.3 A Multihull Correction Factor (MCF) will be arrived at by dividing the sum of the 6 lowest ACTs for monohulls by the sum of the 6 lowest ACTs for multihulls.

10.4 The ACT for each multihull will then be corrected by multiplying it by the calculated MCF.

10.5 A boat that has submitted an entry for the race, but does not start (DNS) will not be counted as an entrant when determining its Club's score.

10.6 A boat which starts, but does not finish (DNF) or a boat which finishes but retired after finishing, will be allocated an ACT equal to the highest ACT of any boat classed as a finisher, and will be counted as an entrant when determining its Club's score.

10.7 Any boat which is disqualified will be allocated an ACT ten percent greater than that of the highest ACT of any boat classed as a finisher, and will be counted as an entrant when determining its Club's score. A boat disqualified under rule 2, Fair Sailing, rule 3, Acceptance Of The Rules, and rule 42, Propulsion, shall have its result counted as part of its Club's score under 10.8 and 10.9.

10.8 The results to be counted in each Club's score will comprise 10 results, rounded upwards to the next whole number. A minimum of 10 results are necessary to be eligible for the trophy.

10.9 Each Club's score will be calculated as the average of the lowest corrected ACT's for those results to be counted.

11. PRIZES

The event is an annual challenge between clubs at the top of Port Phillip and is held in accordance with the Trust Deed. A trophy will be presented to the winning club team after completion of the event, to be held by that Club until the next challenge.

12. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

12.1 All those taking part in races conducted by the Host Club do so at their own risk and responsibility.

12.2 The Host Club is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment.

12.3 The Host Club is not responsible for any damage or injury, either ashore or at sea, to persons or boats which might result from participating in races conducted by the AYC.

12.4 Competitor attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4 – Acceptance of the Rules.

12.5 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Fundamental Rule 3, Decision to Race. The organising authority 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.

13. RISK STATEMENT

Fundamental Rule 3 - Decision to Race:

"The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is theirs 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.

13. INSURANCE

All competing boats shall carry as a minimum, valid Third-Party Liability insurance with racing risk, to the minimum value of \$10,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

14. REGATTA OFFICE

The regatta office will be situated at the:

Altona Yacht Club, 10 Beach St, Seaholme VIC 3018

15. FURTHER INFORMATION

The canteen/bar will be open for lunch at AYC.

AYC intends to hold a Social Function for participants and their families following racing. Please RSVP your attendance by email so we can organise catering. Costs to be advised.

Altona Yacht Club

Email: secretary@altonayachtclub.org.au

Location: The Esplanade Altona 3018

Contact: Adrian Hubbard
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Mobile: 0400 678 362
Email: sailingsecretary@altonayachtclub.org.au