



WELCOME

Members Information Booklet

Hobsons Bay Yacht Club Inc.

Est 1888

HOBSONS BAY YACHT CLUB

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HOBSONS BAY YACHT CLUB

Information booklet for members

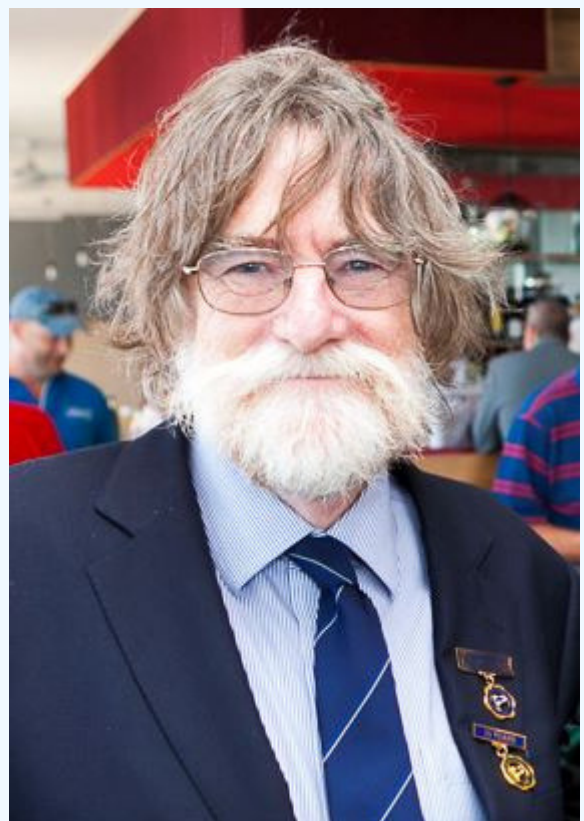
Welcome to Hobsons Bay Yacht Club.

It is with great pride I introduce you to our club. HBYC has had a fascinating past and is excited about the future of sailing at HBYC. The club provides facilities for yacht racing, cruising and general activities on the water as well as many social activities on-shore.

"Hobbo's " caters to an important niche in the sailing community on the Bay and has always been regarded as a family friendly and volunteering oriented culture that is a fun place to be a part of. This handbook will introduce you to some of these activities and provide guidelines to your responsibilities as a new member.

I wish you safe and happy sailing!

Tony Dawson
Commodore
Hobsons Bay Yacht Club





Contact Details

Address:

270 Nelson Place
Williamstown
Victoria 3016

Office Contacts:

Phone: 9397 6111
Email: info@hybc.org.au
Elizabeth De Bono - Club Manager
Office Hours: 10am - 4pm Mon - Fri
10am - 2pm Sat (during racing season)



Yard Manager:

John Erickson
8am - 4pm Mon - Fri
Phone: 0415 883 907

Racing Administrator:

Ian Robertson
9am - 12pm
Mon, Wed & Fri



E-News & Social Media

As a member we will email you our weekly E-news directly to your inbox...for any submissions please email info@hbyc.org.au

You can also subscribe to our newsletter via our webpage:

<http://hbyc.org.au/news/hbyc-news.html>

To connect with us via facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HobsonsBayYachtClub>

To connect with us via Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/hobsonsbayyachtclub/>



Brief History of the Club

In 1888, a lease was granted to Hobsons Bay Yacht Club for a section of land. The founding Commodore was Henry Press, a Port Phillip Sea Pilot, membership was restricted to “amateurs”. Fishermen or watermen were not eligible. Five Parliamentarians and the Mayor of Williamstown were among the founding members.

In 1889, the first clubhouse was built on piles over the water, costing approximately £300 (pounds).

Racing was and continues to be a major focus of the club. An excerpt from the General Committee minutes (circa 1889) attesting to the members enthusiasm in racing,

“The question of getting a steamer to follow the race was discussed and it was unanimously decided that Capt. Thrussell get the Pilot or some other he could if it could be arranged”. And “It was also decided to supply the local papers with the names of the boats entered and the numbers of the respective buoys.”

Over many years, additional leases were granted to Hobsons Bay Yacht Club for areas of the foreshore that were tidal rock and mud. Members filled the land in stages, to provide the area on which the hardstand and crane, slipway and lockers now stands.

In 1951, the clubhouse was totally destroyed by a fire, along with most of the records and history. In 1952, construction began on the now existing clubhouse and it was officially opened in 1957.

In 1960's the current slipway was laid, piles driven south of Ferguson Street jetty for club moorings and the purchase of a club junior dinghy fleet.



History continued...

In 1970, the clubhouse underwent renovations, adding an upper level along with improvements to the lower areas, heating and bar facilities.

In 1980, the northern marina was completed with 60 new berths.

In 1984, the crane was installed and the concreted hardstand upgraded to allow for the housing of 25 to 30 boats.

In 2003, The original Ferguson Street Pier was demolished, re-designed and rebuilt, allowing full public access as well as safe access to boats for members.

Over the ensuing years, a number of smaller projects and upgrades to the yard and clubhouse like a new kitchen, access and facilities for those with disabilities, a hall makeover, stereo system, big screen, installing new decking on the northern arm, extended the Junior Fleet shed, replaced the club house roof, the new front fence and lawn is now being enjoyed by all.

In 2015, HBYC Clubhouse was renovated once again, introducing a larger balcony, better training & function facilities and a new Members bar upstairs.





Opening Day

(Opening of the sailing season)

The social calendar starts with the sailing season's Official Opening Day to mark the start of the new season each October.

Opening day is a pretty special event. Simply relaxing and enjoying a drink as the yachts sail past makes for a memorable occasion. Opening Day involves a mix of maritime tradition and socialising;

- The day starts with the Junior Fleet Sail Past - an organised sail past the Commodore and the crew of each boat gives 3 cheers to the Commodore and he in turn cheers the crew.
- Followed by an official opening address by the Flag Officers,
- Then the official sail past for the keelboats, in sail number order they sail past the Commodore & other distinguished guests on the 'Committee Boat'. As each boat passes in order the Skipper rouses the crew to give 3 cheers to the Commodore and he in turn cheers the boat by name.
- Once the boats have sailed past it is tradition to have a water fight between those in the fleet.
- Then the Commodore, Flag Officers, Committee Members, distinguished guests, skippers and their crews all come back and join the others at the clubhouse for a party afternoon.

Opening Day is a great way to enjoy camaraderies between boat crews and signals the official start of the season's on-water rivalries for the year.



HBYC members and yachts are encouraged to take part and to decorate their yachts with flags and bunting to add to the festivities.



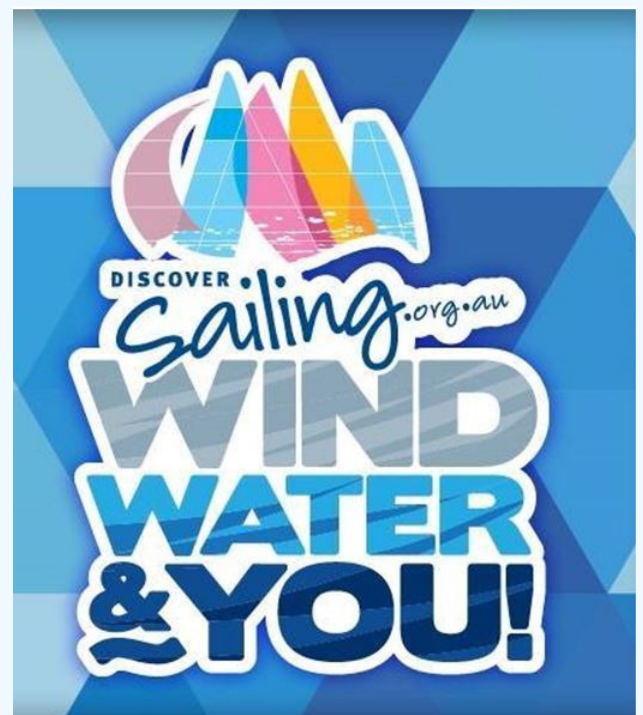


HBYC Discover Sailing Days

HBYC holds an open day each year when members of the public are encouraged to come and try sailing, be it in one of the dinghy fleet or on one of the larger keelboats.

This Day is in early November and is called 'Discover Sailing Day' and is run in conjunction with Sailing Australia - Victoria, as a state wide initiative.

The club relies on members to volunteer their time and boats and it is a fun day which gets the public involved at the club and a great opportunity to introduce more people to the sport.





Club facilities

ACCESS FOB

New members can be issued with an Access Fob. This fob not only gives you access to various parts of the club (depending upon your membership level) but gives you the ability to add additional funds to it for purchases around the club, i.e. over the bar or club merchandise.

All members' fobs will provide access to the front and back doors of the clubhouse. If you are a sailing member, you will also have access to the pedestrian gates, from Nelson place near the edge of the building, next to the car access gate and into the yard from the Ferguson Street Pier, access to the Northern Marina arm gate and the ice machine. Only Senior Members have car park access.

Late payment or non-payment of fees may result in your access to the club being denied.

BAR

The bar is normally open Friday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays, opening times are varied according to the times of the year, check the website or the bar for current operating times. During summer the bar opens for Twilight racing on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.





Club facilities continued...

CAR PARK

Car parking is only available to Senior members and is very limited, as a Senior member you will be issued with a parking pass to place on your dashboard. Failure to display may result in the Management requesting that you remove your car.

The car park must not be used for long-term parking, please consider car-pooling. Or if you are doing a long distance race or cruise, please arrange for your car to be collected by someone else. If this is not possible, please contact the Office to request long term parking or fines maybe incurred.

BBQ

The BBQ is available for use by all members, at most times (except Wednesday nights during the twilight series).

It is currently located under the Balcony in BBQ Courtyard, utensils etc. can be found in the kitchen. Please respect other members by ensuring the area is cleaned after use.

FOOD @ HBYC

The kitchen may be used by all Members and it is those Members' responsibility to clean any items used and the kitchen after use.

Volunteers may also offer a range of snack foods, breakfasts and other more substantial meals before and after races.



ICE

Ice is available from the ice fridge located at the end of the car park just outside the Yard Managers office, access is via your club access fob.

Payment is via the bar or an honour system located on the inside of the door.



Club facilities continued...

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Club organises and runs a number of social events through the year. These vary from the more formal Presentation Night through to Bands, Trivia, Public Holiday parties, i.e. Cup Day, Grand Final Day, Ocean Racers' Celebrations, After Race Parties and Wednesday night after twilight racing BBQ.

For more information on current, as well up and coming events check out the notice boards all around the club, on our Facebook site, weekly e-news, website calendar or the News section on our website.

We are in the early stages of forming social club committee and if you are interested please email: functions@hbyc.org.au



TOILETS AND SHOWERS

The toilets and showers are located on the ground floor of the clubhouse. The all access toilet and shower is located at the front of the building next to the office. The baby change facilities are also based here.

Mens & Ladies toilets, showers and change rooms are located at the back of the building.

Note: For washing hands and cleaning up after working in the yard, please use the sink facilities in the Yard.



Club facilities continued...

USE OF CLUB HOUSE FOR FUNCTIONS

The Club house is available for use for functions, provided a member is attending and that the Club house is cleaned and returned to its normal table and seating arrangement.

A bond will be required. Monies will be taken from the bond money to pay for damages, clean up costs and the cost of returning the clubhouse to its original seating configuration.

Bar staff, caterers and other services are all at the hirer's expense, please note all alcohol must be purchased through the club bar, alcohol is not allowed to be brought onto the club grounds.

As HBYC is a Members Club, you would already be aware that our members have 24 hour access to the club for their use, however as a member you need to respect those having events and avoid disruptions if possible.

For more information contact functions@hbyc.org.au



WEBSITE

The website has a members facility, which currently consists of:

- Members News – Currently contains the By-Laws, HBYC Policies & Constitution
- My Details – The details you have on file at HBYC. You can change your password here and also send an email to update any of your details.
- My Account – Instantly lets you know your outstanding amounts via monthly statements. Your membership number is your User Name & passwords have been issued. If you are not sure of either, please contact the Office.



Yachting facilities

MARINA BERTHS

Marina Berths (Pens) are only granted to yachts that are on the Club register. If you are on the waiting list, occasionally there are some casual marina pens, availability of this option can be discussed with the Club Manager.

Applications for pens are available on the website, these are also available at the office. When returned the request will be placed on a waiting list for allocation. A sub-committee consisting of the Vice-Commodore, Club Manager and Yard Manager make decisions on pen allocations as each pen and boat is different.

Pens will NOT be allocated on a first come/first served basis, but rather on the assessment of the participation of the member in club activities, and the frequency that the yacht is used. Pens will not be used for storage of yachts; there are club swing moorings available for this.

The right to the use of a marina pen is reviewed half each year, where you may be required to justify the ongoing occupation of that berth (participation point system - pen points), inactivity may lead to removal from a pen.





Yachting facilities continued...

HARDSTAND

Hardstand cradles are available for the smaller yachts, as with marina pens they are only available to yachts on the club register and are subject to the conditions outlined above for marina pens.

Operation of the slewing crane is limited only to members who have been recorded as being instructed in the correct operating procedures by the Yard Manager.

The lifting attachment in your boat is your responsibility. The Club is not liable for any damaged incurred whilst you are operating the crane.

Applications for hardstands are available on the website, and also available at the office.

The right to the use of the hardstand is reviewed half each year, where you may be required to justify the ongoing occupation of that cradle (participation point system), inactivity may lead to removal from a cradle.

Please ensure no flammable goods are stored on your boat on the Hardstand.



LOCKERS

Lockers are available for lease, but there are limited numbers. These are only available to members who have registered yachts.

Applications may be made through the office.

Please ensure no flammable goods are stored in your Locker.



Yachting facilities continued...

DINGHIES/TENDERS

The dinghy/tender racks are available only to members who have boats on swing moorings.

The right to the use of a dinghy rack is reviewed each year, where you may be required to justify the ongoing occupation of that rack (participation point system), inactivity may lead to removal from the rack.

Applications are available from the Club office.



SLIPPING

Yachts that are on the Club's register may request slipping or a "slip and scrub" at the club nominal rate for such activities. The club does not offer any other shipwright facilities; these will need to be organised by the member on a private basis.

Non-Club registered vessels can only be slipped if the vessel is before the club for classification and requires minor repairs or modifications to meet the standards set down for acceptance onto the Yacht Register, and providing they meet size and weight criteria laid down by the club by-laws.

Until acceptance on the club Yacht Register they will be charged on a "casual" basis and a time limit will be set for completion of repairs etc.

A mast crane is available for members to use to assist in the removal of their masts or engines up to a maximum of 250kg.

Some yachts may have special requirements for slings during slipping and these are the owner's responsibility to not only supply, but also to ensure that they are in good condition, have been tested by an approved test authority and are in date.

Slipping request forms are available at the front of the Race Office or from the web site, it should be noted that boats that are actively used will receive preference to those that are not.

Yachts that are on the Club's register may request slipping at the club nominal rate.

HBYC also caters for yachts that are not on our register at casual rates.

Slipping request forms are available at the front of the Race Office or from the web site, it should be noted that boats that are actively used will receive priority.

Please ensure no flammable goods are stored on your boat in the yard.



Racing

Hobsons Bay Yacht Club has a long and proud tradition of competing in racing events, including Club, Inter-club, Passage and Ocean racing.

DIVISIONS...

PHS RACE DIVISION

The Performance Handicap System (PHS) racing is based on a “time correction factor” system. The handicap assigned to a yacht varies based on the average of it’s race results, i.e. it’s performance in relation to other boats.

This guarantees boats and crews of all types, ages and competency can compete on an equal basis. Just because you might think your boat is too old or slow, you still have an equal chance to win.

AMS RACE DIVISION

The AMS, (Australian Measurement System), is also a “time correction factor” system, but the factor has been calculated from a formula derived from the boats measurements and does not alter unless the boat’s specifications change.

IRC RACE DIVISION

The IRC, (International Racing Club), is another form of handicapping system, and as for AMS above the factor is derived from the boat measurements and does not alter unless the boat’s specifications change.

INSURANCE WITH AUSTRALIAN SAILING - YOUR INSURANCE ON THE WATER

When racing on a HBYC boat, you (your family, friends or other visitors) must either be a HBYC member or purchase a Day Pass from our Office. A \$15 Day Pass will register you with Australian Sailing as a Day visitor to HBYC and ensure that you have Yachting Australia on water insurance while racing.





Racing continued...

SERIES...

Hobsons Bay Yacht Club conducts a varied series of races:

HOT PURSUITS

Run on alternate Sunday afternoons during summer, the yachts start with the slower boats first and the faster boats last, with the aim that all boats finish close together. Traditionally boats start in groups of no more than two or three, thus eliminating crowding at the start of big fleets and the confusion of multiple boats rounding the race markers at the same time.

This is a good series to enter if your knowledge or experience of racing is limited and the races are orientated more to the notion of enjoyment and competing.

CLUB AGGREGATE

This is the premier series for the club, and racing is both intense and competitive. The Saturday Aggregate normally consists of a series of races including some "laid" courses, "Club" courses, "Range" races, short course and passage races.

The Aggregate is run using both the PHD and AMS handicaps, with the winners being named as Club Champion.

TWO HANDED

The series is run with yachts only being allowed two people on board. The course is set over an 18nm course; generally this event is run once a month during the season.

TWILIGHTS

The twilight races are held on Wednesday and Thursday evenings during daylight savings time. The series is split into two, with the first series finishing prior to Christmas and the second one commencing early in the New Year.

Wednesday night races are combined with the Royals (RYCV) so it is highly competitive and there are about 100 boats starting. If you are into more relaxed racing, then Thursday night is for you as it is a Hot Pursuit type start (staggered) and is run by HBYC only.

These evenings are very much a social event where many non-members can come and try sailing. After each race a BBQ and other social activities are conducted at the clubhouse all participants are encouraged to attend.



Racing continued...

BRASS MONKEYS SERIES

Run on Saturday afternoons, during the winter is the Brass Monkeys (Pursuit Race) Series. This is a great series to enter if your knowledge or experience of racing is limited and the races are orientated more to the notion of enjoyment and competing.

PASSAGE

The club runs a number of long distance events consisting of passage races to places such as Portarlington, St Leonard's and the Port Phillip Sea Pilots race a premier race held by the Club.

For the 2017-18 season, the kindred clubs (HBYC, RYCV, RMYS, SYC & RBYC) have got together to create a Passage series, made up of a race from each.

WOMEN'S RACING

The Lady Skippers race has been a long standing race on the HBYC calendar. In recent years the HBYC Lady Skippers Race has become a part of the Port Phillip Women's Championship Series (PPWCS), a new series for female sailors that combines five races run by different clubs into one annual championship trophy.

The Port Phillip Women's Passage Series (PPWPS) is a return passage series combined with the Kindred Clubs Passage Series, where the Skipper & Navigator must be female.





HBYC Cruising group

TALKS

The cruising group meets at the Club house on Friday Nights, once a month. The meetings are informal and usually include a speaker from within the Club or outside. The bar is open, food maybe on offer depending on the theme of the night and we usually finish with tea, coffee and biscuits and of course, lots of chatting.

Our topics are sometimes anecdotal and sometimes instructional. In recent times some of our members have given us presentations on their cruises around Tasmania, the Pacific Ocean, the Kimberley Coast and in the Whitsundays and even round the world, not just showing us the wonderful sights, but also sharing with us relevant facts about anchorages, fuel and power usage, communications and fishing, and giving advice about "next time".

Everyone is welcome to attend, contribute and share an experience. Notice of the next meeting's topic is published in the website calendar, E-news and Facebook.



CRUISING

For cruising events organised by HBYC's Sailing Committee or Cruising Group (listed in the HBYC Calendar), a Cruise Coordinator will be appointed and the cruise will be conducted under a set of documents including a Notice of Cruise and Cruising Event Instructions. Examples are provided on our website. These documents will be updated and amended to reflect the organisation, destination and safety requirements for each event.

HBYC encourages all of our cruising boats to get involved with the Passage racing as they are always to great destinations like Mornington, Port Arlington and St Leonards, with most of the fleet staying the night. These are fantastic opportunities to get to know other members in a socially. With the introduction of the kindred clubs passage series, it will be even more fun!



Race / Cruise entry

RACE / CRUISE ENTRY

Race/Cruise Entry, Forms etc

All HBYC Races and Cruises have free entry.

Race/Cruise entries, instructions and Notice of Race/Cruise are available from the Race Office and on the web site.

ENTERING

Race entry forms are submitted via our website. Prior to racing/cruising an entry form must be lodged. Early lodgment is preferable, as the handicapper has to calculate an appropriate handicap for all race boats.

The Notice of Races are issued at the beginning of the season with entry forms, costs etc attached, but may be obtained during the year from the web site.

Also prior to racing a "Safety Declaration" must be lodged, these forms are available from the Race office or on the web site. "Crew Declarations" must also be filled out for all races that require them, some other races such as the long distance races may also require "Next of Kin Declarations" to be lodged before the race. This information is contained in the Notice of Race or you may ask a member of the Sailing Committee to assist.





Race / Cruise entry continued...

Sailing Instruction booklets contain course layouts, course numbers, starting instructions and other relevant information are available from the Race office or web page. The Sailing Instruction booklet also contains an "Emergency Rescue" plan for implementation during an emergency, we advise you to read it and become fully conversant with it.

Specific race entry lists, sailing instructions, handicaps and any other required information is available on race day from the Race office.

For those wishing to participate in racing/cruising but either do not have a yacht or do not wish to compete on their own boat, may list themselves as crew on our website. Boats are always looking for more crew, or you can volunteer to help on race days, starting, laying or retrieving marks, or even in the kitchen for after race food, we can always use more assistance. Contact one of the Sailing Committee or the Club office for more information.

Please note all races are conducted under the current sailing rules whether they are a Twilight/Social race or Range race. A fundamental knowledge of these rules ensures the safety and enjoyment of all participants. For more information any Sailing Committee members will happily assist you to become familiar with the basic rules required to get you started.



Members responsibilities

HBYC expects members to conform to acceptable standards of dress and behaviour while on the premises and while participating in club events or representing the club either on or off the water.

BOAT REGISTRATION

For yachts to be accepted onto the Yacht Register, the owner must complete an application form, which is available outside the office or on our website. The application returned to the Manager's Office who submit it to the Sailing Committee for consideration.

The Sailing Committee will organise for your yacht to be inspected for suitability. If your yacht meets all of HBYC's inspection criteria it is accepted by the Sailing Committee. Your yacht's acceptance is then presented to the General Committee for final decision.



Members responsibilities continued...

BY-LAWS & CONSTITUTION

By-Laws - Rules and regulations made by a club to regulate the actions of it's members. Constitution - a body of fundamental principles or established precedents according to which a Club is acknowledged to be governed.

These cover a number of issues ranging from general behaviour to boat related, please make sure you have read and understand them thoroughly. The By-Laws and Constitution booklets are available from the Office.

CLOTHING

HBYC does not have a dress code for their yard or marina, however within the clubhouse most casual clothing and footwear is acceptable.

Do not enter the Clubhouse with/in swimwear, bare chests, bare feet and wet sailing gear, except if you are heading to the change rooms directly.

DOGS/ANIMALS

No animals are permitted within the club house. All animals must be kept on a leash at all times. You must clean up after your pet or it will not be allowed to attend HBYC in the future.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Good environmental practices are your responsibility as a member of Hobsons Bay Yacht Club, at all times when you are on or near the water.

The club supplies recycle bins for both cans and glass/paper, these are at various locations around the club.

Please dispose of all rubbish thoughtfully.

DO NOT empty paint, solvents, oils etc directly into the bay, or into any drains, there is an appropriate place to dump and clean equipment, see yard manager for the correct disposal place. **DO NOT** throw rubbish, cans, bottles etc into the bay.

In general, do not throw anything or let any substances seep or enter the water.

When working on your boat in the yard, such as sanding or applying anti-foul, check with the Yard Manager to ensure that you are adhering to the correct procedures.

In essence treat the bay, the yard, the clubhouse, the marina and other boats as you would your own, that is carefully, safely, and kept in a clean and tidy state.





Members responsibilities continued...

HEALTH AND SAFETY

All members are expected to familiarize themselves with the emergency and evacuation charts around the club and the emergency and evacuation manual if you are involved in volunteer activities.

The Club is a working boat yard and as such there is potential for accidents and injuries. Vigilance should be exercised at all times when in the yard, regardless of your reason for being there. It is all member's responsibility to abide by the clubs OH&S policies.

Any concerns should be reported to the Club Captain or leave a note at the office, action will then be taken to remedy the situation. Any matters that require immediate action should be reported to either the Club Manager or the Officer of the Day.

Be particularly aware of hazards within the yard, for example; power leads on the ground or near water, ladders, heights, moving trolleys and equipment. Make sure you wear the appropriate protective gear, for the task being undertaken as occupational health and safety regulations apply. If unsure of your responsibilities please approach the Yard Manager.

The same care and attention should be exercised on the marina walkways, on your boat or the club boats. Where small children are present, there is always potential to fall into the water, consider the use of approved PFD's for them at all times.

First Aid kits, a defibrillator and fire extinguishes are located both within the Club house and in the yard.

Yacht seaworthiness, safety and the use of your boat in varied weather conditions is ultimately the sole responsibility of the owner/operator of the vessel.





Member responsibilities continued...

SMOKING

HBYC Club House is a smoke free venue. Smoking is banned at HBYC except in the designated smoking area on the back side of the Hall's fire place & East of the traverse pit. Please dispose of your butts in the correct containers.

PAYMENT OF FEES, SUBS ETC.

The office will invoice you for the payment of subscriptions, marina fees, slipping fees etc. All invoices are payable within 30 days; late payment may result in suspension of your membership along with its privileges, such as access to the clubhouse, car park and removal of your boat from the marina, or in severe cases termination of membership and recovery of the debt by a debt collection agency.



Conclusion

We trust this booklet has helped you familiarise yourself with the club. If there are any further questions please contact the club office or other members.

The accent of the club is of a family and volunteering orientated culture, volunteering is the best way to become an integral part of the club that brings fun as a bonus. Our club prides itself on a relaxed friendly atmosphere and has reached the current position through the participation and commitment from our members.

We wish to welcome and congratulate you on becoming a member of HBYC. As a new member, we hope that you become part of our friendly yachting club and enjoy the fun and laughter along with the great many memories that you will experience both at the club and on the water.

