

Which Class For Me?

This document is an overview of the different classes available for Geelong Week 2010 - it is not part of the Notice of Race and is only intended as a guide about the differences between the classes.

The boats that want to race over a longer series will chose the Audi Series. There are three classes in the Audi Series, IRC, AMS and PHD (Performance Handicap Division).

Those looking for a shortened program can chose between Performance Racing, Cruising with Spinnakers and Non-Spinnakers classes. The not-so-flat-out racers will chose the cruising classes (Classics, Cruising and Non-spinnaker).

Having said that, all classes will be "racing" and the idea is to get to the finish line as fast as possible. Spinnakers are allowed (expected) in all classes except of course Non-Spinnaker.

It is expected that classes will be split into several smaller divisions so boats with similar speeds will be racing together.

Audi Series

- For the top class racers. Will be split into divisions as required
- Handicapped using IRC, AMS and PHD
- Longest race approximately 34 miles
- Emphasis on fair racing courses with windward/leeward courses
- Racing over four days with the first day's racing the passage race from Williamstown to Geelong
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply.

One Design Audi Series classes (Sydney 38, S80)

- Must be in One Design trim
- Competing off scratch - no handicaps
- Emphasis on fair racing courses with windward/leeward courses
- Racing over four days with the first day's racing the passage race from Williamstown to Geelong
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply.

Sports Boats

- Handicapped using SMS (Sportsboat Measurement System)
- Longest race approximately 20 miles
- Racing from Friday through to Tuesday (TBC)
- Strong emphasis on windward/leeward courses
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply

One Design Sport Boat classes (Elliott 7, Melges 24, SB 3)

- Must be in One Design trim
- Competing off scratch - no handicaps
- Longest race approximately 12 miles
- Racing from Friday through to Tuesday (TBC)
- Strong emphasis on windward/leeward courses
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply

Performance Racing class

- Handicapped on previous/known performance for the boat or the type of boat
- Handicaps adjusted after each race.
- Longest race approximately 34 miles
- Racing over the Australia Day weekend only
- Emphasis on fair racing courses with a mixture of fixed mark courses and windward/leeward
- Boats slower than, say a J35, will be pretty lonely at the tail end of the fleet
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply

Trailer Yacht Class

- Handicapped by the Yachting Victoria Handicap system
- Longest race approximately 20 miles
- Racing over the Australia Day weekend only
- Most course marks are fixed mark (rather than buoys)
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply

Multi Hull Class

- Handicapped by the Multi-Hull Association Handicap system
- Longest race approximately 34 miles
- Racing from Saturday through to Tuesday
- Strong emphasis on passage races
- Most course marks are fixed mark (rather than buoys)
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply

Classic class

- Handicapped on previous/known performance for the boat or the type of boat
- Boats that were built for racing in an earlier era
- Handicaps adjusted after each race.
- Longest race approximately 34 miles
- Racing over the Australia Day weekend only
- Never more than one race per day
- Most course marks are fixed mark (rather than buoys)
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply for all races

Cruising with Spinnaker class

- For all types of cruising yachts
- Typically working sails are made of Dacron (Race committee may make some allowances)
- Spinnakers are allowed (expected)
- This class will be split into three divisions
- Handicapped on previous/known performance for the boat or the type of boat
- Handicaps adjusted after each race
- Longest race approximately 34 miles
- Racing over the Australia Day weekend only
- Never more than one race per day
- Most course marks are fixed marks (rather than buoys)
- YA Category 5 safety regulations apply

Non-Spinnaker class

- As above for Cruising Class, except that spinnakers are not permitted

*A number of the classes will be handicapped using the IRC rule and AMS. Boats not having the appropriate certificate can get one (usually fairly easily) by contacting their State Yachting Authority:

Yachting Queensland - 07 3393 6788

Yachting NSW - 02 9660 1266

Yachting ACT - 02 6295 1436

Yachting Victoria - 03 9597 0066

Yachting Tasmania - 02 6383 4719

Yachting South Australia - 08 8410 2117

Yachting Western Australia - 07 9386 2438

Yachting Northern Territory - 08 8945 2506

Yachts outside Australia requiring a certificate should contact their local yachting authority, or Yachting Australia on 61 2 8424 7400, or email

office@yachting.org.au