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Photography provided by Cruising Yacht Club of Australia.



Antony Jones, The Boathouse Group CEO and Justine Kirkjian, CYCA CEO.



Welcome to the Cruising Yacht Club Of Australia

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA), based on Sydney Harbour and home to the iconic Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race and many of the country's other great offshore and inshore races, is widely regarded as one of the world's most prestigious yacht clubs.

We are a proud club with strong camaraderie and a rich history of sailing in Australia and abroad. We currently have over 3,500 members and warmly welcome international and local visitors and guests.

Our superb facilities include a marina located close to the CBD in Sydney's eastern suburbs, a recently renovated clubhouse with multiple bars and dining facilities managed by our partners The Boathouse Group, and flexible event spaces for conferences, corporate and social events.

Sailors of all levels are catered for at the CYCA. Aside from the best racing program in Australia, we have a passionate cruising division and offer Pathway programs for members new to the sport, charity regattas, and corporate sailing days. We are also home to a world-renowned Youth Sailing Academy (YSA) that has excelled in competition over the past 30 years and introduced thousands to the sport.

For those with an interest in sailing or who simply enjoy the ambience of a beautiful club on the foreshore of Rushcutters Bay's parkland, we look forward to welcoming you to the Club.

**ARTHUR LANE
COMMODORE**



About the Club

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA) is Australia's premier yacht club and home to what is considered yachting's 'Everest' the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

Nestled along the stunning Rushcutters Bay foreshore, the Club boasts unparalleled Harbour views and world-class facilities, providing its Members and numerous visitors with compelling reasons to visit regularly. Just three kilometres from Sydney's CBD, this convenient location is a major draw for the local community.

CYCA's international reputation attracts yachts and crews globally, especially for the pinnacle of the sailing calendar, the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

Established in 1944, the CYCA has evolved into Australia's leading proponent of ocean racing and sea safety. Its race management expertise is sought after for international sailing events such as the Olympics, World Championships and round-the-world races.

CYCA boasts a rich history of members excelling in top-tier sailing events worldwide, including the America's Cup, Olympics, Admiral's Cup, World Championships, skiff and dinghy sailing, and global ocean races. This legacy of success continues with our current members achieving global recognition.

CYCA welcomes passionate ocean racers and social sailors alike, offering a packed calendar of mid-week summer twilight, weekend offshore, and Sunday winter racing.

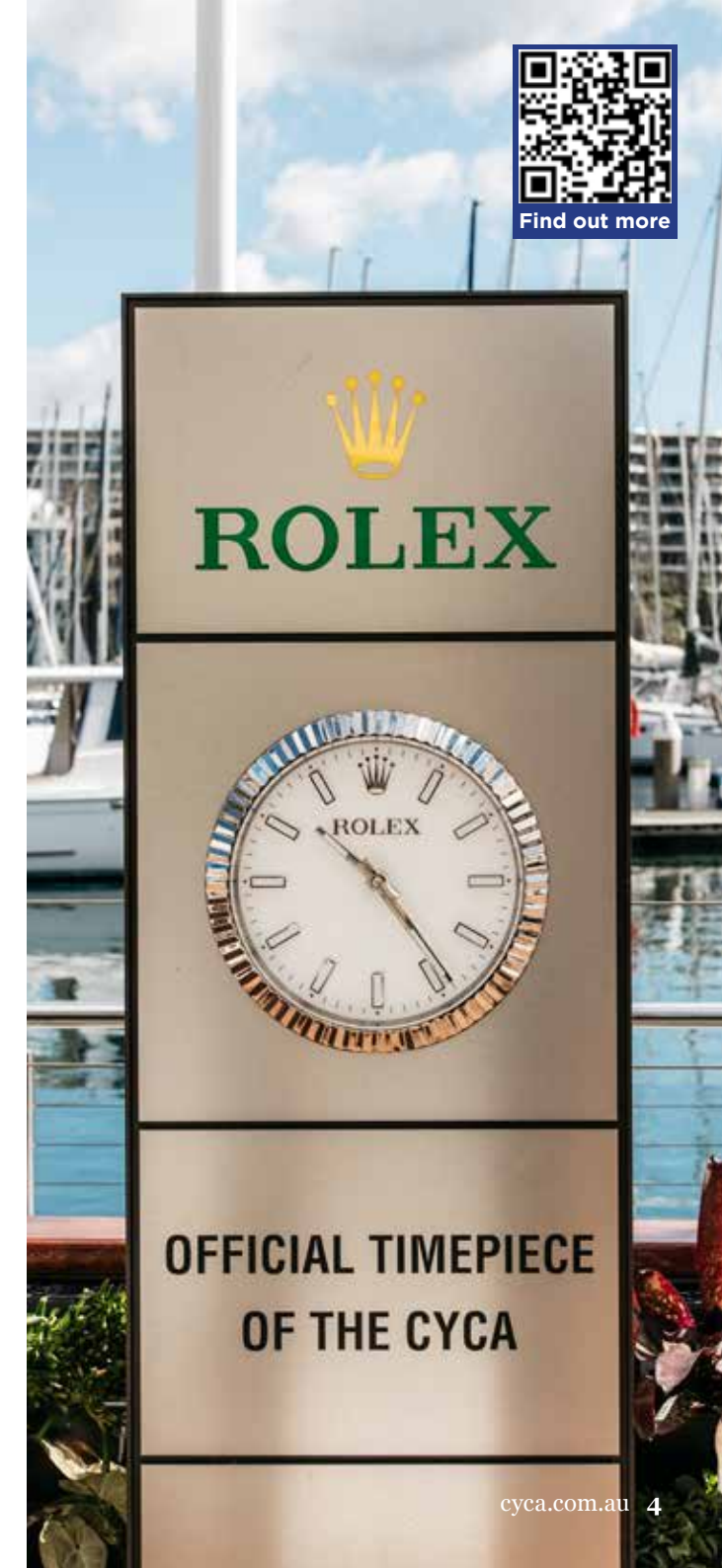
In collaboration with various Sydney Harbour yacht clubs, these races ensure spirited competition. From leisurely non-spinnaker sailing to the challenging Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, through Bass Strait, our world-class sailing programs cater to sailors of all levels.

While some seek the thrill of the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, others enjoy the camaraderie of shorter ocean races.

Embracing the popularity of one-design racing, CYCA hosts regattas for diverse classes. Our Youth Sailing Academy which celebrated 30 years in 2023, has shaped countless sailors, with many making their mark internationally.

The original Marina and Clubhouse have transformed into a new floating marina and a meticulously presented yacht club with top-notch facilities. Our dedicated team ensures unrivalled service, making every visit memorable.

Join CYCA for an unforgettable sailing experience.





A Brief History

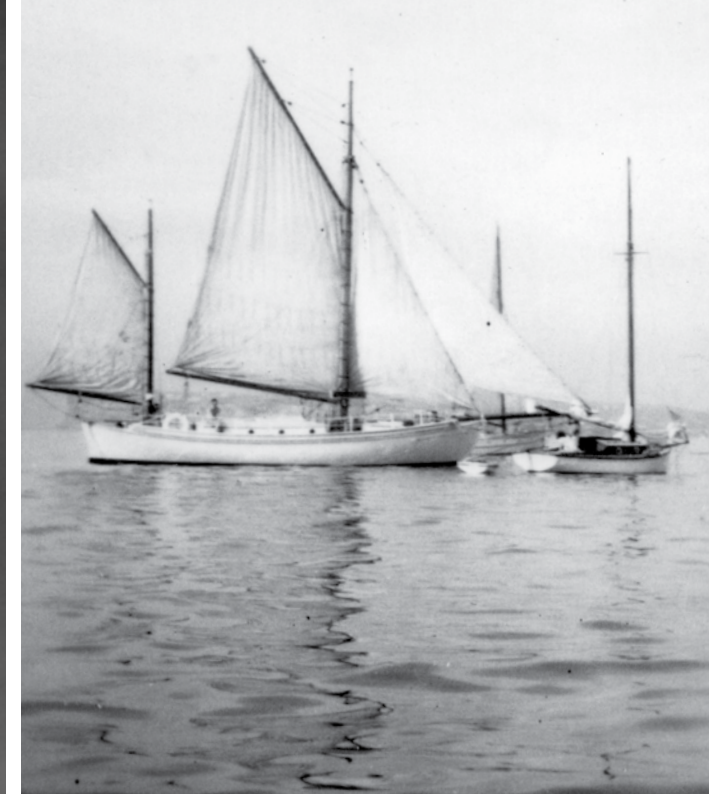
The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA) was formed in 1944 and, despite its name, quickly became the leading exponent of ocean racing in Australia, at that time a little-known sport both here and elsewhere.

Eight founding Members formed the Cruising Yacht Club (CYC) after an informal meeting in a photographic studio in Sydney. They soon acquired a boatshed in Rushcutters Bay.

The Club's name was changed to the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA) in March 1946. Jack Earl, one of the original Members, designed the Southern Cross burgee which the CYCA still proudly flies today.

During May 1945, while Jack Earl was planning a cruise to Hobart, the CYCA Commodore invited prominent English sailor Captain John Illingworth R.N. to dinner to give a presentation. After dinner, Illingworth was invited to join the cruise and replied "Why don't we make a race of it?". Later in 1945, the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania agreed to host the finish of the race. Thus, the now world-famous Sydney Hobart Yacht Race was born and the destiny of the CYCA changed forever.

Nine yachts set off in that inaugural race on a beautiful summers day on Boxing Day 1945 only later to encounter gales that played havoc with the fleet. Two yachts were reported missing for four days and the fledgling event made front page headlines in Sydney and Hobart every day. Everyone, though, came through safe and well, the race captured the imagination of the Australian public and soon developed into an international yachting classic, attracting competitors from around the world.





The Cruising Yacht Club's first ocean race

The CYCA's first ocean race was held on the first weekend in October 1944 (today the Labour Day weekend, but then known as the "8-hour-day weekend"). The course was from Sydney to Broken Bay. The race started off the Quarantine Station, nineteen yachts taking part and racing off "scratch", with handicaps adjusted at the end. There is no record of the results, but in the fleet were a number of Sydney's best known racing vessels including *Archina*, *Asgard*, *Julnar*, *Horizon*, *Kathleen Gillett*, *Moonbi*, *Saltair*, *Stormbird*, *Thetis*, *WhiteWings*, *Wayfarer* and *Zephyr*.

Following the race there was a raft-up in The Basin, a feature of many CYCA races in early years. They were family picnic affairs, with the element of competition injected to liven up the journey. The co-founders, Peter Luke and Charlie Cooper, the following year donated a perpetual trophy, the Founders Cup, and the race became an annual fixture.



An excerpt from "Ratbags to Respectability":

First Sydney Hobart Race

Sometime in the early afternoon of New Year's Day a yacht was sighted just south of Tasman Island by a small plane. It was probably assumed to be *Winston Churchill*, by now so firmly implanted in everyone's minds as the winner apparent.

The lighthouse keeper on Tasman Island reported that a boat sighted off the island had a white hull and the sail number 14 (*Rani*). Then at 4.00pm an RAAF Catalina had a good look at a yacht three miles east of Cape Raoul and correctly identified it as *Rani*.

The Sydney Sun that afternoon managed to carry the report (it must have been a real "stop press" job, attended by a certain amount of confusion):

YACHT RANI TURNS UP RUNNING 2ND IN RACE: NO TRACE OF HORIZON

Still not first! *Rani* made her way across Storm Bay and, just on nightfall of New Year's Day, was in the mouth of the Derwent River. The rumour must by now have got around. Cars were flashing their headlights in Morse code:

"Are you *Rani*?"

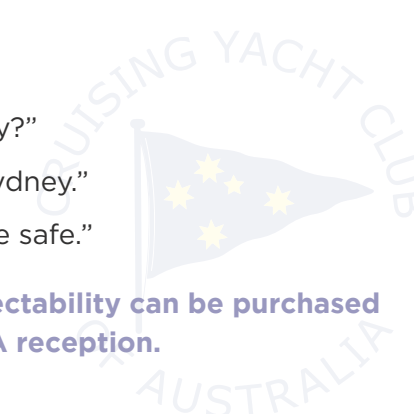
"Yes. We're *Rani*."

"*Rani* from Sydney?"

"Yes, *Rani* from Sydney."

"Thank God you're safe."

Ratbags to Respectability can be purchased online or at CYCA reception.



Joining CYCA

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia enjoys a reputation as Australia's premier yacht club and few sporting clubs anywhere can match the all-round sailing and social experience enjoyed by its Members.

It is true that the CYCA offers a world-class sailing program, alongside a magnificent Clubhouse, fabulous facilities and spectacular waterfront location, enjoyed by Members, families and guests. But it is also true that it is an even greater Club.

Members are proud to be associated with such a famous and historic organisation and are attracted by the feeling of belonging to something special.

There is a friendly, relaxed ambience that exists in and around the Clubhouse, which offers a home away from home.

Generally, it only takes one visit to 1 New Beach Road to appreciate why Membership of the CYCA is such an alluring proposition.

But the deal-clincher is the extensive array of benefits offered that add incredible value to membership.

Types of Membership:

► Full Member

The most popular membership category, offering the fullest range of membership benefits

► Pathway

An introductory three-year membership available to those aged 30 years and over



Find out more

► Crew

Available to 18-29 year old members

► Associate

Partner or child of a Voting Member as at date of election

► Overseas

Permanently resides outside Australia

► Regional

Resides outside a 150km radius of the Club, not engaged professionally in Sydney

► Junior

5-17 years old and engaged in CYCA racing

► Youth Sailing Academy

Enrolled Youth Sailing Academy student (Junior aged up to 18 or Crew aged 18-25)

The current Membership subscription rates can be viewed on the Club website where you can also complete an online Membership application form.



Unlock your busy mid-life



Member Benefits

Interested in becoming a Member of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia? Here are just a selection of the many benefits you could be enjoying:

Sailing

- ▶ First-hand exposure to the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, the most iconic race in Australia - known worldwide as the 'Everest' of ocean racing
- ▶ Access to the most comprehensive sailing program in Australia
- ▶ Access to on-site learn-to-sail provided by Pacific Sailing School
- ▶ Discounted race entry fees
- ▶ Access to the Youth Sailing Academy (YSA), providing on-water and classroom training for talented, development and advanced sailors aged between 12 and 25
- ▶ Access to a large and active Cruising Group which operates a packed calendar of events
- ▶ Membership to Australian Sailing, including racing insurance and certifications
- ▶ Easy access to on-site or nearby chandlery, rigging, brokerage and chartering services

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Marina

- ▶ Access to 213-berth Marina for permanent berthing
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- ▶ Up to 52 complimentary casual berthing nights on the Marina
- ▶ Ad-hoc usage of the Tender Service (full-time subscription available to Full and Regional Members only)
- ▶ Access to two swing moorings in America Bay (Cowan Creek/Hawkesbury River)

Subject to the Marina Berthing Policy



Clubhouse & events

- ▶ Priority access to the Club's fully-modernised Clubhouse
- ▶ Sydney Hobart Bar and Boathouse at CYCA on the lower level with ample indoor outdoor seating overlooking the Marina
- ▶ Coasters Retreat Members' Bar offering a quiet place to relax with friends and immerse yourself in tasteful displays of the Club's 80-year heritage
- ▶ Three superb upper-level function rooms cater for large or intimate parties and corporate events offering balconies with breathtaking city skyline and northern harbour views

Club functions for networking or social occasions

- ▶ 25% discount on function room hire for private events
- ▶ 20% discount on official Club and Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race merchandise
 - ▶ 20% discount on Helly Hansen merchandise and accessories
- ▶ 10% discount on ticketed Club events (excluding events principally aimed at raising funds for the Safety of Life at Sea Trust or YSA)
 - ▶ 10% discount on beverages
- ▶ 10% discount on food purchases from Boathouse at CYCA

Extras

- ▶ Quarterly subscription to Offshore, the official magazine of the CYCA
- ▶ Weekly subscription to Onshore, the official newsletter of the CYCA
- ▶ Member-exclusive promotions
- ▶ Reciprocal rights to the Club's global network of affiliated Yacht Club Partners
- ▶ Access to two on-site car parks
- ▶ Wireless internet access across the site (conditions apply)
- ▶ The ability to sign in guests to enjoy world-class facilities
- ▶ Invitations to Member-only functions and prizegivings
- ▶ Enjoy an active and varied social calendar providing the opportunity to get to know other Members



Find out more

Clubhouse Dining

The Boathouse Group provide the food and beverage offering to Members and guests at the Club.

Boathouse at CYCA operates as a classic breakfast cafe and restaurant for lunch and dinner.

Under Executive Chef, James Brownrigg, the Boathouse at CYCA offers an all-day menu that draws on the Boathouse's DNA as well as the surrounds of the Rushcutter's Bay waterfront.

The seasonal menu features coastal classics like fish and chips, prawns with seafood sauce as well as leaning into more modern Mediterranean favourites such as calamari fritti, orecchiette with crab and chilli, and taramasalata with charred Turkish bread.

Of course, there are always plenty of Sydney Rock oysters and Barramundi sourced from Cone Bay, WA to enjoy.

A newly installed pizza oven offers hand-stretched flatbreads (margherita, prosciutto, prawn and rocket) for hungry sailors, and everyday Harbour walkers and kids alike use the Club for crumbed chicken cutlets, juicy beef burgers and grilled steaks. For early birds, there are club classics like bacon and egg rolls and avocado toast.

The drinks offering comprises a diverse wine list with local and international producers, Boathouse classic coastal cocktails and a wide range of tap beers.

The much-loved Sydney venue on New Beach Road fits up to 300 with both inside and outside dining and is open seven days a week from 8am until late.

The bar and event spaces within the Club will celebrate 80 years in 2024.

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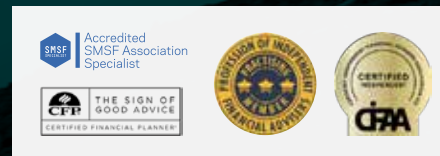
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Let's start a conversation

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The CYCA has long welcomed not only its strong and loyal member base, but also Sydneysiders and visitors who want to kick back with a beer or chilled wine and a fabulous meal by one of the world's greatest harbours.

The venue is open for bookings and walk-ins to CYCA members, their guests and non-members who reside outside of the 5km radius.





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Find out more

Functions and Special Occasions

The Boathouse at CYCA has recently undergone styling updates in the bar and restaurant, to bring the beautiful Boathouse aesthetic to the club. There is an abundance of plants in the dining room and on the lower deck, as well as signature lobster-pot ceiling pendants, behind the Sydney-Hobart Bar.

The Boathouse Event team now manages all corporate functions and weddings at the Club. Events are hosted upstairs next to the Members' Bar in the Freya and Morna Rooms.

These are two beautiful function rooms overlooking the CYCA Marina and both have full width, undercover balconies. The rooms can be connected along with the adjoining Trainers Room for larger groups or used separately for more intimate occasions.

The Club regularly helps to produce memorable harbourside weddings, parties, corporate events, meetings and workshops that provide guests an unforgettable opportunity.

The Club also facilitates corporate breakfast and brunch events, photoshoots, filming and more. The Boathouse Team at CYCA relishes all things celebratory, and always looks forward to the opportunity to create something bespoke for visitors, Members and guests.

Please get in touch with us for Functions Corporate Bookings. Contact information can be found on page 75.





Sailing Overview

The CYCA understands that sailors have a varying range of skill, interests, and involvement.

Taking this into account, the CYCA has devised a sailing program designed to meet the needs of all its members, whether they are committed ocean racers, occasional competitors, or social sailors who prefer leisurely cruises with family and friends.

The CYCA's year-round sailing program includes:

- ▶ Ocean racing of varying lengths
- ▶ Weekend Harbour racing
- ▶ Weekday twilight racing (spinnaker and non-spinnaker)
- ▶ Cruising events
- ▶ Crewing opportunities for sailors without a boat
- ▶ Youth Sailing
- ▶ Match Racing

Crew positions on the top racing yachts are highly coveted and fiercely contested amongst the sport's best sailors and it is true there is no substitute for competitive experience.

But, equally, many boats welcome novice sailors, and are willing to train and mentor new crew and future skippers who are reliable and keen.

Don't think you need to be a sailor to play an active and meaningful role in Club life. The Club's passionate volunteers make the CYCA the special Club it is and without their dedication there would not be year round-racing, events and off-water activities.



Volunteers

A diverse range of volunteer roles are available and the CYCA pathway program provides volunteers with plenty of opportunities to progress through the ranks.

The Board of Directors, who are all volunteers themselves, are always looking for Members to donate their time and particular skill set to enhancing the CYCA's reputation as Australia's premier yacht club.



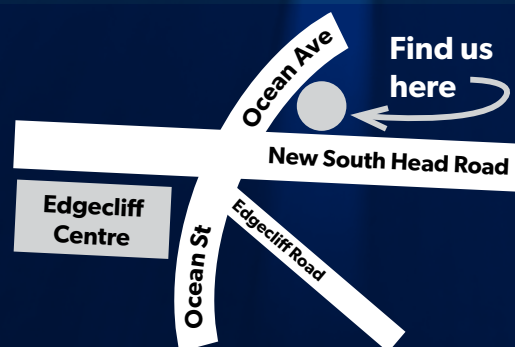
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Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race

The CYCA's Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race has become an icon of summer sport in Australia, ranking in public interest alongside such national events as the Melbourne Cup, the Australian Open tennis and the Boxing Day Test.

No regular annual yachting event in the world attracts such huge media coverage than does the start on Sydney Harbour.

The 628 nautical mile course is often described as the most gruelling ocean race in the world, the ultimate challenge to everyone who takes part.

From the spectacular Boxing Day start in Sydney Harbour, the fleet sails out into the Tasman Sea, down the south-east coast of mainland Australia, across Bass Strait, then down the east coast of Tasmania.

At Tasman Island the fleet turns right into Storm Bay for the final sail up the Derwent River to the historic port city of Hobart.

People who sail the race often say the first and last days are the most exciting. The race start on Sydney Harbour one of the most recognisable sights in sport attracts hundreds of spectator craft and thousands of people lining the shore as helicopters circle above the fleet, filming for TV for around the world.

The buzz of excitement is audible and the tension grows as the Rolex countdown clock to the firing of the starting cannon ticks down to zero, four waves of boats manoeuvring for optimum position.

For spectators, it makes for compulsive and compelling viewing in equal measure.

For competitors, it provides the ultimate adrenaline rush, particularly as the yachts dice with each other in search of the best winds and most favourable position up to the Heads and the first mark.



The final day at sea is exciting with crews fighting to beat their rivals but also looking forward to the traditional Hobart welcome, and having a drink to relax and celebrate their experience.

Hundreds of people crowd the foreshores of Sullivans Cove to cheer the yachts and their crews while volunteers from the finishing club, the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, meet the weary crews with open arms and famous Tasmanian hospitality, and escort them to their berth in the Kings Pier marina.

Between the first and last days the fleet sails past some of the most beautiful landscape and seascapes found anywhere in the world.

Before the start of the race South, the CYCA organises functions and events at the Sydney Race Village which is located at the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia. The village features a big screen, Helly Hansen merchandise shop, outdoor seating and a bar.

The ideal setting for an afternoon with the family during the festive season. Some of the events that are hosted at this outdoor venue include the the RSHYR Skippers' Launch and Crew Party.

There are more than 30 historic trophies to which competitors in the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race aspire; from the Tattersall Cup for the overall winner on IRC rating corrected time, to the John H Illingworth Challenge Cup for the Line

Honours boat and the Alan Payne Memorial Trophy for the designer of the winning yacht.

The Jane Tate Memorial Trophy is presented each year to the first female skipper to finish the race. It is named for Tasmanian Jane 'Jenny' Tate, the first female to start and finish the race when she completed the second edition back in 1946.



Duncan Hine, Skipper of *Alive*, overall winner of the 2023 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race spoke to the Club after the race.

“We worked so hard all the way through that race. Everyone put in 100 per cent. It was a cliff hanger right up to the finish wasn’t it?”

“You don’t always walk away feeling like you’ve done the best you could have personally, but I don’t think anyone would have hopped off the boat feeling they could have put more in.”

The Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race is the ultimate test of sailor and sailing craft and bonds that are forged on the Great Race last a lifetime. Anyone with a Sydney Hobart Yacht Race finish on their racing resume has something of which to be truly proud.

Australian viewers can tune into the start of the race broadcast which attracts a large national audience of over 2 million Australians. Viewers around the world can also visit the Rolex Sydney Hobart website and YouTube channel.

For shoreside spectators, there are some superb vantage points on both North and South Head to watch the fleet race out of the Harbour. Nielsen Park is one of the most popular spots for onlookers.

During the race, the Rolex Sydney Hobart website and social media channels have everything you need to keep up-to-date with the progress of the race, including news, photos, videos, daily race updates, tracker and live standings.

After the race, highlights, interviews with competitors and the prizegiving ceremony are available to watch across the Rolex Sydney Hobart channels.

More information can be sourced on the official race website, rolexsydneyhobart.com



Find out more







Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia's Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race is an event that is second only in status to the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race among long ocean races conducted by the Club.

CYCA introduced the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race in 1986 as the 'great winter escape', taking advantage of the completion of the Gold Coast Seaway and extensive harbour improvement works funded by the Queensland Government.

Appropriately, the official starter of the inaugural Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race was the then Premier of Queensland, Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, who fired the starting cannon to send a fleet of 83 boats north with the promise of much warmer weather. An equally colourful character, in the late Jack Rooklyn sailed his famous maxi yacht *Apollo* to a double victory, taking Line Honours and first place on corrected time.

Since then the 384 nautical mile race has attracted fleets of between 60 and 70 yachts each year, with entries coming mainly from New South Wales and Queensland, but also from Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and New Zealand.

Most of Australia's best-known ocean racing yachts, their skippers and crews have competed at some stage and winners have included past Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race winners.

The Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race marks the start of the Club's six month Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore which is regarded as an important stepping-stone for owners and crew to gain vital offshore racing experience in the lead-up to competing in the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

The race is staged with the support of Southport Yacht Club, which provides outstanding club and marina facilities for the visiting yachts in a relaxed semi-tropical setting.

For more information about the race and contestants visit the dedicated website: goldcoast.cycaracing.com





PONANT Sydney Noumea Yacht Race

The PONANT Sydney Noumea Yacht Race is a 1,064 nautical mile race from Sydney Harbour to Noumea, the capital and largest city of New Caledonia.

The race is organised and conducted by the CYCA, with the co-operation of the Cercle Nautique Caledonien (CNC).

First run in 1953, the CYCA organised the first Sydney Noumea Yacht Race at the invitation of the Government of New Caledonia, who wanted the event to coincide with the celebrations marking a centenary of French rule on the island colony.

Following a survey of Club Members and due to popular demand, CYCA's longest ocean race was reintroduced into the Club's sailing program in 2018 after a hiatus of more than 20 years. It certainly returned with a bang, Michael Martin's Newcastle TP52 *Frantic* taking Line Honours after smashing the race record by more than 43 hours and Sebastian Bohm's Rogers 46 *Smuggler* taking the treble of IRC overall win as well as the ORCi and PHS divisions.

The PONANT Sydney Noumea is scheduled to return on Saturday 25 May 2024, having been cancelled in 2020 and 2022 due to COVID-19 restrictions. There are IRC and PHS handicap categories and two-handed entrants will be competing for the first time. It will once again serve as a feeder race for the New Caledonia Groupama Race, a 654 nautical mile anti-clockwise circumnavigation of the main island.

The race timing – with winter fast approaching in the Southern Hemisphere – offers a wonderful chance for a getaway and to take advantage of combining a race with a holiday in scenic and temperate Noumea.

The fleet can be continuously tracked via noumea.cyca.com.au/standings and regular updates are posted on the CYCA's social media channels. The dedicated website is also the place to get race information, news and profiles of the participants.



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Find out more



Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore

The Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore consists of six races, opening with the Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race and finishing with the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. Points accrued over the six races determine the winners of the overall Pointscore.

The current Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore calendar consists of:

Race 1 – Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race (July)

A 384nm race, starting in Sydney Harbour and finishing in front of Main Beach on the Gold Coast. See preceding pages for a more detailed description.

Race 2 – Flinders Islet Race (September)

The 88nm race starts near Point Piper before tracking south down the coast to round Flinders Islet, approximately 1nm east off Wollongong and then returning to finish in Sydney Harbour.

Race 3 – Tollgate Islands Race (October)

A 260nm race, the fleet heads south to round Tollgate Islands, which sit off Batemans Bay, and back to the finish line off Watsons Bay.

Race 4 – Bird Island Race (November)

The 83nm race sees competitors sail from Sydney Harbour to Bird Island (approximately 3nm north east of Norah Head) and back.

Race 5 – Cabbage Tree Island Race (December)

The 172nm is a season favourite. Starting near Point Piper, the fleet heads north to Cabbage Tree Island and returns to finish in Sydney Harbour. Many competitors use this race to qualify for the RSHYR and as crew training.

Race 6 – Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race (Boxing Day)

Simply put, the 628nm Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race is one of the most famous and iconic yacht races in the world.

Racing Series & Regattas

The CYCA Sailing Program has something for everyone.

LGT Crestone Winter Series (April-July)

This popular Series began in its current format in 1949 and has grown over the years to become Australia's largest ongoing series, with fleets averaging more than 100 boats. Run on Sundays from 1130hrs and limited to a maximum of five hours, it includes ten pointscore races, which are bookended by two of three Women's Winter Series races.

Great Veterans Race (May)

Open to single-hulled self-righting displacement boats with a launch date prior to 1976 that have competed in a Sydney Hobart Yacht race. A new IOR Era division for yachts launched between 1976 and 1991 and that have competed in a Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. The presentation of the Windward Trophy and Vic Meyer Trophy takes place at the CYCA Clubhouse after the event.

Spring Series (August)

Introduced in 2013 as an exciting initiative to bridge the gap between winter and summer racing, the Spring Series is comprised of four pointscore races on Sydney Harbour.

Racing (spinnaker and non-spinnaker) includes divisions in IRC along with the traditional performance (PHS) handicap. A Women's Spring Pointscore is also conducted within the series.

Races are a scratch start and commence at 1400hrs, allowing competitors to enjoy lunch at the CYCA, before heading out on the water to enjoy the best of the afternoon spring breeze.

Raymarine Australian Maxi Championship

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia hosts the Raymarine Australian Maxi Championship at the start of December over a 5 day period.

The Raymarine Australian Maxi Championship consist of up to 6 races and will feature Maxis (80-100 foot) and Mini Maxis (60-79 foot) with a minimum IRC TCC of 1.450.



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Sydney Harbour Women's Keelboat Series

A series consisting of five races, with one race hosted by each of the CYCA, Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS), Manly Yacht Club (MYC), Royal Australian Naval Sailing Association (RANSA), and Middle Harbour Yacht Club (MHYC). Crews are able to compete in full female crew or female helm divisions, as well as nominate spinnaker or non-spinnaker racing.

Noakes 7s Series (October & November)

Held on Tuesday evenings in the vicinity of Rushcutters Bay and Sydney Harbour, with up to four sprint windward/leeward races each evening using the Club's fleet of Elliott 7m keelboats. Open to CYCA Members and non-Members, this series is targeted at crews who want to improve teamwork and skills for the Audi City Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore, SOS, SOPS or Twilights or just want to have some good, clean, competitive fun with mates!

Sydney Hobart Classic Yacht Regatta (December)

This is a unique regatta that recognises the contribution of classic yachts to the traditions and history of the blue water classic and is open to any yacht that has a launch date prior to 1976 and has competed in a Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

The Regatta also features a new IOR Era division for yachts launched between 1976 and 1991 and that have competed in a Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. The event features an invitation Race (non-pointscore, non-spinnaker), a Pursuit Race and a Scratch Race over successive days.

Australia Day City of Sydney Cup

The City of Sydney Cup carries a separate entry fee and is sailed as a part of the CYCA Ocean Pointscore Series and the CYCA Short Ocean Pointscore Series. The course involves a sprint out of the Harbour from the start near Shark Island, south past Bondi and Coogee to Botany Bay before turning toward home, finishing back in Sydney Harbour. The overall winner is the yacht with the fastest corrected time on PHS. Additional winners are recognised for each respective divisional winner of the day's CYCA Pointscore Races, while the Geoff Lee Ocean Race Trophy is presented to the Line Honours winner of the day.

Trans-Tasman Yacht Race (2025)

The biennial Category 1 yacht race will run from Sydney to Auckland and will include a diverse range of boats – from two-handers, large racer/cruisers, TP52s and other racing yachts.

The 1,165nm Trans-Tasman Yacht Race is set to become a highlight of the Australian and New Zealand offshore racing calendars.





Club Marine Short Ocean Pointscore (September to March)

A 9-race series with the best 6 to count with all races sailed off Sydney Heads. Overall and season pointscore trophies are awarded in both IRC and PHS handicap categories to the first three yachts in each division. A Spring Pointscore and Autumn Pointscore are conducted within the Series.

Club Marine Short Haul Pointscore (September to March)

A non-spinnaker series comprising of 13 races. Several are raced in the Harbour and at night while the majority of races are sailed off Sydney Heads. A Spring Pointscore and Autumn Pointscore are conducted within the series, as is a passage Pointscore that comprises the four Pittwater passage races and the Botany Bay Race.

Club Marine Ocean Pointscore (September to March)

This series is perfect for the yachtsperson who wants to do various ocean races without the pressure of having to compete in the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

The series consists of eight races including trips to each of Lion Island, Botany Bay and Port Hacking and Day One of the MHYC Sydney Short Ocean Racing Championship (SSORC). A Spring Pointscore and Autumn Pointscore are conducted within the main event.

Two-handed Pointscore (September to March)

This series, run on Saturdays, is perfect for the yachtsperson looking to build up their experience in two-handed racing and consists of four Category 4 and two Category 2 Races.

Champion of Champions Regatta (April)

The regatta is an invitational event featuring a maximum of 10 teams on identical Elliott 7m class boats supplied by the CYCA Youth Sailing Academy. Boats that place 1st-3rd in the Summer Pointscores receive invitations.

Asymmetrical spinnakers are used and total crew (including the skipper) is four or five.

Sharp EIT Monday Twilight Series

Runs on Monday evenings from October to March, with an extended break over the Christmas period. This Series makes for excellent crew training as spinnakers are permitted. This Series also has an IRC handicap for Division 1 competitors.

Separate Spring and Summer Pointscore series of 6 and 8 races respectively are conducted within the Series.

Income Asset Management Wednesday Twilight Series

The races are strictly non-spinnaker and take place in an ideal setting. A warm summer's evening, as the sun sets, with a refreshing drink and perhaps a bite to eat in the Clubhouse or al fresco on the deck. Does life get any better?



Find out more



Regattas and Event Hosting

With the CYCA conducting ocean races such as the Rolex Sydney Hobart Race for some 80 years, the Club has amassed an expertise in race organisation and sea safety which is internationally acclaimed and widely emulated, with some techniques being adopted world-wide following CYCA development.

Experience the excitement of our sailing regattas and series at the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia. We take immense pride in our deep commitment to professionalism, setting a high standard for all competing yachts.

Racing with us offers competitors an unparalleled experience, with iconic landmarks like the Opera House, Harbour Bridge, and Hornby Lighthouse providing a breathtaking backdrop to every manoeuvre. After the excitement on the water, Sydney's vibrant CBD, just three kilometres away, awaits to provide the perfect setting for unwinding.

The CYCA's management expertise is globally renowned, contributing to the success of prestigious events such as the Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, the World Sailing Youth Match Racing World Championship, the Rolex Farr 40 World Championships and many more.

Join our racing fleet in one of our diverse series and enjoy our professional approach to exceptional racing.



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Cruising

For those who enjoy sailing at a more leisurely pace, relaxing in an idyllic location, and even enjoying the occasional sundowner, CYCA cruising is for you.

CYCA cruising activities are organised by the CYCA Cruising Committee for Members and their sailing friends. The aim of these events is to encourage participation in organised cruise events, to share interesting and educational sailing information and to give Club Members additional opportunities to meet other Members and use the facilities of the Club.

The Cruising Committee organises a comprehensive event schedule which includes education evenings with expert and informative speakers, social events and sailing activities.

Information evenings: At these events, the CYCA Cruising Committee organises speakers who are experts on a diverse range of subjects from heavy weather sailing or electronics, to guests sharing experiences of travelling to far flung cruising ports.

Cruise in company: involve yourself as much or as little as you wish. Venues vary and include Refuge Bay, where the CYCA has two permanent moorings, Middle Harbour and Port Hacking.

All cruising activities are announced through the CYCA weekly newsletter, Onshore and online.

Two CYCA Cruising Trophies are awarded on a discretionary basis each year, one for the Best Cruise Overseas and the other for Best Cruise in Australian Waters. Neither trophy is presented unless the cruise is considered sufficiently outstanding.



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YOUTH SAILING ACADEMY

Youth Sailing Academy (YSA)

Established in 1993, the CYCA Youth Sailing Academy is regarded both nationally and internationally as one of the world's leading full-time sailing academies.

Thousands of young sailors have graduated from the Academy to date, with many going on to compete in some of sailing's premier events, including the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, Olympic Games, America's Cup, SailGP, World Match Racing Championships and The Ocean Race.

Among the YSA graduates are:

Will Ryan (Olympic gold medalist Tokyo 2020 and silver medalist Rio 2016 and five-time world champion, 420 class with Mathew Belcher)

Olivia Price and Lucinda Whitty (Olympic silver medalists London 2012, Elliott 7m)

Sam Newton (SailGP champion 2021, 2022, 2023, Team Australia, America's Cup and SX 18ft Skiff World Champion)

Kyle Langford (SailGP champion 2021 2022 Team Australia, The Ocean Race and 2013 America's Cup champion, ORACLE Team USA).

The Academy also has won three (2017, 2019 and 2020) of the five World Sailing Youth Match Racing World Championships it has contested.

The CYCA Youth Sailing Academy, which celebrated its 30-year anniversary in 2023, offers a wide range of courses for participants, from learn to sail through to advanced sailing courses for sailors aged between 13 and 25.



Using a fleet of ten identical Elliott 7m keelboats, the Academy also hosts a number of world-class youth sailing events each year, including the CYCA International Youth Match Racing Regatta in November.

Over the years, the Youth Sailing Academy has provided scores of young girls and boys with the opportunity to either learn the basics or to help make the successful transition from dinghies to keelboat sailing. Through its holiday camps, school and community programs, the YSA has nurtured them, brought families together and ignited the passion for our sport in so many individuals, many who still participate today and are proud Members of the Club. Sailing opportunities offered for young sailors and would-be sailors include:

School Holiday Course

The CYCA Youth Sailing Academy School Holiday Course provides an ideal introduction to keelboat sailing for sailors aged 13-18 whose sailing experiences range from very limited to reasonably competent. Conducted four times a year during school term breaks, each course is four days in length and uses the CYCA Youth Sailing Academy's fleet of Elliott 7m keelboats, crewed by 4 sailors with an on-board instructor.





Find out more

Winter Squads

The CYCA Youth Sailing Academy conducts winter training squads in conjunction with other sailing clubs to allow sailors to participate and build their skills across multiple disciplines and classes within the sport of sailing. Winter Squads are open to Members and non-Members of the CYCA and are tiered into three levels.

Sailors are recommended to have participated in at least two CYCA School Holiday Courses before attending winter squads. Sailors are also strongly encouraged to participate for two years in each squad, focusing on different positions across those years. Sailors will agree to the CYCA Athlete Code of Conduct.

Regattas

The CYCA Youth Sailing Academy conducts a range of events throughout the year, including the NSW Youth Match Racing Championship, which CYCA has hosted since its inception in 2001.

Interclub Challenge

Created in 2001 as a way to help identify and build youth sailors' experience in fleet racing events, the interclub Challenge is a fleet racing series contested by the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club and Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron with each club hosting a stage of the series.

Visit our website for more information on the Youth Sailing Academy.

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SCAN ME



Marina Services

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia strives to offer the best possible services in every area, and this extends to its waterfront and boatyard operation. The CYCA offers comprehensive support aimed at making owning a boat a pleasure.

Members have access to deep water berthing facilities, comprising a floating marina for 213 boats and hardstand facilities for Etchells, J/24's and J/70's, with a crane available for use by boat owners. Bookings are essential and subject to availability.

Full Members, Life Members and Country Members of the CYCA are able to apply for either a 3 Year licence or quarterly licence. Additionally, the Club offers a visitors' licence for short stays of days or a few weeks.

Members also enjoy 24/7 access to the Club's fully modernised facilities including bathrooms, showers and laundry and receive up to 52 free nights per year, as well as a 45% discount off visitor berthing.

On-site contract boating services include riggers, shipwrights, mechanical and electrical services. Other services available at the neighbouring d'Albora Marina include fuel service, a ship chandlery, mechanical services and upholstery trimmer.

The Marina Office is open from 8am-4pm Monday-Friday and from 8am-5pm at weekends and on Public Holidays.

CYCA Sailing Foundation



Find out more

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia believes sailing should be a sport for all and one of its core values is to ensure the benefits of sailing can be appreciated by everyone in the community.

The CYCA established the CYCA Sailing Foundation with the goal of breaking down barriers to sailing for those with limited access. They focus on four strategic priorities:

- ▶ To grow sailing infrastructure, both on water and on shore.
- ▶ To create and enable opportunities to sail for those with limited or no access.
- ▶ To identify and support disadvantaged sectors of the community.
- ▶ To promote a community-oriented focus.

By fostering broader sailing opportunities and increasing participation, the Foundation aims to remove perceived barriers, particularly for women and school-aged children.

If you are interested in making a donation please visit the Sailing Foundation page of the Club website.

Safety Of Life At Sea Trust (Solas)



Find out more

The CYCA Safety of Life at Sea Trust (SOLAS) was established by the Club and a number of its then directors in 1999 following the tragic loss of six lives in the 1998 Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

The Trust's objectives are threefold:

- ▶ Assist the immediate needs of families of those lost at sea during Australian Sailing sanctioned races.
- ▶ Provide assistance to search and rescue organisations.
- ▶ Foster research and training to improve procedures and equipment.

To date, the CYCA SOLAS Trust has raised more than \$1.6m, the majority of which has been distributed to search and rescue services around Australia.

If you think your organisation meets the criteria to qualify for a grant from the CYCA SOLAS Trust, please email your detailed proposal to the CYCA.

If you would like to support the CYCA SOLAS Trust by making a donation, please download the form on the club website or email accounts@cyca.com.au



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Visit the Club

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia is located on New Beach Road, Darling Point, next to scenic Rushcutters Bay Park.

The Club is conveniently close to the city (less than 10 minutes by taxi in non-peak times), airport (less than 30 minutes by taxi) and public transport facilities including buses and trains.

Edgecliff is the closest train station, less than 10 minutes' walk from the Club, and services on the Eastern Suburbs line run frequently.

Social Media

-  CruisingYachtClubAustralia
-  cruising_yacht_club_australia
-  CYCATV
-  cycaustralia

Contact Information

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► Member Tender Service

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► Sailing Enquiries

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► Volunteers

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► Youth Sailing Association

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Find out more





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