

Williamstown Seaport Festival



Classic Yacht Race

In the beginning

From that time in the 17th century yacht racing, under the helm of Charles II, through to all forms yacht racing today one indisputable fact has emerged. The weather on the day rules.

A pursuit start

For our inaugural Williamstown Seaport Festival classic yacht race a race start format known as a pursuit start is being used. The fleet start is based on a handicap format similar to the Easter Stawell gift. The slower yachts start first and all other yachts start at time interval based on their average racing performance in previous races.

A screaming finish

Going back to our Stawell Gift example, watching back markers storming through the early starters as they run for the finish line is one of Australia's heart stopping moment. For spectators on Sunday the sight of 20 yachts racing for the finish line is not to be missed. After rounding channel mark 20, it's flat out dash for the line. On board it's intense heart stopping, nobody move moment. For the spectator it's will they or won't they break through the lee of an adjacent boat.

It's the handicapper

Let's hope our starting time allocator, aka the handicapper, gets the great uncertainty aka weather sorted out to make finish of the inaugural Williamstown Seaport Festival classic yacht race a moment to remember.

Inside the race

This race is the last race of an eight race series. So far the Bert Pullins **Astrud** from HBYC. Leads the series she must finish this race to take out the series. Australia's notable Classic yachts **Mercedes III** from RYCV and **Boambillee** from RMYS are fighting for Second and Third placing honours. Will these two back markers and glamour as seen in **Acrospire III** from RYCV and

power as seen in **Kingurra** from RBYC clean up the field. Leading the fleet off at 10:00 am is the well known ocean racer **Manuka Rere**. Built to the John Guzzwell of Trakka Round the World fame. **Manuka Rere** was the best performing classic yacht in the 2019 Winter Series of classic yacht racing on Port Phillip.

Australia's Classic yachts on display

The Classic yacht fleet taking part in Sunday race range as representatives of the golden era of yacht racing in Australia. Today will see the 1926 **Acrospire III** (R4) through to **Mercedes III** (R450) the most celebrated Australian and Admirals Cup yacht for a yet to be beaten performance that led to Australia's dominating the Ocean Racing competition in the 1960's. In between these two Classic yachts the fleet has top performing yachts from Sydney to Hobart Racing **Kingurra** (B23) and Souther Cross Ocean racing **Boambillee** (S51).



Champion Classic Yacht ACROSPIRE III Built 1926

Tumlaren fleet

The race winning pedigree of all classic yacht competing in today's festival race were household names when racing their era. Particularly notable as local household names were the six Tumlaren yachts are competing in today's race. Our fleet of the Knud Reimer designed Tumlaren is the worlds largest. Since 1937, these yachts have raced continuously on Port Phillip.

The three rules for Classic yachts

They were built to race. They were built to win. But sorry, they weren't built to last. That third item is what the Classic Yacht Association of Australia is all about. The mission of the CYAA is to maintain recognition of Australian maritime evolution by keeping these classic yachts in full race trim and compliant with today's yacht racing safety requirements. Most of the yachts racing today are listed on the Australian Register of Historic Vessels. Any spectator wanting to be involved with this mission make yourself known by sending a note to the CYAA.

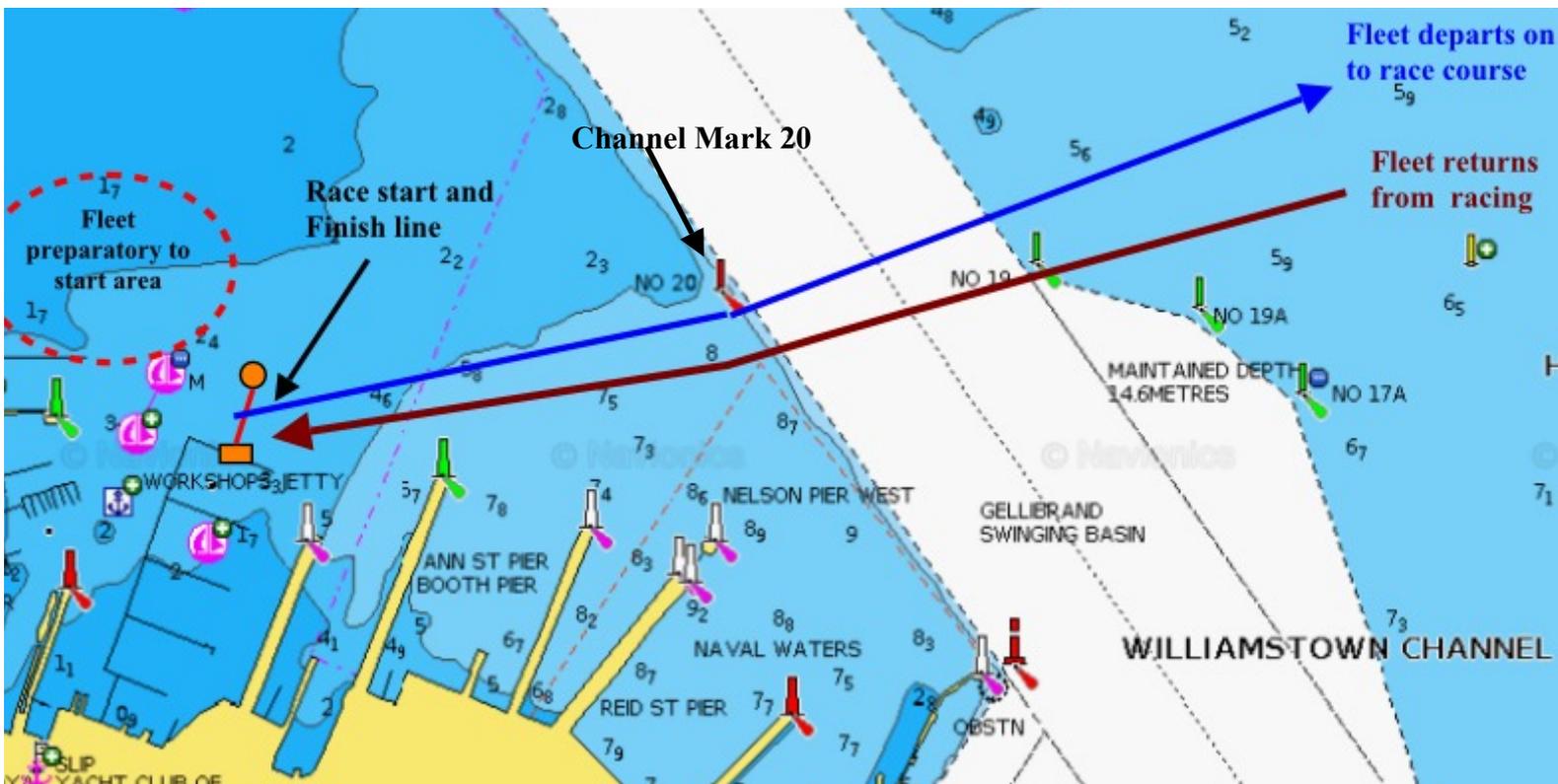
Classic yacht racing schedule

The schedule of racing is based on two series of 8 races plus a Cup Regatta in November.

Williamstown Seaport Festival Classic Yacht race

Classic Yacht start time allocation

	Time of day	Sail Number	Classic Yacht Name	Time of day	Sail Number	Classic Yacht Name
1	1000	H5823	MANU_KE_RERE	9 1032	KA1	MARIE-LOUISE III
1	1000	GH300	SEABIRD	10 1033	R5888	CYAN
2	1020	R102	BUNGOONA	11 1035	R54	WANITA
3	1024	R502	MARTINI	11 1036	192	MISTRAL IX
3	1024	318	ZEPHYR	12 1040	H161	PASTIME II
4	1025	309	SNOW GOOSE	13 1041	R450	MERCEDES III
5	1026	321	ETTRICK	14 1042	S51	BOAMBILLEE
6	1027	322	SIROCCO	15 1049	R4	ACROSPIRE III
7	1028	96	AVIAN	16 1050	B23	KINGURRA
7	1028	200	DINGO			
8	1029	KA 544	ASTRUD			



The course used by the Classic yacht when departing from start line and approaching finish line at RYCV