



Welcome to sailing at McCrae Yacht Club

McCrae Yacht Club has been providing safe off-the-beach sailing and training for its members and the community since its establishment in 1961.

A Guide For New Members

McCrae Yacht Club Inc.
Mornington Peninsula
ABN 91 736 526 581

PO Box 20, McCrae 3938
690 Point Nepean Road,
McCrae, VIC 3938
Telephone: (03) 5986 1361

Welcome to the club from the Commodore



Welcome to McCrae Yacht Club

On behalf of the members of the McCrae Yacht Club, I welcome you to our family.

McCrae Yacht Club has been providing safe off-the-beach sailing and training its members and the community since its establishment in 1961.

We have nearly 600 members, half of whom are local residents and many others own holiday homes or have regular accommodation on Mornington Peninsula. McCrae Yacht Club is proud to be a strongly family orientated club with numerous families now being members for three generations.

Please make yourself known to other members around the yard, in the bar and on the beach - you will find us to be very friendly and welcoming. The best way of enjoying your time at the Club is by joining in as many activities as possible - sailing, sailing school, BBQs and participating in the rostered volunteer activities.

Many of you will have joined the Club to learn to sail and will take advantage of our wonderful Saturday and Sunday morning sail training. But of course there is much more - in the afternoon you can join the racing (perhaps beginning with 'Green Fleet' sailing to get the hang of it), serving in the bar and canteen or crewing on a patrol boat with the more experienced hands, before enjoying a drink at the bar with new friends and adjourning to the balcony to watch the best sunset on the Bay.

Welcome, and I look forward to seeing you at The Club by the Lighthouse,

Dave Briggs

October 2019



EMAIL: admin@mccraeyc.com.au

WEBSITE: Mccraeyc.com.au





Introduction to the Club

McCrae Yacht Club is a friendly community willing to help you and your family to enjoy sailing. As a new member you will find yourself absorbing much new information in an unfamiliar environment. We hope you will come to know and enjoy this family of sailors and yachties as much as we do. We have a strong commitment to sailing as a sport and as a way to have fun and to enjoy the water.

The Club has produced and become the home of many state, national and international champions, national and international adjudicators and judges and some of the fastest sailors in the world!

But, most importantly, the club has catered for many, many children and adults who just love messing about in boats.

Discover sailing

Those who have had a desire in the back of their mind to learn sailing can come for a 'Discover Sailing' day and try your hand at sailing with our highly regarded and accredited training centre. We provide the instructors and the boats and you can learn to sail without becoming a member of McCrae while you determine if sailing is for you.

We cater for all levels of sailing ability and interest. Even those who might not love sailing but who love someone who does.



Getting started

With this guide you will have received:

- A Club sailing programme and
- The latest edition of our periodic newsletter, The Beacon
- A copy of our Club History book can be collected from Reception.

Keys

You are entitled to a Club key. Please take care to lock up after you leave and look after the Club the way you would look after your own property. The toilets and showers are accessed using the keypad on the door - the code can be obtained at Reception.

Communication

Our preferred method of communication with you is by email so please let Alona in Reception know if you change your email address. We also may use your mobile number to send an SMS for important news including Duty reminders.

The website is a great reference point for what's-on at the Club and general information. (www.mccraeyc.com.au)

Sailor App

Make sure you download the Sailor app and register your mobile phone number with the club. Sailor app allows you to access the club program, member contact details, real time

messages and sailing results on any smart phone. McCYC is using Sailor app to advise members of volunteer rosters and duties and to send reminder notices.

The Sailor app is a secure app whose content can only be viewed by registered club members. It is important that family and couple memberships register mobile details for all members with the Club as the security features of the app only allow one device to be registered per registered mobile number. Registering the mobile numbers ensures you each receive your own volunteer rosters and reminders.

The 'Sailor' app is available as a free download from the iTunes App store (iPhones) or the Google Play store (Android). Just search for 'Sailor' on the app store and look for the icon. Download the app now and make sure you always have the latest information from the Club.



INTRODUCTION TO THE CLUB

Our affiliations

As McCrae Yacht Club is affiliated with the state and national governing bodies for sailing Yachting Victoria (YV) and Australian Sailing (AS), you will receive AS national membership for you and your family members. You will need your AS (previously YA) membership number to sail at McCrae and at other clubs around Australia, so note this down. Part of the McCrae Yacht Club member fee is paid to YV and to AS.

Registration and yard fees

If you have nominated a boat (or more) on your membership application, you will have been asked to pay the relevant registration fee. Among other things, these fees pay for the Safety Net which includes race management, patrol boats, radios and safety equipment that the Club provides for you and other members while on the water.

If you want to store your boat in the Club storage yard, you will also have to pay a sailing-season yard storage fee. These

fees vary according to the boat type. The Club's Yardmaster will attempt to find you a space if you need storage but room can be tight and so preference is usually given to those who are active in the Club as volunteers and/or who are using their boats frequently rather than those who 'park and forget'.

Once your boat is registered at the Club, you will need to ensure your boat conforms to the Club's safety requirements and complete a 'Compliance Declaration' form if you want to participate in organised Club sailing activities and training events. Please request a form at Reception and check that you comply with the requirements and then request a member of the Sailing Committee to inspect and sign off on your craft. Additionally, you must be insured against third party liability. All these are an important part of your protection (and the protection of others) when you are sailing at this Club and other clubs. Your insurance details are needed to renew your membership.

Sailing and Training

Sailing is what we do.

The summer sailing and social season at the Club runs from early-October until late April. This is where memories are made. You will see from the Sailing Programme that the main racing programme is on Saturday. The racing programme includes short and longer races off shore from the Club and also a mini-marathon that ventures further afield but still with patrol boat supervision.

In January most seasons, the Club hosts State, National or International Regattas and sailors from around the country and the world come here to compete. You are encouraged to get involved in these Regattas in anyway you can – either on the water in rescue boats or onshore in the canteen or bar – it's great fun and amazing to watch the champions sail.

Learning to Sail.

We can also teach you to sail, no matter what your age.

McCrae Yacht Club is an AS accredited Discover Sailing Centre. Detailed information about the training programmes held at the Club are available on our website or by speaking to the Principal – Murray O'Brien. Please speak to Murray

about which of the programmes is most suitable for you. The Training Centre has a fleet of training boats including OziOptis, Pacers, Quests, Hobie Waves and Stand up Paddle boards so people of all ages are catered for.

The Club also has accredited training programmes for Senior First Aid, Power Boat Handling, Safety Boat Handling and Responsible Service of Alcohol.



INTRODUCTION TO THE CLUB

Racing

How to Sign-On and Sign-Off for a race at McCrae

'Signing-on' and 'signing-off' is essential for your safety and if you want to be included in the race results.

To sign-on you need to locate your card in the race box on the stand in the Control Tower or near the reception desk on race days. Simply write the date, sign your name on the back of the card and place the card in the race box on the stand. Just ask the friendly tower staff or a Club member if you need assistance to show you the ropes first time up.

Signing-off is even more important than signing-on as this is the Club's way of knowing that you have arrived back safely on shore after a day's racing. It is also essential for registration of your race results.

All daily race competitors' names are listed on the 'Sign-off' sheets pinned to the bench located next to the canteen. Your name will be listed in the Division in which you are sailing, provided you have signed-on. Put your signature next to your name and complete the declaration to indicate that you finished, did not finish or did not compete.

Choosing and finding a boat

See - McCrae Yacht Club and YV websites for links to class associations where they have lists of boats for sale.

Ask - Sailing division and class representatives, training instructors and members of the Club about their experience with their own boat.

Look - in the Club's 'Boats for sale' folder in our clubrooms next to sliding door or on the internet for boats for sale.

Possible first boats

Juniors (children 8 years and weighing up to 50 kg): Minnow, Opti

Seniors (new and older sailors): Sabre (single handed) or Pacer (two handed)

Race Management and Rescue Boat Crews

Another great way to get involved around the Club is to join the Rescue Boat Crews. The Club owns a mixed fleet of powerboats including hard hulled start and finish boats and course laying RIBs and smaller runabout RIBs. If you have a Powerboat Licence and wish to join in please see our Club Captain – Richard Nicholson or any member of the Sailing Committee and you can go out on the

water and see if you like it.

How the Club works

As an incorporated association, the McCrae Yacht Club Inc. has formal Rules and By-laws, elected office bearers and committees.

Members are elected to these positions at the Annual General Meeting held at the clubhouse in June each year and at which eligible financial members may vote.

Between each annual general meeting, the Club is administered by the General Committee to which the various subcommittees report. The Officers of the Club are its Flag Officers (the Commodore, the Vice Commodore and the Rear Commodore), the Secretary and the Treasurer.

General Committee

The members of the General Committee comprise the Officers (see above) and a number of other members of the Club each of whom have specific responsibilities for aspects of the Club's administration. On race days and during regattas they are also rostered for on-shore management duties.

Sailing Committee

The members of this committee are elected by the Club's members to manage all the on-water activities of our Club including compiling the calendar of racing events and serving as race officers on race days. The Chair of the Sailing Committee is the Club Captain.

Training Committee

The Training Committee's activities are accredited by AS to manage all training activities offered by the Club.

Training Committee members

The Principal and Club Coach: Murray O'Brien

Training Centre Administrator: Margaret Crossland

Email: training@mccraeyc.com.au

Social Committee

The members of the Social Committee are members of the Club who volunteer to manage the social programme and activities.

WHO'S WHO AT MCCRAE YACHT CLUB



David Briggs is the **Club Commodore** for the 2018-2019 season.

David may want to know if you prefer apple or pear.



Jon Knorr is our Vice Commodore – you'll hear him before you see him.



Scott Cunningham is our Rear Commodore and a keen monohull sailor.



Richard Nicholson is our Club Captain and a Cat sailor.



Murray O'Brien is Principal of the Sail-training School and a skilful Sabre sailor



Alona Riley is the Club Administrator. She is in the office on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and is a top operator



Campbell Miles is our Beacon editor and sails a Sabre



Lyn Johannessen is Membership Manager and a Life Member, you'll see her in the Tower most Saturdays

WHO'S WHO AT MCCRAE YACHT CLUB



Mark O'Brien is our Hon. Secretary and can add up a column of numbers like an expert.



Akemi O'Brien is our canteen manager and knocks up a mighty tasty curry.



Michael Paynter is the Club Treasurer. He can't seem to decide between the Aero and the Tazar.



Guy Bancroft is a Life Member & our House Officer. Guy is always willing to give advice and help the bewildered sailor.

David Parker is the Yardmaster and sails a Taipan Cat.



Margaret Crossland is our Training Centre Administrator and is the chief race starter each Saturday.

Youth Group Liaisons are Evelyn Floyd and Jessica Vize



Andrew Pritchard is our Patrol Boat roster coordinator.

Other things you may need to know

Race Officer

Every race day a member of the Sailing Committee or another experienced sailor takes charge of the on-water events for the day.

They are responsible for deciding if racing will proceed, depending on the weather forecast and conditions, organizing patrol boats and their crews, staffing of the control tower, providing an information session for sailors before racing begins and then starting, managing and finishing the races, organizing for the results to be posted and most important of all, maximizing safety for every-one on the water.

The Race Officer relies heavily on the team of about 15 Club volunteers to make your sailing as safe and enjoyable as possible. We are always looking for members to join our team so do not be shy if you want to learn about these other essential activities in the tower or helping out in the patrol boats.

Shore Officer

On all scheduled race days, a member of the General Committee is rostered to oversee all on-shore activities at the Club for the day.

The Shore Officer ensures that the Club is opened in the morning and closed at night and supports volunteers in their activities, attends to incidents and deals with queries. The name of the Shore Officer for the day is written on the white board in Reception. *Please see the Shore Officer if you have any questions.*

House Officer

(full details are in Reception & on the website)

As a member of the Club, you may be rostered on as House Officer. The House Officer is responsible for putting out the bins and the hoses for washing down boats and generally checking the Club and the yard for tidiness in the morning and in the evening, collecting the bins and emptying them into the collection bins at the eastern end of the Club beside the patrol boat shed and returning the hoses to the hose holders outside the men's toilets.

Social functions

The Club runs a number of informal social functions. The functions are advertised in the Club programme, on our website and by email to members. Close to the date, notices will appear in the change rooms and at the canteen. Members are asked to please book in advance to help with catering on the basis of 'plain old common courtesy' to all the volunteers at our club who give up their time to organise functions.

Bookings and payment is usually done via TryBooking or at reception.

Visitors to the Club

If you wish to invite guests to the Club for a drink, please note that our liquor licence requires that visitors be signed in. The visitors' book is located near the bar. This also applies to the partners of senior members i.e. if the partner is not a member. Our licence does not permit alcohol consumption in the storage yard area. The Club promotes a Responsible Serving of Alcohol policy and we ask that you adhere to this policy and its requirements.

Volunteers and rosters

McCrae Yacht Club is very proud of its volunteer tradition. It is a great way to meet other members and ensures the continued financial success of our Club. When you receive your annual membership renewal form there will be a volunteer form as well for you to indicate your preferences; if the form is not returned we will assume you are available for any duty on any sailing day. The rosters are for canteen, bar duty, bar food service and house officer duty. The rosters are posted to members and are on the Club website. You will receive notification shortly before your scheduled duty by email and SMS via an automated reminder service to which the Club subscribes.

The Canteen & the Canteen Manager

The canteen is open on sail racing days to provide sandwiches, rolls, fruit, hot and cold drinks, snacks, ice creams, pies, pasties, sausage rolls and hot dogs. Sunscreen is available for members on the canteen counter, as are Band-Aids and scissors.

Club members are rostered on to staff the canteen. The roster includes both sailing and non-sailing members. It is a great way to meet other members, establish contacts and catch up with the latest news around the Club.

INTRODUCTION TO THE CLUB

Bar food

Hungry sailors can relax after sailing and enjoy a drink and nibbles as they chat. Sailors and others can purchase hot food in the canteen and potato chips at the bar.

About our bar

The Club bar is located on the upper deck and is open on race days from around 4:30 pm to 7 pm and is staffed by rostered Club members. When you return your volunteer form you should indicate when you are available to help on the Bar. Without such volunteers the Bar cannot open.

The Club runs responsible serving of alcohol training.

Finding your way around the Club

Ask any-one, but this list will help.

Emergencies on race days

Find the Shore Officer or go to Reception or the Control Tower administration team.

Everything about membership:

Speak to the membership secretary or Alona in Reception.

Storing your boat or boat storage matters:

Speak to the Yardmaster.

Missing anything?

Lost property may be found in the lost property cupboard in the sail locker on the ground floor under the Control Tower. For valuables, check with Reception on the upper deck. NEVER leave valuables in the changerooms – sadly on occasions, especially on busy summer days, they are not safe – please leave them in the tower or at Reception.

Advice about sailing, boats or gear

Ask any Club member who has the same class of boat, your class representative or ask Horst Kopp - he knows everything.

Advice about learning to sail or coaching

Speak to the Principal of the Training Centre.

Racing rules

You will find the official racing rules in the Rules of Racing published by Yachting Australia or you can ask any of the Club's instructors, a fellow sailor or a member of the Sailing Committee.

Racing administration

Check with the rostered race officer for the day - check the white board in Reception, or with the Club Captain. There will be a brief information session downstairs near the canteen 45 minutes before the nominated race start time.

On-shore administration and co-ordination:

Check with the rostered Shore Officer

Youth group liaison

Speak to our Youth Reps, Evelyn Floyd or Jessica Vize.

Using the Club facilities, BBQs, boats etc.

The Club BBQs are available for members to use but you are requested to clean the BBQ and equipment and return to the store room after use. The Canteen is not available for cleaning your dishes etc.

Check with the Shore Officer on race days, or ask a Flag Officer on other days if you would like some help with

- what to do and where to find things,
- Club etiquette with handling things such as cleaning and putting away the Club BBQs after use, the Club dishwasher or hosing down your boat. The Club rooms are available for hire for social events - speak to Alona in Reception or to the Secretary.

We ask that you keep the Club clean

Please feel free to take chairs and tables onto the balcony to enjoy the beautiful sunsets with a cold beer or a glass of wine but PLEASE return them back inside and return your glasses to the dishwasher. Please place rubbish and empty bottles and cans into the appropriate bins.



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Where to find:

- **Information on Club activities:** in the Club programme; on the website [www.mccraeyc.com.au] or in The Beacon.
- **Reception desk:** on the upper deck, next to the Control Tower
- **Committee meeting room:** on the upper deck, next to Reception (enter through Reception).
- **Race results:** these are posted on the glassed notice board and on the TV monitor on the upper deck or the "Sailor" App.

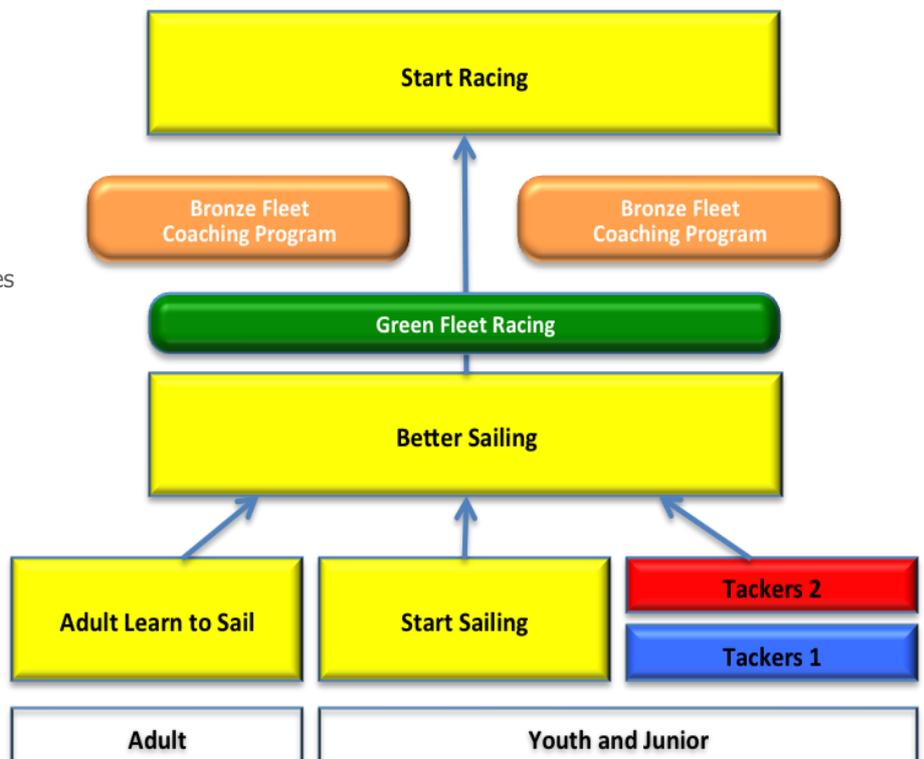
- **Weather forecast:** on the glassed notice board, upper deck level
- **Current Wind strength:** on the computer screen in the clubhouse, next to the counter.
- **Automatic External Defibrillator (AED):** in the clubhouse on the counter.
- **Race Control Area:** is on the upper deck to the right of the stairs, entry via Reception. This is the command centre on race days and is generally considered off limits except for those immediately concerned with race management.

Sail training

McCrae offers a great environment in which to learn to sail. The Club House offers a great advantage point for watching the kids or your partner "on-course".

Our priorities ... Safety, education and fun

The focus of all training and development activities at McCrae is safety, education and fun. We are constantly seeking to refine our processes and methods to further improve what and how we deliver our programs. As with all on water activities, sailing carries an element of risk, however we strive to educate and teach in a manner that ensures the safety of all participants and instructors.



INTRODUCTION TO THE CLUB

The Club's achievements & a brief history of McCrae Yacht Club

The Club's key objective (and always has been) is to foster and encourage the sport of sailing in all its forms by everyone, regardless of sex and age. The Club had its genesis in a small compound with a membership of sailors and anglers but quickly became an off-the-beach sailing club, exclusively. It all began in 1961 with a small yard and a brick shed, east of the lighthouse.

The Club provided a gathering point for many families who, until then, had kept their boats on the beach, above the tide line. The first races were held that summer and the race centre was a tank stand heaved onto the shed roof were started with an old shotgun!

The Club expanded mightily on the old site, building its reputation for producing top sailors, race administrators and adjudicators. The Club hosted State, National and International class championships and built on its reputation for excellence. Many good tales can be told of those early times (including when the Commodore, at the time, shot a hole in the club flag and a nearby sail, after which the starting shotgun was retired.)

The Club has always had a strong emphasis on safety and we now have a magnificent fleet of fully equipped patrol boats all manned by fully credentialed Club volunteers. The Club has always encouraged juniors to get into sailing. It established a junior programme in 1965 (now called the 'Tackers' programme) that has since grown into a Sail Training Centre accredited by Yachting Australia.

The present club location

In 1974, the Club built new facilities on the current site with clubhouse, race control tower, administration and undercover parking for our patrol craft plus an extensive fenced area for members' boats.

McCrae Yacht Club continues to produce top class sailors and race administrators. The membership includes many State, Australian and International champions who sail regularly at McCrae. That said, the Club remains very much family orientated and we know that many members have no such aspirations but simply enjoy sailing and 'messaging about in boats'.

50th years

We celebrated our first fifty years in 2011. All this has happened in a happy, friendly, family atmosphere where everyone - men, women and children, become involved in sailing and in running our Club by the Lighthouse on the Bay.

Past Commodore, and current life-member, Lyn Johannessen, has written a full account of our history "By the Light on the Bay". You can obtain your copy from the upper-deck Reception.

