



RBYC

Race Management Tool Buoy Zone



https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=dev.featurehub.buoy_zone&hl=en

Race Officer – Page 2

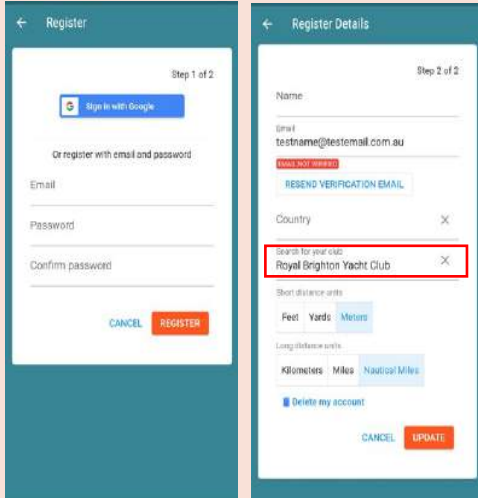


<https://www.google.com/url?q=https%3A%2F%2Fapps.apple.com%2Fau%2Fapp%2Fbuoyzone%2Fid1467318416&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNEsZRRFgbitbDXQtwwwPnhGGrBaNg>

Mark Layer – Page 13

How to get started with Buoy Zone – Race Officer

Create an account



Register

Step 1 of 2

Sign in with Google

Or register with email and password

Email

Password

Confirm password

CANCEL REGISTER

Register Details

Step 2 of 2

Name

Email
testname@testemail.com.au

SEND VERIFICATION EMAIL

Country

Search for your club
Royal Brighton Yacht Club

Short distance units
Feet Yards Meters

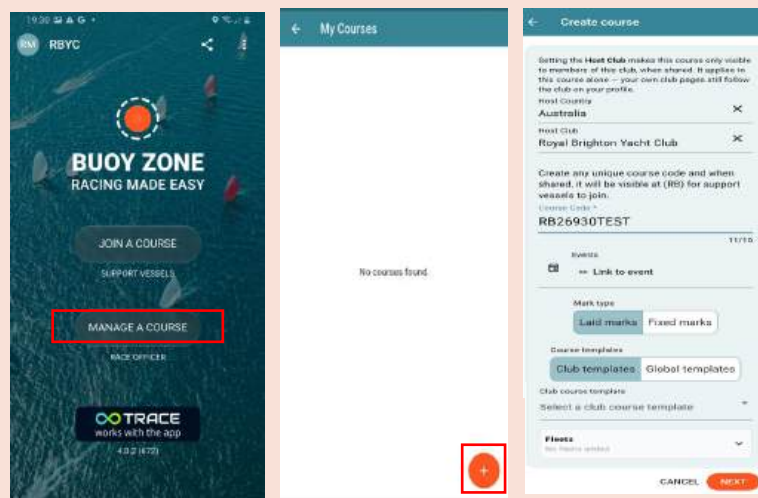
Long distance units
Kilometers Miles Nautical Miles

Delete my account

CANCEL UPDATE

- Download the app “Buoy Zone” from app store.
- Register using your Google or Apple account – or create a new account.
- Input your personal details.
- Search for RBYC and link your account to the club.

Create a new course



My Courses

No courses found

MANAGE A COURSE

Create course

Getting the Host Club makes this course only visible to members of that club, when shared. It applies to this course alone – your own club pages still follow the club in your profile.

Host Country
Australia

Host Club
Royal Brighton Yacht Club

Create a unique course code and when shared, it will be visible at (RB) for support vessels to join.

Course Code
RB26930TEST

11/15

Events
Link to event

Mark type
Laid marks Fixed marks

Course templates
Club templates Global templates

Club course template
Select a club course template

Flags
No flags specified

CANCEL NEXT

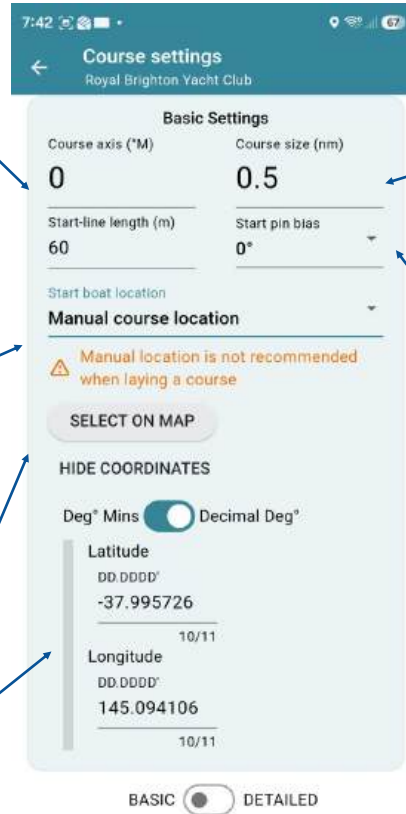
- Create a new racecourse by clicking “Manage a Course”.
- Add a new race-course. Select Plus Sign.
- Fill in the host club.
- Define a course name that can be easily recognised.

How to set up a new racecourse - Course axis and size

Enter the course axis.

Start vessel location can be updated with the current vessel location as long as racecourse is not yet finalised. After finalising the racecourse please choose "Manual course location" so that the start vessel location does not change, if the start vessel swings or let 'out more anchor.

Select "Select on Map" or Enter Lat. & Long. (See map next Page).



7:42 Course settings Royal Brighton Yacht Club

Basic Settings

Course axis (*M)	Course size (nm)
0	0.5

Start-line length (m)	Start pin bias
60	0°

Start boat location
Manual course location

Manual location is not recommended when laying a course

SELECT ON MAP

HIDE COORDINATES

Deg° Mins ☒ Decimal Deg°

Latitude
DD.DDDD°
-37.995726
10/11

Longitude
DD.DDDD°
145.094106
10/11

BASIC ☒ DETAILED

Enter the course size (nm) and the length of the start-line (m) depending on the wind conditions and the boat types.

The start pin bias can be between +15° and -15°.

Update with my current location
Manual course location

How to set up a new racecourse - Continued (Detailed)



Drag the map to locate the indicator in desired location, then press the select button

← **Course settings**
Royal Brighton Yacht Club

BASIC ☒ DETAILED

Detailed Settings

Event & Fleets
RBYC Keelboat Trophy Race · 2
fleet(s): Keelboats DIV 1,
Keelboats Div 2

Course Type
Windward Leeward

Mark 1 Setting
Mark Gate

Add 1A Mark
No Yes

1A Mark angle °
100

1A distance from 1 (m)
40

1A axis: 358°, 0.5nm

Choose the designated course type.

Select the settings for top mark 1, mark 1A.

Not part of an event?
There are events, either active or upcoming, at your club. Are you sure this course is not part of an event?
LINK AN EVENT
NOT AN EVENT

Trapezoid
Triangle
Windward Leeward
Digital N
Digital M

How to set up a new racecourse - Continued (Detailed)



← **Course settings**
Royal Brighton Yacht Club

1A axis: 358°, 0.5nm

Add Extra Top Mark X1

No Yes

X1 length (% of course size)
75

(X1 Course size: 0.38nm) 2/4

Extra Top Mark X1 Type

Mark Gate

Add XA Mark

No Yes

Mark 4 Setting

Gate Mark None

Start-line location

Below bottom mark(s)

Finish-line location

Starboard of start boat

Finish distance

Select the settings for Extra top mark X1, mark XA.

Add Course Length for Inner Top Marks. % of original course length.

Select the settings for the bottom mark.

Select the locations of start-line and finish-line.

Below bottom mark(s)

Middle of beat

1/3 up beat

1/4 up beat

Same as start

Reach LR

Reach LG

Starboard of start boat

Starboard of start boat perpendicular to gate

Above top mark



How to set up a new racecourse - Completed Course Setting

Course Title

Shows details of people logged onto course.

Shows Number of linked traces

Centres' Start Boat on Chart.

Shows your current location.

Choose between: Map Layers

- Club Features On / Off
- Satellite View: On / Off

Course Alert: choose between

- Man Overboard
- Assistance Requested
- Medic Request.

This will notify all boats on the course.

Course Dist.

Course Bear.

Share Course appears here when you have forgotten to share.

Use this now before you forget.

0'M
COURSE AXIS

0.5NM
COURSE SIZE

SHARE COURSE

Here you can adjust your racecourse settings.

How to set up a new racecourse - Continued (Detailed)



Diagram illustrating the steps to set up a new racecourse, showing the 'Course settings' screen and associated options.

Course settings
Royal Brighton Yacht Club

Finish distance
Auto **Manual**

Finish-line length (m)
60

Gate width (m)
60

Gate/bottom mark offset (nm)
0.05

Mark Order
Order of marks per fleet for race analysis

Fleets
No fleets added

Advanced ^

Annotations:

- Selecting Manual allows you to adjust the finish line length.
- Enter the length of the finish line, the gate width and the gate distance.
- You can also add fleets using this particular course (optional).

Mark Order screen details:

- Fleet: Keelboats DIV 1
- Start
- Mark 1
- Gate 4
- Mark 1
- Finish

Course summary screen details:

- Class: -
- Total course distance: 2.10 NM

Fleets screen details:

- Fleets
No fleets added
- Fleet Name
- ADD



How to set up a new racecourse – Advance Settings

Course settings
Royal Brighton Yacht Club

Advanced ^

Start vessel name *
Harry Tedstone 14/20

Race Officer
Rod McKenna 11/20

Mobile number
04 2/20

WhatsApp Group Link

Create a Group in WhatsApp and copy the 'invite link' then paste it here, this will be shared with people joining the course.

☐ Sync to GiPSy Buoy?

☐ Using BZ Beacons?

Find out about the new free BZ Beacons here to see exactly where your marks are: buoy.zone/bz-beacon

☐ Sync to MarkSetBot?

☐ Set as a club template?

☒ Shared with club & Trace

CANCEL PREVIEW SET COURSE

Enter start vessel name and skipper name & details

Select to share with Club.

Set the course and open Map or Preview.

Copy and Paste WhatsApp invite link here if you want to setup for Event groups etc. (Optional)

These fields would be used by club admin. When setting up templates and robotic marks.

Club Features—Map Layer



Club Features - Race Management Oriented Charts

Clubs with an active Club Subscription can add key details to their map for all those who join to be able to see. These features include standard chart based symbols such as Marker buoys, Beacons, Lighthouses, rocks etc as well as marks and way-points specific to club activities. The focus is not on replacing navigational charts, rather allowing details relevant to course setting activities to be visible and available to those who need it.

Before you start, what you need to know:

- Club features are exclusively available to clubs that have a [Buoy Zone Club Subscription](#)
- Club features are visible to both those managing a course and joining a course.
- You can only create Club Features for your [“Profile Club”](#)
- Club features can be edited by either the user who created them or a [Club Admin](#).

Any Club Feature can be selected as a “navigate to function” or can also be used when selecting a manual course location using the “select on map” option.

Club Features—Map Layer Cont.



The screenshot shows the 'Create feature' form with several annotations pointing to specific fields:

- Feature Type:** A dropdown menu is open, showing options: Circle, Triangle, Square, Hexagon, and Symbol. An arrow points to the 'Circle' option.
- Feature Colour:** A color selection palette is open, showing various colored dots. An arrow points to the black dot.
- Location:** The 'LOCATE ON MAP' button is highlighted. Below it, the 'Deg' Mins' toggle is set to 'Decimal Deg'. The Latitude field contains '-37.909070' and the Longitude field contains '144.986130'. An arrow points to the 'LOCATE ON MAP' button.
- Status:** The 'Active' button is highlighted. An arrow points to the 'Active' button.

At the bottom of the form, there are 'CANCEL' and 'CREATE' buttons, and a note: 'Updating features may take a few minutes'.

Club Features—Map Layer Cont.



Using Club Features

To begin adding Club Features click through to “Manage a Course” from the main landing screen.

- On the next screen (My Courses), at the top right select “Club Features” then tap the big Orange + Button to begin creating a feature.
- When selecting the location of a feature it is possible to manually add a coordinate or view the map and scroll to the right location by tapping “Select on Map”
 - Note you may find it useful to [toggle on the satellite view layer](#)
- There are options to deactivate features individually if not required, for example clubs may have specific regatta based waypoints which are not always required.

Select manual locations on the map

Wherever you are able select the location of an item EG Manual course location, Club Feature you have the option to click “select on map” and then select the location you’re looking for on the map. This in addition to the ability to add in both specific coordinates where these are known.

Note all Club Features are selectable - so for example if you have a mooring or regular course location saved as a Club Feature you can select this as the location of the start boat for the course.

How to get started with Buoy Zone – Mark Layer



Create an account

← Register

Step 1 of 2

Sign in with Google

Or register with email and password

Email

Password

Confirm password

CANCEL REGISTER

← Register Details

Step 2 of 2

Name

Email
testname@testemail.com.au

Country

Search for your club
Royal Brighton Yacht Club

Short distance units
Feet Yards Meters

Long distance units
Kilometers Miles Nautical Miles

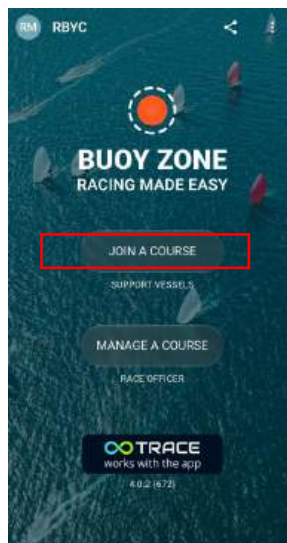
Delete my account

CANCEL UPDATE

- Download the app “Buoy Zone” from app store.
- Register using your Google or Apple account – or create a new account.

- Input your personal Details.
- Search for RBYC and link your account to the club.

Join a Course



- Join a course by clicking “Join a Course”.

- Select a Course.
- This screen also allows you to change host club.
- If course not shown Select “Show Older Courses”

- Select existing vessel.
- Or
- Select “Add New” Vessel.



How to get started with Buoy Zone – Mark Layer Cont.

- Enter Vessel Name
- Enter Your Name
- Enter Your Mobile #.
- Select Type of Vessel from list.
- Select “Join”

How to get started with Buoy Zone – Mark Layer Cont.



The screenshot shows the Buoy Zone app interface. At the top, a back arrow and the course title 'RB26928TES...' are visible. Below the title, a compass displays '121°M' and 'COMPASS'. A vertical toolbar on the right contains icons for: a group of people (course details), an eye (number of people in trace), a location pin (current location), a boat icon (centres' start boat), and a red cross (course alert). At the bottom, a status bar shows '180°M' and '0.25NM'. Callout boxes provide detailed descriptions for each of these elements.

Course Title

Compass Bearing

Shows details of people logged onto course.

Shows No. of people in Trace

Shows your current location.

Centres' Start Boat on Chart.

Choose between: Map Layers

- Club Features On / Off
- Satellite View: On / Off

Course Alert: choose between

- Man Overboard
- Assistance Requested
- Medic Request.

This will notify all boats on the course.

Course Bear.

Course Dist.

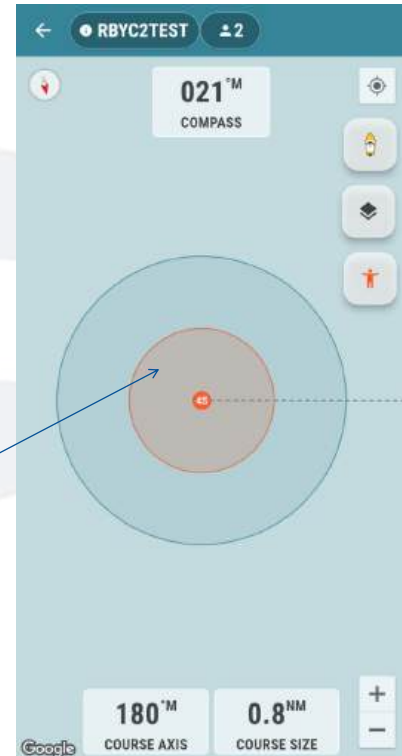
How to get started with Buoy Zone – Mark Laying Cont.



Click on the mark you are supposed to lay.

Directions on Buoy Zone will lead you to the mark.

Zoom in as you get closer to the mark; you want to be as close as possible to the mark – meaning your RIB needs to be inside the red circle (5m) when you drop the mark.





How to Create a Course Template – Club Admin

Buoy Zone makes it even easier to improve the experience for sailors and race officers by making it possible for clubs to save the course formats and locations they like to use through the Club Templates feature. This feature is currently available for a limited time to all, but will be limited to all clubs who have a Buoy Zone Club Subscription.

Using the Club Template feature:

Creating new template:

To create Club Templates, follow these simple steps.

From the landing screen select “Manage a Course”

Either select an existing course or create a new one. Remember, make sure your course, whether existing or new, is associated with the host club you intend to create the template for.

Set your course settings as you would like to see them saved as a Template.

Tip: if you would like your Template course to be saved in a specific location rather than the dynamically updated GPS location of the RO then change the “start boat location” setting to “Manual course Location.” If you’re reusing an existing course the coordinates will be where you last set the course. If you have created a new course the coordinates will default to your current location, but you can change them.

Select the Advanced Courses settings and scroll to the bottom, check the “Set as a club template” field.

Enter a name for the new Template - this is how the template will be displayed.

Tap “Set Course” to save and view the template.



Using a Course Template – Race Officers

Using a Club Template:

The Club Templates are available to all Race Officers who select a host club which has saved template(s). Remember when you select from a template course you receive a copy of that template course which you can adjust and edit to make your own, with no worry that you will change the saved "Club Template".

From the landing screen select "Manage a Course"

From the next screen select the + button (Bottom right) to create a new course

Choose the Host Country and Club you are creating a course for

Select a template course from the "Club course template" drop down.

The "Course settings" screen allows you to fully adjust the course settings, the template settings are pre-loaded including the course location if the "Start boat location" has been set to "Manual course location". Tap "Set Course" to view the course.

COURSE ALERTS AND MORE!

Course Alerts



A feature which we think offers a real innovation for on-water sports and race management.

This will be especially helpful in the case of general assistance requests, man-over boards, or urgent medic requests. If activated, a notification is sent to all Buoy Zone users who have joined or managed the course in the last 12 hours and alerts them to an assistant request with a location and 'navigate to' function.

"This is an area of innovation we haven't seen before for on-water sports, where traditionally communications are completely reliant on VHF/Radio,"

We don't see Buoy Zone replacing VHF, but we do believe it will expand the range of tools typically used by race officials and be a valuable way to share more specific details and identify those best placed to respond.

Using the Assistance request

On the map view select the symbol on the right which looks like a person with their arms out

On the pop-up screen select the alert type you're looking for (Man overboard, Assistance Request or Medic Request)

Tap the "Activate" button.

This will send a notification to anyone who is or has been active on the course.

To deactivate the Course Alert the individual user or the Race Officer has the option to deactivate the alert from the alert banner on the map screen.

COURSE ALERTS AND MORE! cont.

Join As

This applies to those who are joining a course requiring them to select the role under which they are joining the course. These roles include Mark Vessel, Safety, Umpire, Official, Coach, Spectator, Competitor and Other. The roles all have a unique colour and are reflected throughout, including on the map view and list view.

As time goes by we see more and more users joining a course for different reasons, some playing and active role and managing a course and others just to observe. The goal through this addition is to allow anyone at a glance to see the role of each boat on the course by colour and descriptor.

Refreshed Map Buttons

The map buttons have been refreshed to include collapsed menu options within.

The map buttons include collapsed menu options within.
The icons from the top are:



Centre over start boat

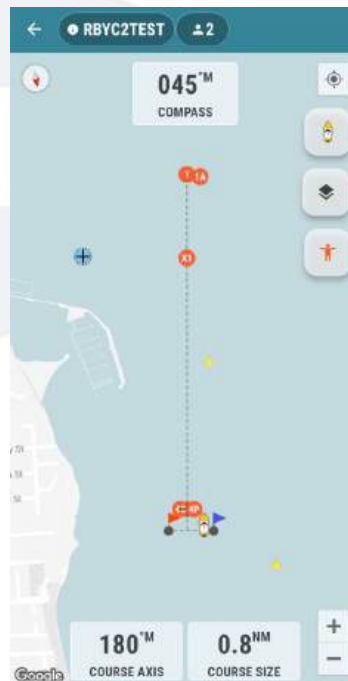


Map Layers toggle

Satellite image - toggle between satellite view and standard map views
Club features toggle on/off



Course Alert



CLUB FEATURES - MAP LAYER – Club Admin.



Club Features - Race Management-Oriented Charts

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Select Manual Locations On The Map

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This in addition to the ability to add in both specific coordinates where these are known.

Note all Club Features are selectable - so for example if you have a mooring or regular course location saved as a Club Feature you can select this as the location of the start boat for the course.

CLUB FIXED MARK COURSES – Club Admin.



A group is a set of courses kept together – for example "Winter Series courses". A course can sit in one group or in none.

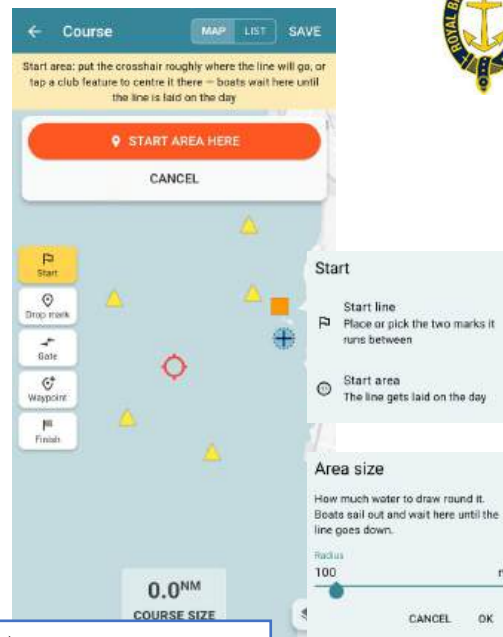
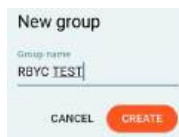
Event fleets

Create event fleets so participants can join the event from Trace, and race officers can assign fleets to their course. An event must have at least one fleet.

Variants

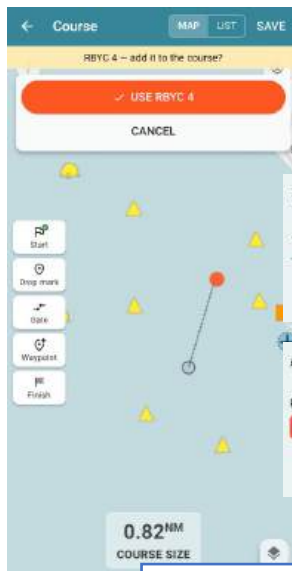
A club course can have slightly different versions for different fleets we call this a variant. Marks, their order, which way they are rounded, and even the start and finish lines can potentially differ between them.

Typically you would use variants for different divisions – Course #1 might have Division A, Division B and All Others. Have as many as you like, one

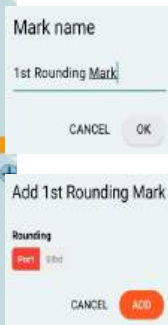


- Select Start Icon.
- Select start line or area
- Drag map until Red Circle is in desired location.
- Select Start Area Here
- Adjust the area size as desired.

CLUB FIXED MARK COURSES Cont. – Club Admin.



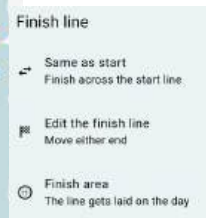
- Select Drop Mark Icon.
- Drag map until Red Circle is in desired location.
- Select Drop Mark Here
- Add Mark Name
- Select Port or Starboard Rounding, Select ADD



- Select Gate Icon.
- Drag map until Red Circle is in desired location.
- Select Drop Gate A, B here.
- Select Waypoint Icon.
- Tap & Hold Waypoint and drag to desired location.
- Select Waypoint Icon again
- Waypoint in new location



- Add Fixed Marks as required.
- Select Port or Starboard Rounding for each mark added.
- Select Finish Icon. Choose finish type.
- Drop Port & Stbd ends of Finish Line as required.



CLUB EVENTS – Club Admin.



Connect with an event

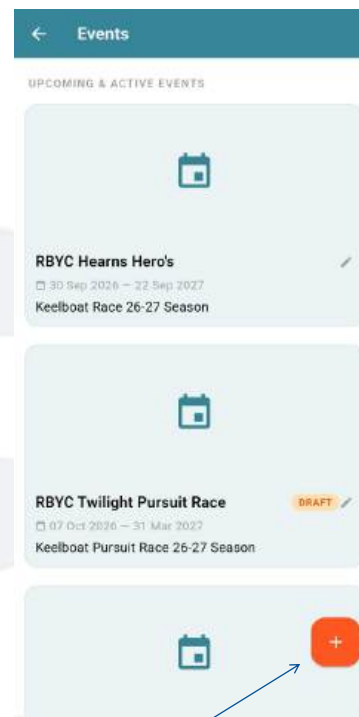
This is our recommended approach, especially if you plan ahead. Participants can join their fleet early, see all the relevant event information and who else is participating.

Events also allow race committees move fleets between courses when needed. Photos and media can easily be shared for the event and it keeps things simple for Race Officers and participants.

A club administrator creates an event in Buoy Zone.

As part of the event creation, the club administrator creates all the fleets that may be participating in the event. Every event must have a least one fleet.

On race day (or up to a week before) the Race office can create a Course on Buoy Zone, link to the event and assign the fleets for their course.



Select the “+ Sign” to add a new event for your club

CLUB EVENTS CONT.– Club Admin.



← Edit Event SAVE

Add event logo (optional)

Event name *
Brighton Championship

Description
Keelboat Racing 26-27 Season
Brighton Championship
Victorian Championship - Host RBYC

Start date
24 Oct 2026

End date
24 Oct 2026

Event Fleets
Fleets sailors pick from when they join this event. The Race Officer assigns them to a course from Course Settings. At least one is required. [More details](#)

Event fleets
Div 1, Div 3, Div COME

Course Marks
Laid marks Fixed marks Both
Restrict course options to
Any club courses

Linked Clubs
Share this event with other clubs. It appears in each linked club's events as one of their own, and any administrator of a linked club can edit, publish and delete it.

Royal Brighton Yacht Club
Owns this event

Sandringham Yacht Club

Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron

Royal Yacht Club Of Victoria

+ Link a club

Extra Options
Participants WhatsApp group link

Links
No links added yet. + Add link

Sign On/Off (Beta)
☐ Trace will manage sign-on and sign-off for this event.

☒ **Published**
This event goes out in the public event listings.

UPDATE EVENT

Complete details for your event.
Add Event Name, Description and Dates.

Scroll up to continue .
Add Course Details and Link other clubs if required

Add WhatsApp Group Link (optional).
Check Publish box when ready to publish.
(this can be updated later).
Select **Update Event** to add to Club Events,

WHATSAPP GROUP LINK SHARING – Club Admin.



Managing clear and consistent communications across the race course has always been a key success factor. We've seen that many successful race management teams have leveraged the ubiquitous nature of WhatsApp and its ability to connect and communicate in simple text as well as other rich formats such as images, video and voice.

Race Officers can add a direct link to the respective Buoy Zone course ensuring everyone on the course can access the WhatsApp group via Link.

To add a group link please note:

- Only the race officer can add the WhatsApp Group link to the course
- It is best if the Race Officer is also a group admin on the WhatsApp group as this ensures the ability to create a 'share link' and manage those joining a group
- You can add link from an existing group or a new one

Steps by step

1. In WhatsApp Open the Group Chat: Find the group in your WhatsApp chats and open it.
2. Tap the Group Name: Tap the name of the group at the top of the screen to open the Group Info page.
3. Scroll down the Group Info page until you see the "Invite to group via link" option (it has a chain link icon).
4. On the next page Tap '**Copy Link**'
5. Open the Buoy Zone app and tap Manage a Course and either create a new course or navigate to the respective course and open the **Advance course settings**
6. Paste the link into the "WhatsApp Group Link" field near the bottom of the advanced course settings.
7. **Set and share the course.**

YOUR NOTES



Produced by:

Royal Brighton Yacht Club, Race Committee

www.rbyc.org.au