



The 2018 ARYA Australian Championships are only weeks away and our committee are finalising all the arrangements ready to welcome you to the Montrose Bay Yacht Club.

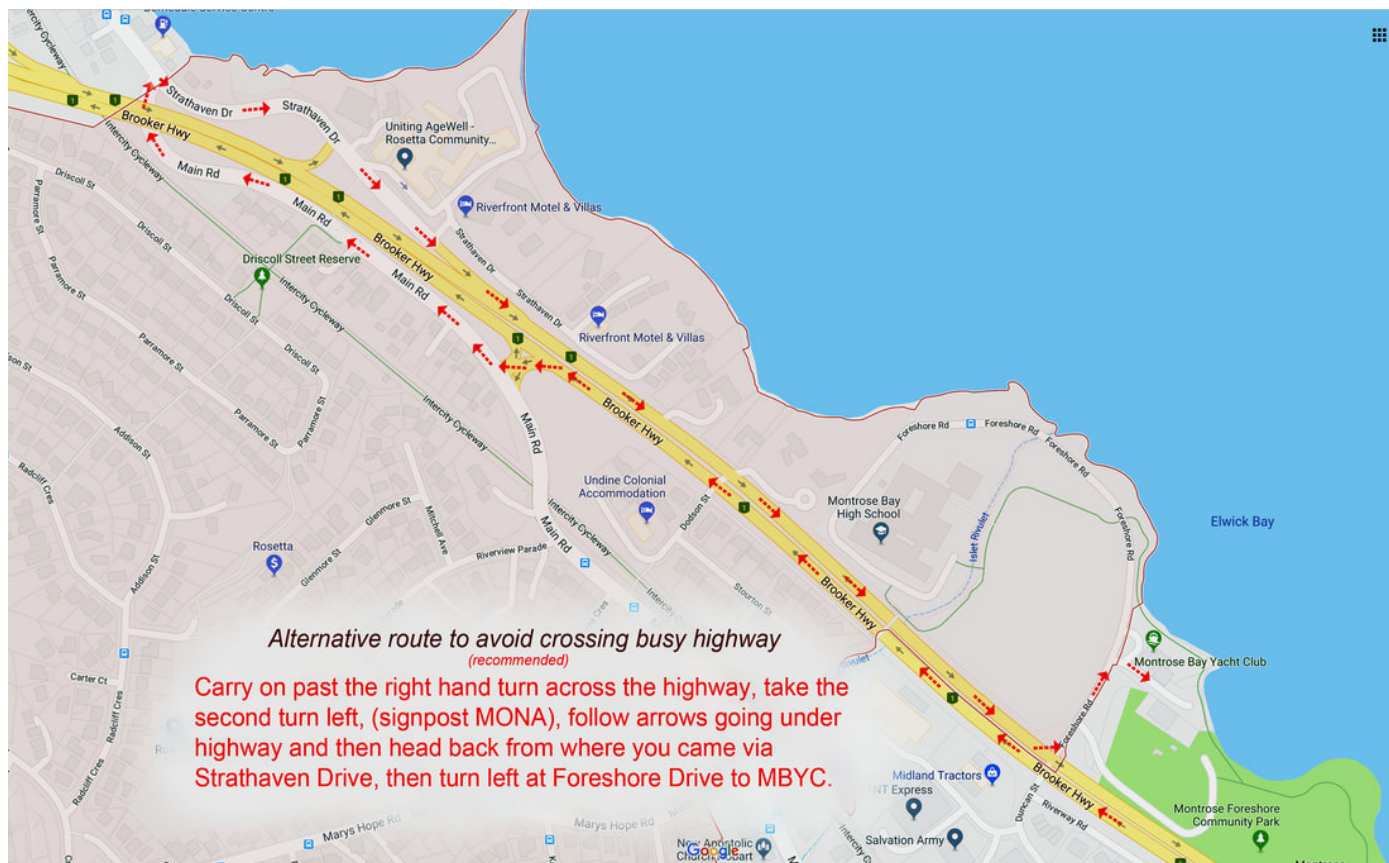
The club is located on the Western shore of the Derwent river in the Northern suburbs of Hobart. This part of the river is renowned for it's reliable NW breeze in the morning followed by a steady sea breeze from the SE in the afternoon.

The shore comprises grassy banks providing competitors and spectators with ideal conditions to observe yachts, and the club boasts good facilities with club rooms, bar, toilets and canteen.

Ninety three entries have been received, including 51 IOM yachts, 18 International Marblehead entries, 13 International A Class yachts and 11 International 10 Raters.

The organising committee is looking forward to getting this event underway, and given the number of entries, we anticipate some exciting and competitive racing in all classes.

As a competitor, this newsletter is designed to give you a "heads up" to the event prior to your arrival. More information is available on the [Championships Web Site](#), which is updated regularly.



Getting to the venue: Please note, Montrose Bay is accessed via a busy highway. The map above should be used as a guide.





RBRYC IOM skippers had their first chance to try out the new course C, laid out just south of the Montrose Clubrooms alongside the shoreline in a NW to SE configuration. [Watch a video of a lap.](#)

The layout provides for excellent yachting conditions with boats no more than twentyfive metres from the shoreline throughout the course. The shoreline also provides some elevation for skippers.

Based on feedback received, Montrose Bay is shaping up to be one of the finest radio sailing venues in Australia.

Lisa Blackwood, RBRYC regular and accomplished national and international competitor, provided the following notes:

This venue is right up there with the likes of West Kirby and Barbados. Given the prevailing wind NW or the sea breeze SE makes a perfect parallel course to the shore with marks only metres away.

There is no boat or other chop, and no bounce back from land.

Sailing today was NNW medium A rig with very little shifts. It didn't matter if you went out from shore or hugged it, the result was the same.

On land there are trees everywhere for shade, but they don't block the wind.

Access is a four minute walk from the club to the course. You can launch from the club and sail down, but adjustments need to be done on the grass near the course.

There are steps leading into the water just near the course, so that fixes the distance.

The sun is not in your eyes during summer as you face NE, and in the afternoon its at your back, so that's perfect too.

Weed - a little of the fine grassy type, but nothing to seriously ruin your race. I didn't pick up any in the ten races we sailed today.

Sailing tips - it can really blow from the NW ([check out the A Class video](#)), but generally at this time of year its pretty settled. As the bay is open there is a little current at times to help you make those critical tactical moves, and it can get choppy but not rough. A 'C' rig is recommended, but unlikely to be needed.

Comfort tips - today was very hot, but the average for February is 21 and it can get down to 16 so bring a coat. Also, the UV index in Tasmania is a killer so slap on plenty of protection, wear a good hat and use sunglasses. Snakes. No, just kidding - we had one at Risdon Brook last Nationals, but he wont make it across the Derwent to Montrose.



Lisa Blackwood, RBRYC member, has entered all Nats classes



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