

POLICY

KRA / NUMBER

COM.19.2015

TITLE:	Safety Code
KRA:	
RELATED POLICIES:	
RESPONSIBILITY:	Sport Services Manager
DATE CREATED:	February 2014
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NEXT REVISION DATE:	August 2017
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APPROVAL:	Yachting Australia Board
ATTACHMENTS:	

Safety underpins all YA activities

- YA has a broad role to foster the sport of sailing in Australia and guide its administration in all key areas including, but not limited to, training programs and competitions
- Safety underpins all activities associated with these roles

Risks associated with the sport

- The geography and climate of Australia are well matched to sailing and it is a popular activity offering a healthy lifestyle choice
- Across the country's waterways conditions can vary markedly and change from benign to life threatening, often within a short period of time
- The sport also encourages innovation and competition that lead to new designs and experimentation that can challenge safety regulation

Role of risk management

- YA meets these challenges through a process of 'risk management' and shared responsibilities – incorporating Australian Standards where appropriate

The Safety Framework

Yachting Australia is a federation consisting of eight state and territory Member Yachting Associations (MYAs). In turn they have nearly 400 affiliated clubs, who between them have on-water members.

Each of these administrative layers has an important safety function and they are combined to provide a powerful safety framework.

- YA serves as the national peak body with a wide range of roles detailed at <http://www.yachting.org.au/introduction/>. Safety is an important consideration in all YA's decision making and the Board is assisted by the National Safety Committee. YA administers the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the Special Regulations (SRs).

- MYAs guide, assist and influence their affiliated clubs. They provide valuable input into routine reviews and proposed changes of the RRS and SRs, and have the power to vary SRs for local events except for regulations relating to stability. Each MYA is administered by a Board with specialised sub-committees that review safety among other matters.
- Affiliated clubs generally act as the Organising Authorities for the conduct of events in accordance with RRS 89.1 and through Notices of Race and Sailing Instructions specify the safety requirements that are to apply for the event and ensure that they are in place, comprehensive and effective.
- Class Associations also have a role in close cooperation with or as the organising authority. The role may vary considerably between developing classes and well established classes. Developing classes may require some unique SRs for their events. Some classes are controlled by an international body.
- State maritime authorities also specify minimum safety requirements that must be complied with by all vessels and must be read in conjunction with the SRs.
- There are very clear safety responsibilities for the individual boats and crews – RRS 4 and SR 1.02.1

