



2025 PRE-RACE BRIEFING

ORCV Melbourne to Devonport (Rudder Cup)

Skippers please put your boat name, your name and the name of your other crew member in the chat so we can record your attendance.

Please place yourself on Mute. If there are any questions during the presentation please put them in the chat and we will address them at the end of the briefing.



WELCOME FROM THE RACE OPERATIONS TEAM

This evening, we will cover:

- **Weather for the race and the return.**
- **Highlight important things to know for this race and any significant changes to the Sailing Instructions,**
- **and there will be an opportunity for questions at the end**

We would like to acknowledge and thank the numerous ORCV and Mersey Yacht Club volunteers and office staff who are helping to run this race



And Strait Link for enabling the safe passage of our race van to Tasmania

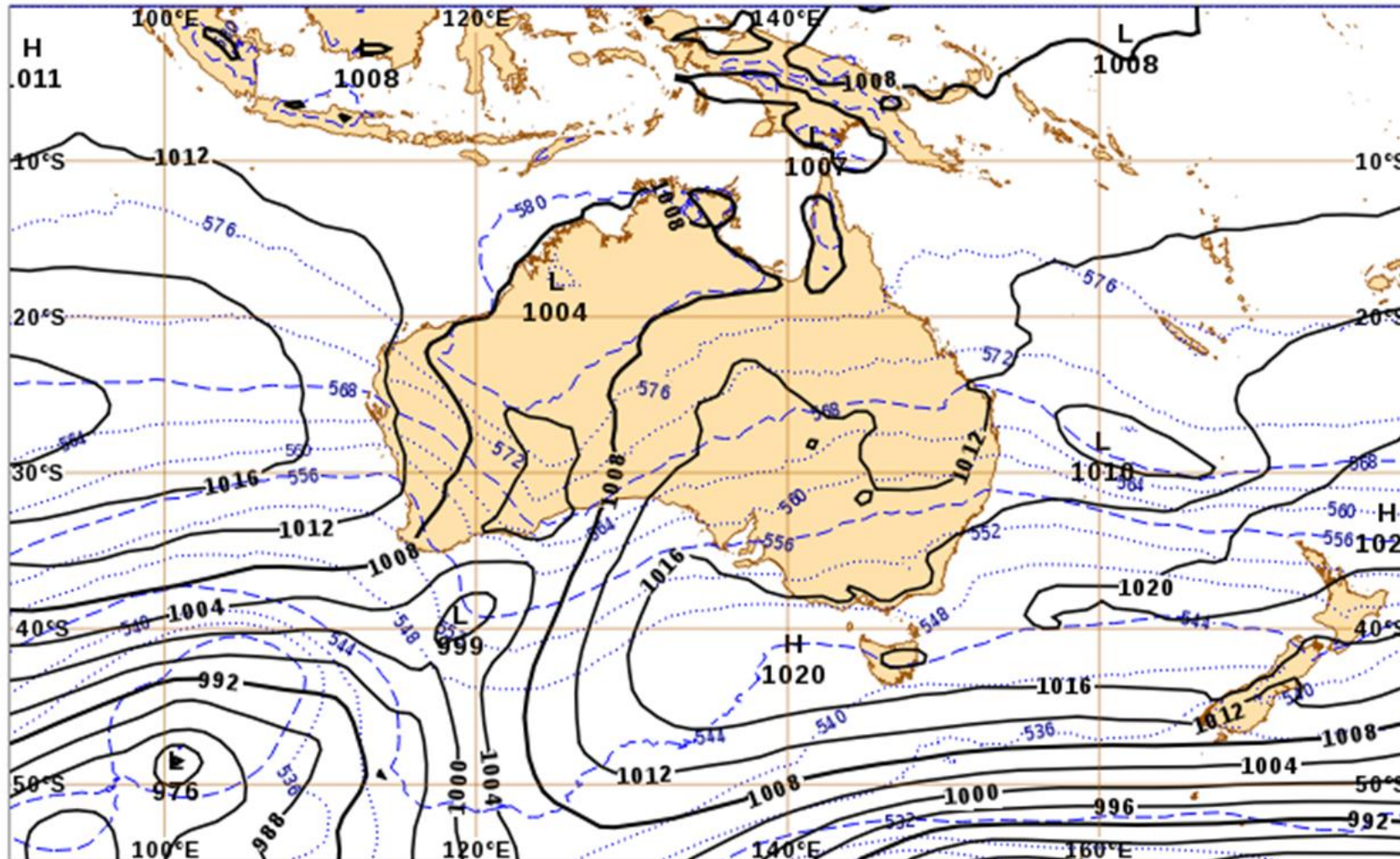


We will now provide an insightful outlook for the upcoming weather conditions by ORCV's weather specialist Rod Smallman.

WEATHER OVERVIEW – PROGNOSIS CHARTS

MSLP / 1000-500 hPa Thickness
Valid 06UTC Wed 29 Oct 2025

ACCESS-G
t+018



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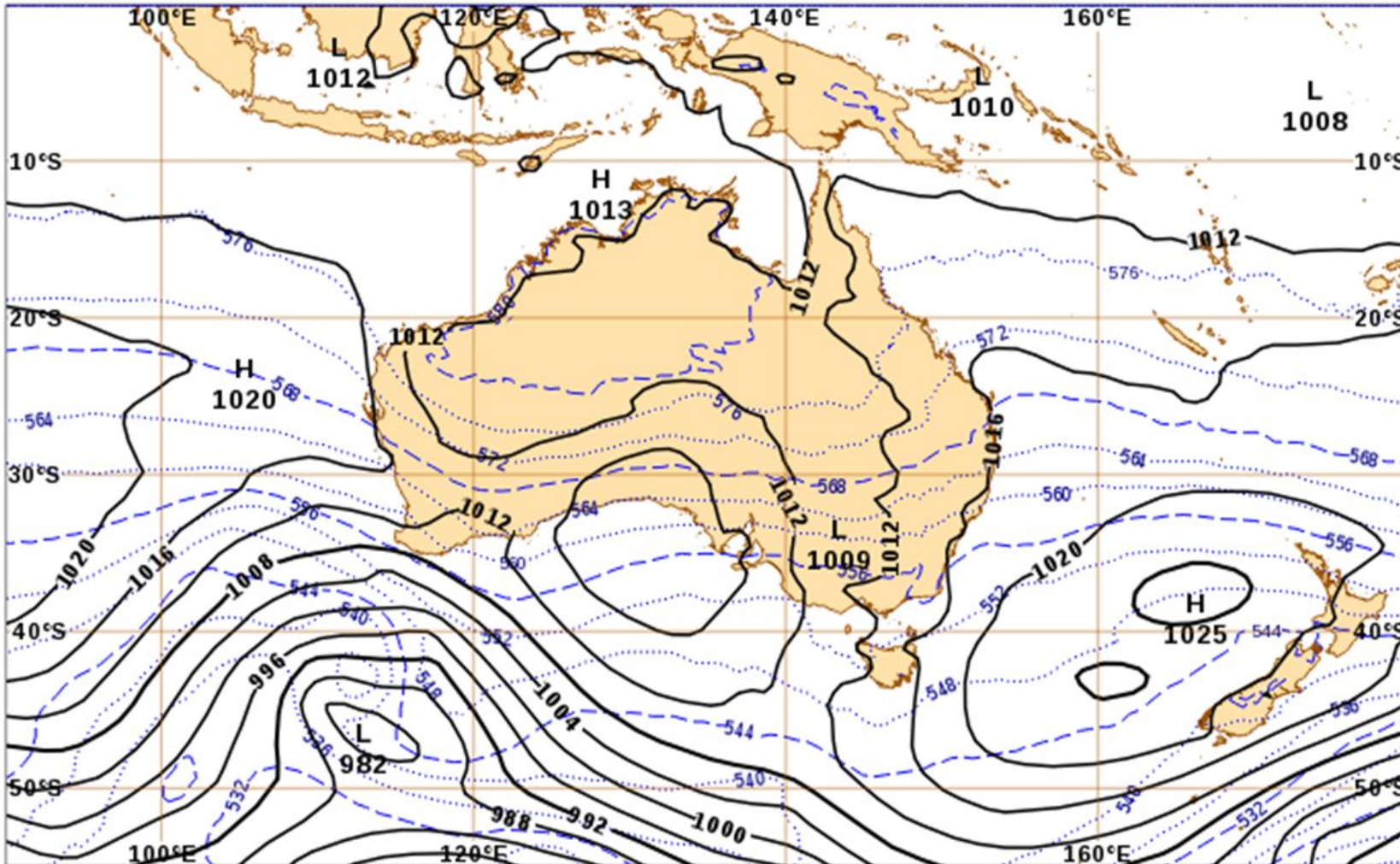
Current situation (Wed 29/10)

- A large High Pressure is hovering over Victoria. Winds generally southerly slowly backing around to Northerly throughout the next few days

WEATHER OVERVIEW – PROGNOSIS CHARTS

MSLP / 1000-500 hPa Thickness
Valid 03UTC Fri 31 Oct 2025

ACCESS-G
t+063



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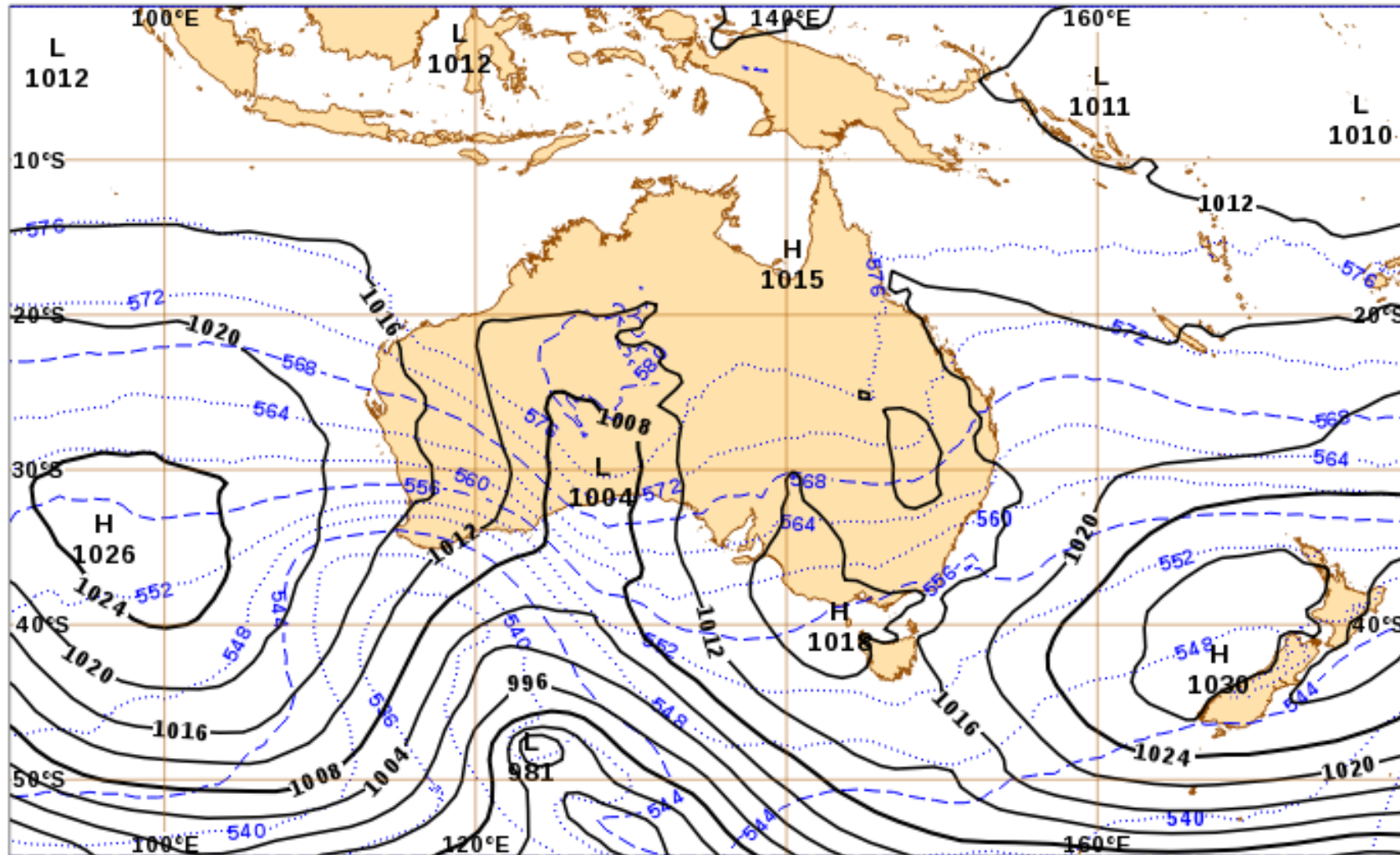
Race start (Fri 30/10)

- 2 dominant high pressures over the South East

WEATHER OVERVIEW – PROGNOSIS CHARTS

MSLP / 1000-500 hPa Thickness
Valid 00UTC Sat 1 Nov 2025

ACCESS-G
t+084

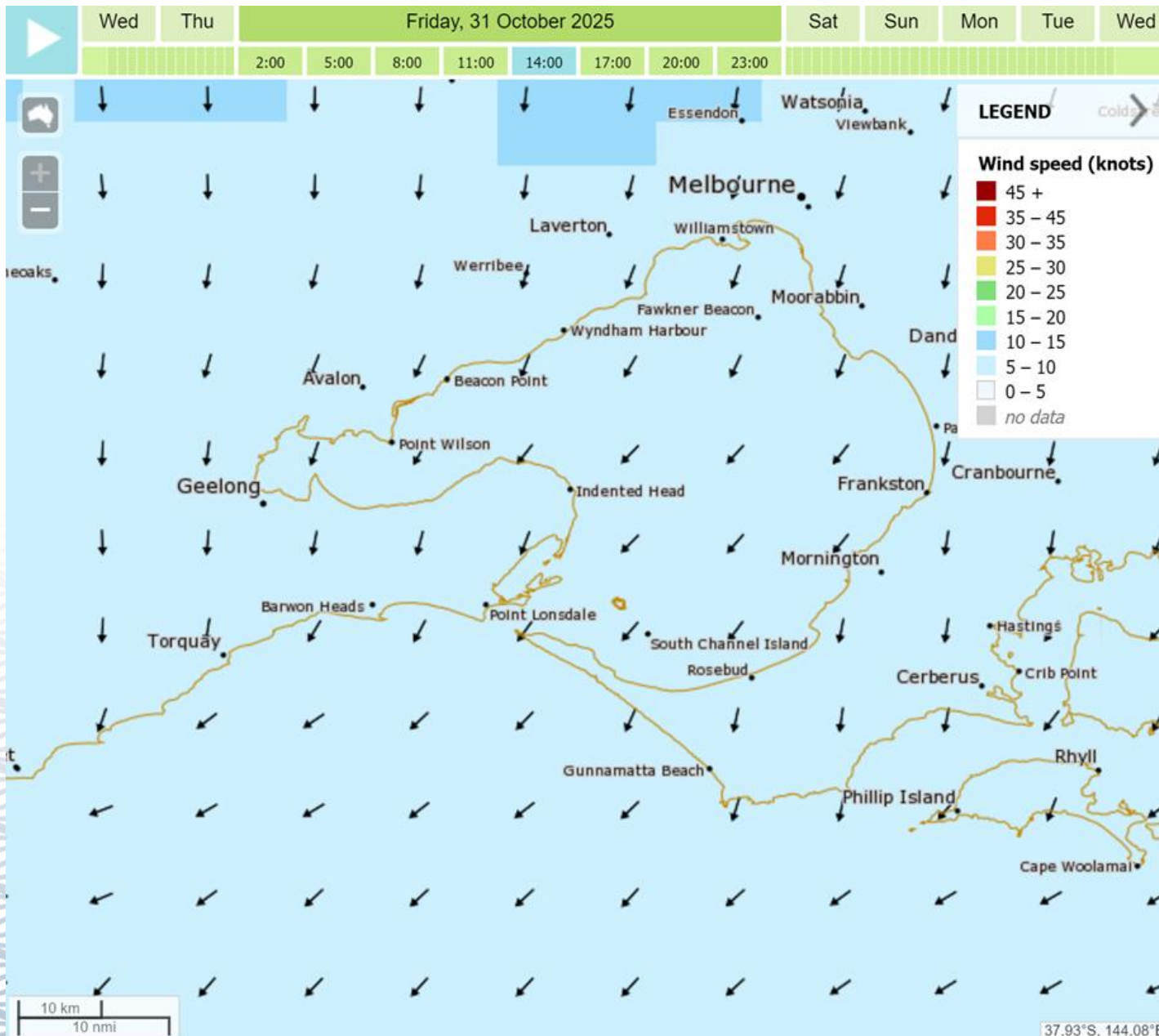


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Saturday Middy

- High now centred over Bass Strait

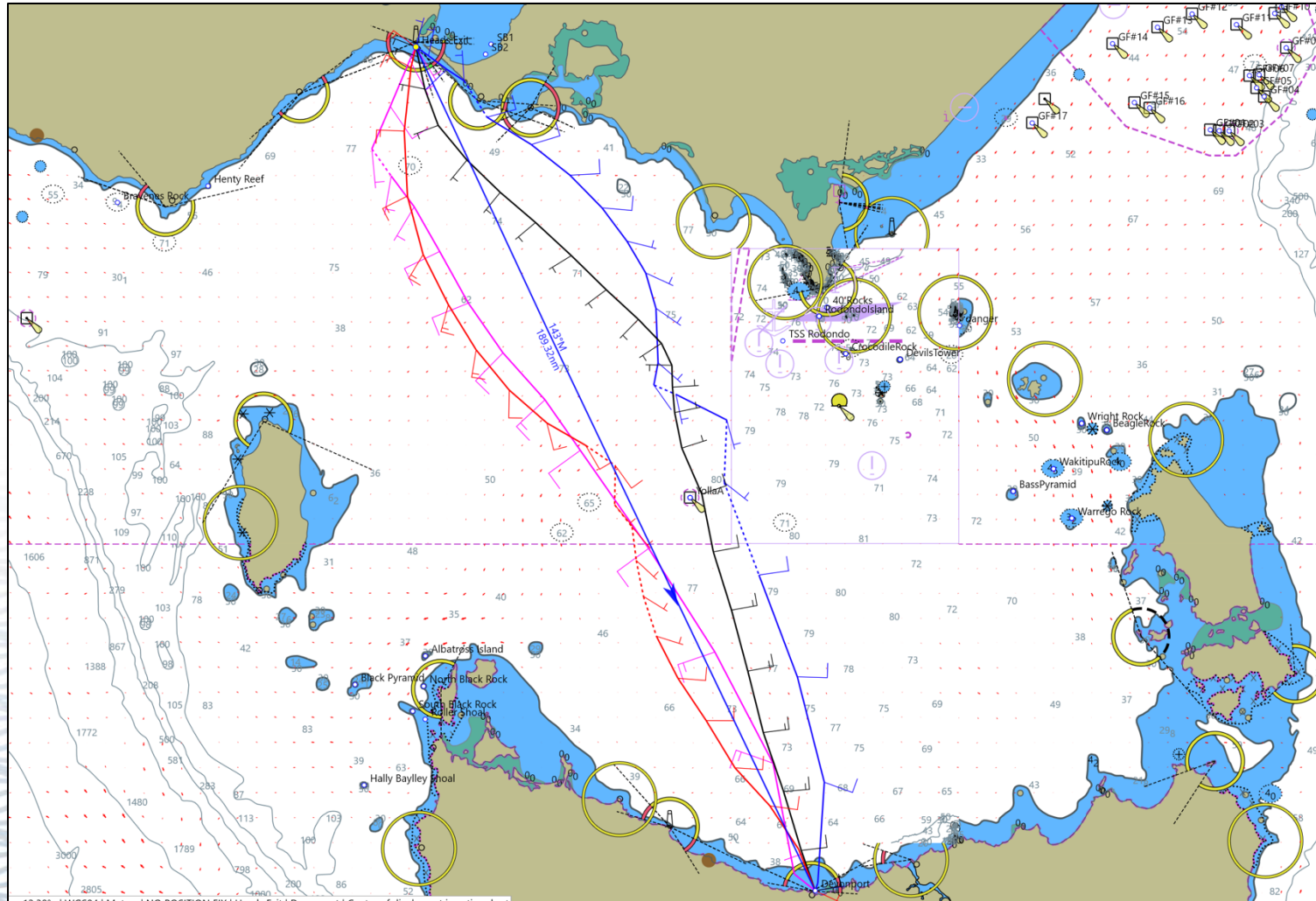
WEATHER OVERVIEW – BOM WIND FORECAST



Using BOM's MetEye:

- Race start - Fri 30/10 2.30pm –
- Light NNE 5-10 kts

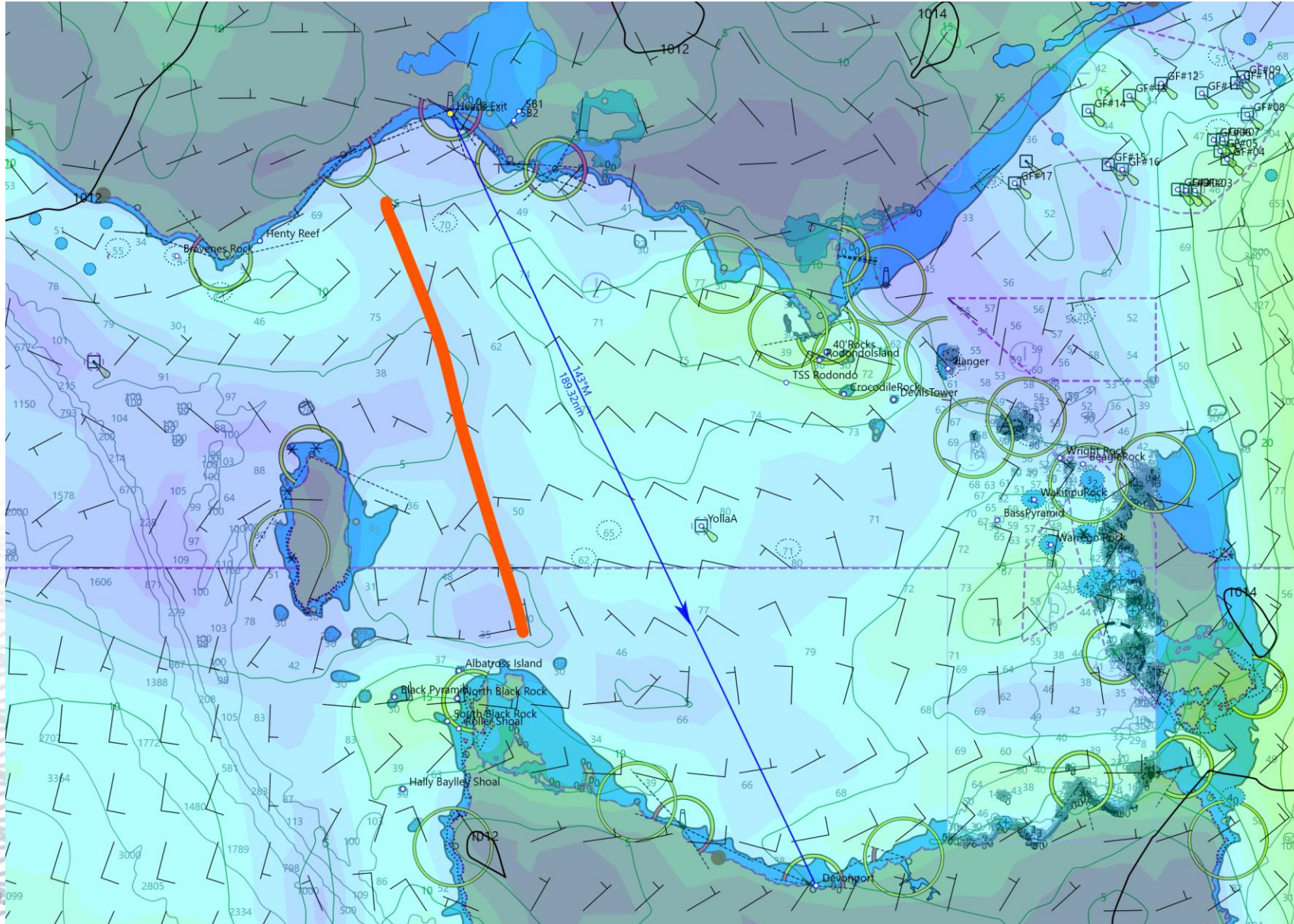
WEATHER OVERVIEW – ECMWF & GFS ROUTES FOR A FIRST 40



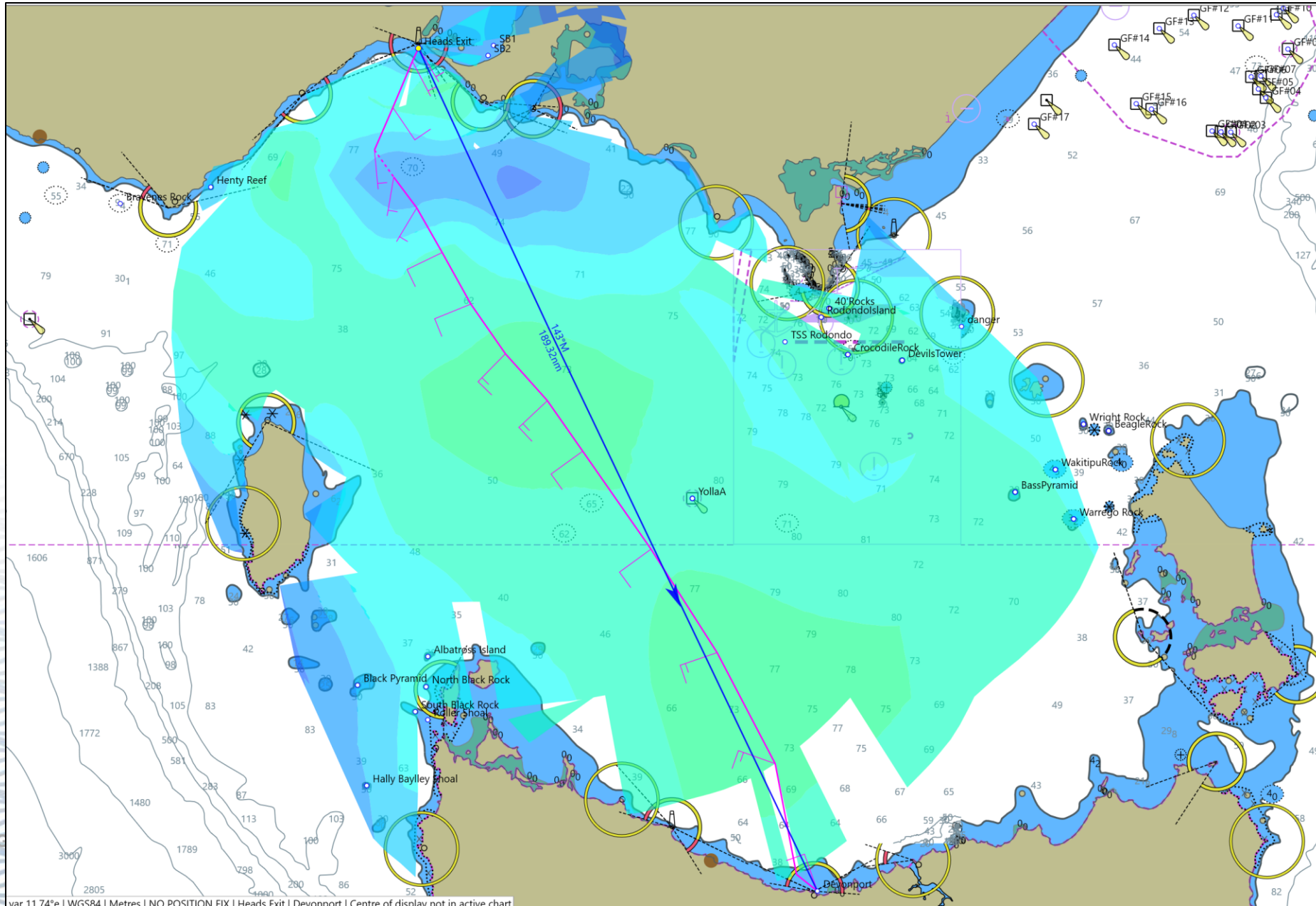
Whilst there is agreement with models in general the main issue is the specific location of the transition zone

- Wind 5-10 kts – with large holes likely
- Waves <1m
- Temp 10-18
- Chance of rain on Friday

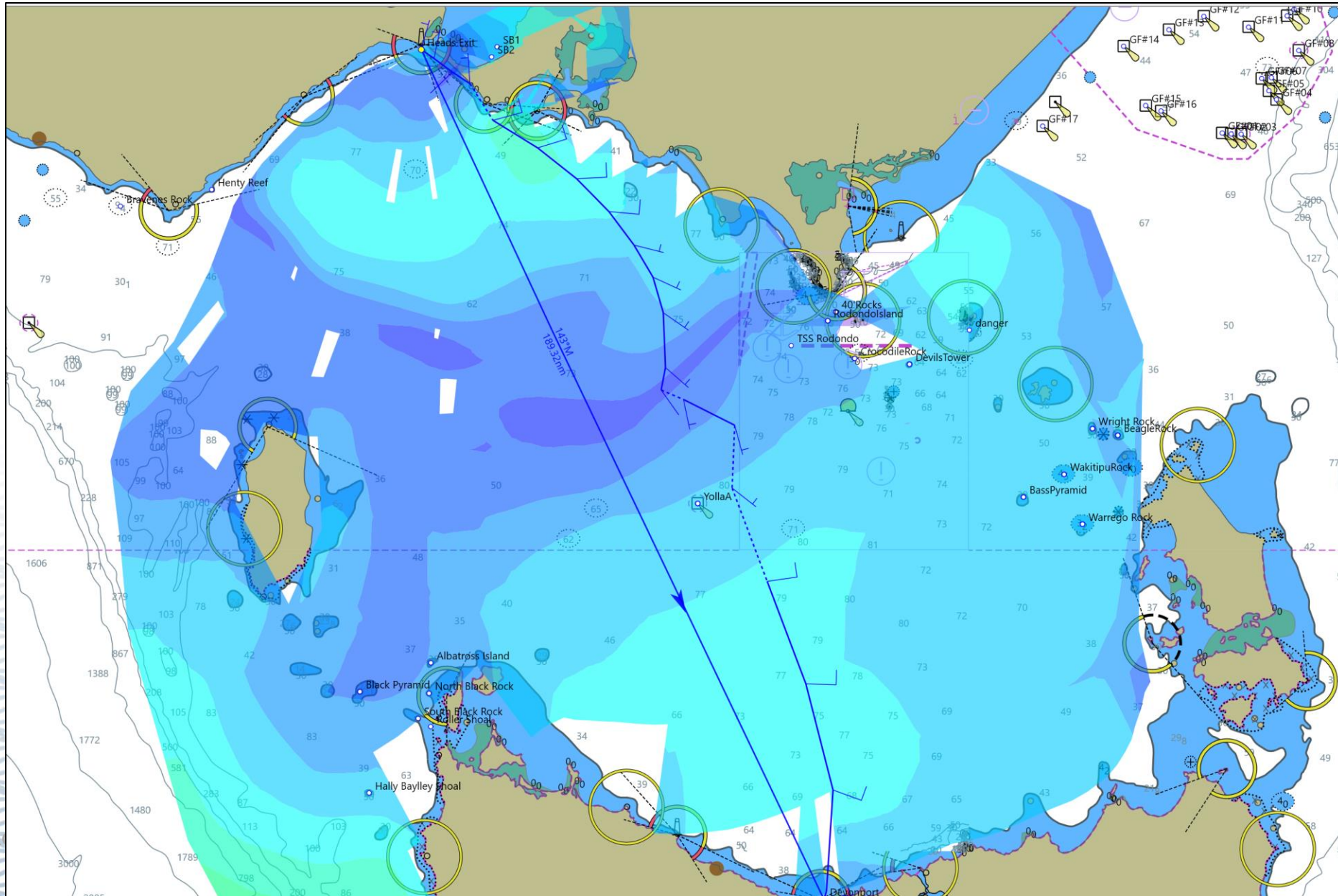
WEATHER OVERVIEW – GFS 5:00PM FRIDAY



WEATHER OVERVIEW – ECMWF WIND ACROSS COURSE



WEATHER OVERVIEW – GFS WIND ACROSS COURSE



WEATHER OVERVIEW – PREDICTWIND WEATHER ROUTING

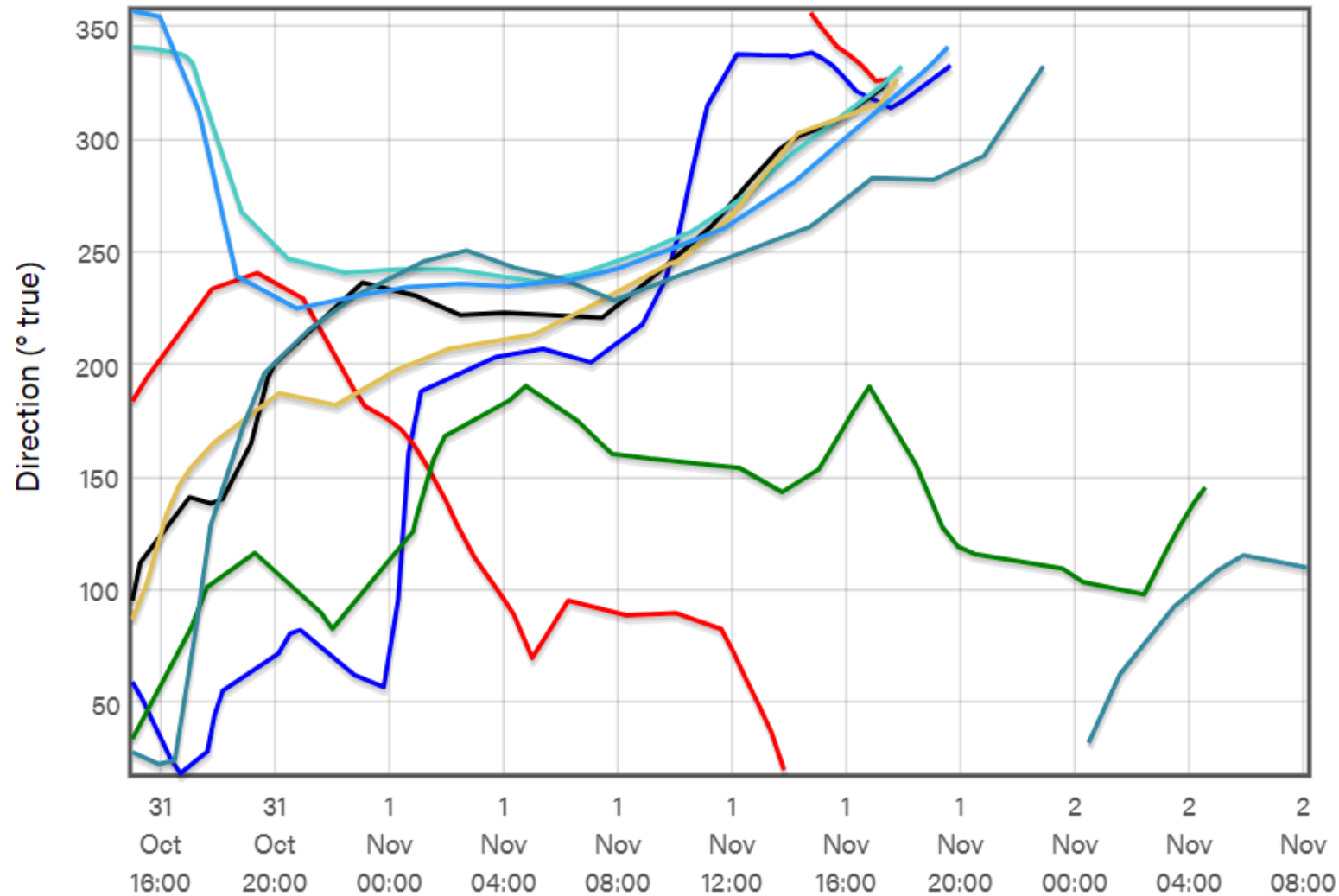


	PWG	PWE	ECMWF	GFS	AIFS	UKMO	ICON	PWai
Warnings								
Timezone	GMT+11:00	GMT+11:00	GMT+11:00	GMT+11:00	GMT+11:00	GMT+11:00	GMT+11:00	GMT+11:00
Start Time	31 Oct 15:00	31 Oct 15:00	31 Oct 15:00	31 Oct 15:00	31 Oct 15:00	31 Oct 15:00	31 Oct 15:00	31 Oct 15:00
Finish Time	1 Nov 19:38	1 Nov 17:27	1 Nov 17:26	2 Nov 04:33	1 Nov 17:56	1 Nov 17:47	2 Nov 08:07	1 Nov 19:33
Time Taken	1 day 4h 38m 39s	1 day 2h 27m 32s	1 day 2h 26m 6s	1 day 13h 33m 57s	1 day 2h 56m 42s	1 day 2h 47m 12s	1 day 17h 7m 46s	1 day 4h 33m 37s
Motoring Time								
Distance Traveled	213.1 NM	197.0 NM	200.2 NM	228.9 NM	193.3 NM	197.5 NM	211.6 NM	193.7 NM
Average Speed (kts)	7.4	7.4	7.6	6.1	7.2	7.4	5.1	6.8
Passage Time	1 day 4h 38m 39s	1 day 2h 27m 32s	1 day 2h 26m 6s	1 day 13h 33m 57s	1 day 2h 56m 42s	1 day 2h 47m 12s	1 day 17h 7m 46s	1 day 4h 33m 37s
Motoring Time								
Max Wind Speed (Knots)	19.8	15.4	11.7	11.0	11.2	12.5	10.0	11.9
Min Wind Speed (Knots)	4.4	5.8	5.1	3.8	2.8	5.1	1.5	1.4
Avg Wind Speed (Knots)	10.1	10.2	9.1	6.4	8.4	9.5	5.5	7.8
Max Gust (Knots)	19.8	15.4	15.4	14.4	17.6	15.4	14.9	18.2
Max CAPE (J/kg)	7.16	9.38	9.38	1.17	1.17	9.38	1.17	1.17
Max Rain (Millimeters/Hour)	1.0	0.1	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
% Time Upwind	17%	31%	18%	48%		37%	8%	
% Time Reaching	52%	64%	75%	52%	86%	63%	85%	85%
% Time Downwind	31%	5%	7%		14%		7%	15%
% Time < 8 Knots	23%	25%	28%	82%	28%	19%	72%	37%
% Time 8–20 Knots	77%	75%	72%	18%	72%	81%	28%	63%

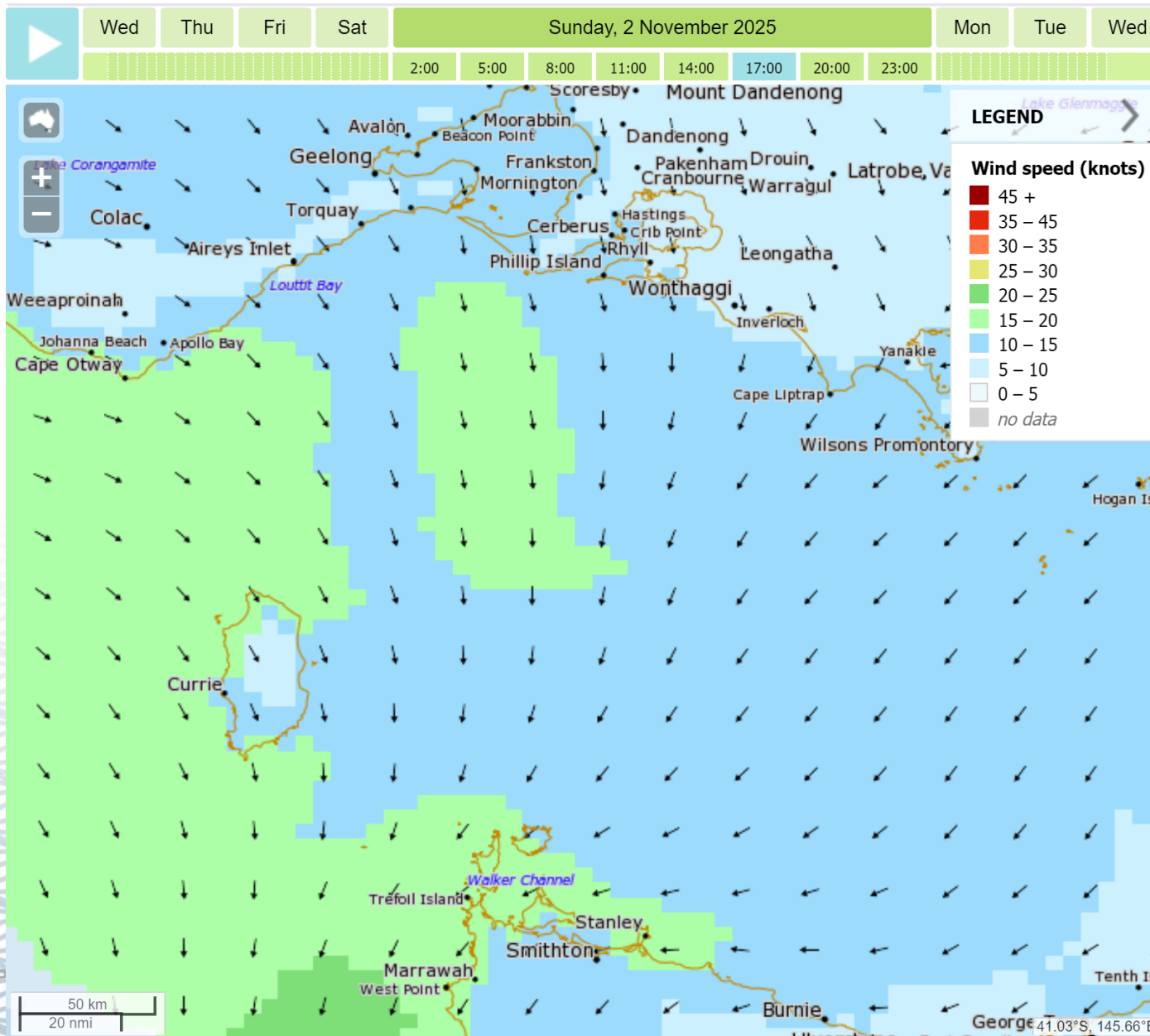
WEATHER OVERVIEW – PREDICTWIND WEATHER ROUTING



True Wind Direction



WEATHER OVERVIEW – RETURN PASSAGE



A southwest change is expected to come through sometime Sunday afternoon/evening with winds to 30kts

Prior to change East tending to North to 20kts

28 temp with rain in the afternoon

YOUR RACE MANAGEMENT TEAM

- **Race Directors**

- Race Directors – Jeremy Walton , David Schuller (Assisting with Start)
- Assistant Race Director – Catherine North

- **Weather advisors**

- Rod Smallman and Simon Dryden

- **Media and Destination Events**

- Melissa Warren – Media Lead
- Andrew Middleton – Event Champion
- Sam McGrath – Mersey Yacht Club Commodore

- **Incident Management & Medical**

- Vanessa Twigg – IMT lead, supported by Nick Lewis
- Medical Officer on duty – Dr Louis Scarrold

- **Office Support**

- Annabel O'Connor & Hannah Williams

COMPETITORS



Boat Name	Sail No.	Skipper	DH
ADVANTEDGE	PD147	Andrew Jones	
ALIEN	R880	Justin Brenan	
ARCADIA	S17	Peter Davison	
BLUE WATER TRACKS	B1	Grant Dunoon	
CADIBARRA	SM615	Paul Roberts	
CHUTZPAH	R33	Bruce Taylor	
CLOCKWORK	3838	Andrew Lloyd	
DARK AND STORMY	G69/SM69	Tobias Swanson	
DASHER+FISHER HOW BIZARRE	S13	Scott Robinson	
FASTER FORWARD	R6155	Matt Fahey	
FOGGY DEW	SM6222	Robert Darcy / Janet Wilks	Yes
GINAN	M111	Nigel Jones / Cam McKenzie	
JAC HOI	G88	Danielle Fraser	
JAFFA	R39	Stuart Mellington	
JOAN LORRAINE	R4689	Peter Garner	
JUST FARR LOVE	R201	Scott Lovell	
KIONI	477	Dennis Ward	
KRAKEN SAILS TOECUTTER	R1111	Robert Hick	
LOCH SLOIDH 3	R9797	Peter McFarlane	
MAVERICK	SM3600	Tony Hammond / Rod Smallman	Yes
ORA	R360	Allan Gontar	
QUIXOTIC	R7779	Andrew Middleton	
SCARLET RUNNER	SM13	David Sturge	
SHIMMER	SB5005	Steve Twentyman	
THE JACKAL	S113	Matt Setton	
UNPRECEDENTED	M3300	Andrew McGrath	Yes
VAGABOND	S477	Andrew Mcconchie	

Handicaps are finalised and now posted

All crew changes now via office and Race Directors

Nobody can edit TES apart from them

There is comprehensive information in the Sailing Instructions

- Please read through Section 13 and Appendix A carefully – the format has been improved, simplified and there have been changes, i.e. mandatory listening watches

A11.1. For boats using HF radios for position reporting, these schedules will be conducted by Tas Maritime Radio (TMR) at the following times (Reporting Time) and using the following frequencies.

Reporting Time	Frequencies	Position Time
0905	HF 6227kHz (primary) & 8294kHz (secondary) or, VHF Channels 68 or 69 when in the TMR coverage area	0845
2105	HF 4146kHz or, VHF Channels 68 or 69 when in the TMR coverage area	2045

A12.1. Boats using satellite phones for position reporting must record their positions at the relevant "Position Time" [0845 and 2045] and report that position time to the Race Director via SMS message on 0418 396 605 by 0850 or 2050.

Reporting Time by	Position Time
0850	0845
2050	2045

Those using Starlink I have invited you to the WhatsApp Group for your position reports please message me if you have not received the invite.

Note we have HF, Sat Phone and Starlink so please be patient on replies

Do you have the AMSA and the ORCV Race Director (RD) details programmed in your personal phone and your boat Satellite phone?

- AMSA: +61 2 6230 6811
- RD Phone: +61 418 396 605
- RD Email: race.director@orcv.org.au

A13 Mandatory Listening Watch (all yachts)

- A13.1. 10 Minute Listening watches will be held each day at 1505 and 0305 to enable transmission of urgent safety messages from the Race Director, from yachts to the Race Director and between yachts.
- A13.2. This is a mandatory ALL YACHTS listening period.
- A13.3. The shore station (TMR or Kordia) will commence each listening watch with an announcement that either there is, or is not, a message from the Race Director. This announcement will be repeated after a one-minute interval before calling for any messages from yachts.

Time	Frequencies	Station
1505	VHF Channel 16, and if equipped with HF radio 4146kHz (primary) or 6227kHz (secondary)	TMR
0305	VHF Channel 16, and if equipped with HF radio 8294kHz	Kordia

First Listening Watch is 0305

COMMUNICATIONS



Date	Time	Action	Channel / Number	Station
30 October	1800-2100	Late Crew Changes	0418 396 605	Race Director
31 October	1300-1345	Monitor (Pre-Race Comms)	VHF 82	Ocean Racing
31 October	1345-1415	Sign-On Schedule	VHF 82	Ocean Racing
31 October	1415	Shipping Advice	VHF 12	Ocean Racing
31 October	1425-1430	Starting Sequence	VHF 12	Ocean Racing
31 October	1430	Individual recalls may be notified	VHF 12	Ocean Racing
31 October	2050 2105	Position Schedule (SP) Position Schedule (HF)	0418 396 605 See A11	Race Director TMR
1 November	0305	All Boat Listening Watch	See A13	Kordia (Charleville Radio)
1 November	0850 0905	Position Schedule (SP) Position Schedule (HF)	0418 396 605 See A11	Race Director TMR
1 November	1505	All Boat Listening Watch	See A13	TMR
Thereafter every day in the above cycle	Times may be altered by Radio Stations if necessary	Position Schedules and Listening Watches		Race Director TMR/Kordia
60 minutes before finish		1 st Finishing Report	VHF 73 or 0418 396 605	Ocean Racing
Approaching finish line approx. 5 minutes from finishing		2 nd Finishing Report	VHF 73	Ocean Racing

TES is now locked down for competitors to change anything

- Office can update until Thursday COB
- Late crew changes to Race Director phone

COMMUNICATIONS

Sign on 

Yachts will be called in alphabetical order to confirm that they are starters in the Race. If intending to race, yachts must reply

"{yacht name} is a starter, we comply with the Notice of Race, {xx} persons on board, OVER".

POB Changes?

- The Race director will know if there are changes and will follow up thereafter with the yacht in question to determine who is not on board

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COMMUNICATIONS

The position recorded is 15mins before the hour (SP & HF)

- Satphone reporting is 10mins prior to the hour
- HF radio is 5 mins after the hour

Set an alarm, so you do not miss. Especially DH

1st Sked



1st Listening Watch



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Note: ~40% of entrants using Satphone position reporting

COMMUNICATIONS

Yachts approaching the finish line must report their position as described in A12 Finishing Reports, and monitor Channels 73 and 16 continuously after their 60 Minute Report. Another call to the Race Director must be made approximately 5 minutes before the finish.]

Radio or text in 

Radio in 

Date	Time	Action	Channel / Number	Station
30 October	1800-2100	Late Crew Changes	0418 396 605	Race Director
31 October	1300-1345	Monitor (Pre-Race Comms)	VHF 82	Ocean Racing
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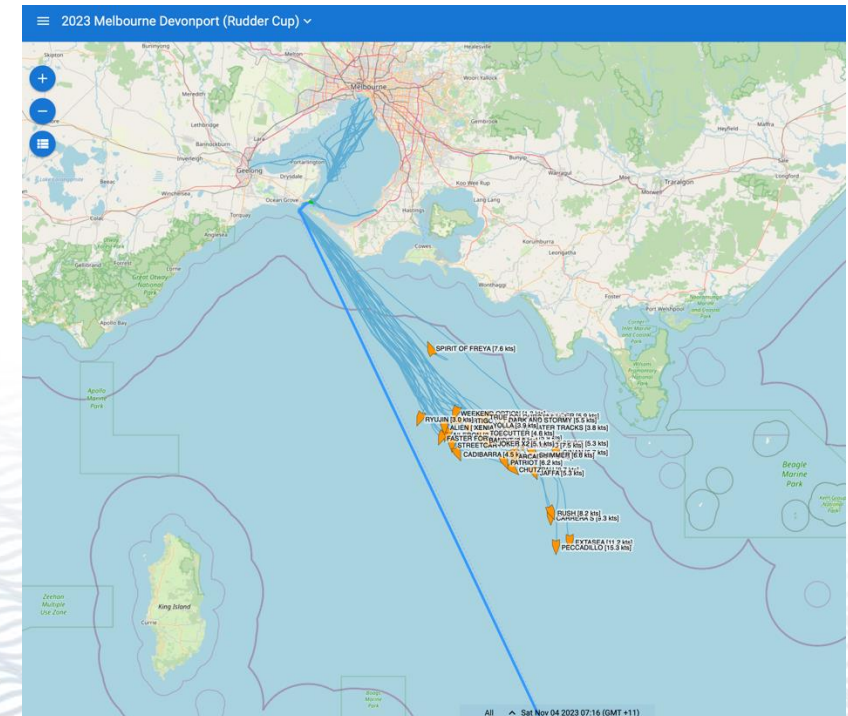
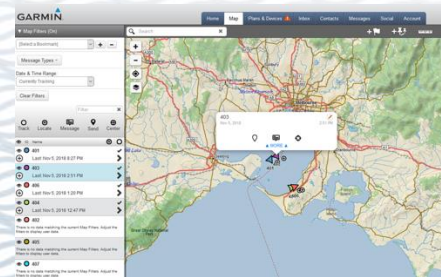
SWITCH ON AND MONITOR

- **Actively monitor VHF16 and if carrying, your Satphone**
 - Which means don't turn them off or turn the volume down so crew can sleep. Ideally have a speaker or handheld on deck
- **We may need you to relay a message**
 - e.g. We may need you to communicate with a nearby vessel in distress
- **We may need you to rescue someone**
 - You can't help if you can't be contacted
- **It may help avoid an incident**
 - A recent serious run aground could have been avoided if the competitor was monitoring VHF 16 and heard the other nearby competitor's warning



TRACKER – PICK IT UP FROM YOUR CLUB

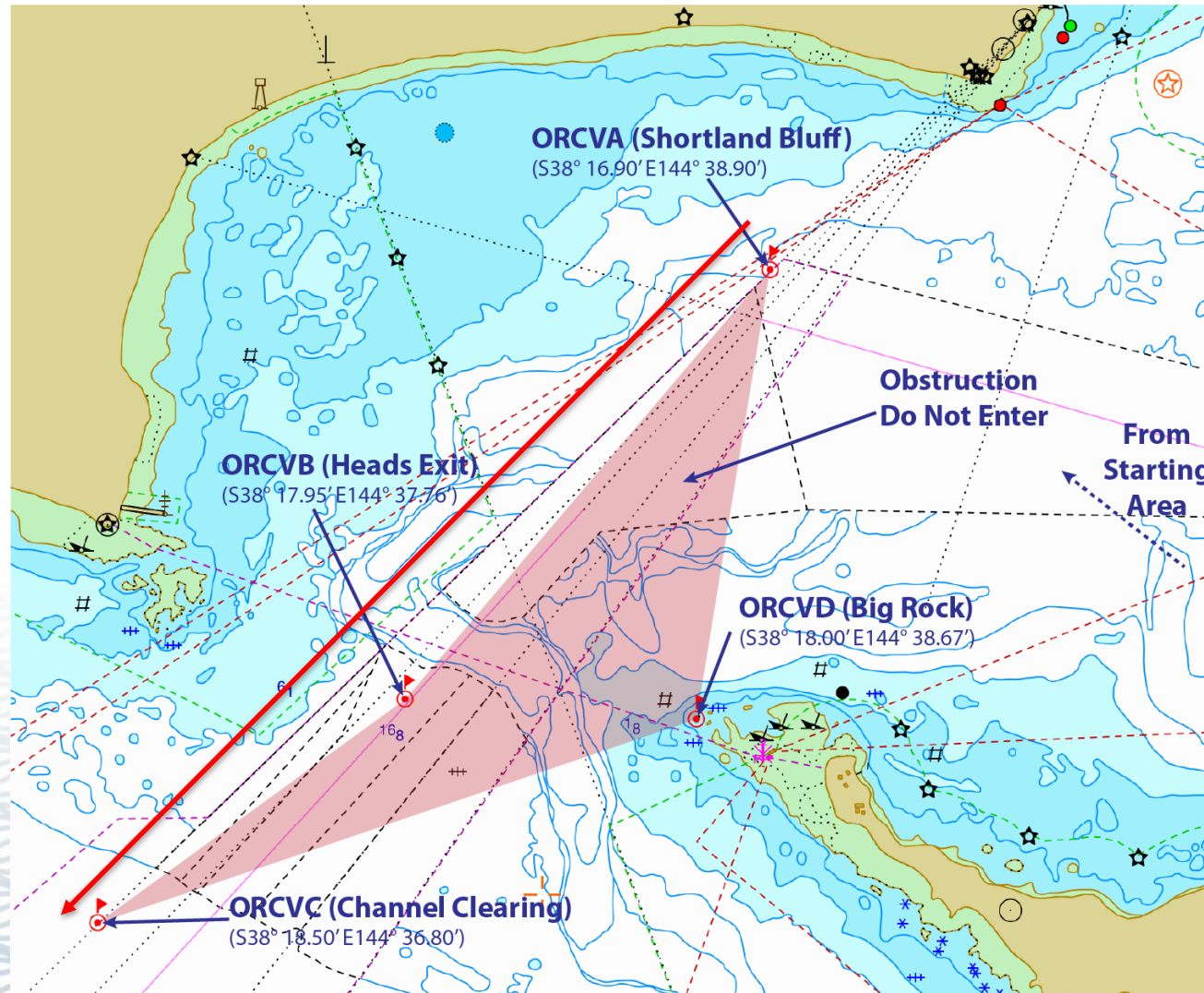
- Turn it on before you leave the dock and check it is tracking
- Fit it to your pushpit with clear line of sight to the satellites
- It will be charged, but carry a micro-USB cable just in case
- We would like you to use the tracker on the way home. It is **your responsibility** to return it to the **place you collected your tracker** ASAP post race and let the ORCV Office know
- Late returns after 30 November 2025 will incur additional cost to you



PERSONAL LOCATOR BEACONS ARE MANDATORY!

- Every sailor must have a PLB and **it must be registered**
- Registration is checked with AMSA and emails have been sent to boats with unregistered/missing/incorrect hex codes for PLBs
- 'HEX ID/UIIN' must be 15 or 23 characters long and made up of letters A-F and numbers 0-9
- Make sure all on board have a registered PLB or you won't be able to start the race
- All crew details must be filled in on TopYacht crew profiles
- Check PLB registrations: <https://www.beacons.amsa.gov.au/Public/Status/BeaconStatus>

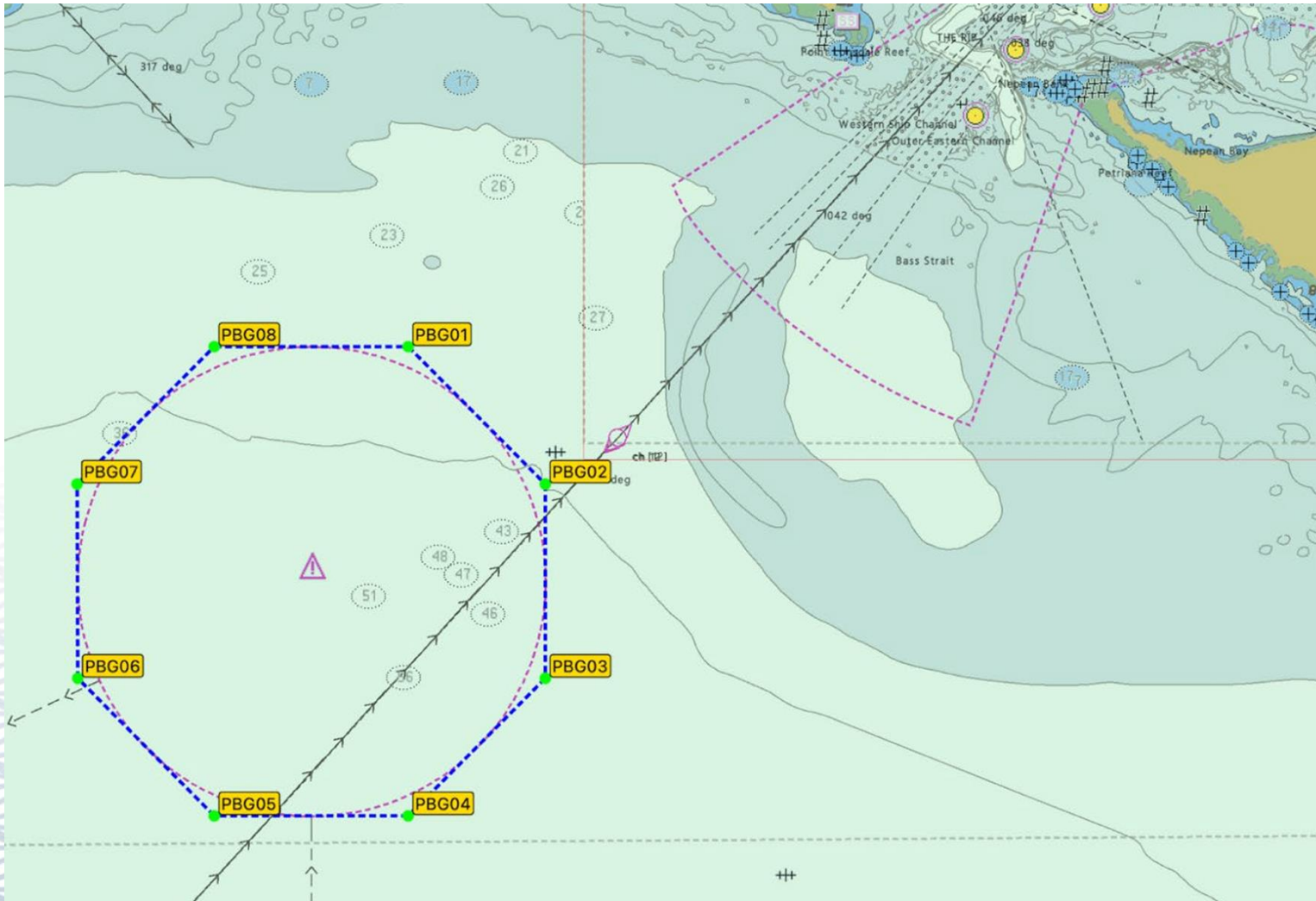
HEADS EXIT – LEAVE OBSTRUCTION TO PORT SIDE



- You must take a photo of your heads exit track on your plotter
- Provide to the Race Director upon request
- We will be monitoring AIS

A reminder for the return. Skippers who enter the Rip on the western side using the Fort West ISO (flashing) beacon, it's worth remembering that boats need to be well into the white sector of the Beacon in order to line up with 4 Fingers West.

PILOT BOARDING GROUND – OBSTRUCTION, KEEP CLEAR



- Again, take a photo of your track on your plotter
- Note new positions

YOLLA A PLATFORM - OBSTRUCTION, KEEP CLEAR



- The Yolla platform is very close to rhumb, if you head East be aware
- Legally you must keep well clear, at least 2Nm
- Previously competitors have gone too close and were warned off on VHF 16, a slap on the wrist for the ORCV
- Some chart positions may be incorrect, up to 200m Paul Roberts tells us
- Sail well clear of the SIs coordinates and you will be fine

FINISHING

- **Finishing Reports**

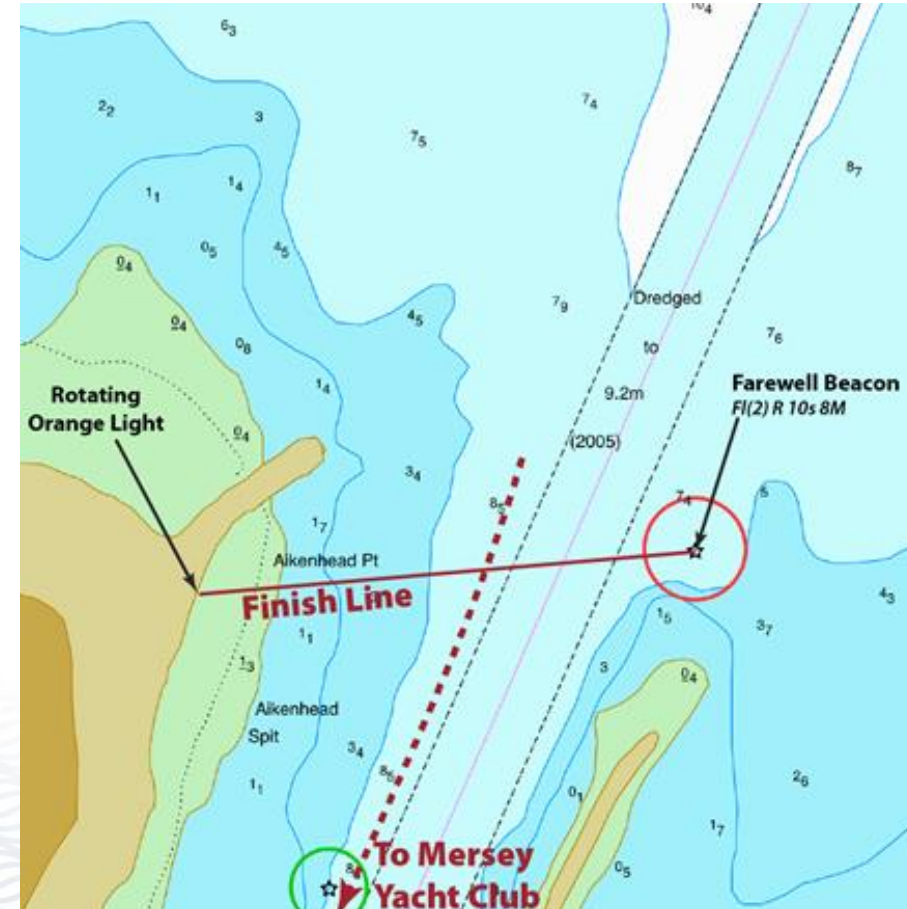
- 1st - 60 Minutes - SMS or VHF 73
- 2nd - 5 Minutes - VHF 73

- **Finish**

- At night, look for the **Rotating Orange Light**
- Record your own time (GPS)
- RD will confirm finishing on VHF73
- **Note put the farewell beacon in your GPS**

- **Post Finish**

- Drop sails and motor up the river
- Be careful at the entrance and keep clear of commercial shipping
- The escort tender be at The Turning circle to assist with berthing (VHF 73)
- Complete and submit your Race Declaration (SMS or Email)



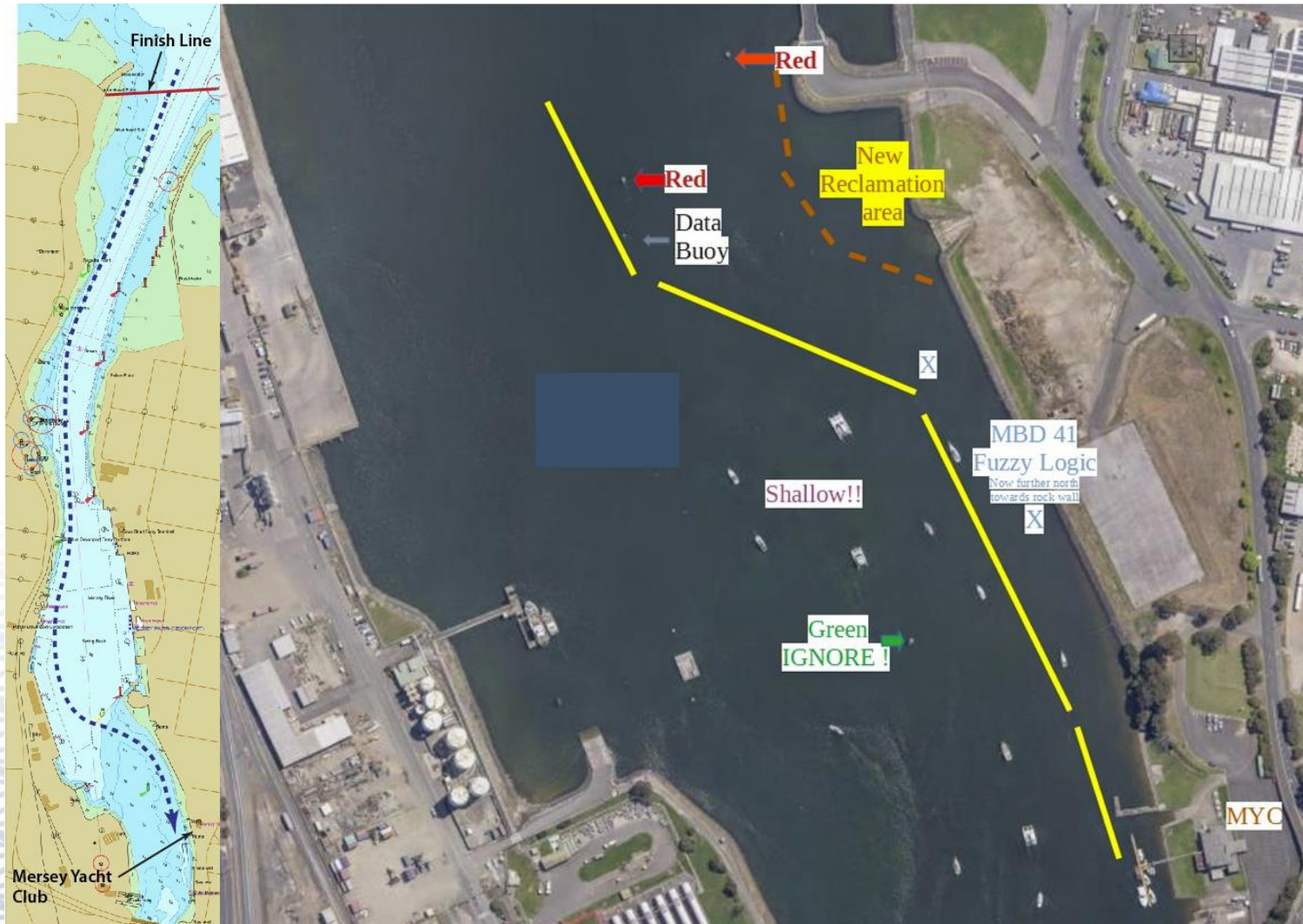
COMMERCIAL SHIPPING IN THE CHANNEL

- **Keep clear, especially at river entrance**
 - The port control is VTS and they are on Channel 14
 - Keep clear of docking and manoeuvring



Date	Port	Berth	Vessel	Vessel Type	Movement	POB	Lines	ETA / D
01/11/2025 - Saturday	Devonport	West - No.1 Berth	GOLIATH	BULK	Arrival	04:30	05:05	05:20
01/11/2025 - Saturday	Devonport	East - No.1 Berth	SPIRIT OF TASMANIA II	RORO PASSENGER	Arrival	05:15	05:45	06:00
01/11/2025 - Saturday	Devonport	East - No.2 Berth	LIEKUT	ROLL ON ROLL OFF	Arrival	06:00	06:35	06:50
01/11/2025 - Saturday	Devonport	West - No.5 Berth	GASCHEM ILIAD	GAS CARRIER	Arrival	07:00	07:50	08:05
01/11/2025 - Saturday	Devonport	West - No.5 Berth	GASCHEM ILIAD	GAS CARRIER	Departure	16:45	16:45	17:00
01/11/2025 - Saturday	Devonport	East - No.2 Berth	LIEKUT	ROLL ON ROLL OFF	Departure	17:45	17:45	18:00
01/11/2025 - Saturday	Devonport	East - No.1 Berth	SPIRIT OF TASMANIA II	RORO PASSENGER	Departure	18:30	18:30	18:45
01/11/2025 - Saturday	Devonport	West - No.1 Berth	GOLIATH	BULK	Departure	18:45	18:45	19:00
02/11/2025 - Sunday	Devonport	East - No.1 Berth	SPIRIT OF TASMANIA I	PASSENGER	Arrival	05:15	05:45	06:00
02/11/2025 - Sunday	Devonport	East - No.2 Berth	SEAROAD MERSEY II	ROLL ON ROLL OFF	Arrival	06:30	07:05	07:20
02/11/2025 - Sunday	Devonport	East - No.1 Berth	SPIRIT OF TASMANIA I	PASSENGER	Departure	18:30	18:30	18:45
03/11/2025 - Monday	Devonport	East - No.1 Berth	SPIRIT OF TASMANIA II	RORO PASSENGER	Arrival	05:15	05:45	06:00
03/11/2025 - Monday	Devonport	West - No.5 Berth Ro/Ro	JOHN DUIGAN	GENERAL CARGO	Departure	14:45	14:45	15:00

MERSEY YACHT CLUB APPROACH



- Follow the escort instructions. Note they will be waiting in the turning bay this year.
- There won't be an escort when you depart, follow your incoming track.
- Note the guide in the SIs, especially as you approach the yacht club
- Don't cut corners and pay attention

MERSEY YACHT CLUB APPROACH

- New wharf
- New reclamation area



MERSEY YACHT CLUB APPROACH

- New wharf
- Pic from Terry – bit different from last year
- Cranes are lit at night so you will not miss them



MERSEY YACHT CLUB APPROACH

- New wharf
- Pic from Terry – bit different from last year



MERSEY YACHT CLUB APPROACH

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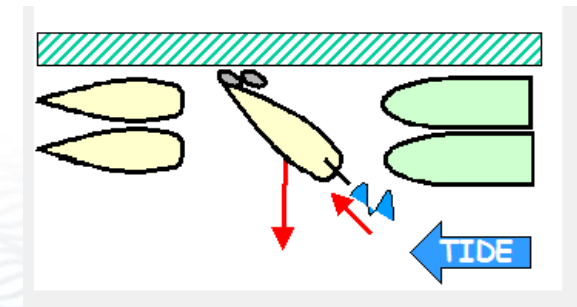
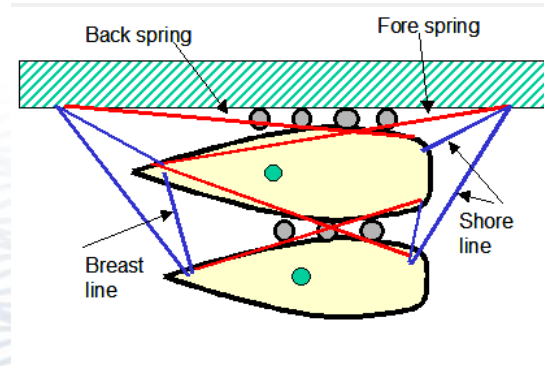
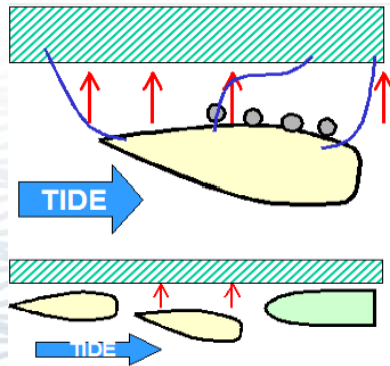
MERSEY YACHT CLUB DOCKING



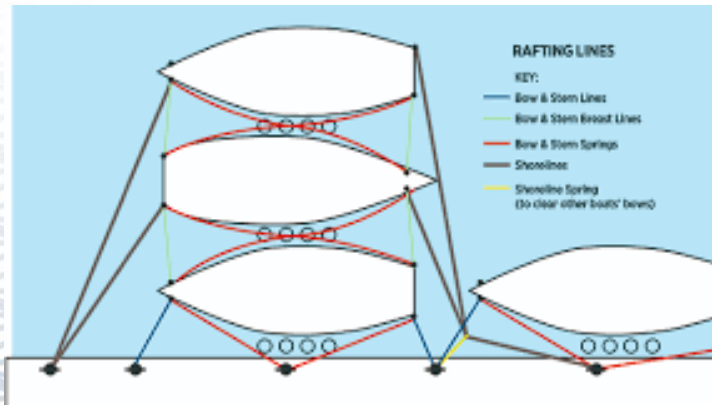
Prepare for current (eg Ferry glide in, keep bow pointing into the current)

Slower boats will need to raft up, it is a long floating dock

Getting out could be interesting, especially if you want to leave early



RAFTING ETIQUETTE – TELL YOUR NEW CREW



- If possible, seek the permission of the boat you are about to come alongside.
- Use plenty of fenders. Set springs and breast ropes - see diagram.
- Moor so the masts are not in line - they may clash if the boats roll.
- May be raft up to 5 deep in each row
- Don't leave all the free ends of your warps on the other boat's deck, tie off on your boat
- Don't grab or push stanchions or guard wires to hold yourself alongside, they are not strong enough.
- Always put shore-lines out and try to keep them fairly tight, allowing for tide
- Seek permission, as a courtesy, before you cross another boat's deck for the first time
- Always walk around the front of a boat, not through the cockpit
- Wear deck shoes so as not to mark/damage decks.
- Try to be as light footed as possible when crossing decks, particularly after the pub
- Leave a note to warn others of your departure time, and leave when you say

MERSEY YACHT CLUB HOSPITALITY

UPDATE



• Food

SATURDAY NIGHT

- BBQ (sausages and burgers) on arrival, Toasties if very late
- Minibus available if crew want to drive to pick up take-away
- MenuLog to arrange yourselves

SUNDAY MORNING

- Club will be cooking
 - Scrambled eggs, home-made spicy beans, bacon, toast
 - Belgian Waffles and fruit
- Argosy Motel 6.30am – 9.00am - 300m away – full breakfast

• Drinks

- A complementary drinks voucher per crew member on arrival
- Vouchers per boat behind the bar
- Drinks available from the bar
- After midnight we may run a tab then pay next day

• Presentation

- Likely to be 10:30am Sunday but we will confirm time via SMS



WHATSAPP PHOTO AND VIDEO COMPETITION

SHOW US YOUR TRASH!

Update – think we can delete this slide



What can go in your Mixed Recycling Bin



#1 plastics (PET)



#2 plastics (HDPE)



#5 plastics (PP)



Aluminium cans



Steel cans



Empty oil drums



Glass bottles and jars

What cannot go in your Mixed Recycling Bin



Plastic bags, soft plastics and small plastic items



Tetrapak and juice cartons



Bagged recyclables



Coffee cups



Disposable cutlery and disposable drinking cups



Paper towels, tissues, dishcloths



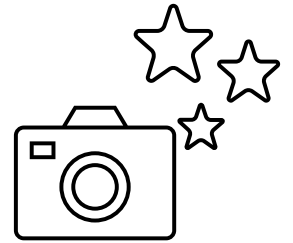
Compostable packaging



Fast food packaging



Polystyrene



Send pics and videos of your boats sorted rubbish to M2D WhatsApp channel – use the guide here

Use #cleanoceans and enter boat name

Winner will be drawn and take home \$30 ORCV voucher to use on training or membership

CREATE MEMORIES FOR OUR YEAR-BOOK

1. Fly Your Backstay Flag
2. Be on stand-by for an interview for the media
3. Show us your crews, insidORCV may use your photos and videos on our social media and publications. We will credit you where possiblee your boats, on your boats and more.
4. Send us updates, share funny stories on how you're doing. Our followers, your friends and family always want to see the action, so don't let them miss out.
5. Join the competitors WhatsApp group
6. Is there someone who's doing their 1st ocean race? Or even their last? Can we celebrate something with you?
7. Check, update crew profiles, boat tracker and share on social media.



ORCV may use your photos and videos on our social media and other publications. We will credit you where possible.

OUR OBJECTIVE – SAFE AND ENJOYABLE

- **Stay safe**

- Go easy on the start line, it's a long race
- Sail smart – Remember more sail doesn't mean you go faster
- Based on the current forecast I may move the start outside, I will give you plenty of notice

Rule 3 "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

- **Please promote the event**

- Let friends and family know to watch the Tracker via the ORCV web site

- **Let's all enjoy the event**

- Respect your fellow crew and other competitors
- Respect the volunteers and our hosts, Mersey YC
- We are committed to the ORCV Code of Conduct



SI 16.2 "Skippers are reminded that crew behaviour is both the skipper and all the crew's responsibility to manage, at all times including during any deliveries or pre and post-race social events."

HEADING HOME

- **Tell us if your plans change**

- Particularly who is on board

- **Keep an eye on each other**

- Your best Search & rescue asset is your fellow competitor
- Monitor VHF16 and AIS

- **Message us**

- On the Race Director phone once you pass through the heads

- **Tracker**

- Keep it on for your trip home, turn it off when you tie up and return it to the ORCV by November 15

- **Incident Management**

- There will be minimal ORCV oversight during your trip home, but the ORCV team will be on standby and will assist where we can. If something happens, contact us.



ANY QUESTIONS ?
(VIA CHAT OR UNMUTE YOURSELF)

KEEP AN EYE ON THE WEB SITE “FINAL REMINDERS” WEB PAGE