



Royal Vancouver Yacht Club Support Team Regulations Summer 2026



1 Introduction

The club welcomes the attendance of all *support persons* at its regattas. This definition from the RRS includes coaches and managers, team staff, parents and guardians. The regulations following are intended to spell out the relationship between support persons, the club, its race committees and competitors.

2 Basic rules

- 2.1 Support persons are required to follow all reasonable requests and directions from a race official.
- 2.2 Support persons are responsible for the control of their vessels, and must operate them in a safe and careful fashion while at an event.
- 2.3 Support vessels shall accept trash and refuse from competitors, and shall do what they can to minimize any impact on the ocean.
- 2.4 At the request of the race committee, support persons will assume reasonable responsibility for competitors who do not have a support person at an event.

3 Safety

- 3.1 Support persons must wear a suitable personal flotation device at all times when afloat. The device may be removed for short periods while changing clothing or personal equipment.
- 3.2 All support vessels powered by single outboard engines must have a kill switch installed, and support persons must be connected physically or electronically to the switch at all times when the engine is on.
- 3.3 All support vessels must have a VHF radio aboard capable of operating on regatta channels.
- 3.4 When a boat is suspected of being in distress, all support vessels in the vicinity are expected to assist.
- 3.5 Support vessels must be operated at low speeds and without creating noticeable wake while near racing boats or in the starting area.

4 Other requirements

- 4.1 Support persons in charge of a vessel must
 - hold a valid Canada Pleasure Craft Operators Card or equivalent from their country of residence; and
 - hold a valid VHF operators license from their country of residence
- 4.2 Support vessels must carry necessary safety gear, for Canadian vessels as specified in the Canada Safe Boating Guide, or the equivalent regulations for the country in which the vessel is registered or licensed.

- 4.3 Support persons acting as coaches must register at the regatta registration website and pick up a numbered flag at check-in. There may be a deposit for the flag, which will be returned when the flag is handed in at the end of the event.

5 Venue issues

- 5.1 Support persons must follow event requirements indicating launch and daily storage arrangements for their vessels.
- 5.2 Generally trailer storage is not available at the club. Suitable storage locations will be specified in a notice to competitors.
- 5.3 Support persons may not operate drones in the venue area without the written permission of the race committee.

6 Keeping clear and Restricted Areas

- 6.1 Support vessels are not permitted in the starting area after the warning signal, and may only return to the finishing area after the first boat finishes.
- 6.2 For any event, if the sailing instructions specify a restricted area, support vessels must not intrude into that area.
- 6.3 If a restricted area is not specified, support vessels shall not
- Approach within 100m of any boat that is racing unless engaged in a rescue
 - Congregate at the pin end of the starting line before the start or at the weather mark(s) when boats are rounding
 - Pass inside the lay line to the weather mark(s)
 - Pass between a racing boat and the next mark