

Sailing World Cup, Melbourne. 9-11 December 2016.

Some comments from Bruce Abbott - who is the Sabre representative for the event.

A last reminder to enter before 10 October to avoid late fees. Do it now! You can enter [here](#).

I've already had several queries so here are some comments on specific issues. The SWC [website](#) has detail explanations; it does have a wide coverage of information including a good [Q and A section](#).

Those boats entered will in due course receive an email which will include a check list covering all the important issues for the regatta. At registration, which in our case is any time before the start of the first race on Friday 9 December, competitors will also receive a show bag with sponsors' materials to go on to the bow etc. Briefing will be at 9am on Friday for Minnows and Sabres.

One issue to understand will be your **arrival and departure**. See [the website](#) for information.

I've spoken with Australian Sailing and here are some additional or duplicated thoughts. It has been suggested that entrants drive down from the northern end of Pier Rd, off Beaconsfield Parade opposite Cowderoy St. The south end of Pier Rd will be closed and the Esplanade will be open to normal traffic including that at rush hour.

Drive south along Pier Rd to a turning circle where you remove the boat with trolley and take it to the boat park, just to the north. The area for Sabres will be marked. Trailers for sailing craft can be stored on site (limited spots available) and it is suggested that cars be parked in a parking area south of St Kilda Sea baths, on the land side of Marine Parade.

When can you drop off your trailer and boat? Most times before you race but it may be easier to do so the evening before, bearing in mind morning rush hour traffic. Also consider that although our race area has not yet been nominated, it may take at least 20-30 minutes to get there from our launch location. **Loading** on to trailers will be in Catani Gardens lawn area and can be after racing on Sunday and into Monday, however there will be a time on Monday when all boats should be gone. We will get more on this in due course. Also bear in mind that the Prize Giving Party will take place 6-9pm on Sunday.

You will see that seven races are planned during the three days. The organisers have requested that during the event, all queries and suggestions from Sabre competitors be channelled through me. Where possible, I propose to liaise with the Sabre fleet to get their views on significant queries by race management. They have also suggested that we competitors keep the occasional lookout on Facebook since it will be one of the ways that communications about the event occurs.

Hopefully the above covers all issues which should currently be relevant to Sabre entrants. As mentioned, more information will be available as we draw closer to the gun. At this stage I don't have any more thoughts to share so please look at the website if you have queries.

Certainly it will be a busy and enjoyable time. All the best to each Sabre competitor.