

Keelboat Spinnaker Course (KBSP)

The **Keelboat Spinnaker Handling** course is a more advanced course for crew wanting to learn **Symmetric** and **Asymmetric** spinnaker usage for racing or cruising yachts. This medium skill level course is suitable for persons who have crewed or owned on a yacht and now want to use a spinnaker safely! This 12-hour course is part of the nationally recognised **Yachting Australia National Keelboat Training Scheme** and is delivered by ac- credited sailing instructors.

Course topics cover **Symmetric & Asymmetric** spinnakers:

- **Knowledge:** Spinnaker types, handling, crew roles & tasks, preparation, teamwork, and coordination when using spinnakers
- **Preparation:** Checking the spinnaker, how to pack, set sheets, tack line, halyards, and control lines
- **Hoisting:** Pre hoist procedures including setting up the pole
- **Trimming techniques:** Use of sheets/control lines on all relevant points of sail. Setting the pole & height for symmetric spinnaker
- **Gybing.** Dip-pole gybing and end-for-end. Assy: inside & outside gybing
- **Dropping:** Different drop techniques for Symmetric and Asymmetric
- **Packing & Stowing:** How to stow gear efficiently after drop. Packing the spinnaker to reduce launch issues. Use of the spinnaker bag.
- **Helmng:** How to helm under spinnaker including gybing. Understand optimum downwind angles for differing wind speeds/types of spinnakers

Training is conducted onboard modern 7- or 8-meter racing yachts *fitted with spinnakers*, located on the Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron Marina, St. Kilda. All sailing is conducted on Port Phillip Bay. Maximum class size is 5 students.

Prerequisites: Previous Keelboat course and some crew sailing experience is recommended. Call Colin if you need some advice.

Course times: Normally conducted as 2 x 6-hour sessions on Saturdays or Sundays. If you have a group of 4 persons, we can arrange your own private training session or we can arrange on boat training.

Students need to bring: According to the conditions wet weather gear, long sleeve sun protection or thermal top, footwear (non-marking deck shoes eg Dunlop Volleys) sunhat or beanie, water bottle etc. All safety equipment is provided. See also:

[What to Bring](#)

Course fee: \$340 includes Yachting Australia "Introduction to Keelboat" textbook valued at \$29.95, your own logbook and Yachting Australia course certificate Course location: Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron, 1 Pier Road, St. Kilda.

[Google Maps](#)

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