

Hawthorn Rowing Club Policy - Trailer Usage and Towing Fees

HRC provides a club trailer primarily for members competing in RV and RA regattas or other regattas approved by the Committee.

The Committee may also approve other uses for the trailer from time to time.

The costs vary between regattas depending on the regatta size and location.

HRC policy is to set a fair and reasonable levy for members attending regattas.

Further, the club will pay fair and reasonable costs incurred by the driver towing the trailer.

Payment by members of the trailer usage fees must be made by the due date otherwise members become unfinancial. Refer to Policy – Unfinancial Members.

Background

The issue of insurance of the boat trailer when it is being towed (loaded or unloaded) was raised. Following inquiries with our insurance broker we have been advised that, when towed, the boat trailer cannot be covered by Club insurance for damage incurred by/to third parties and damage to third parties is the liability of the towing driver.

The driver of the towing motor vehicle is responsible for his/her motor vehicle, insurance and ensuring that damage caused by the trailer to a third party is covered.

Boats on the trailer are insured separately.

Trailer Usage Costs comprise:
Vehicle and Trailer fee (fuel, servicing, asset contribution)

The **Trailer Usage Fees** charged to members are determined by the Committee. It is intended that the fees cover the Trailer Usage Costs over a financial year.

The **Trailer Usage Fee**: currently \$15 per competitor.

Coxswains do not pay the fee.

The towing driver does not pay the fee.

The fee is payable by those rowers that use a boat on the trailer.

This fee is only applicable for regattas within Victoria.

A separate trailer usage fee will be determined for use outside of Victoria and for uses other than RV regattas.

Notes

- Regatta Entry Fees are payable in addition to Trailer Usage Fees.

- Trailer Usage Fees shall be fair and reasonable.
- Members representing HRC shall not be penalised for entering multiple events.
- Non-HRC boats and rowers shall be charged a realistic fee but not less than club members.
- Vehicle and trailer fee shall cover running costs and contribute to cost of vehicle and trailer.
- A degree of cross-subsidization is acceptable such that large regatta attendances can assist coverage of small regatta attendances.
- Unless publicly acknowledged drivers shall not receive payment.
- Trailer Usage Fees shall be applicable for whole season.
- Trailer Usage Fees shall be independent of the number of attending competitors.
- Vehicle and Trailer fees are not applicable where no vehicle or trailer are used.
- Running costs for private vehicle towing can be provided for but within a fair and reasonable range.
- Where the trailer is not owned by the club then the trailer/towing fees applicable may vary.

Towing Options: When the trailer needs to be used, the following two towing options are to be adopted:

Private Vehicle Option,

The driver may use their own vehicle.

The member may elect to:

- not charge the club,
- be paid for fuel only, or
- be paid a per kilometre rate as determined by the ATO: \$0.68 per kilometre for 2019/20.

The driver must seek written approval from the Club Captain prior to towing the trailer and nominate the payment that the driver seeks.

Unless approved by the Club Captain the payment will be based on the direct distance from the club to the event as might reasonably be measured by a mapping service.

In the event of an accident, HRC will contribute up to but not more than \$1,000.00 to the towing vehicle excess.

The request and approval should be in writing to avoid misunderstanding.

No other costs will be borne by HRC.

Hire Vehicle Option

The driver must seek written approval from the Club Captain to hire an appropriate vehicle.

The driver is to obtain an insurance excess waiver or reduction.

The insurance excess should not be more than \$1,000.00.

The hire cost and the insurance excess are to be approved by the Club Captain prior to the commencement of the vehicle hire.

The Club will reimburse the driver the hire cost and the insurance excess waiver cost.

In the event of an accident, HRC will contribute up to but not more than \$1000.00 to the towing vehicle excess.

The request and approval should be in writing to avoid misunderstanding.
No other costs will be borne by HRC.

Approved by HRC Committee at the meeting of OCTOBER, 2019