WASZP Class Support Vessel Regulations

WICA Policy

September 2026; Version 2.2

1. General

1.1. The WASZP Class Support Vessel Regulations (SVRs) provide guidelines for safe, fair, efficient and effective management of coach and support boats in racing situations at WASZP events.

1.2. Consistent with the WASZP Class values and an underlying commitment to the safety of the fleet, all support vessels are required to provide assistance to any competitor if needed and/or as directed by the Race Committee. Conduct of support persons is also subject to RRS 69.

1.3. These SVRs apply to all WASZP events unless otherwise stated in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions.

2. Definitions

2.1. Support Person – includes any coach, team leader, parent or representative providing support to a competitor.

2.2. Support Vessel – is any vessel associated with a Support Person.

2.3. Racing - A boat is racing from her preparatory signal until she finishes and clears the finishing line and marks or retires, or until the race committee signals a general recall, postponement or abandonment.

3. Positioning and Conduct

3.1. Support vessels shall remain at least 150 meters from boats that are racing.

3.2. Support vessels shall minimize wash and shall not interfere with boats that are racing.

3.3. Support vessels may be required to position in Holding Areas as detailed in Section 8.

4. Support Vessel Requirements

4.1. Support vessels shall carry valid third-party liability insurance with coverage at least equal to that required of competitors.

4.2. All persons on board shall wear a personal flotation device that complies with applicable local regulations at all times while afloat as well as carry all other required safety equipment to include but not be limited to the following:

4.2.1. Functioning kill cords or immobilizers in good working order (used at all times).
4.2.2. First Aid Kit
4.2.3. Sound signaling device
4.2.4. Anchor and suitable tackle
4.2.5. Operational VHF Radio

4.3. Drivers shall hold a valid powerboat operator's license or certificate of competence recognized by the relevant national authority.

5. Recommended Equipment

5.1. Support vessels are strongly recommended to carry:

5.1.1. Tow line (minimum 15 meters in length and 10 mm in diameter)
5.1.2. Backup VHF
5.1.3. Safety knife
5.1.4. Common boat parts

- Foil retaining pins and snail clip
- Soft shackles

5.1.5. Basic WASZP toolkit to include but not be limited to the following:

- 5.1.5.1. Metric allen key set
- 5.1.5.2. Flat head screwdriver
- 5.1.5.3. Phillips head screwdriver (#2)
- 5.1.5.4. T30 torx key
- 5.1.5.5. Tape
- 5.1.5.6. Mallet

5.1.6. At least 5 litres of drinking water

6. Identification

6.1. Support vessels shall display identification flags when provided by the Organizing Authority.

7. Penalties and Protest Committee Authority

7.1. An alleged breach of these SVRs by a support person may be reported to the protest committee by a boat or a committee. The protest committee may call a hearing in accordance with RRS 62.1.

7.2. If the protest committee decides to call a hearing concerning a support person, it shall conduct the hearing in accordance with RRS 62.2 and RRS 63.

7.3. If the protest committee decides that a support person who is a party to the hearing has broken these SVRs, it may take action in accordance with RRS 62.3, including:

7.3.1. issuing a warning;
7.3.2. excluding the support person from the event or venue, or removing privileges or benefits;
7.3.3. imposing limitations on the activities of the support person or associated support vessel, where within the protest committee's jurisdiction;
7.3.4. removing or restricting support vessel access to the racing area, where within the protest committee's jurisdiction; or
7.3.5. taking other action within its jurisdiction as provided by the rules.

7.4. In addition, where the conditions in RRS 62.4 are satisfied, the protest committee may penalize a boat that is a party to the hearing by changing the boat's score in a single race, up to and including disqualification.

8. Support Vessel Holding Areas

8.1. Holding areas to assist support vessels in safe positioning are defined in Appendix A.

8.2. The Sailing Instructions may designate these holding areas as mandatory. Failure to comply may be considered a breach of Section 3.

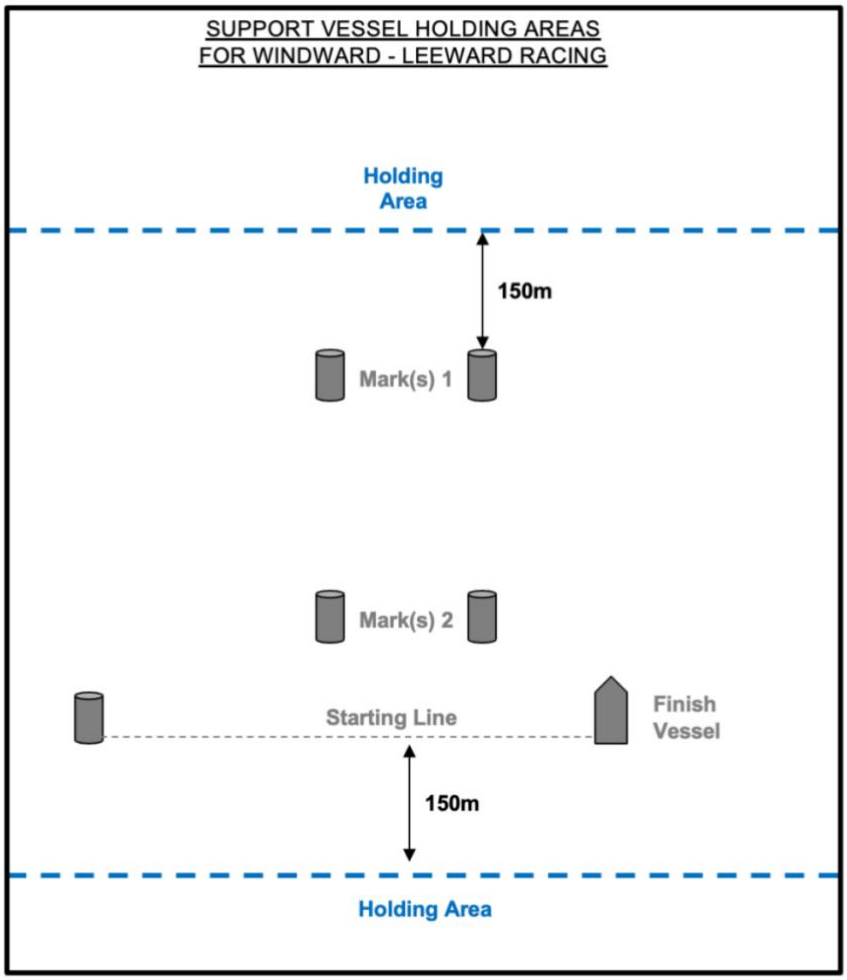
8.3. When these holding areas are enforced, support vessels shall stay within the holding areas whilst any boat is racing. Except:

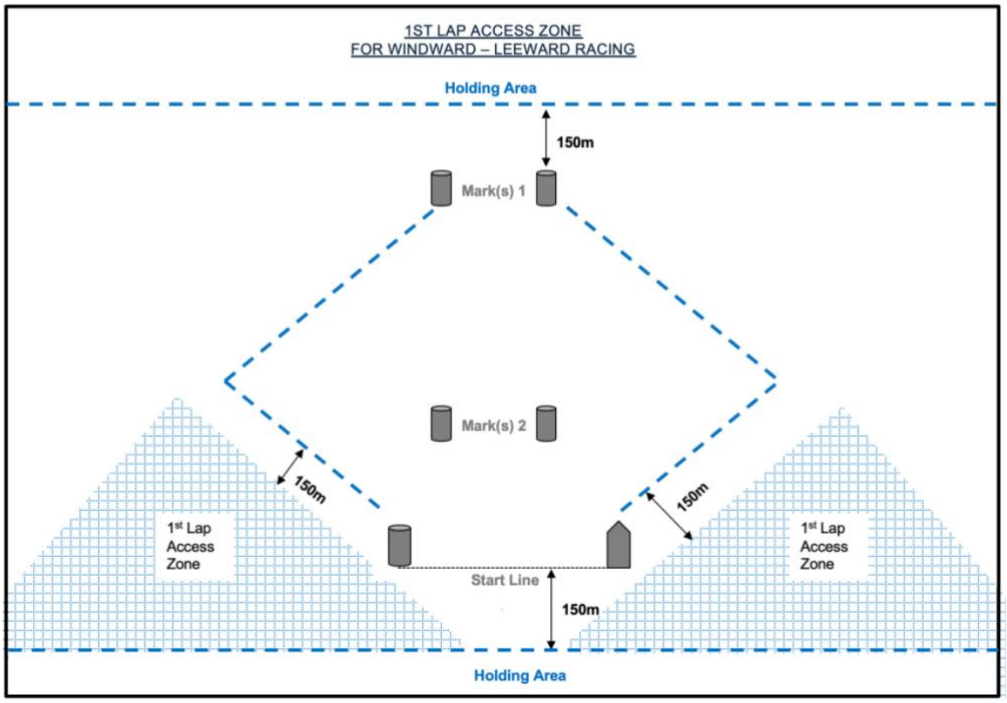
8.3.1. For windward/leeward courses, once all boats have started, support vessels may advance toward the windward mark while the fleet is on the first upwind leg, provided they remain at least 150 meters below the laylines and no further than one quarter of the course length from the start line. Vessels must have returned to the pre-start holding area before the first boat rounds the leeward mark(s).

Appendix A; Support Vessel Holding Areas

Diagrams are not to scale. Holding Areas are indicated by dashed boxes. Distances shown are minimums.

Windward / Leeward





Reaching Start

