

Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club

2020-2021 Racing Season

Offshore Notice of Race

The Organising Authority is the Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club Incorporated (RPNYC)
103 Oriental Parade Wellington | PO Box 9674, Wellington | sailing@rpnyc.org.nz

1 Event

- 1.1 This Notice of Race (NOR) covers all racing in the offshore series, the offshore two-handed series, and the offshore open series.

2 Rules

- 2.1 All racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 2.2 All yachts shall comply with part II of the Yachting New Zealand (YNZ) safety regulations as specified, and amended as follows:
- (a) Fitzroy Bay and Island Bay races for keel boats are category 5 amended to include a VHF transceiver, bosun's chair, and Wellington harbour chart NZ 4633.
 - (b) Brothers Island, Kapiti-Chetwodes-Ship Cove, Ship Cove, Cook Strait Classic, Catherine Cove to Wellington, and Two-handed offshore races are category 3.
 - (c) Nelson race is category 3 modified such that yachts must carry:
 - (i) a liferaft in accordance with safety regulation 17.11;
 - (ii) a storm jib in accordance with safety regulation 15.15(b); and
 - (iii) fire extinguishers in accordance with safety regulation 17.01.
- 2.3 All yachts shall carry sufficient paper charts and associated publications to ensure they can continue to navigate satisfactorily in the event of the failure of electronic navigation aids. Each yacht is responsible for its own safety and should consider additional charts for inshore navigation and ports of refuge.
- 2.4 Navigation charts shall also be stored electronically and shall be stored on at least two (2) separate chart plotting devices, one of which must be able to be powered separately from the yacht's main power source and be able to be recharged independently of the main engine and operate for an extended period of time. These devices must not be reliant on cellular coverage to function.
- 2.5 The Wellington Regional Navigation and Safety Bylaws, the Marlborough District Council Navigation Bylaw 2009, the Nelson City Council Navigation Safety Bylaw 2012, and the Canterbury Regional Council Navigation Safety Bylaw 2016 and Controls will apply:
- (a) There shall be a moving prohibited zone extending to 100m astern and 100m to each side, and continuing at such width to 500m ahead, of every vessel larger than 500 GRT.
 - (b) A boat shall be disqualified without a hearing if a vessel larger than 500 GRT reports to the organising authority, to the harbour master, or to Maritime New Zealand, that the boat has either:
 - (i) entered her moving prohibition zone; or
 - (ii) impeded her navigation (including but not limited to requiring her to take avoiding action).

2.6 RRS appendix T will apply.

2.7 RRS 78.2 will not apply.

2.8 Racing rules will be changed as follows:

- (a) Yachts with lifting keels shall have keels locked in the down position and not moved whilst racing. This changes RRS 52.
- (b) Yachts with movable ballast, in the form of a canting keel or water ballast, may move that ballast to increase or decrease weight, or to change trim or stability. This changes RRS 51.
- (c) Movement of sails not in use while racing is allowed. However, sails not being flown must remain within the boat's lifelines. This modifies RRS 51 only inasmuch as it pertains to the movement of sails.
- (d) RRS 52 shall not apply to the adjustment of a canting keel or water ballast.
- (e) Two-handed yachts may use an autopilot or other self-steering device. This changes RRS 52.
- (f) Between the hours of sunset and sunrise the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea shall apply. This changes RRS part 2.
- (g) RRS 41 and RRS 47.1 are changed as follows pertaining to the suspension of racing:
 - (i) a yacht may suspend racing for safety and seamanship reasons (e.g. to make repairs) provided she marks her position where the suspension commences and informs the organising authority at the first reasonable opportunity of the racing suspension commencement time and location. Suspension of racing shall not be used to gain a tactical advantage (e.g. to get out of adverse tide etc.);
 - (ii) a yacht that has suspended racing may use a propulsion engine, haul out, or make fast, until she resumes racing;
 - (iii) a yacht that has suspended racing, may, before resuming racing, remove garbage, use any equipment or receive help to effect repairs but shall not take on food or other provisions, or replace equipment, without the prior permission of the organising authority; and
 - (iv) before resuming racing, a yacht shall return to the position where she suspended racing and inform the organising authority at her first reasonable opportunity of the time and location at which she has resumed racing.
- (h) RRS 41 is changed as follows pertaining to outside assistance:
 - (i) whilst racing, boats may utilise weather information that is routinely available throughout the year to the general public and whose availability is publicly indexed (e.g. searchable by Google). Boats shall not arrange for weather routers or meteorologists or other individuals to provide them with advice, customised data, compilations, or screen shots of public data during the race regardless of how that information may be communicated;
 - (ii) boats may receive regularly scheduled weather broadcasts, GRIB data, weather fax transmissions, or other internet-based forecast information including weather routing functions within an application, whether subscription-based or free of charge (e.g. Metservice or PredictWind); and
 - (iii) prior to the warning signal for a leg, there are no limitations on private services or other sources of data or consulting.

- 2.9 Safety checks of any yacht may be made at any time.
- 2.10 Crew shall wear lifejackets or be tethered to the yacht at all times, unless the person in charge of the yacht considers that conditions are such that there is no significant increase in the risk to the safety of any person through not wearing a lifejacket or being tethered to the yacht, and expressly gives permission for lifejackets and tethers not to be worn.
- 2.11 Yachts shall report the following incidents which occur while racing to the race committee as soon as possible:
 - (a) Man overboard.
 - (b) An injury requiring treatment from a doctor, nurse, ambulance, or in a hospital.
 - (c) Contact with another yacht during a race causing serious damage.
 - (d) Loss of a keel, rudder or mast, or damage which materially adversely affects the seaworthiness of the yacht.
 - (e) An inrush of water into the yacht.

3 Advertising

- 3.1 Yachts may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority. Violation of 3.1 will cause World Sailing regulation 20.9.2 to apply.

4 Eligibility and entry

- 4.1 Racing is open to all multihull and self-righting monohull yachts.
- 4.2 Entries will be accepted from yachts registered on the RPNYC yacht register (RPNYC yachts) and from visiting yachts.
- 4.3 Visiting yachts will not be eligible for RPNYC trophies but will be eligible for prizes.
- 4.4 The organising authority may accept, reject, or subsequently cancel the entry of a visiting yacht for any reason.
- 4.5 To be eligible to compete in any race or the offshore series, the offshore two-handed series, or the offshore open series, the following membership requirements shall be met:
 - (a) Each crew member shall be a financial member of a club recognised by the entrant and crew member's national authority.
 - (b) Each crew member shall be registered as a crew member prior to the briefing in the format prescribed by the organising authority.
- 4.6 Each yacht must submit a current category 3 (or higher) safety certificate to the organising authority no later than the briefing for the first race in the series or the briefing of the race entered.
- 4.7 If a liferaft is to be carried aboard the yacht, then a liferaft inspection certificate is to be submitted to the organising authority no later than the briefing for the first race in the series or the briefing of the race entered.
- 4.8 Each yacht must submit a 406 EPIRB registration certificate for all EPIRB's and PLB's to be carried during the race (see beacons.org.nz) to the organising authority no later than the briefing for the first race in the series or the briefing of the race entered. Emergency contacts must be up to date.
- 4.9 Entries shall be lodged on the RPNYC website twenty-four hours prior to the scheduled briefing for the race in which the entrant wishes to participate.

4.10 Yachts may enter individual races or an entire series.

5 Fees

5.1 The required entry fees are:

Event	Entry fee
Offshore series	\$85
Offshore two-handed series	No fee
Offshore open series	No fee
Any individual race from the offshore series	\$30

6 Schedule of races

6.1 Unless excused by the race committee, a representative of each yacht must attend the race briefing for each race entered. All race briefings will be held at the RPNYC clubhouse.

6.2 Briefings and warning signals for races in the offshore series, the offshore two-handed series, and the offshore open series are as follows:

Race	Series	Briefing	Warning signal	Approximate distance
Brothers Island	Offshore	2 Oct 2020 1830 hours	3 Oct 2020 0455 hours	67 nm
Fitzroy Bay	Offshore	Season briefing	17 Oct 2020 0955 hours	25 nm
Kapiti-Chetwodes-Ship Cove	Offshore	3 Dec 2020 1830 hours	4 Dec 2020 1825 hours	110 nm
Ship Cove	Offshore open	3 Dec 2020 1830 hours	5 Dec 2020 0725 hours	40 nm
Cook Strait Classic	Offshore	18 Dec 2020 1830 hours	19 Dec 2020 0725 hours	34 nm
Nelson	Offshore	21 Jan 2021 0830 hours	22 Jan 2021 1055 hours	117 nm
Catherine Cove to Wellington	Offshore	1 Feb 2021 0830 hours	6 Feb 2021 0555 hours	64 nm
Two-handed Brothers Island	Offshore two-handed	1 Mar 2021 1900 hours	3 Mar 2021 0655 hours	67 nm
Island Bay	Offshore	Season briefing	27 Mar 2021 0955 hours	18 nm

7 Measurement

- 7.1 Each yacht shall have a current PHRF certificate issued by Yachting New Zealand should it wish to be scored under PHRF.
- 7.2 PHRF certificate compliance measurements may be conducted at any time.
- 7.3 No changes to PHRF certificates may be made after a race briefing except:
 - (a) As a result of a rating protest to correct rating office errors.
 - (b) As a result of YNZ updating a yacht's PHRF certificate as part of its PHRF review process.

8 Sailing instructions

- 8.1 The sailing instructions will be available on the RPNYC website no later than the pre-season briefing.
- 8.2 A race appendix will be made available at or before each individual race briefing.

9 Racing area

- 9.1 The races will be held in Wellington harbour, Cook Strait, Queen Charlotte Sound, Tasman Bay, and the east coast of the South Island.

10 Courses

- 10.1 A range of courses may be specified in the race appendix.

11 Scoring

- 11.1 Races will be scored on PHRF, a general handicap, and line.
- 11.2 The general handicap will be a formula-derived performance handicap that adjusts after each race based on the performance for that race and up to four prior races.
- 11.3 PHRF results will be calculated for all yachts with a valid PHRF handicap, unless the yacht advises the race committee that it is not sailing in its measured configuration.
- 11.4 When fewer than five (5) races have been completed in the offshore series, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 11.5 When five (5) races have been completed in the offshore series, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 11.6 The minimum number of races to be completed for the offshore series shall be two (2).

12 Penalty system

- 12.1 The scoring penalty described in RRS 44.3 will apply.

13 Prizes

- 13.1 The organising authority shall award the trophies normally associated with the organising authority's offshore races.
- 13.2 RPNYC trophies may only be awarded to yachts entered as RPNYC yachts. If, but for this paragraph, a trophy would have been awarded to a visiting yacht, then the trophy may instead be awarded to the highest placed RPNYC yacht.

- 13.3 Presented trophies remain the property of RPNYC and are not to leave the clubroom premises.

14 Declarations

- 14.1 Competitors are required to submit a declaration form prior to the start and at the end of each race, as provided at the briefing.
- 14.2 The pre-race declaration shall stipulate that the yacht complies with its safety certificate and the crew are fit and healthy and able to compete in the race.
- 14.3 The post-race declaration shall stipulate the particulars of any of the following events if relevant:
- (a) Suspension of racing.
 - (b) Breach of the racing rules of sailing.
 - (c) Breach of the notice of race.
 - (d) Breach of the sailing instructions.
 - (e) Breach of applicable harbour bylaws.
 - (f) Use of engine for propulsion for any reason.
 - (g) Missed position report.
- 14.4 Failure to submit a declaration to the race committee within 48 hours of finishing shall result in the yacht being protested by the race committee.

15 Insurance

- 15.1 Each yacht that races shall be insured with valid marine third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10,000,000 per incident or the equivalent thereof.
- 15.2 Evidence of insurance shall be provided by the scheduled briefing time of the race the yacht intends to compete in if requested by the organising authority.

16 Disclaimer of liability

- 16.1 Competitors who participate in any RPNYC event do so entirely at their own risk. Refer to RRS 4. RPNYC will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the event.
- 16.2 The organising authority will make starting signals unless in the race committees' opinion it is manifestly unsafe for yachts to race. Each yacht shall exercise her responsibility under RRS 4 and decide whether to start or having started whether to continue to race.
- 16.3 The organising authority is not responsible for:
- (a) The seaworthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted.
 - (b) The sufficiency or adequacy of the yacht's equipment.
 - (c) The competence of the yacht's skipper or crew.
- 16.4 After 1 January 2021, RRS 3 will be substituted for RRS 4 in paragraphs 16.1 and 16.2.

17 Further information

- 17.1 For further information, please contact sailing@rpnyc.org.nz or visit www.rpnyc.org.nz.