

**Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club**  
2015–16 Season  
19 December 2015  
**Cook Strait Classic – Notice of Race**

The Organising Authority is the Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club Incorporated (RPNYC)  
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**This notice of race is for yachts intending to race in the Cook Strait Classic, but not the entire Coastal Series. Yachts that wish to enter the Coastal Series should refer to the notice of race issued for that event.**

## **1 Rules**

### General and Safety Rules

- 1.1 All racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing along with the Wellington Regional Navigation and Safety Bylaws and the Marlborough District Council Navigation Bylaw 2009.
- 1.2 Yachts shall comply with the either clause 1.2(a) or 1.2(b).
- (a) All yachts entering the 'Category 3' section shall comply with Part II of the Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations, Category 3, modified as follows:
- (i) At least 2.5 litres of fresh water per person shall be carried at the start of the race.
  - (ii) Yachts shall carry a liferaft in accordance with safety regulation 17.11.
  - (iii) Yachts shall carry an additional lifebuoy and equipment in accordance with safety regulation 17.13(b).
  - (iv) Yachts shall carry a storm jib in accordance with safety regulation 15.15(b).
  - (v) The minimum amount of engine fuel to be carried is 'LWL(m) / 0.2' litres.
  - (vi) Yachts shall carry fire extinguishers in accordance with safety regulation 17.01.
  - (vii) Yachts shall carry a copy of the "Communications Instructions" and store it near their VHF radio.
- (b) All yachts entering the 'Category 4' section shall comply with Part II of the Yachting New Zealand (YNZ) Safety Regulations, Category 4, modified as follows:
- (i) At least 2.5 litres of fresh water per person shall be carried at the start of the race.
  - (ii) Yachts shall carry either a liferaft or an approved dinghy per safety regulation 17.12.
  - (iii) Yachts shall carry two VHF radios, at least one of which must be waterproof.
  - (iv) Yachts shall carry a serviceable inboard or outboard engine and propeller capable of driving the boat in smooth water at a speed exceeding  $\sqrt{LWL(m) \times 3.28}$  knots.
  - (v) The minimum amount of engine fuel to be carried is 'LWL(m) / 0.2' litres.
  - (vi) Yachts shall carry fire extinguishers in accordance with safety regulation 17.01.
  - (vii) Yachts shall carry a copy of the "Communications Instructions" and store it near their VHF radio.

- 1.3 Safety checks of any yacht in any division may be made at any time.
- 1.4 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 safety to 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.
- 1.5 Yachts and crew shall comply with any guidelines published by the Race Committee regarding the wearing of lifejackets and tethers.
- 1.6 In adverse weather conditions, the Race Committee may abandon the Category 4 section while allowing the Category 3 section to continue. The Race Committee's decision to abandon the Category 4 section of a race shall not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).
- 1.7 IRC and/or PHRF certificate compliance measurement may be conducted at any time.

#### IRC Rules

- 1.8 The IRC Rules 2015 Parts A, B and C apply to yachts competing under IRC.
- 1.9 IRC rules 22.4.1 and 22.4.2 will not apply.
- 1.10 In accordance with IRC Rule 21.6.1(b) YNZ prescribes that a yacht may carry one more spinnaker than shown on her current IRC certificate without an increase in rating. Racers: Note that the area of the additional spinnaker (or any other on-board) cannot be greater than rated SPA.

#### Changes to Racing Rules

- 1.11 Racing rules will be changed as follows. The changes will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions. The Sailing Instructions may also change other racing rules.
  - (a) Yachts with lifting keels shall have keels locked in the down position and not moved whilst racing. This changes rule 51.
  - (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 rule 51.
  - (c) Rule 52 will not apply to the adjustment of a canting keel or water ballast.
  - (d) For protests where only a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 is alleged to have been broken, an arbitration hearing may be offered prior to any formal protest hearing.
  - (e) Any yacht that does not have a representative attend the pre-race briefing will be scored Did Not Compete (DNC) without a hearing in that race. This changes rules A4 and A5.
  - (f) Yachts may be required to operate a smartphone-based tracking device at the yacht's own cost. If so required, yachts shall follow the operating instructions provided by the Organising Authority.
  - (g) Yachts may receive and use any information freely available to all yachts, and any publicly offered internet or broadcast weather information from sources available to all competitors (whether on a subscription or free basis). Permitted sources of information must provide the same information to all competitors who seek it, and must not provide yacht-specific weather routing information. Competitors may use any means to retrieve information. This changes RRS 41.
  - (h) Rule 78.2 will not apply.

## **2 Advertising**

- 2.1 Yachts may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.

## **3 Eligibility, entry, and registration**

### Eligibility

- 3.1 The series is open to all multihull and self-righting monohull yachts.

- 3.2 Each yacht must, in the opinion of the Organising Authority, be capable of safely taking part in the race.
- 3.3 To be eligible to compete in this event each crew member shall be:
- (a) a financial member of a club recognised by the entrant and crew member's national authority; and
  - (b) registered as a crew member on the RPNYC website.

#### Entries

- 3.4 Yachts must enter on the RPNYC website.
- 3.5 Entries must be received by 1700 hrs on 18 December 2015. Entries lodged after the closing time for entries and up to 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the race briefing and accompanied by the late entry fee in addition to the regular entry fee may be received at the discretion of the Race Committee.

#### Registration

- 3.6 Yachts must register on the RPNYC website by 1700 hrs on 18 December 2015. Registrations received after the closing time for registration and up to 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the race briefing may be received at the discretion of the Race Committee.

### **4 Fees**

- 4.1 Required fees are as follows:
- (a) Yachts that have entered for the entire inshore season or the Offshore Series shall not be required to pay a fee.
  - (b) For all other yachts:
    - (i) Entry Fee: \$45
    - (ii) Late Entry Fee: Entry fee plus \$50

### **5 Schedule**

- 5.1 Unless excused by the Race Committee, a representative of each yacht must register and attend the briefing at the RPNYC clubhouse.
- 5.2 Briefing and warning signal:
- (a) Briefing: 19 December 2015, 0800 hrs
  - (b) Warning signal: 19 December 2015, 1000 hrs

### **6 Measurements**

- 6.1 No changes to PHRF and IRC rating certificates may be made after a race briefing except:
- (a) as a result of a rating protest, to correct rating office errors; or
  - (b) as a result of YNZ updating a yacht's PHRF certificate as part of its PHRF review process.

### **7 Sailing Instructions**

- 7.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available on the RPNYC website by 12 December 2015 and will be available at the briefing.

### **8 Venue**

- 8.1 The race will be held in Wellington Harbour, Cook Strait, and Tory Channel.

### **9 The Course**

- 9.1 The course will start adjacent to the Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club, and finish inside Tory Channel.

## **10 Penalty System**

10.1 The scoring penalty, rule 44.3, will apply.

## **11 Scoring**

11.1 The race will be scored on IRC, PHRF, General Handicap and Line Honours.

11.2 The race will be deemed to have been abandoned if fewer than three yachts start.

11.3 The General Handicap will be a formula-derived performance handicap that adjusts after each race based on the performances for that race and any prior races.

## **12 Prizes**

12.1 The Organising Authority shall award the trophies normally associated with the Organising Authority's offshore races.

12.2 Only yachts recorded on the RPNYC Yacht Register and where the person in charge is a current financial member of RPNYC will be eligible for RPNYC trophies.

## **13 Disclaimer of Liability**

13.1 Competitors participate in all races entirely at their own risk. Refer to RRS rule 4. The Organising Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the race.

## **14 Insurance**

14.1 Each yacht shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$3,000,000 per event. Evidence of insurance shall be provided by 1700 hrs on 18 December 2015, or when the boat enters, whichever is later.