

Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club

Latitude Race

16 April 2016

Sailing Instructions

The Organising Authority is the Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club Incorporated (RPNYC)

103 Oriental Parade Wellington | PO Box 9674, Wellington | Tel (04) 939 7069 | Fax (04) 939 7031

These sailing instructions are for yachts that are not competing in the Offshore Series. Offshore Series yachts should refer to the Offshore Series sailing instructions and the Latitude Race Appendix.

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 Council Navigation and Safety Bylaws.
- 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 yacht in smooth water at a speed exceeding $\sqrt{\text{LWL(m)}} \times 3.28$ 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 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 A yacht starting later than 25 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes rule A4.1.
- 1.8 The International Rules for Preventing Collisions at Sea shall apply between sunset and sunrise (as published in the New Zealand Almanac).
- 1.9 Harbour bylaws, interference with harbour traffic:
 - (a) All yachts must comply with the Wellington Regional Council Navigation and Safety Bylaws.
 - (b) There shall be a moving prohibited zone extending to 100m astern and 100m to each side, and continuing at that width to 500m ahead, of every vessel larger than 500 GRT.
 - (c) A yacht 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 yacht has either:
 - (i) entered her moving prohibited zone; or
 - (ii) impeded her navigation (including, but not limited to, requiring her to take avoiding action).

This changes rule 63.1.

IRC & PHRF Rules

- 1.10 The IRC Rules 2015 Parts A, B and C apply to yachts competing under IRC.
- 1.11 IRC rules 22.4.1 and 22.4.2 shall not apply.
- 1.12 IRC and/or PHRF certificate compliance measurement may be conducted at any time.
- 1.13 In accordance with IRC rule 11.2, Yachting New Zealand prescribes that a yacht may carry one more spinnaker than shown on her current IRC certificate without an increase in rating. Note that the area of the additional spinnaker (or any other onboard) cannot be greater than rated SPA.
- 1.14 IRC and/or PHRF certificate compliance measurement may be conducted at any time.

Changes to Racing Rules

- 1.15 Racing rules shall be changed as follows.
 - (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 shall not apply to the adjustment of a canting keel or water ballast.
 - (d) Any yacht that does not have a representative attend the pre-race briefing will be scored DNC. This changes rule A4.1.

- (e) 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.

- 1.16 Rule 44.1 is changed to permit a yacht that has broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 to take a penalty after racing but prior to any protest hearing. The penalty shall be a scoring penalty as calculated in rule 44.3(c) equal to 40% of the number of entries in her fleet or 50% of the difference between her finishing position and the number of entries in her fleet, whichever is less.

2 Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors shall be posted on the RPNYC website and may be posted on the official notice board located in the RPNYC wardroom.

3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by at least one hour before it will take effect.

4 Signals Made Ashore

Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club.

5 Schedule of Races

The warning signal will be made on 16 April 2016 at 0900hrs.

6 Classes and Class Flags

The warning signal will be flag 'T'.

7 Racing Areas

The race will be held in the enclosed limits of Wellington Harbour, Cook Strait and Queen Charlotte Sound.

8 Courses

- 8.1 The courses will appear in a notice to competitors. The courses will require yachts to start, cross a specific latitude, and then finish. The latitude which a yacht must cross will be determined by the yacht's handicap.

- 8.2 The course number shall be displayed below the start box window.

- 8.3 After crossing the required latitude, yachts must take a photograph of their GPS screen showing a latitude below the latitude they must cross, and provide the photograph to the Race Committee if asked to do so.

9 Areas that are Obstructions

The following shall be obstructions:

- (a) the line between Point Jerningham Light and the nearest point of land at Point Jerningham;
- (b) the line between the Steeple Rock Light and Steeple Rock; and
- (c) the line between Thoms Rock and the nearest point of land.

10 The Start

- 10.1 The starting line is an extension of the line between the start box flagpole and the light at the outer end of the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour entrance, bearing approximately 155°–335°M.
- 10.2 If any part of a yacht's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line at the start signal, the Race Committee may attempt to broadcast her name and/or sail number on VHF channel 62. Failure to make a broadcast shall not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

11 The Finish

- 11.1 The finishing line is an extension of the line between the start box flagpole and the light at the outer end of the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour entrance, bearing approximately 155°–335°M.
- 11.2 Yacht will record their own finishing time using GPS as the time source. If the Race Committee records a finishing time for a yacht, then the Race Committee's time will be used.
- 11.3 Any yacht that does not have a finishing time taken by the Race Committee and does submit a finish declaration by email by 1700 on Monday 18 April 2016 shall be deemed not to have finished (and will thus be scored DNF without a hearing). This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

12 PredictWind GPS Tracking service

- 12.1 Each yacht must use the PredictWind GPS Tracking service.
- 12.2 Prior to the start, each yacht must:
 - (a) test that the PredictWind GPS Tracking service is operating;
 - (b) check that the battery level is sufficient; and
 - (c) contact the Race Committee on VHF channel 62 to confirm that tracking signals are being received.
- 12.3 A yacht that fails to use the PredictWind GPS Tracking service will be protested by the Race Committee.
- 12.4 A yacht whose tracker fails during the race will, at the Race Committee's discretion:
 - (a) be warned;
 - (b) incur a 1% elapsed time penalty (without a hearing); or
 - (c) be protested by the Race Committee.This changes rule 63.1.
- 12.5 For the avoidance of doubt, the penalty in instruction 12.4 does not bind a Protest Committee.
- 12.6 The exercise of the Race Committee's discretion under instruction 12.4 is not grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

13 Time Limit

Any yacht that does not finish by 1800hrs will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35, A4, and A5.

14 Protests and Requests for Redress

- 14.1 For protests where only a rule of Part 2 is alleged to have been broken, an arbitration hearing will be offered prior to any formal hearing. YNZ regulation 4.5.5 will apply. This changes rule 44.1.
- 14.2 Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to a race official within the protest time limit.
- 14.3 The protest time limit is 1700 hours on Monday 18 April 2016. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the Race Committee and Protest Committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2. Protest hearings will be held as soon as possible after the conclusion of racing.

- 14.4 The Protest Committee may apply an alternative penalty to that of disqualification as provided for in rule 64.1(a). The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI. This changes rule A11.
- 14.5 Breaches of instructions 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.9, 1.15(d), 1.15(e), 12, 16 to 19, and 22 shall not be grounds for protest by a yacht. This changes rule 60.1(a).
- 14.6 The Race Committee may protest a yacht for a breach of the instructions listed in instruction 14.5, or for any matter related to safety, on the basis of a report from an interested party. This changes rule 60.2(a).

15 Scoring

- 15.1 The race will be scored on IRC, PHRF, General Handicap and Line Honours.
- 15.2 The race will be deemed to have been abandoned if fewer than three yachts start.
- 15.3 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.
- 15.4 General Handicap placing will be determined by yachts' finishing order.
- 15.5 Line honours placing will be determined by calculating an adjusted elapsed time:
Elapsed time / Club TCF
- 15.6 IRC and PHRF corrected times will be calculated as follows:
Elapsed time / Club TCF * IRC TCF
Elapsed time / Club TCF * PHRF TCF

16 Safety Regulations

- 16.1 No yacht shall sail inside:
- (a) the Point Jerningham Light;
 - (b) the Steeple Rock Light; or
 - (c) Thoms Rock.
- 16.2 Each yacht shall, no less than 15 minutes prior to its warning signal, contact Port Nicholson Sports on VHF channel 62 advising of her intention to race and the number of people on board.
- 16.3 Prior to the start, yachts shall maintain a listening watch on VHF channel 62.
- 16.4 After the start and while racing, yachts shall maintain a listening watch on VHF channel 16.
- 16.5 All yachts shall comply with the 'Communications Plan'.

17 Equipment and Measurement Checks

- 17.1 Safety checks of any yacht may be made at any time.
- 17.2 Any yacht or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with safety requirements, class rules, rating certificates and/or the Sailing Instructions.
- 17.3 On the water, a yacht may be instructed by a race committee measurer to:
- (a) proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection; and
 - (b) leave all equipment including sails, sheets and lifelines in the configuration in which it completed the race.
- 17.4 A yacht that is racing in a measurement configuration that is at variance to the issued IRC and/or PHRF certificate or these Sailing Instructions may be subject to protest.

18 Trash Disposal

Yachts shall not put trash in the water.

19 Radio Communication

- 19.1 A yacht shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all yachts. This restriction also applies to use of mobile telephones, except where the communication is made in order to comply with the 'failed communications plan'.
- 19.2 Communications between competitors and the Race Committee may be made by any means available.

20 Prizes

- 20.1 Prizes may be awarded.
- 20.2 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.

21 Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in all races entirely at their own risk. Refer to 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.

22 Insurance

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 if required by the Race Committee.