

Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club

2015–2016 Season

30 October 2015–13 May 2016

Offshore Notice of Race

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

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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, the Marlborough District Council Navigation Bylaw 2009, and the Nelson City Council Navigation Safety Bylaw 2012.
- 1.2 All yachts shall comply with Part II of the Yachting New Zealand (YNZ) Safety Regulations, Category 3 modified as follows:
 - (a) Yachts must start the race with at least 2.5 litres of fresh water per person for each 100 nautical miles (or part thereof) of the course to be sailed.
 - (b) Yachts must carry a liferaft in accordance with safety regulation 17.11.
 - (c) Yachts must carry an additional lifebuoy and equipment in accordance with safety regulation 17.13(b).
 - (d) Yachts must carry a storm jib in accordance with safety regulation 15.15(b).
 - (e) Yachts must carry at least LWL(m) / 0.2 litres of engine fuel.
 - (f) Yachts must carry fire extinguishers in accordance with safety regulation 17.01.
 - (g) Yachts must store a copy of the 'Communications Instructions' 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 IRC and/or PHRF certificate compliance measurement may be conducted at any time.

IRC Rules

- 1.7 The IRC Rules 2015 Parts A, B and C apply to yachts competing under IRC.
- 1.8 IRC rules 22.4.1 and 22.4.2 will not apply.
- 1.9 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

- 1.10 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 pre-race briefings will be scored Did Not Compete (DNC) without a hearing in that race. This changes rules A4 and A5.
- 1.11 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.
- (a) 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 rule 41.
 - (b) 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:
- (a) be a financial member of a club recognised by the entrant and crew member's national authority; and
 - (b) be registered as a crew member on the RPNYC website.

Entries

- 3.4 Yachts may enter individual races or the entire series.
- 3.5 Yachts must enter on the RPNYC website.
- 3.6 Entries must be received by 1700 hrs on the day before the race briefing for the first race the yacht intends to compete in. 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

- 3.7 Yachts intending to compete in a race must register on the RPNYC website by 1700 hrs on the day before each race briefing. 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) Entry Fee (one race): \$85
 - (b) Entry Fee (entire offshore series): \$275

(c) Late Entry Fee: Entry fee plus \$50

5 Schedule

5.1 Unless excused by the Race Committee, a representative of each yacht must attend each race briefing. All race briefings will be held at the RPNYC clubhouse.

5.2 Briefing and warning signal:

Race	Briefing	Warning Signal	Approximate Distance
Brothers	30 Oct 2015 1900 hrs	31 Oct 2015 0700 hrs	72 nm
Underwood–Ship Cove	14 Nov 2015 0700 hrs	14 Nov 2015 0900 hrs	100 nm
Nelson	22 Jan 2016 1230 hrs	22 Jan 2016 1430 hrs	117 nm
Kapiti–Ship Cove	11 Mar 2016 1600 hrs	11 Mar 2016 1800 hrs	115 nm
Latitude	16 Apr 2016 0700 hrs	16 Apr 2016 0900 hrs	100 nm
Reserve Day (Brothers)	14 May 2016 0700 hrs	14 May 2016 0900 hrs	72 nm

5.3 If one or more races are abandoned, the Organising Authority shall conduct a Brothers race on the reserve day. The reserve day will not be used if none of the five scheduled races are abandoned.

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 published in the RPNYC Almanac and will be available on the RPNYC website. A Race Appendix and Communications Instructions will be made available at or before each briefing.

8 Venue

8.1 The races will be held in Wellington Harbour, Cook Strait, Queen Charlotte Sound, Tasman Bay, and the Pacific Ocean.

9 The Course

9.1 A range of courses may be specified in each Race Appendix.

10 Penalty System

10.1 The Scoring Penalty, rule 44.3, will apply.

11 Scoring

11.1 Races will be scored on IRC, PHRF, Offshore Handicap and Line Honours.

11.2 Any race in which fewer than three yachts start will be deemed to have been abandoned.

- 11.3 Three races will be required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 11.4 When fewer than five races have been completed, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 11.5 When five races have been completed, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 11.6 The Offshore Handicap will be a formula-derived performance handicap that adjusts after each race based on the performances for that race and any prior races.
- 11.7 A yacht will not be scored in the Offshore Series unless it has started in at least two races. The number of entries for the series will be the number of yachts that have started in at least two races in the series. This changes rules A4 and A9.

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 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 the day before the race briefing for the first race the yacht intends to compete in.