

Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club

2015–2016 Season

30 October 2015–13 May 2016

Offshore 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

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 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.
- 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.

- (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) Between the hours of sunset and sunrise the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea shall apply. This changes the rules of Part 2.
- (e) 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.
- (f) 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.
- (g) *(SI 11.1(g) was removed by NTC 07 on 30 October 2015.)*
- (h) 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.
- (i) 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.
- (j) Rule 78.2 will not apply.

1.12 Safety checks of any yacht in any division may be made at any time.

1.13 IRC and/or PHRF certificate compliance measurement may be conducted at any time.

2 Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the RPNYC website.

3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the RPNYC website at least one hour before they take effect.

4 Signals Made Ashore

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

5 Schedule of Events

5.1 Yachts intending to compete in a race shall 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.

5.2 Every crew member shall be registered as a crew member on the RPNYC website.

5.3 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.

5.4 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

6 **Class Flag**

The class flag will be flag 'T'.

7 **Racing Areas**

Refer to the Race Appendices.

8 **Courses**

Refer to the Race Appendices.

9 **Marks**

Refer to the Race Appendices.

10 **Areas that are Obstructions**

Refer to the Race Appendices.

11 **The Start**

Refer to the Race Appendices.

12 **The Finish**

Refer to the Race Appendices.

13 **Radio Scheds**

13.1 Refer to the Race Appendices and the Communications Instructions for the timing of radio scheds and radio sched procedures.

13.2 A yacht that fails to report will either:

- (a) incur a 1% elapsed time penalty (without a hearing) for every missed report; or
- (b) be protested by the Race Committee.

This changes rule 63.1.

13.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the penalty in instruction 13.2(a) does not bind a Protest Committee.

13A PredictWind GPS Tracking service

13A.1 Each yacht must use the PredictWind GPS Tracking service.

13A.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.

13A.3 A yacht that fails to use the PredictWind GPS Tracking service will be protested by the Race Committee.

13A.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.

13A.5 For the avoidance of doubt, the penalty in instruction 13A.5(b) does not bind a Protest Committee.

13A.6 The exercise of the Race Committee's discretion under instruction 13A.4 is not grounds for redress. This changes rule This changes rule 62.1(a).

(SI 13A was added by NTC 07 on 30 October 2015.)

14 Declaration Form

14.1 Each yacht shall submit a finish declaration online or by email within 48 hours of finishing each race.

15 Time Limit

15.1 There is no time limit.

16 Protests and Requests for Redress

16.1 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.

16.2 Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to a race official within the protest time limit.

16.3 The protest time limit is 48 hours after the last yacht has finished the race. 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.

16.4 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.

16.5 Breaches of instructions 1.2, 1.4–1.6, 1.11(f)–(h), 14.1, 18, and 21 shall not be grounds for protest by a yacht. Further restrictions on the grounds for protest by a yacht may be imposed in the Race Appendices. This changes rule 60.1(a).

16.6 The Race Committee may protest a yacht for a breach of the instructions listed in instruction 16.5, or for any matter related to safety, on the basis of a report from an interested party. This changes rule 60.2(a).

17 Scoring

- 17.1 Races will be scored on IRC, PHRF, Offshore Handicap and Line Honours.
- 17.2 Any race in which fewer than three yachts start will be deemed to have been abandoned.
- 17.3 Three races will be required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 17.4 When fewer than five races have been completed, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 17.5 When five races have been completed, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 17.6 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.
- 17.7 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.

18 Safety Regulations

- 18.1 At the start of each leg, yachts shall carry sufficient food and water appropriate for the leg.
- 18.2 Any yacht withdrawing from the race and/or leg for any reason must advise Maritime Radio as soon as possible by the best means available.
- 18.3 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.
- 18.4 Radio watch:
 - (a) Prior to the start, yachts shall maintain a listening watch on VHF channel 62.
 - (b) After the start and while racing, yachts shall maintain a listening watch on VHF channel 16.

19 Prizes

- 19.1 Line and handicap prizes will be awarded

20 Disclaimer of Liability

- 20.1 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.

21 Insurance

- 21.1 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.