

# Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club

## 2020-2021 Racing Season

### Inshore Sailing Instructions

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

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#### 1 Rules

1.1 All racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

1.2 The Yachting New Zealand (YNZ) safety regulations shall apply as follows:

- (a) For keel boats, part II, category 5 amended to include a VHF transceiver, bosun's chair, and Wellington harbour chart NZ 4633.
- (b) For trailer yachts, part V, category C amended to include a VHF transceiver, at least 10 litres of fuel, and Wellington harbour chart NZ 4633. In addition, YNZ safety regulations part V paragraphs 2.1-2.4 will apply.
- (c) For sports boats, part VI amended to include a waterproof VHF transceiver (or a VHF transceiver in a waterproof bag), one first aid kit – basic (as described in YNZ safety regulations appendix A), at least 10 litres of fuel, and Wellington harbour chart NZ 4633. In addition, YNZ safety regulations part V paragraphs 2.1-2.4 will apply.
- (d) For multihull sports boats, part VII amended to include a waterproof VHF transceiver (or a VHF transceiver in a waterproof bag), one first aid kit – basic (as described in YNZ safety regulations appendix A), at least 10 litres of fuel, and Wellington harbour chart NZ 4633.
- (e) Yachts complying with paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d) shall carry a serviceable inboard or outboard engine and propeller capable of driving the yacht in smooth water at a speed exceeding four (4) knots.
- (f) Despite paragraph 1.2(e), any yacht may compete without an engine with the prior express permission of the race committee. The race committee will only give permission if there is a support boat available and may require an additional support boat to be available. A decision to give permission or not and any failure of the race committee to provide an additional support boat will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

1.3 The Wellington Regional Council Navigation and Safety Bylaws (Wellington harbour bylaws) will apply:

- (a) For the avoidance of doubt, when a boat sailing under the rules meets a vessel that is not, she shall comply with the Wellington harbour bylaws.
- (b) 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.
- (c) 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).

- 1.4 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) RRS 52 shall not apply to the adjustment of a canting keel or water ballast.
- 1.5 RRS appendix T will apply.
- 1.6 Special rules for E6 class yachts, sports boats, and multihull sports boats shall apply:
  - (a) E6 class yachts, sports boats, and multihull sports boats may compete at the race committee's discretion. The race officer may direct E6 class yachts or sports boats or multihull sports boats not to compete in a given race. A decision to allow or prevent such a yacht to compete will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
  - (b) E6 class yachts, sports boats, and multihull sports boats shall not sail south of the No. 1 leading light (but may use the No. 1 leading light as a rounding mark) unless a second support boat is available.
- 1.7 From time to time the race committee may require a yacht to conduct compliance checks on another yacht. Compliance checks may comprise safety, measurement, or membership checks.
- 1.8 RRS 44.1 is changed to permit a yacht that has broken a rule of the RRS part 2 or RRS 31 to take a penalty after racing but prior to any protest hearing. The penalty will be a scoring penalty as calculated in RRS 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.
- 1.9 All entered yachts will be rostered as a duty yacht for up to four (4) race days as follows:
  - (a) The race committee will allocate yachts to all days on the duty yacht roster.
  - (b) Rostered duty yachts shall arrange volunteers for the start box or support boat as determined by the race committee, regardless of whether the yacht races on that day.
  - (c) If a yacht does not race on the day it is rostered as duty yacht and provides the required number of volunteers, then the yacht shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.
  - (d) If a yacht races on the day it is rostered as duty yacht but does not provide a volunteer, then the yacht shall be scored Disqualification Not Excludable (DNE) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.
  - (e) If a yacht does not race on the day it is rostered as duty yacht and does not provide a volunteer, then the yacht shall be scored DNE without a hearing in the next championship race it competes in. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.
  - (f) Duty yachts shall undertake, on at least one of their duty days, at least one compliance check of another yacht as allowed for under sailing instructions 1.7 and 21.2.
- 1.10 Spinnakers and multi-purpose sails shall not be used in rum races unless the race committee advises that such sails may be used. Lights will be illuminated approximately 15 minutes prior to the start time: green lights displayed on the start box indicate that spinnakers are permitted whereas no lights illuminated will indicate that spinnakers are not permitted. A yacht that uses a spinnaker or multi-purpose sail in breach of this instruction will be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1.

## **2 Safety**

- 2.1 Safety checks of any yacht in any division may be made at any time.
- 2.2 Crew shall wear lifejackets 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, and expressly gives permission for lifejackets not to be worn.
- 2.3 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 race committee.
- 2.4 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 Notices to competitors**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors (NTCs) will be posted on the RPNYC website and may be posted on the official notice board located in the RPNYC wardroom.

## **4 Changes to sailing instructions**

- 4.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the RPNYC website at least two hours prior to it taking effect on the day it takes effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 hours on the day before it takes effect.

## **5 Signals made ashore**

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the RPNYC flagpole on the deck. The existence of signals having been made ashore may also be broadcast periodically on VHF channel 62.
- 5.2 When flag Y is displayed ashore, RRS 40 (which requires lifejackets to be worn) always applies while afloat. The race committee may also advise RRS 40 is to apply by broadcast on VHF as determined by instruction 24.1. This changes the RRS part 4 preamble.
- 5.3 The race committee may postpone a race prior to the starting signal by posting a notice on the RPNYC website. This changes RRS 27.3.

## **6 Schedule of races**

- 6.1 The racing schedule is shown in the 2020-2021 chronology of races and events published on the RPNYC website.
- 6.2 To alert yachts that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag may be displayed with one sound at least five (5) minutes before a warning signal is displayed.
- 6.3 A maximum of four (4) races may be sailed per day.

## 7 Classes and class flags

7.1 The following divisions are proposed, subject to entries: division 1, division 2, division 3, and combined.

7.2 The class flags are as follows:

Division	Flag
Division 1	K
Division 2	E
Division 3	G
Combined	T

7.3 Yachts will be allocated to a division by the organising authority.

7.4 The combined division will comprise all yachts.

## 8 Racing area

8.1 Except for the Latitude race, all races will be held within Wellington harbour, and up to 10nm outside Wellington harbour, to the limits of Thoms Rock in the west and Turakirae Head in the east.

## 9 Courses

9.1 The courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left are published on the RPNYC website in a document entitled 2020-2021 courses.

9.2 Courses will be identified by displaying the course number as follows:

- (a) For Point Jerningham starts, the course for each division will be displayed above the division indicator. The course for the combined division will be displayed below the left hand mast.
- (b) For RPNYC starts, the course for each division will be displayed in or underneath the start box windows.
- (c) For on the water starts, the course number will be displayed on the race committee boat.

9.3 When flag F is displayed, the course will be a special course and will be broadcast on VHF channel 62 approximately 15 minutes prior to the start time.

## 10 Marks

10.1 Marks are published on the RPNYC website in a document entitled 2020-2021 harbour mark locations and descriptions.

10.2 A race committee vessel signalling a change of a leg of the course is a mark, as provided in sailing instruction 13.2.

10.3 The race committee may advise yachts of the approximate location of a laid mark on VHF channel 62. A failure to so advise will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.

## 11 Areas that are obstructions

11.1 The following areas are obstructions:

- (a) A line between the Mokopuna Island fairway mark and nearest point of land at Mokopuna Island.

- (b) A line between Point Jerningham light and the nearest point of land at Point Jerningham.
  - (c) A line between the Steeple Rock light and Steeple Rock.
- 11.2 The Mokopuna Island fairway mark is a virtual mark at 41 14.900S 174 51.970E.

## **12 Starts**

- 12.1 If fewer than two (2) yachts start within 10 minutes of their starting signal, the race shall be abandoned.
- 12.2 A yacht will be scored DNS if she starts later than ten minutes after her starting signal. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 12.3 Yachts whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.
- 12.4 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 or sail number on VHF channel 62. Failure to make a broadcast will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 12.5 When two or more divisions are scheduled to start at the same starting time and starting line:
- (a) The race committee may use the combined fleet class flag as the warning signal for these divisions and different courses may be signalled for each division.
  - (b) The race committee may use each division's class flag and start the divisions at the same time.
  - (c) The race committee may use each division's class flag and start the divisions at intervals.
- 12.6 The starting lines are:
- (a) RPNYC: a line between the start box flagpole and the starting mark laid to the north of the clubhouse. If no mark is laid, the line is an extension of the line between the start box flagpole and the light on the outer end of the boat harbour entrance.
  - (b) Point Jerningham: a line between the main start box flagpole and the starting mark laid to the east of the start box.
  - (c) On the water: a line between an orange staff on the race committee boat at the starboard end and the start mark at the port end.
- 12.7 An inner distance mark may be laid at any starting line at which a starting mark has been laid. When the inner distance mark is laid to starboard of the starting mark, it shall be passed to starboard either when approaching the starting line to start or after having started. When the inner distance mark is laid to port of the starting mark, it shall be passed to port either when approaching the starting line or after having started.
- 12.8 The race committee may alter the start location by broadcasting the new start location on VHF channel 62 not less than 45 minutes prior to the warning signal. The race committee may postpone racing in order to maintain the 45-minute notice required.
- 12.9 Mark Foy / pursuit starts:
- (a) Start times will be posted on the RPNYC website, and may be posted on the official notice board, not later than 1700 hours on the day before the race.
  - (b) For yachts starting after the limit yacht, a preparatory signal consisting of flag P accompanied by one sound signal will be displayed one minute before each yacht's starting time. Each start will be indicated by the lowering of flag P accompanied by one sound signal. This changes RRS 26.

- (c) The race committee may broadcast details of yachts due to start on VHF channel 62

### **13 Change of the next leg of the course**

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.
- 13.2 Except at a gate, boats shall pass between the race committee vessel signalling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the race committee vessel to starboard. This changes RRS 28.
- 13.3 Alternatively, the race committee may announce a change of the position of the next mark on VHF channel 62. Such an announcement will include the approximate position of the new mark, or the approximate distance and approximate bearing from the previous mark. This changes RRS 33.

### **14 Missing mark**

- 14.1 If a mark is missing or out of position, the race committee may replace it and announce the new mark's description and approximate position on VHF channel 62. The new mark may or may not display flag M. This changes RRS 34.

### **15 Shortening the course**

- 15.1 A race may be shortened by an announcement on VHF channel 62 or by displaying flag V at a mark, directing yachts to round a specified mark of the course and proceed directly to and cross the course finishing line for that race. In this case, RRS 32.2 will not apply.

### **16 The finish**

- 16.1 Finishing lines:
- (a) RPNYC: a line between the start box flagpole and the finishing mark laid to the north of the clubhouse. If no mark is laid, the line is an extension of the line between the start box flagpole and the light on the outer end of the boat harbour entrance.
  - (b) Point Jerningham: a line between the main start box flagpole and the finishing mark laid to the east of the start box. If no mark is laid, or the finishing mark has been removed, the line is an extension of the line between the white and black pole on the hill behind the start box and the main start box flagpole, bearing 75° – 255° M.
  - (c) On the water: the line between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat at the port end and the yellow cylindrical finishing mark with a black band on the starboard end.
- 16.2 An inner distance mark may be laid at any finishing line at which a finishing mark has been laid. When the inner distance mark is laid to starboard of the finishing mark, it shall be passed to starboard either when approaching the finishing line to finish, or after having finished. When the inner distance mark is laid to port of the finishing mark, it shall be passed to port either when approaching the finishing line or after having finished.

### **17 Time limits**

- 17.1 Any yacht that finishes after 2100 hours for rum and twilight races or 1800 hours for all other races will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.
- 17.2 Any yacht failing to finish a divisional race within 60 minutes of the first yacht in their division to finish will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, RRS A4 and RRS A5.

17.3 The race committee will not display the warning signal for a division unless at least 90 minutes have elapsed since the first yacht in that division finished the previous race, or all yachts have finished, whichever is earlier.

17.4 Any yacht failing to finish a combined race within 120 minutes of the first yacht in their division finishing will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, RRS A4 and RRS A5.

## **18 Protests and requests for redress**

18.1 The protest time limit for a protest by a yacht is 90 minutes after the last yacht, regardless of its division, has finished the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to all classes or divisions. This changes RRS 61.3 and RRS 62.2.

18.2 Protests and requests for redress shall be submitted to the race office in person or via [protest@rpnyc.org.nz](mailto:protest@rpnyc.org.nz) within the appropriate time limit. This changes RRS 61.3 and RRS 62.2.

18.3 The protest time limit for a protest by the race committee or protest committee (known as the extended protest time limit) is 48 hours after the end of the protest time limit. This changes RRS 61.3.

18.4 If the race committee or protest committee intends to protest a yacht, it shall inform her within 48 hours of the end of the extended protest time limit. This changes RRS 61.1(b).

18.5 For protests where only a rule of RRS part 2 or RRS 31 is alleged to have been broken, an arbitration hearing may be offered prior to any formal hearing.

18.6 Protests will be held in the Noel Manthel Boardroom at the RPNYC clubhouse at 1800 hours on the first Tuesday after the race unless otherwise notified. If the hearing is to be held at an alternative time and place, the parties will be advised of the changes as early as possible.

18.7 The protest committee may apply an alternative penalty to that of disqualification as provided for RRS 64.1(a). The alternative penalty may be a warning, a scoring penalty or an elapsed time penalty. The quantum of a scoring penalty or elapsed time penalty shall be determined by the protest committee. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI. This changes RRS A11.

18.8 Breaches of notice of race paragraphs 5.5 and 5.6, or instructions 1.3-1.7, 2.2, 2.4, 5.2, 20.1-20.2, 21.3-21.4, 22, 23, 24 and 26 or an equivalent rule in the notice of race, will not be grounds for protest by a yacht. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

18.9 The race committee may protest a yacht for a breach of the instructions listed in instruction 18.8, or for any matter related to safety, on the basis of a report from an interested party. This changes RRS 60.2(a).

18.10 Reopening a hearing:

- (a) On the last scheduled day of racing for a series, a request for reopening a hearing must be delivered:
  - (i) within the protest time limit when the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous race day; or
  - (ii) no later than 30 minutes after the party reopening was informed of the decision on that day.

This changes RRS 66.

## **19 Scoring**

- 19.1 Races will be scored on PHRF, general handicap and line.
- 19.2 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.
- 19.3 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.
- 19.4 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 19.5 When six (6) or more races have been completed in a series, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score, with a further worst score to be excluded after every three (3) races thereafter.
- 19.6 For the rum series, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores. Sailing instruction 19.5 will not apply.
- 19.7 The minimum number of races to be completed for a series shall be one (1).

## **20 Safety regulations**

- 20.1 A yacht that withdraws or retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 20.2 All yachts shall check in and check out via VHF channel 62 for races where a support boat is not available, or where races head south of Barrett Reef buoy:
  - (a) Yachts shall radio in stating their intention to race and number of persons on board prior to the race start.
  - (b) Yachts shall radio in confirming they have returned to the marina. For yachts from Seaview Marina or Evans Bay Marina, skippers may need to inform the race officer via mobile phone once safely berthed at their respective marina.
  - (c) Yachts failing to radio in prior to the race start or after returning to the marina may be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

## **21 Equipment and measurement checks**

- 21.1 Any yacht or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with safety requirements, class rules, rating certificates, or the sailing instructions.
- 21.2 A yacht required by the race committee to conduct compliance checks on another yacht is deemed to be a race committee measurer.
- 21.3 If required by a race committee measurer, a yacht must:
  - (a) Proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.
  - (b) Leave all equipment including sails, sheets and lifelines in the configuration in which it completed the race.
- 21.4 The race committee may require a yacht to undertake a compliance check on itself. If so required, the yacht will complete the compliance check form and return it to the race committee by the time specified.
- 21.5 A yacht that is racing in a measurement configuration that is at variance to the issued PHRF certificate or these sailing instructions may be subject to protest.



## **22 Advertising**

- 22.1 Yachts may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority. Violation of instruction 22 will cause World Sailing regulation 20.9.2 to apply.

## **23 Disposal of trash**

- 23.1 Yachts shall not put trash in the water.

## **24 Radio communication**

- 24.1 All radio communication between competitors and the race committee shall be through VHF channel 62 unless the race committee determines otherwise.
- 24.2 Yachts shall maintain a listening watch on VHF channel 62. The failure to receive a radio message from the race committee will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## **25 Prizes**

- 25.1 The organising authority may provide prizes for individual races and overall results.
- 25.2 RPNYC trophies may only be awarded to yachts entered as RPNYC yachts. If, but for this instruction, a trophy would have been awarded to a visiting yacht, then the trophy may instead be awarded to the highest placed RPNYC yacht.
- 25.3 Only yachts that comply with their class rules are eligible for class trophies.
- 25.4 Presented trophies remain the property of RPNYC and are not to leave the clubhouse premises

## **26 Insurance**

- 26.1 Each yacht that races shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$250,000 per incident or the equivalent thereof.
- 26.2 Evidence of insurance shall be provided if requested by the organising authority.

## **27 Disclaimer of liability**

- 27.1 Competitors participate in races entirely at their own risk. Refer to RRS 4, decision to race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with any organised race, including but not limited to the time prior to, during, or after a race.

## **28 Further information**

- 28.1 For further information, please contact [sailing@rpnyc.org.nz](mailto:sailing@rpnyc.org.nz) or visit [www.rpnyc.org.nz](http://www.rpnyc.org.nz).