

Yacht Racing during Level 2 – Guidance & Suggestions for Clubs and Organising Authorities

Kindly supplied by Yachting NZ Race Officials Sub-committee members John Parrish, Ian Clouston & Paul Davies

Under Level 2 restrictions, the Government has indicated that we can recommence sailing, provided we can do so safely.

While this is exciting for all of us, we need to ensure that we do so in a way that protects the health of competitors and volunteers, and also the reputation of our sport in the wider community.

It is crucial that all Government guidance regarding the number of people that can gather is adhered to, as well as hygiene requirements. Contact Tracing measures must also be put in place.

Some clubs have already put in place rigorous process so we encourage organisers to talk to their friends and colleagues at other clubs if they are unsure what they can do to meet Government guidelines.

Yachting New Zealand has also produced guidance for Level 2 activities that can be found [here](#).

Guidance for Clubs regarding gatherings

Please follow link to Yachting New Zealand guidance for Level 2 activities which includes gatherings advice above.

Considerations include registrations, briefing, prizegiving's etc cannot take place under Level 2 and alternate arrangements need to be arranged and communicated.

Using Race Documents to reinforce processes

Issuing a '**Notice to Competitors**' is a good way to get messaging out to competitors to inform them of the processes put in place under Level 2 restrictions.

It is also an appropriate way of notifying our sailors and families of changes that may need to be made that relate to briefings, prizegiving, and other activities that can not take place under Level 2.

If you have any questions about drafting this type of Notice – your RSO may be able to help – or contact a member of the [Yachting NZ Race Officials Sub-committee](#)

An example of a NTC that you can use to meet the needs of your club or event can be found here by the [Elliott 5.9s](#) and [Bucklands Beach Yacht Club](#).

Volunteers and Officials

Under Level 2 restrictions we are encouraged to minimise contact with other people. So in order to keep our volunteers and officials safe, every step should be taken to minimise contact with anyone more than is necessary.

Where possible, volunteers and officials should be matched with people that they know, and most importantly, that they are comfortable being in closer contact with. We all need to be respectful of people personal spaces and bubbles – especially when it comes to things like Race Committee boats, support boats, judges and umpires.

Rescheduling events

Many clubs were excited about hosting national championships or other big events leading into the second half of the summer. A number of events are currently being rescheduled.

In addition to meeting current and future government guidance and rules – thought will need to be given to notifying competitors of the new dates.

If NORs and /or Sailing instructions have been issued, they will need to be amended. If any entries have been received, it is advised to contact the entrants and see if they still are able to compete. If not, it is suggested that a refund of entry fees be considered.

We advise that you update the [Yachting New Zealand calendar](#) of rescheduled regional or national events.

Stay Safe, Start Sailing

At the end of the day, we all want to be back on the water doing what we love – be it sailing or officiating. But what we mustn't lose sight of is the fact that we need to do so safely, and in line with all of the Government advice and guidance.

None of us want to go backwards and none of us want to be responsible for COVID returning, so as we return to the water, make sure play by the rules on and more importantly OFF the water.