



Keelboat and Trailer Yacht Safety Forum

17 October 2023

Agenda

Part 1: Bay of Islands Sailing Week 2023

Speaker: Ian Clouston

Part 2: Event systems

Speaker: Jon Henry

Part 3: Skipper and crew responsibility

Speaker: John Butcher

Part 4: Yachting New Zealand update

Yachting New Zealand Addendum D
and Document Peer Review System



Bay of Islands Sailing Week

Ian Clouston (International Race Officer and PRO of BOISW regatta)

Ian will share crucial lessons learned from an incident during the regatta in February 2023. The event committee has reviewed their systems and will share new safety measures for the next event in 2024.



BAY OF ISLANDS
SAILING WEEK

⚠ A master or skipper must report any accident, incident or serious harm injury - this is a legal obligation and failing to report is an offence. [Learn more.](#)

Maritime NZ reporting website

<https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/content/commercial/safety/accidents-reporting/default.asp>

How to report a maritime event

1 Report the event as soon as possible

You can verbally report an event by [phoning the Rescue Coordination Centre \(RCCNZ\)](#) or by contacting the Maritime Operations Centre on VHF Channel 16.

<https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/content/commercial/safety/accidents-reporting/definitions.asp>

2 Fill out and submit an event form

You can use our online event form *or* download and print an appropriate event report form.

[Report an accident online](#) >

The following changes were agreed to by MNZ:

Communication to boat owners

- Skipper briefing.
- Event weather provider.
- Skippers WhatsApp group.





Incident management

- Incident Report Form in the boats registration packs to be completed by skippers and submitted
- Follow up determined by incident



Safety reminders for participants

- Race officers briefing 'Y' flag discussed.
- Safety checks.
- Laminate safety contact list for each entry.

Communications on the course

- Co-ordinate with Coastguard, Russell Radio and the harbourmaster before and during the event.
- All safety vessels will have at least 2 VHF's so multiple channels can be monitored.
- Boats will have to sign on daily.



Overall takeaways





Event systems

Jon Henry (Experienced race officer for SSANZ Cat 2 Round North Island and New Zealand races)

Insights into how the SSANZ committee prepares for keelboat events, emphasising regatta information and safety expectations to competitors.



Event systems

Event team

- Roles.
- Responsibilities.

Communication to competitors

- Official documents.
- Unofficial documents.

Safety

- Safety statements in NoR and SIs.
- Safety plan.
- Safety practices.

Communication to competitors

Official documents

Clear, concise race documents are key.

Notice of Race that clearly states:

- What, when, where, how.
- Boat prep.
- Crew prep.

Sailing instructions go into more detail:

- How the race will be run.



Communication to competitors

Unofficial documents



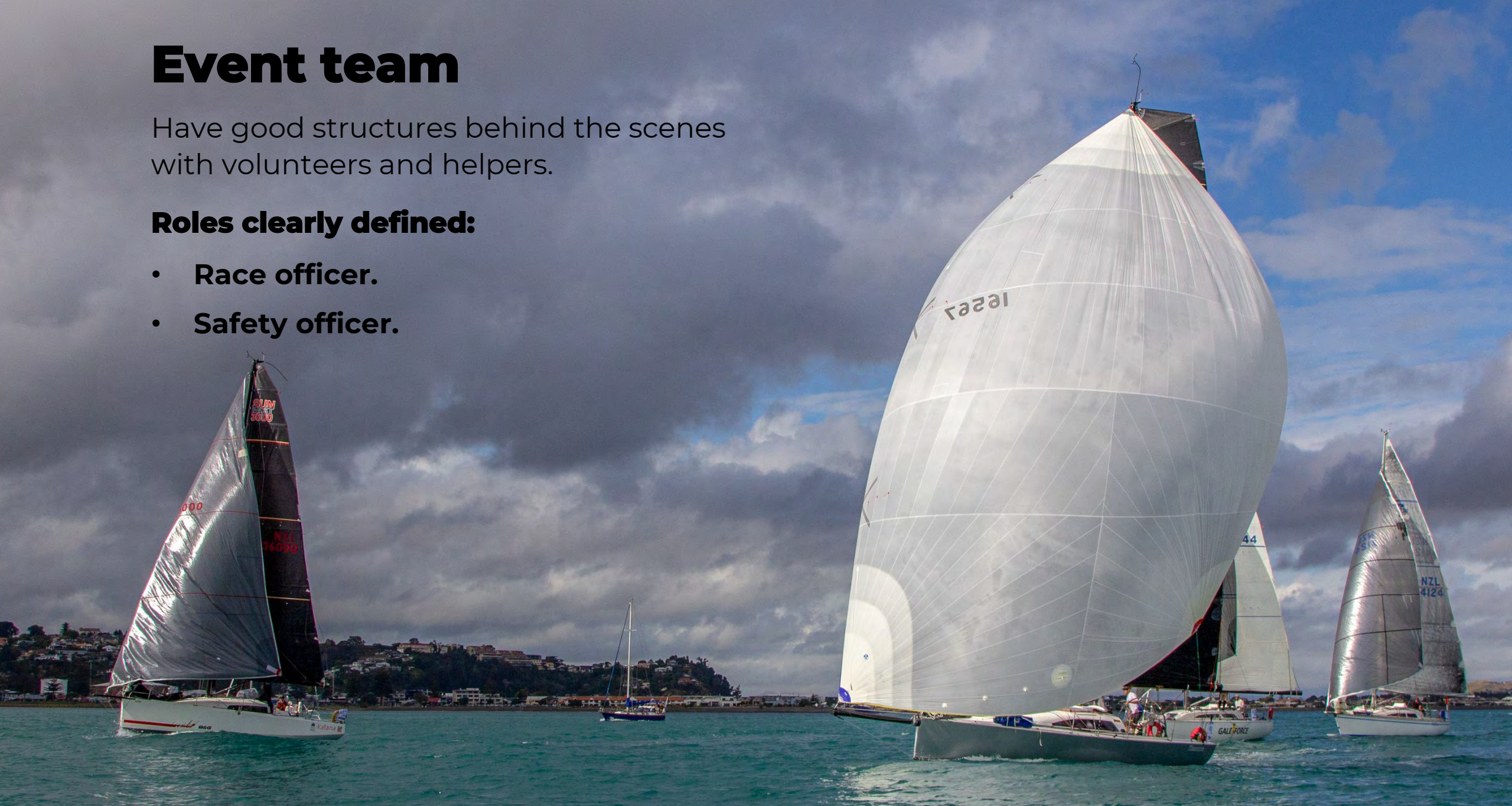
Race Guide gives more information around safety inclusions, timelines, pre- and post-race functions, and other communications necessary.

Event team

Have good structures behind the scenes with volunteers and helpers.

Roles clearly defined:

- Race officer.
- Safety officer.



A photograph of a sailboat on the water. The boat is white with a large white sail. A person is visible on the deck. The sun is low in the sky, creating a bright glow. The water is dark blue.

Safety

Safety plan

The NoR and the SIs align with the safety plan.

Safety practices

Building relationships with organisations that help run the race, or we need to communicate with - Maritime Radio, Rescue Co-ordination Centre, Harbourmasters and harbour authorities, host clubs, marinas, Coastguard.

Run a logbook for the large races. Record the date and time of all the ordinary communications and decisions.

Safety

Safety statements in NoR and SIs

The statements we put into the NoR and SIs are considered and are reviewed widely for every event.

We take into account feedback from competitors to improve the events.

As part of this the statements in the documents reflect what we will do. There are no "may" statements. If it is in the documents, we are doing it.

If a yacht does not meet the safety requirements, then its entry is cancelled.





Skipper and crew responsibility

John Butcher (Yacht owner, ex-Commander in the RNZN and former Commodore of the Gulf Harbour Yacht Club)

John will share ideas on how clubs can encourage a safety culture with their member boat owners and crews.

A photograph of a marina filled with numerous sailboats docked at a pier. The boats are white with dark hulls and masts, and their rigging is visible. The water is calm, and the sky is overcast. The pier is made of wooden posts and runs along the water's edge.

Clubs

Encouraging and implementing a (positive) safety culture with member boat owners and crews.

- Have a safety officer who is the safety champion; ask YNZ for support.
 - Schedule 'safety only' education evenings – just safety.
- Get everyone involved – active participation of people and equipment.
 - Canvass your members and use the 'in-house' experience.
 - Implement a no-blame/okay to be vulnerable/no fear of reporting culture.

Skippers/owners

Encouraging and implementing a (positive) safety culture onboard their boats.

- Plan and prepare boat and crew safety training periods.
- Involve the crew – choose a safety moment or piece of safety equipment and have the crew brief/demonstrate the safety moment and/or equipment.
- MoB training – dry runs and live runs; do it alongside and at sea.
- Do it all again; not once per season. Do it for different scenarios.
- Demonstrate and test the crew on knowing how to use the gear - e.g. marking the plot on the chart-plotter.



Yachting NZ update

Addendum D

Regulations covering the conduct of offshore events that require Category 0, 1 or 2 safety certificates.

Purpose: The purpose of this addendum is to enable Yachting New Zealand to maintain a calendar of offshore sailing events conducted by affiliated clubs and organisations.

It also outlines requirements for the conduct of the event by the Organising Authority (OA) and the role of the Yachting New Zealand Cruising, Inshore and Offshore Racing Committee (CIORC).

Safety Categories (0, 1, 2) are defined on page 19 of the [Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations 2021-2024](#)

A white keelboat with a large white sail is sailing on a dark blue sea. Several crew members are visible on the deck, some wearing orange and yellow gear. The boat is moving from left to right, leaving a white wake. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. In the background, there are low mountains or hills on the horizon.

Peer review

Questions

Questions