

BAY OF ISLANDS SAILING WEEK

Incorporating **2026 Sports Boat Class Championship**

Opua, Bay of Islands, New Zealand

Monday 19th to Friday 23rd January, 2026

The Organising Authority is the Bay of Islands Sailing Week Inc, in conjunction with the Bay of Islands Yacht Club Inc, Kerikeri Cruising Club Inc, Opua Cruising Club Inc and the Russell Boating Club Inc.

Amendment - 01 Dec 2025 : 1.2 Updated for safety regs as per YNZ Safety Regulations 2025-2028

NOTICE OF RACE

[NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat under RRS 60.1.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations shall apply as follows:
 - a) Part II Category 4 shall apply for keel boats and multihulls,
 - b) Part III Category C shall apply for trailer yachts,
 - c) Part IV Category B shall apply for sports boats,
 - d) Part V shall apply for sport multihulls.

Refer - <http://www.yachtingnz.org.nz/racing/safety-regulations>
- 1.3 The Yachting New Zealand “Rules – Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF)” will apply to all boats racing under PHRF.
- 1.4 RRS 47, *Trash Disposal* shall be amended by adding the following sentence: “For the avoidance of doubt the discarding of elastic or wool bands when setting a sail is not permitted.”
- 1.5 RRS 51, *Movable Ballast* is changed to allow canting keels and/or water ballast, where fitted, to be used.
- 1.6 RRS 52, *Manual Power* shall not apply.
- 1.7 The Young 88 Class Rules will apply to all boats racing in the Young 88 Division.
- 1.8 Sails carried on all boats for any one day shall remain on board for all races that day. The sails carried on any one day need not be the same as those carried on other days of the event.
- 1.9 The number of crew on board for any one day shall remain on board for all races that day unless the Race Officer for the relevant course agrees otherwise because of injury and suchlike. The crew on board on any one day need not be the same crew on other days of the event.
- 1.10 For Island Racing - Non-Spinnaker div – No Spinnakers or extras may be set. Extras are defined as sails not normally used to advantage to windward. Headsails may be boomed out using spinnaker poles but shall only be carried on a permanent load bearing forestay with only one headsail per forestay.
- 1.11 It is the obligation of the boat’s skipper to ensure compliance with the Safety Regulations and the completion of the Incident Report Form, if any.

- 1.12 The Incident Report Form is to be submitted to the Race Hut at the completion of that day's racing.
- 1.13 [NP] The event will take place within the Pewhairangi Marine Mammal Sanctuary area. Event organisers have applied to the Department of Conservation for a permit to allow for all participating boats and support vessels to be exempted from the rules of the sanctuary upon arrival to the starting area and during racing. Sanctuary rules shall apply at all other times.
- 1.14 Appendix T, *Arbitration* will apply.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available on the BOISW website by 1200 on Friday 16th January 2026.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official on-line notice board is on the event web-site.
- 3.2 Notices to competitors will be posted on the BOISW official notice board.
- 3.3 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 17, 73 and 77 as well as Ch 16 and Ch 63 (Russell Radio).
- 3.4 [DP] All boats shall maintain a listening watch on VHF radio on deck on channel 17, 73 or 77 at all times while racing.
- 3.5 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is an open event, open to all keelboats, multihulls, trailer yachts and sports boats, whose crew may be a member of any yacht club.
- 4.2 Classes are defined as follows:

Division	Definition
B	Open
C	Open
D	Open (includes trailer yachts)
N	Non-Spinnaker (Island Racing only)
S	Sports boats
Y	Young 88

- 4.3 Entrants are to stipulate their desire to sail in either:
 - **Open Racing** (Windward/Leeward, with a Bay Race), or
 - **Island Racing** (Bay Races only, spinnaker or non-spinnaker)
- 4.4 For the **Open Racing Divisions**, entrants may select which division they wish to enter.
- 4.5 For the **Island Racing Divisions**, entrants shall state their handicap rating **only**, and whether they wish to enter a Spinnaker, Non-spinnaker or Multihull division **only**.

4.6 The Organising Authority and Handicapper reserves the right to:

- Classify boats into divisions,
- Add further divisions (where number of entrants warrant it),
- Cancel, alter or combine divisions (where there are insufficient entrants in a division),
- Not award PHRF trophies (where insufficient boats in a division have entered PHRF).

4.7 To be eligible to compete under PHRF, boats must hold a current YNZ PHRF certificate. Boats shall submit a copy of their current PHRF certificate no later than 1700 hrs on Monday 19th January 2026.

4.8 Eligible boats may enter by;

- (a) Completing the on-line entry form on the event website, www.boisailingweek.org.nz
 - go to the **Regatta Info** tab, and click on **Entry Form**, and
- (b) Paying the non-refundable entry fee.

4.9 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees by 1700 hrs on Monday 12th January 2026.

4.10 **No entries will be accepted after midnight on Monday 12th January 2026.**

4.11 To be eligible to compete in this event each helmsman or skipper shall be a financial member of a yacht club affiliated to that club's national authority. Proof of club membership must be presented at registration.

4.12 If the helmsman or skipper's club is affiliated to Yachting New Zealand, then the boat should be registered with Yachting New Zealand.

5 FEES

5.1 The entry fees, including GST, are;

	Early Bird	Standard	Late Entry
	Before 1 Dec	1 Dec – 31 Dec	01 – 12 Jan
Open Racing – all divisions	\$400	\$500	\$600
Island Racing – all divisions	\$400	\$500	\$600

5.2 Sponsors choosing the *Regatta Entry Sponsor* package valued at \$800 + GST will receive one free regatta entry.

6 CLASSIFICATION

6.1 There are no classification requirements in accordance with RRS 79.

7 ADVERTISING AND IDENTIFICATION

7.1 [DP] [NP] Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20, *Advertising Code*.

7.2 Bow decals and/or sponsor's flags and division flags will be available at registration.

8 SCHEDULE

8.1 Registration:

1500hrs to 1700hrs on Monday 19th January 2026, in the marquee, located in the event headquarters.

8.2 Briefing:

A skipper's briefing will be held at 1700hrs on Monday 19th January 2026 in the marquee. Attendance is mandatory for at least one person from each boat.

8.3 Scheduled Racing:

Race Day	Open Racing	Island Racing
Tuesday 20 th Jan	2 W/L races or 1 W/L and a Bay race	
Wednesday 21 st Jan	Up to 3 W/L races or 2 W/L races and a Bay race	Up to 2 Bay Races
Thursday 22 nd Jan	Up to 3 W/L races or 2 W/L races and a Bay race	Up to 2 Bay Races
Friday 23 rd Jan	Up to 2 W/L races and a Bay race	Up to 2 Bay Races

8.4 The scheduled time for the first warning signal each day for ALL COURSE AREAS will be 1025hrs.

The individual start times for each division will be listed in the SI's.

8.5 Prizegiving:

Friday 23rd January 2026. Prizegiving will be as soon as possible after completion of racing, but no earlier than 1800hrs.

9 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

9.1 Spot measurement and safety checks may be conducted at any time during the event.

10 VENUE

10.1 The event headquarters will be based in the Opua Cruising Club clubrooms and a marquee in the carpark and lawns adjacent to the OCC.

10.2 The racing will be held in the Bay of Islands area. Chart NZ 5125.

11 THE COURSES

11.1 The courses to be sailed may be a mix of windward / leeward courses as described in the SI's, and Bay courses. Refer to NoR 8.3.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 For all divisions, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

13 SCORING

13.1 For each division, one (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

13.2 For all Open Racing divisions,

- (a) When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores,
- (b) When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score,

13.3 For all Island Racing divisions,

- (a) When fewer than four (4) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores,
- (b) When four (4) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

13.4 No alterations to a boat's PHRF TCC will be permitted after 1700hrs on Monday 19th January 2026, except as a result of a rating or handicap protest, or to correct rating or handicap race errors.

13.5 General handicaps may be adjusted for each race.

14 SUPPORT BOATS

14.1 [DP] All support and coach boats must have VHF communications and be available to assist the race committee if required.

14.2 [DP] All support and coach boats shall have an engine safety cut out switch (kill cord) attached to the driver at all times while the engine is running, unless prior written exemption has been provided by the Organising Authority.

14.3 [DP] No privately operated RPAS (drones) are allowed within the course area, or within 100m of any boat or vessel associated with the event.

15 RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

15.1 By participating in this event, competitors and/or their guardians automatically grant to the Organising Authority, The Bay of Islands Sailing Week (Inc) and any party to which they may be delegated the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show (including via internet), at their discretion, any images, audio, motion pictures, live, taped or filmed television, or any other form of media of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

15.2 RPAS (Remote Piloted Aircraft System) / drones under the control of the organising authority may be used during the event. Participation in the event as competitors, as well as support crew or spectators will be taken as agreement and consent to be overflowed by and have RPAS operate within close proximity to competing boats. The Organising Authority does not accept any liability for actual or perceived interference from any RPAS filming or taking photographs during the event.

16 RISK STATEMENT

16.1 RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone." By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

17 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

17.1 All those taking part in BOISW races or any other sailing events controlled by the BOISW OA, as between the OA and each of those so taking part, do so at their own risk and responsibility and the BOISW OA and any sponsor associated with this event has no liability for any damage, loss or any penalty suffered by any boat crew or any other person taking part in such events. The BOISW OA and any sponsor associated with this event shall not be responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted and/or the sufficiency and/or adequacy of its equipment or the competence of its skipper or crew. The BOISW OA reserves the right in its sole and uncontrolled discretion to refuse entry.

18 INSURANCE

18.1 The organising authority recommends that each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$5,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

19 PRIZES

19.1 Prizes will be awarded for line honours, general handicap and PHRF placings in all divisions, reflective on the number of entries in the relevant divisions.

19.2 For a second-place prize to be awarded, five (5) yachts must have started in that division.

For a third-place prize to be awarded, eight (8) yachts must have started in that division.

20 CANCELLATION OF EVENT

20.1 The Organising Authority reserves the right to cancel the event completely by written notification to each boat, via email to the contact provided on the Entry Form.

20.2

- In the event that the event is postponed or abandoned for reasons beyond the organisers control or a pandemic, a refund in whole or part will be limited to payments made for entry fee only, at the discretion of the Organising Authority.
- This Agreement in respect of this event will be terminated forthwith; and
- Each entrant hereby expressly agrees that no claim of any nature whatsoever against the Organising Authority will be permitted or entertained and each entrant hereby expressly undertakes to indemnify the organisers in respect of any claim brought by anyone associated with them and/or their boat any costs incurred by the organisers in relation to such claim.

21 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact;

Web-site

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