



2026 New Zealand Open Team Sailing National Championships

FRIDAY 10th JULY to SUNDAY 12nd JULY 2026

ROYAL AKARANA YACHT CLUB, OKAHU BAY

NOTICE OF RACE

The Organising Authority is the Royal Akarana Yacht Club in association with the New Zealand Open Team Racing Association Inc (NZOTRA).

NOTATION The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1. The notation [DP] signifies a discretionary penalty (the protest committee may choose a penalty less than disqualification, depending on the circumstances).

1.0 RULES

1.1 The event will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028*, including Appendix D.

1.2 All amendments to the RRS will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

1.3 The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations: Part 1 shall apply.

<https://www.yachtingnz.org.nz/sites/default/files/2021-04/YachtingNewZealandSafetyRegulationsPart1.pdf>

Competitors shall comply with the YNZ Safety Regulations and may be required to go ashore to receive medical attention. If this is the case and the team has no suitable reserves, then they will need to sail with only two boats against the three boats of the opposition.

1.4 YNZ Ethical Guidelines will be followed at all times and can be found on the YNZ Website <https://www.yachtingnz.org.nz/resources/ynz-ethical-guidelines-sailors-coaches-and-parents-volunteers>



2.0 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1 Entries will be accepted from teams of six sailors of any age or gender, all of whom shall be members of a yacht club affiliated to YNZ. By entering this event each team member will become automatic members of the New Zealand Open Team Sailing Association Incorporated with membership included in this entry fee.
- 2.2 [NP][DP] The two crew members of each boat shall weigh a minimum of 130kg combined body weight, except that crews between 110kg and 130kg may make up their weight to 130kg with a maximum of 20kg in approved sand filled bottles which shall be fixed in the boat near the mast step. Maximum of 10kg per bottle. These bottles shall be marked in waterproof ink with the team name, weight and crew combination requiring the weight. If a crew combination is close to or under the weight limitation, the team members shall be weighed in normal dry sailing gear.
- 2.3 **Entries will be accepted until the closing date of July 4th 2026**, by submitting the entry form online on the RAYC website and paying the entry fee of \$750. It is intended to have a maximum entry of 12 teams.
- 2.4 A damage deposit of \$500 per team is required and must be lodged with the entry fee. In the event of a team causing major damage to a boat or boats, exceeding \$500, they will be required to pay an additional amount to cover the cost of that damage. If they wish to continue competing in the event a further deposit of \$500 will be required.

3.0 BOATS AND EQUIPMENT

- 3.1 The event will be sailed in 420 type yachts. Spinnakers and trapezes will not be permitted. NZOTRA will coordinate the supply of all the 420 type yachts required for the event. Boats will be allocated according to a draw and shall not be modified except as set out in the Sailing Instructions.
- 3.2 Boats will be fitted with specific mainsails, being 200mm shorter in the leech than a standard 420 main. All boats will be equalized as much as possible.
- 3.3 Red protest flags and yellow break down flags will be supplied. You are also permitted to supply your own.
- 3.4 Buoyancy vests must be worn by competitors and supporters at all times while afloat.
- 3.5 All teams must supply their own bailers.



4.0 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

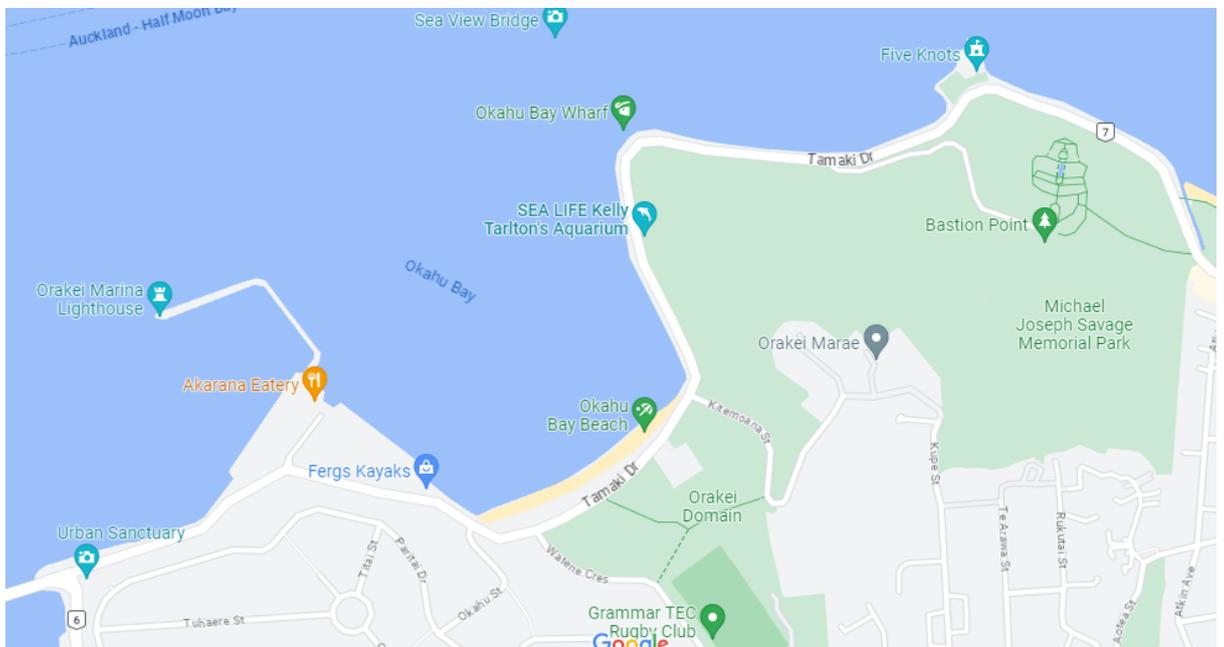
Friday 10 th July	08:30	Registration & Weigh in
Friday 10 th July	09:00	Briefing
Friday 10 th July	09:45	Time of first warning signal
Saturday 11 th July	09:30	Time of first warning signal
Sunday 12 th July	09:30	Time of first warning signal
Prizegiving - Approx 30min after last boat gets ashore		

5.0 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing instructions will be available from 9th July on the official noticeboard which is located at the Royal Akarana Yacht Club. They will also be posted on the NZ Open Team Racing Nationals Facebook page.

6.0 RACING AREA

The races will be held in Okahu Bay.



7.0 COURSES AND RACING FORMAT

7.1 The course will be an S shape with starboard rounding of the first mark.



7.2 The series will consist of a number of round robin races, with a knockout finals series to determine the winner. The intention is to have all teams involved in the knockout finals series.

8.0 SCORING

8.1 Scoring will be in accordance with RRS Appendix D3 and D4.

9.0 PRIZES

The winning team will be awarded the New Zealand Open Team Racing National Championship Trophy.

10.0 SUPPORT VESSELS

Support craft will be allowed but must operate in accordance with the Race Officer's instructions. Support craft must stay 50m clear of the course at all times.

Each team shall nominate one team member to be their nominated changeover driver in order to facilitate teams moving to and from the course. This team member agrees to abide by any and all safety instructions and policies put forward by RAYC including the mandatory use of kill-cord at all times. The changeover driver is responsible for the behavior and safety of her crew at all times.

11.0 RADIO COMMUNICATION [NP][DP]

Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that are not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

12.0 RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio & video recordings, and other respective reproductions 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.



13.0 USE OF DRONE

Drones will be limited to 1 registered with Race Management for public relations purposes. No other use of drones is permitted at any time during the regatta.

14.0 DISCLAIMER AND LIABILITY

- 14.1 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.**

15.0 FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any further enquiries please contact Jamie Catchpole at jamie@rayc.co.nz or Reuben Corbett corbett.reuben@gmail.com