



Opua Cruising Club Sailing Instructions 2017-2018

1. General Authority.

The organising authority is Opua Cruising Club Inc.

2. Rules

General and Safety Rules

All racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020, effective 1 January 2017, including any promulgated amendments and particularly the amendments as described below. Where there is a conflict between these instructions and the RRS, these OCC Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

2.1 Compliance with safety regulations.

- (a) Keelboats (including multihulls) shall comply with Part II of the Yachting New Zealand ("YNZ") Safety Regulations, Category 5 upgraded to include a VHF transceiver.
- (b) Trailer yachts and sport trailer yachts shall comply with Part V of the YNZ Safety Regulations; Category C upgraded to include a VHF transceiver.
In addition, YNZ Safety Regulations Part V paragraphs 2.1 to 2.4 will apply to trailer yachts.
- (c) Sports boats shall comply with Part VI of the YNZ Safety Regulations; Category B upgraded to include a waterproof VHF transceiver. In addition, YNZ Safety Regulations Part V paragraphs 2.1 to 2.4 will apply to sports boats.
- (d) Sports multihulls shall comply with Part VII of the YNZ Safety Regulations.

2.2. Changes to Racing Rules

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

Rule 44.1 is changed so that a 720 turn is replaced by a 360 turn.

Rule 32 is amended by 8.0 Shortening Course.

3. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board and will be available from the start box.

4. Changes to the Sailing Instructions

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted a minimum of 30 minutes prior to the start of the race. They may be advised via Twitter and the club website.

5. Eligibility and Entry

5.1. To be eligible to compete in these events, each entrant shall have an owner or skipper who is a full financial member of OCC or a club recognised by the entrant's national authority.

5.2. A season entry fee as set by the club covers all club races. However, no fee is payable by entries from local clubs for weekend sponsored racing.

5.3 Entries will be accepted by completing the entry form and forwarding the appropriate fee to the Opuia Cruising club. The organising authority reserves the right to exclude results of boats that have not paid the appropriate fee.

6. Courses

Courses will be notified by displaying on the start box a letter board indicating division and the number to indicate the course. Rum, Ladies and Weekend races are combined division races. The selection of the course is the responsibility of the OOD. Course sheets are available on the website.

7. Time Limits

Twilight Racing – the first boat must finish before 7.30 pm to constitute a race. Any boats finishing after 8.15pm will be scored DNF. For weekend racing, any boat finishing after 5.00pm will be scored DNF.

8. Shortened Courses.

The OOD may shorten the course, from any mark of the course. This will be done by **VHF channel 17** when the leading boat is

approaching a mark. After passing or rounding the mark boats will proceed directly to the finish and cross the line from the direction of that mark.

When a course contains a leg in which the competitors pass through the finish line, the OOD may elect to shorten the course to finish at that point. The OOD shall make two sound signals as the leading yacht approaches the finish line and then one signal as each boat crosses the finish line.

Shorten Course notes- some courses on the course sheet have a mark underlined, if the leading boat in each division does not pass that mark within an hour then boats should proceed directly to finish after rounding or passing said mark.

9. Retirements.

If a boat retires from a race for any reason they must inform the OOD at the earliest opportunity on **Channel 17**. The OOD will be monitoring this channel during race times.

10. Schedule of Races.

Race series, race dates and scheduled start times will be advised or amended in the Club calendar and/or by a notice of race. Details will also be advised on the website.

11. Starting and Finishing.

*11.1 All boats intending to start a race must advise the OOD, on **Channel 17**, of their intention to race and the number of people on board (POB).*

- i. The start line for all divisions is a transit line between an orange diamond above the window of the start box and a marker on the top of the northern most pole of the club pontoon.
- ii. The length of the start line is limited by an outer distance mark (ODM). This will be close to the line, but not necessarily on it. Boats approaching the line to start or starting shall pass to the channel side of the ODM. If ODM is on course side (OCS), then 14.3 will apply.
- iii. If an inner distance marker (IDM) is laid off the dock, yachts in all divisions shall pass to the channel side of the IDM when starting. The IDM will be close to the line, but not necessarily on the line.
- iv. Any division that has not entered its start sequence must stay well

clear of the division that is starting. In the start sequence period, boats in other divisions are expected to be in a position that avoids interfering with racing yachts.

11.2 Finishing.

- i. The finish line is a line between the orange diamond marker above the window of the starter box and the ODM (not the transit).
- ii. After a finish avoid interfering with yachts still racing, stay clear of the finish line.
- iii. Weekend Races – The leading boats MUST advise the OOD 30 minutes from the finish, on Channel 17 to ensure your finish times are recorded.
- iv. In the event of poor visibility, it is the responsibility of skippers to make the OOD aware of the presence and identity of the finishing yacht by whatever means is appropriate to the circumstances. Should a skipper suspect that the OOD is unaware for any reason of the identity and finish of a competing yacht, then it is the responsibility of the skipper to as accurately as possible time the finish and communicate that in a timely fashion to the OOD.

12. Scheduled Start Sequence.

The club has an electronic start sequence, started according to the clock in the start box.

The start sequence of a 3-division race is:

17.40 warning signal "A" division 3 lights on

17.41 preparatory signal 2 lights on

17.44 one minute to go 1 light on

17.45 START no lights on

17.46 warning signal "B" division 3 lights on

17.47 preparatory signal 2 lights on

17.50 one minute to go 1 light on

17.51 START no lights on

17.52 warning signal "C" division 3 lights on

17.53 preparatory signal 2 lights on

17.56 one minute to go 1 light on

17.57 START no lights on

The starting signal for a one division race is;
5 minute warning 3 lights on
4 minute preparatory signal 2 lights on
1 minute signal 1 light on
Start (at advertised time) 0 lights on
Please note lights control the timing and warning sound signals are guidance only.

13. RECALLS.

In the need of a recall the procedure will be as follows:
One light on accompanied by one sound will signify that an identifiable yacht or yachts are over the line and must return and start correctly. The light will remain on until all offending yachts have started correctly or one minute after the start whichever first occurs.

Two lights on accompanied by two sounds signals will signify that there is a General Recall and all yachts must return for a new start. The lights will remain on for one minute. After another minute a new start sequence will commence.

NOTE THAT THE FLEET THAT CAUSED A GENERAL RECALL IS THE NEXT FLEET TO START

A yacht or yachts that do not return to start correctly will be penalized by an increase of 10% of their elapsed times.

14.RESTRICTED AREAS

14.1 All yachts when racing must pass on the channel side of all moorings west of the Start line. These individual moorings west of the start line are hereby defined as obstructions (but not a continuing obstruction).

14.2 All moorings to the east of the start line may be ignored (Waikare side). Yachts racing must give adequate room to any yacht in the proximity of moored or anchored boats, or other structures in the water. The clear intention is that we will race in open water, while accepting there are moorings and anchored boats around our racing area.

14.3 All yachts after starting, shall pass the ODM to the channel side whilst racing.

15.DEFINITION OF COMPETITORS

15.1 All yachts intending to race will signal that intention to the

OOD by means of Channel 17, stating their intention to race and the number of persons on board (POB).

15.2 A boat will be scored if they cross the starting line within the period of the start time and 15 minutes thereafter and completes the course.

15.3 For a race to be scored there must be at least two competitors.

16. SCORING

16.1 The Low Point scoring system of Appendix A 4.1 will apply.

16.2 Appendix A9 will apply to race scores in a series longer than a regatta.

For a series that is held over a period longer than a regatta, a boat that came to the starting area but did not start, did not finish, retired after finishing or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area. A boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series.

When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

When 4 to 9 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

When 10 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores. Sailors competing in recognised regattas may apply for average points for OCC events where dates clash. Approval will be granted at the discretion of the OCC Race Committee. Examples where this could apply would include, Auckland BMW Regatta, offshore events and class regattas.

TCF Handicaps will be applied to the elapsed time. TCF handicaps will periodically be recalculated according to announced policies, generally after each 4th race. However, evident errors in handicaps will be corrected as soon as possible by the Race Committee.

17. WOMEN'S RACING

Winter and Summer Series

The skipper/helm person must be a female. The complete crew must be 50% female. If it is expected a female crew will helm and

run the boat with the men on board largely in an advisory and safety role.

A couple may race in a women race provided the women helms and makes decisions. A 10% penalty will be incurred if the male ratio exceeds 50%.

18. SPINNAKERS

Spinnakers and/or gennakers may be used in all races unless otherwise specified in the NoR.

19. SAFETY OFFICER

A safety officer may be appointed by the club to inspect and classify yachts that enter races and must be allowed to inspect any vessel before or after a race. Standard safety requirements for each race must be met and are the responsibility of the skipper.

20. RADIO COMMUNICATION

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones unless allowed in these sailing instructions. Race officers call on Channel 17.

21. PRIZES

1st prize will be awarded where there are 3 or 4 boats in a division
1st & 2nd prizes will be awarded where there are 5, 6 or 7 boats in a division

1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes will be awarded where there are 8 or more boats in a division

The Rum Race winner is excluded from lucky draw for second bottle of rum, if any. A variety of prizes and awards may be made. These will be announced in the clubrooms. In the event of a protest not resolved prior to prize giving, provisional race results will be made and prizes withheld until final race results are posted.

22. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

Protest requirements as per Rule 61 apply. The protest time limit per Rule 61.3 is 30 minutes after the last boat to finish. Should a protesting boat anticipate being unable to comply, they should notify the OOD on Chanel 17. The protest committee shall extend

the time if there is good reason to do so, but note the limit refers to minutes, not hours or days. Time frame for all protest hearings – heard within 1 week after lodged.

23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after the race or series. Owners shall accept full responsibility for the seaworthiness and safe navigation of their boats and competence of their crews.