

RICHMOND YACHT CLUB (Inc)
PASSAGE RACES (& CRUISING EVENTS)
29 November 2025 to 20 March 2026
NOTICE OF RACE

The Organising Authority is Richmond Yacht Club (RYC)
Westhaven Seawall, P O Box 46-324, Herne Bay, Auckland 1147
Phone 09 376 4332 | info@richmondyc.org.nz | www.richmondyc.org.nz

1.0 RULES

- 1.1 This series will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations (YNZ Safety Regs) Part 2 Category 4 shall apply to keelers. The YNZ Safety Regs Part 5 Category B shall apply to trailer yachts. In addition, all yachts are required to carry or tow a dinghy suitable for use as a tender.
- 1.3 The RRS will be changed as follows:
 - RRS Rule 29.2 is changed as per RYC General Sailing Instructions (GSI) 11.5
 - RRS Rule 44.1 is changed as per GSI 13.2
 - RRS Rule 51 is modified to allow boats with moveable/variable ballast systems and/or canting keels to compete.
 - RRS Rule 52 'Manual Power' shall not apply.
 - RRS Rule 60.1 is changed as per GSI 15.4
 - RRS Rule 61.4(b)(1) is changed as per GSI 11.6

The changes appear in full in the GSI and may also change other racing rules.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1 These races are open to keelers, multihulls and trailer yachts.
- 2.2 Eligible boats, including RYC Sail-Pass holders, may enter these events by completing the online registration form on the website: richmondyc.org.nz. Entries will be accepted until 60 minutes prior to the first start of each race.
- 2.3 To be eligible to compete in this event each entrant shall be a financial member of a club recognised by YNZ.

3.0 FEES

		RYC Sail-Pass holders	N/C
RYC members	N/C	All other entrants	\$25 per event

4.0 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

4.1 Racing Schedule		Dates	High Water
Race 1 - Sir Peter Blake Memorial	Saturday	29 November 2025	1443 - 2.9m
Race 2 - Mahurangi Night Race	Friday	23 January 2026	2349 - 3.1m
Race 3 - Kawau Night Race	Friday	20 February	2244 - 3.3m
Race 4 - Orapiu Night Race	Friday	20 March	2136 - 3.4m

4.2 Divisions, Flags and Start Times

Division	Flag	Race 1	Race 2,3 & 4
C General OPEN	White	1000	1830
E General NO EXTRAS	White	1000	1830
Q Single-handed OPEN	Light Blue	1005	1835

- 4.3 Handicaps are assigned under the RYC Handicapping Policy as detailed in the GSI.

5.0 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The current RYC GSI will apply for these events and are available on the club website and in the club handbook (pages 13-20).

6.0 VENUE

Races will be held on the Waitematā Harbour and the Hauraki Gulf.

7.0 COURSES

Divisions C & E	Length (nm)
Race 1 - Sir Peter Blake Memorial Race From the start, North Head Buoy (P), Torbay Yellow Buoy (S), to finish between the RYC Committee Boat (P) and Billy Goat Point, Motutapu (S).	17
Race 2 - Mahurangi Night Race From the start, Whangaparāoa Outermost Yellow Buoy (P), to finish between the RYC Committee Boat (displaying an amber flashing light) (P) and Sadler Point, Mahurangi (S).	25
Race 2 - Short Course From the start, to finish between the RYC Committee Boat (displaying an amber flashing light) (P) and Gulf Harbour Yellow Buoy (S).	15
Race 3 - Kawau Night Race From the start, Whangaparāoa Outermost Yellow Buoy (P), Motuketekete Island (P), Passage Reef (S), to finish between the RYC Committee Boat (displaying an amber flashing light) (P) and Momona Point (S).	28
Race 3 - Short Course From the start, to finish between the RYC Committee Boat (displaying an amber flashing light) (P) and Gulf Harbour Yellow Buoy (S).	15
Race 4 - Orapiu Night Race From the start, to finish between the light on the end of Orapiu Wharf (P) and the RYC Committee Boat (displaying an amber flashing light) (S).	20
Race 4 - Short Course From the start, to finish between the RYC Committee Boat (displaying an amber flashing light) (P) and Rocky Bay Yellow Buoy (S).	13
Division Q Refer to the Single-handed Series Supplementary SIs for relevant courses.	

- 7.2 All races start using the Westhaven Carpark Tower by default. If conditions are unfavourable for starting at Westhaven (light winds, unfavourable tide) then RYC may elect to use the **Passage Races & Cruising Rallies Alternative Start** at Northern Leading Buoy. In this case, RYC will endeavour to notify skippers in advance, and on race day the change will be indicated by displaying flag 'C' on the Westhaven Tower at least one hour before the Normal start time. If the 'Alternate Start' is indicated, boats should proceed under motor to the Northern Leading area, and the race will be started one hour later than the Normal time (Div C & E at 1100 or 1930 hours, Div Q at 1105 or 1935 hours).

8.0 PRIZES

- 8.1 Prizes will be awarded for each division, per race, and for the series as follows:
Line; 1st, 2nd and 3rd Handicap.
- 8.2 Line prizes must be collected at the prizegiving otherwise they will be forfeited.
- 8.3 Handicap prizes will be held at the Richmond Yacht Club office for 2 months and will be forfeited if not claimed within this timeframe. It is the skipper's responsibility to check the results and collect prizes.
- 8.4 Prizegiving will be held at the after-race event, refer below for details.
- 8.5 Trophies will be awarded at the RYC annual prizegiving.

9.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 9.1 Mandatory check-in for Mahurangi, Kawau and Orapiu Night Races: All boats expecting to finish after dark must alert the RYC Committee Boat by VHF* one hour prior to finishing. Calls should be to 'Richmond Committee Boat' and should include your boat name, sail number and your expected finish time.
*By prior arrangement skippers may arrange to send a text message in place of using VHF.
- 9.2 In general the following VHF channels will be used for race communications:
VHF 17 In the Waitematā Harbour
VHF 03 North of Whangaparāoa
VHF 62 East of Motuihe Island
- 9.3 Boats are asked to take note of their own finish times. In the event a finish boat is not on station at the finish line the skipper will make a fair effort to record the GPS time of crossing the line and report that time on the WhatsApp Racing Group Chat or the RYC Self Reporting Time Form (on the RYC Passage Races web page) or report your finish time to the RYC Committee Boat or any Race Officer present, at the first reasonable opportunity the morning after the race.
- 9.4 Boats are required to notify RYC when they withdraw from racing. Call 'Richmond Committee Boat' on the appropriate VHF channel or text. Notification is only given once an acknowledgement is received.
- 9.5 Abandonment of races
Abandonment of Race 1:
A decision will be made by 0900 hours on the day of the race if an abandonment is considered appropriate.
Abandonment of Races 2, 3 and 4:
A decision will be made by 1630 hours on the day of the race if an abandonment is considered appropriate.
- 9.6 After each passage race & cruising event we will gather racers and cruisers together to have the prizegiving and a party. In general, this will be on the following schedule:
Race 1: Beach clean up & prizegiving on the beach - Saturday afternoon/evening.
Race 2: Champagne breakfast and games - Sunday morning.
Race 3: Party & prizegiving on the beach - Saturday evening.
Race 4: Party & prizegiving on the beach - Saturday evening.
- 9.7 For all events, RYC will provide food, drinks and cooking utensils.

10.0 RISK STATEMENT

- 10.1 Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 3, Decision to Race: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing 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.
- 10.2 The skipper is legally responsible for the safety and wellbeing of crew onboard.
- 10.3 YNZ Safety Regs are updated on a regular basis and it is the responsibility of the skipper to ensure that the boat and her safety equipment remain in compliance:
<https://www.yachtingnz.org.nz/racing/safety-regulations>
- 10.4 The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after participation.

11.0 INSURANCE

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.

12.0 FURTHER INFORMATION

Richmond Yacht Club (Inc)
www.richmondyc.org.nz

Phone 376 4332 or 021 276 4332
Email info@richmondyc.org.nz