



NOTICE OF RACE

Friday 6 March 2026

The Organising Authorities (OAs) are the Richmond Yacht Club Inc (RYC),
the Onerahi Yacht Club Inc (OYC)

1. RULES

- 1.1. The race will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations (YNZ SR) Part II Category 4 (Cat 4+) and Trailer Yacht Category A (Cat A+) shall apply, with additional requirements as specified below:
- 1.3. In addition to meeting Cat 4, all yachts must:
 - Carry lifebuoys that meet YNZ SR Cat 3.
 - Be fitted with lifelines (or equivalent) to meet YNZ SR Cat 3 standards.
 - Have securely fitted jackstays to YNZ SR Cat 3 standards
 - Carry a floating grab bag containing: a Cat 4 flare pack, a 406 MHz EPIRB or PLB, a waterproof floating torch, a waterproof cell phone (or one in a waterproof case), or a waterproof handheld VHF (required if the boat is not fitted with a fixed VHF).
- 1.4. The Organising Authorities strongly recommended that ALL yachts carry a dinghy (or life raft) to meet YNZ SR Cat 3 standards.
- 1.5. Additional requirements for single-handed skippers, two-handed and CAT A+ skippers and crew sailing without lifelines:
 - Single-handed skippers, two-handed and CAT A+ skippers and crew are required to wear an appropriate personal flotation device while racing. e.g. a New Zealand Standard 5823:2005 inflatable type 401 150N lifejacket with crotch strap.
 - Single-handed skippers are required to [and two-handed crew are strongly recommended to] carry, on their person during the race, the means to self-initiate a 3rd party rescue in the event that they become unable to sail single-handed or fall overboard. Appropriate equipment would include marine communications equipment such as a waterproof handheld VHF marine radio, a cell phone in a dry-container that can be operated while kept dry, or a registered 406 MHz marine EPIRB/PLB. A personal AIS transponder, whistle, light or signalling mirror may be carried but will not meet the requirement to be able to self-initiate a 3rd party rescue.
- 1.6. The Organising Authorities recommend that ALL competitors wear lifejackets that meet New Zealand Standard 5823:2005 (inflatable type 401 150N) with a crotch strap whilst underway. All crew are recommended to be clipped into jackstays before leaving the safety of the cockpit.
- 1.7. The RRS will be changed in accordance with RRS Rule 86 as follows:
 - RRS Rule 29.2 is changed so that in the event of a General Recall the recalled division will be restarted five minutes after the last scheduled start.
 - 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.

- Where a boat is sailing singlehanded or Two Handed, an autopilot self-steering system may be used. This modifies RRS Rule 52.
 - Other changes to the RRS will be notified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.8. Control of the race will pass from RYC to OYC immediately following the start of the last division.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. The race is open to all yachts (keelboats, trailer sailers and multihulls) that meet the requirements of Section 1 of this NOR. Due to berthing limitations at Marsden Cove Marina, acceptance of an entry will be limited to:
- The first sixty (60) boats
- Any subsequent entries will be placed on a waiting list and offered an entry if space permits.
- 2.2. All boats must be prepared and equipped to raft up off the visitors pier D, as individual berths may not be available. Due to berthing limitations, a maximum of **six (6)** multihulls can be accommodated within the marina.
- 2.3. Eligible boats, including RYC Sail Pass entries, may enter by completing the online registration form on the website richmondyc.org.nz.
- Entries will be accepted up to 2359 hours Wednesday 4th March 2026 or until the limit of 60 boats has been reached.
 - Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OAs.
- 2.4. To be eligible to compete in this event the skipper must be a financial member of a club recognised by YNZ.
- 2.5. Skippers participating in the RAYC 2025-26 Bluewater Championship please refer to the RAYC website for results.

3. FEES

Holders of the RYC Sail Pass	\$60
All other entrants	\$120

4. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 4.1. It will be the skipper's responsibility to ensure their boat complies to all safety regulations and the crew have the appropriate level of knowledge of safety systems and emergency protocols. YNZ Safety regulations can be found at this website address:
<https://www.yachtingnz.org.nz/racing/safety/safety-regulations>
- 4.2. Briefing: There will be a briefing held in the RYC club rooms on Thursday 26th February at 1900hrs. A pre-race briefing document will be provided to skippers and available from the RYC office and website no later than 1700 Wednesday 4th March 2026.
- 4.3. Crew list: Skippers must create a crew contact list by using the "update entry" link on the on-line entry main menu. **Emergency contacts for all crew must be provided.**
- 4.4. Race Schedule: The race will start on Friday 6 March 2026.
- 4.5. Divisions and Start Times:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Flag</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Alternate Start</u>
B1 OPEN SINGLE-HANDED	White	0900	1030
B2 OPEN TWO-HANDED	Yellow	0905	1035
A2 OPEN KEELER (~0.75-)	Light Blue	0910	1040
A1 OPEN KEELER (~0.75+)	Blue/Yellow	0915	1045
M MULTIHULLS	Green	0920	1050

- 4.6. Divisional handicap ranges are for guidance and are not definitive. If you are unsure which division to race in please contact RYC for guidance.
- 4.7. A boat's division may be changed at the discretion of the Organizing Authorities. Skippers will be notified if a reassignment is made.
- 4.8. If there is a need to postpone or abandon the race a decision will be made by 0800 on the day of the race.

5. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The 2026 Marsden Cove Route 66 Sailing Instructions will apply for this race. The Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be available from the RYC office and website no later than 1700 Thursday 26th February 2026.

6. VENUE

The racing areas are:
The Hauraki Gulf and Bream Head to Cape Colville.

7. COURSE

- 7.1. From the Start to Kawau Island (P), Little Barrier Island (S), Sail Rock (S), to the Finish (Whangarei).

The Starts and Finishes will be fully defined in the Sailing Instructions. Be advised that, in adverse conditions, an alternate start may be used or the alternate finish may be used.

8. PRIZES

- 8.1. Prizes will be awarded at the race prize giving held at Marsden Cove Marina starting from 09:30 on Saturday, or soon thereafter. All boats, crews and supporters are welcome at the prizegiving.
- 8.2. Boats must be represented and skippers & crew must attend the prizegiving to be eligible for spot prizes.
- 8.3. Race results will be posted on the RYC website, as soon as practicable after the prizegiving.

9. GENERAL INFORMATION/BERTHING

- 9.1. Finishing boats will be directed to an appropriate boat to raft up to on pier D and will receive a competitors pack upon their arrival at Marsden Cove Marina.
- 9.2. The depth of the channel leading into Marsden Cove Marina is approximately 3m at low tide.
- Auckland Tides: Friday 6 March 0400 0.6 low and 1024 3.4 high.
 - Marsden Point Tides: Friday 7 March 1647 0.6 low and 2259 2.7 high.

10. RISK STATEMENT

- 10.1. Competitors participate in the race 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 or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the series.

11. INSURANCE

- 11.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a recommended cover of \$5,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.
- 11.2. Proof of insurance must be provided to Marsden Cove Marina prior to berthing.

12. FURTHER INFORMATION

Richmond Yacht Club (Inc)

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