

Disclaimer of Liability

All those taking part in races organised by the New Plymouth Yacht Club Inc. do so entirely at their own risk.

Neither the New Plymouth Yacht Club Inc., nor its supporting sponsors, nor the Organising Authority, nor any of the organised bodies, nor individuals appointed or volunteering for the regatta or races accept any liability for damages (material or personal) suffered during races or at any other time, nor are they responsible for the seaworthiness of any boat whose entry is accepted or for the sufficiency or the adequacy of its equipment.

Competitors are responsible to ensure their boats are properly insured.

Attention is drawn to Rule 4, which states:

“The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race, or to continue racing, is hers alone”

New Plymouth Yacht Club Sailing Instructions 2025-2026

The Organising Authority is The New Plymouth Yacht Club.

1 RULES

- 1.1 All Races will be governed by the ‘rules’ as defined in the latest version of Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 The YNZ Safety Regulations Part 1 and Part 5, Category C shall apply.
- 1.3 Appendix T will apply.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the NPYC clubhouse.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 hours (Juniors) or 1200 hours (Seniors) on the day they take effect.
- 3.2 In the event that the Race Officer has determined that the weather and sea conditions are forecast to be unsailable on a regularly scheduled Saturday, the Race Officer may decide to move racing to the Sunday of the same weekend. This will be posted before 1730 hours on Friday (For Junior racing) and 1230 hours on Saturday (for Senior racing) of the scheduled sailing weekend.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Club Flagstaff.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, the race signal AP is altered to have ‘1 minute’ replaced with ‘not less than 15 minutes’ for Junior racing and ‘not less than 30 minutes’ for Senior racing.
- 4.3 Junior Classes only: Flag D with one sound means ‘Boats shall not leave the shore until this signal is made. The warning signal will not be made before the scheduled time or less than 15 minutes after flag D is displayed.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The Schedule of Races for the NPYC Sailing Programme is appended to these Sailing Instructions.
- 5.2 The scheduled time of the first warning signal for the first race each day is 0957 hours for the Junior Fleet and 1357 hours for the Senior Fleet unless specified otherwise in the

NPYC Schedule of Races, or on a separate Notice of Race issued for a specific event.

- 5.3 The number of races each “Sprint Race Day” shall be determined by the race officer on the day, taking into account weather and sea conditions.
- 5.4 Subject to sailing conditions and at the discretion of the race officer, Championship Racing may be interchanged with Club or Sprint Racing. This will be posted by 1230 hours on the day it takes effect.

6 CLASSES AND FLAGS

- 6.1 All class flags are the class insignia’s on the following coloured background:

Optimist – White	Paper Tiger – Light Blue
Starling – White	Hartley 16 – Yellow
Laser (ILCA) – White	Noelex 22 – White
420 – White	Farr 3.7 – White

- 6.2 The following classes will sail under these class flags:

- a) Open Centreboard – Laser (ILCA) class flag
- b) Open Catamaran – Paper Tiger class flag
- c) Open TS A Division – Noelex 22 class flag

7 RACING AREAS

- 7.1 Senior and Junior Fleet racing area is the water’s inside or outside and adjacent to the harbour of Port Taranaki, depending on sea conditions. Races may start and finish within the harbour.
- 7.2 The Optimist Green and Learn to Race Fleets’ racing area is inside the harbour area.

8 THE COURSES

- 8.1 The NPYC Course illustrations show the course numbers, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2 For Senior Racing, there will be an Inner and an Outer Top Mark
- 8.3 The following classes will sail to the Inner Top Mark :
Starling, Laser, 420, Open Centreboard, Hartley 16, Noelex 22 and Open Trailer Sailor A Division, and Farr 3.7.
The following classes will sail on the Outer Top Mark: Paper Tiger, Open Catamaran.
- 8.4 Courses, not found on the NPYC Course illustration, for the Senior Fleet that are started and finished in the harbour (ie, Mass Starts, not regular course racing), from the Start Vessel will be posted on the Official Course Board at least 45 minutes before the warning signal for the first race.
- 8.5 Courses may be sailed in a starboard configuration. This will be indicated by a green pendant flag raised at or before the warning signal of the start of the race. If no course indication flag is present, then the course will be sailed in the port configuration.

9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1 The Baily Road Reef, being the stretch of water between Ngāmotu Beach at the end of Baily Road and the black reef marker pole, is an obstruction.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 All course marks will be orange cylindrical buoys, and the inner top mark on the Senior Course will be distinguished by a coloured band on the mark.
- 10.2 The starting and finishing marks shall be the Race Committee Signal vessel at one end and an orange spherical buoy at the other end. The course chart will denote which side of the Race Committee Signal Boat that the finish line will be (Port or Starboard)
- 10.3 New marks, as provided in instruction 12.1, will be Yellow cylindrical buoys for the Senior Course and Orange cylindrical buoys with a black band for the Junior Course.

11 THE START

- 11.1 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark, or for Harbour Starts, as described on the noticeboard on the day.
- 11.2 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 11.3 A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes Rules A4, Low Point and Bonus Point Systems, and A5, Scores Determined by the Race Committee.
- 11.4 For all starts, the times of Rule 26 are changed as follows:

Signal	Minutes before starting signal
Warning	3
Preparatory	2
One-minute	1
Start	0

- 11.5 For courses, not found on the NPYC Course illustration, that are started in the harbour, (ie, Mass Starts, not regular course racing), from the Start Vessel, the starting sequence and times will be posted on the Official Course Board at least 45 minutes before the warning signal for the first race.
- 11.6 For those races noted as 'Mark Foy – fleet starts' the starting order will be posted on the official notice board located in the NPYC clubhouse.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change, a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by the original mark.
- 12.2 When **Flag T** is signalled at a mark, boats shall proceed to a Harbour Finish (Detailed in Instruction 13.3. This changes Rule 33 Changing the Next Leg of the Course.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line for Senior Fleet will be between the staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee vessel and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 13.2 The finishing line for Junior Fleet will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee vessel and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 13.3 In the case of a Harbour Finish, boats must round the Eastern Channel Marker to starboard and then proceed to the finish line between the NPYC Control Room and the Western Channel Marker.
- 13.4 A Harbour Finish may be signalled at the Start by the race committee vessel displaying the **Code Flag T** at or before the warning signal. Boats will sail the course and after rounding the last mark will proceed to a Harbour Finish.
- 13.5 When AP/D (two sounds) is displayed from a race committee vessel, races not started are postponed, and boats shall immediately return ashore. When N/D (3 sounds) is displayed from a race committee vessel, all races that have started are abandoned, and boats shall immediately return ashore. This changes Race Signals

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 For Paper Tiger, Open Catamaran Division, Hartley 16, Noelex 22, and Open TS A Division classes, rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turn Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty, including one tack and one gybe.
- 14.2 Boats failing to enter as required by NOR 3.8 will be penalised without a hearing. This changes Rule 63.1. The penalty is the loss of 2 finishing places for the first race of the day.
- 14.3 Any Boat carrying a competitor not complying with NOR 3.5, 3.6, or 3.7 shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes Rule 63.1.

15 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 15.1 The time limit will be two hours for Senior classes and one hour for Junior classes, except for Sprint races, when they will be 30 minutes for Senior and Junior classes.
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes (10 minutes for Sprint Races) after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, Time Limit and Scores, A4, Low Point and Bonus Point Systems, and A5, Scores Determined by The Race Committee.
- 15.3 The race committee may award a finishing score to a boat that is still racing by displaying to her from a committee vessel (which may be in motion) flag W or hail with one sound signal. A boat so notified is no longer required to sail the course (changing rule 28.1, 35 and A4.1), shall stop racing and shall return to the starting area, or return ashore if there is no more racing. A finishing score under this Sailing Instruction will be the score she would have received had she sailed the course and finished within any time limit, without gaining or losing any place. However, when two or more boats that are overlapped are notified, they will be scored as if they were tied.

16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 Protest forms are available at the NPYC Control Room. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 16.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat in its class has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today,

whichever is later. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the race committee and requests for redress. This changes Rules 61.3 and 62.2.

- 16.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Protest Room at the time detailed on the Notice.
- 16.4 Notices of protests by the race committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b)
- 16.5 For the purpose of Rule 64.3(b), the 'authority responsible' is the measurer appointed by the organising authority.
- 16.6 Breaches of Instructions 4.3, 11.2, 14.2, 18 and 22 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat under Rule 60.1(a). This changes Rule 60.1(a) Right to Protest; Right to Request Redress or Rule 69 Action. Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides. The scoring abbreviation for a Discretionary Penalty Imposed under this instruction will be DPI.

17 SCORING

- 17.1 For Championship and Handicap/Ranking series, three races are required to be completed to constitute a series. For all other series, at least one result is required to constitute a series.
- 17.2 For all Championship and Sprint Series, the discards and races to count are as documented in the NOR.

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1 A boat that retires from a race or returns to the launching area before she finishes the last race of the day shall notify the race management as soon as possible.
- 18.2 All competitors, race management personnel and patrol vessel crews shall wear a PFD while afloat.

19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 19.1 Substitution of sailors in single-handed classes is not permitted.
- 19.2 Upon written application made to the Sailing Committee, Points may be moved from one boat to another boat in the same class, if sailed by the same competitor.

20 EQUIPMENT, MEASUREMENT and SAFETY CHECKS.

- 20.1 All boats or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, NPYC class safety sheets and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race official to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

21 ADVERTISING

- 21.1 All NPYC races are designated as Category C for the purposes of Racing Rules of Sailing Rule 80 (ISAF Advertising Code Regulation 20).

22 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

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