



Short Handed Sailing Association of New Zealand

Press Release 5: BURNSCO RACE TRACKER – Evolution Sails RNI

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With just a day until the start of the 2020 Evolution Sails Round North Island, the Short Handed Sailing Association is pleased to announce the launch of the Burnsco Race Tracker.

Thanks to our friends at Burnsco, sailors, arm-chair racers and those who love this race from throughout New Zealand and the world will be able to track the boats throughout each leg of the race through the YB Tracker Technology. Each boat will carry a YB Tracker for the duration of the race. The YB trackers will “ping” each boat’s position every hour throughout the race giving those at home a great opportunity to see how their favourite boat is doing.

Neil Hilder, chairman of SSANZ says “It’s great to have Burnsco, a truly iconic New Zealand Marine Supply Store partner with us for this iconic yacht race. Burnsco is a great supporter of all things on the water and our skippers have been keeping them busy over the last few months as they have prepared their boats for the race. Bringing the ability to see each boat’s position as they make their way around the North Island and track their progress is a great way for our massive audience to be part of this race and we have been able to achieve this thanks to the support of Burnsco”.

Scott Wilson, skipper of Krakatoa II says “It’s great to have the Burnsco Race tracker – my children follow the race closely and get really excited to see where we are each day and it helps make the race a real family affair, even if there is just two of us on the boat. The banter from friends and family as they track our every move and share their thoughts on our tactic’s after the race is always hard case as well!”

Bruce Macleod, Managing Director of Burnsco, says “We’re proud to partner with SSANZ on the race tracker, it’s a great way to get everyone involved and see what’s going on at the click of a button. Good luck to all the competitors!”

You can track the fleets progress on the Burnsco Race Tracker on the SSANZ website - www.ssanz.co.nz





Further contact details

Media Contact: Sarah Wiblin 0277051502 media@ssanz.co.nz
Race Director: Jon Henry 0274779745
SSANZ Chairman: Neil Hilder 021766793

Website: www.ssanz.co.nz

Words: Sarah Wiblin

Images: SSANZ

RNI Background

The SSANZ Two Handed Round North Island Race (RNI), proudly sponsored by Evolution Sails, is New Zealand's most iconic yachting challenge and the 2020 edition will feature 38 yachts from 28 to 52 feet. This is 13th edition of the race, 43 years after the inaugural event was first planned by Sir Peter Blake and Martin Foster!

The race starts in Auckland with the first leg to Mangonui in the far north (154NM), Leg 2 is from Mangonui to Wellington (550NM), Leg 3 from Wellington to Napier(200NM), and the final leg from Napier returning to Auckland (367NM). The race is expected to take approximately 2 weeks in total to complete.

Thirty-three feet separate the smallest to largest boat, so the diversity of this fleet will bring with it not only great line honours racing for the larger yachts but an epic handicap battle across the fleet. With 26 of the total 38 yachts between 34 and 40 feet we can expect some very tight racing in the middle of the fleet and each leg will go down to the wire on handicap.

Making it to the start line of this epic race is a challenge in itself. Each yacht must have a Category 2 Safety Certificate issued by Yachting New Zealand, have completed a 250 Nautical Mile qualifying passage with both Co-Skippers on board. The Co-Skippers must both also complete Advanced First Aid training, Advanced Sea Survival qualifications, and provide a medical certificate deeming them fit to compete. Each yacht must meet an extensive list of safety requirements and have completed safety drills, all of which are in addition to preparing the boat to ensure it is ready for this epic race and getting as many miles under the keel as possible two handed before the race. Many of the fleet used the SSANZ Anzac Enduro Race as their qualifying race and have also used the SSANZ Lewmar Triple Series, PIC Coastal Classic, RAYC White Island Race and other races to build up two handed time on their path to the start.

Ends

