



IMPORTANT RACE UPDATE \_ PLEASE READ

ISSUED 2/2/22

The SSANZ Team are keen to run the Evolution Sails Northern Triangle Race on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> February – but given the current Covid-19 environment we have had to make some changes to ensure we can successfully run this event.

This is not a decision we have taken lightly, but one that has been discussed at length and has the full support of the Northern Triangle Race Management Team and the SSANZ Committee.

In making these changes we have considered a number of factors including:

- Ensuring we can run the race,
- How we can run a race safely in the NZ Government Alert Level/Traffic Light Red settings and the rules for events in these settings,
- We have considered our ability to host post leg/race functions, and also having stopovers away from Auckland with and without gatherings and the risks and challenges associated with these scenarios,
- The considerable amount of work our partner clubs put in to support these events both before and during the event – and giving them as much notice as possible,
- The considerable time, energy and investment our fleet have made in preparing for this race –the race that you signed up for, and also giving you as much notice as possible about the changes we are making,
- The team of SSANZ volunteers who run these events and how we can run this event safely to reduce the risk on this team in delivering this event to you,
- And lastly making sure we still run a great event.

After carefully weighing this all up, and after much debate about the best solution – the following decisions have been made:

The Race Itself

- We will no longer be having stopovers at Mangonui and Tauranga (if you have accommodation booked – we suggest you cancel this),
  - The event will move to a two-leg event,
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- All Competitors and the Race Management team must be vaccinated for Covid-19 and have a valid “My Vaccine Pass”,
- Each leg will start and finish at Westhaven,
- Leg 1 will start at 9 am on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February and be a Prologue style day race (approx 30 – 40nm). Consider this race a shakedown sail before the big event!
- Leg 2 will start at 2 pm on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February and is the big one – the total length will be approx. 300nm +/- a few miles,
- Leg 1 and Leg 2 will count equally for points for the overall results for the Northern Triangle,
- An Amendment to the NOR Section 12 will be issued to reflect this on 7/2/22.

### The Briefing

- Will go ahead as planned on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm
- Skippers can either
  - attend in person at the RNZYS, and will be required to wear masks, show vaccine passes and follow all relevant covid-19 requirements, or
  - attend via an online streaming of the briefing via Microsoft Teams – a link will be provided 24 hours prior to the briefing,
- All Skippers must attend briefing – either in person or virtually. For clarification – we refer to both crew on all yachts as Skippers – so both Skippers for each yacht must attend the briefing – either in person or virtually,
- There will only be one briefing to cover both Leg 1 and 2. No second briefing will occur between Leg 1 and Leg 2. An Amendment to the NOR Schedule of Events – Refer Clause 6 will be issued to reflect this on 7/2/22.

### Points of Note – Changes to NOR & Other important Information

- An amendment will be issued on 7/2/22 to no longer require proof of hull clean – this removes NOR Clause 4.9 from all requirements,
  - Yellow Brick Trackers will no longer be used. An amendment to NOR Clause 1.6 will be issued on 7/2/22. All boats will be required to run a Predict Wind Tracker at all times during both Leg 1 and Leg 2 in addition to running AIS at all times during the race. Skippers will need to ensure they have a mobile device with the Predict Wind App installed and suitable charging to support this device for the duration of both legs,
  - Berthage – NOR Requirements 11.1 and 11.2 will be removed via an amendment issued on 7/2/22 (Ground Tackle Mangonui and Berthage Tauranga),
  - The Course – NOR Section 12 will be removed via an amendment issued on 7/2/22. Course information will be published in the sailing instructions we hope to publish early next week,
  - We will no longer be holding an in-person prize giving,
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- We will not host any official stopover gatherings,
- SSANZ will arrange berths at Westhaven Marina for all boats that usually reside outside of this marina for the evening of Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February,
- NOR 1.12 Will be changed by an amendment issued on 7/2/22 to no longer recommend some of the suggested paper charts to be carried,
- NOR Section 6 Schedule will be replaced in full – in line with the above leg and briefing changes on 7/2/22,

#### Race Entry Fee

- All entrants paid a race entry fee of \$900. This fee included two caps and two polos – 1 for each Skipper,
- Caps and Polos will be available at Briefing. Alternatively, if you are attending briefing virtually – these items will be dropped to your boat.
- SSANZ will refund a total of \$300 per yacht to all entrants as of 1/2/2022.
- This refund reflects the changing costs of this race, the reduction of the number of legs by 1/3, and our efforts to balance out the changes to this race and value for money for all entrants.
- A change to NOR Clause 5 – Entry fee will be made on 7/2/22 to reflect this refund and change the race entry fee for SSANZ members to \$600.
- Skippers will receive a second email requesting bank account information for the refund in due course.

SSANZ intends to issue all Amendments for all NOR changes – as detailed above – on or before 2000 hours on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February. We also intend to issue to all competitors the Sailing Instructions next week. Please note printed copies will not be provided at the Briefing – if you want a printed copy please print this and bring it with you to the briefing.

SSANZ appreciates the continued support of our fleet as we make these changes to ensure we can still run this event.

We also want to take the opportunity to thank Rodney and the team at Evolution Sails for the support of this event and working with us to ensure the event can still proceed and being incredibly supportive of the SSANZ team during these challenging times!

We hope you appreciate the changes we are making are intended to ensure we can have the best possible race – and look forward to seeing you on the start line on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February.

Kind Regards

The SSANZ Race Management Team

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