



# 2026 Doyle Sails Round North Island Two Handed Race

## Notice of Race

**28 February - 15 March 2026**

**The Organising Authority is the Short Handed Sailing Association of New Zealand. (SSANZ)**

PO Box 40-550, Glenfield, Auckland

This Notice of Race states the requirements that a yacht and the co skippers must meet to enter the race. The Sailing Instructions provide the detail of how the race will be run on the water. All yachts must meet all requirements of this Notice of Race to be acknowledged as an accepted competitor.

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### 1. Rules

- 1.1. The race will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 ("RRS"), along with the Auckland Harbour Navigation Safety Bylaws 2021, Marlborough District Council Navigation Bylaws 2023, the Hawke's Bay Regional Council Navigation Safety Bylaws 2024.
- 1.2. All yachts shall comply with Part II of the Yachting New Zealand ("YNZ") Safety Regulations 2025-2028 ("SR"), Category 2 modified as follows:
  - 1.2.1. Yachts shall carry communications equipment. All yachts will carry a satellite communication system.
  - 1.2.2. The satellite communication system shall be powered on, and able to receive voice calls at all times.
  - 1.2.3. Yachts shall provide the sat phone number and satellite system email address to the race committee. Yachts must produce evidence that their satellite voice and e-mail communications are functioning properly.
  - 1.2.4. Yachts shall produce evidence from Maritime Radio that transmissions from their VHF and AIS have been received clearly at a range of no less than 20 nm from the nearest Maritime Radio Antenna within 6 months of the race start and submitted by 2nd February 2026.
  - 1.2.5. Yachts shall carry a copy of the "Failed Communications Plan" and store it near their VHF radio and satellite voice communication system. ( this document will be provided by SSANZ ).
  - 1.2.6. All boats shall carry and maintain SSANZ supplied Trackers, which must remain switched on while racing.
  - 1.2.7. All yachts shall carry an AIS Transponder capable of transmitting and receiving AIS data.
  - 1.2.8. Category 2 liferaft for the duration of the race as defined by rule 17.11 (refer SR Appendix 2)
  - 1.2.9. Yachts must carry sufficient engine fuel at the start of each leg to comply with the YNZ Category 1 safety regulations.
  - 1.2.10. Each yacht shall carry a minimum of 20L of the above engine fuel in one or more suitable separate containers and have a system to enable the use of this fuel independently from the main fuel supply.

- 1.3. The following paper charts **must** be carried as a minimum.
  - 1.3.1. NZ 532 Approaches to Auckland
  - 1.3.2. NZ 5114 Doubtless Bay and Whangaroa Harbour
  - 1.3.3. NZ615 (Marlborough Sounds)
  - 1.3.4. NZ 46 Cook Strait
  - 1.3.5. NZ 5612 Napier Roads
- 1.4. All yachts shall carry sufficient charts and associated publications to ensure they can continue to navigate satisfactorily. Charts and associated publications can be held as per one (1) of the options below:
  - 1.4.1. **Option A:** Charts and associated publication stored electronically in at least two separate chart plotting devices, one of which must be able to be powered separately from the yacht's main power source and be able to be recharged independently of the main engine and operate for an extended period of time. These devices must not be reliant on cellular coverage to function and must be in addition to the standard Cat 2 requirement.
  - 1.4.2. **Option B:** Paper charts and associated publications.
- 1.5. The following list covers the recommended area as a minimum. Each yacht is responsible for its own safety and should consider additional charts for inshore navigation and ports of refuge.
  - 1.5.1. NZ42 (Cape Reinga to Manukau)
  - 1.5.2. NZ43 (Manukau to Cape Egmont)
  - 1.5.3. NZ45 (Cape Egmont to Rangitikei River)
  - 1.5.4. NZ46 (Cook Strait)
  - 1.5.5. NZ4633 (Wellington Harbour)
  - 1.5.6. NZ51 (Tauroa Point to Cape Brett)
  - 1.5.7. NZ52 (Cape Brett to Cuvier Island)
  - 1.5.8. NZ532 (Approaches to Auckland)
  - 1.5.9. NZ54 (Cuvier Island to East Cape)
  - 1.5.10. NZ55 (Cape Runaway to Table Cape)
  - 1.5.11. NZ56 (Table Cape to Blackhead Point)
  - 1.5.12. NZ5612 (Napier Harbour)
  - 1.5.13. NZ57 (Blackhead Point to Castle Point)
  - 1.5.14. NZ58 (Castle Point to Cape Palliser)
  - 1.5.15. NZ4432 (Taranaki Roads)
  - 1.5.16. NZ5322 (Auckland Harbour East)
  - 1.5.17. NZ5324 (Tamaki Strait and Approaches)
  - 1.5.18. NZ5412 (Port of Tauranga)
  - 1.5.19. NZ5571 (Gisborne)
  - 1.5.20. Symbols, Terms and Abbreviations NP5011 or equivalent.
  - 1.5.21. Current NZ Almanac, including tide tables
  - 1.5.22. Cruising Guides
- 1.6. Additional safety checks of any yacht in any division may be made at any time.
- 1.7. For protests where only a rule of RRS Part 2 or Rule 31 is alleged to have been broken, an arbitration hearing may be offered prior to any formal protest hearing.
- 1.8. Protests: Any protest hearing the protest committee may give a penalty less than disqualification at their discretion. This changes RRS 64.2
- 1.9. Protests: No request for reopening will be accepted after two hours from the publication of a protest decision. This changes RRS 66.
- 1.10. PHRF certificate compliance measurement may be conducted at any time.
- 1.11. This racing is classified as on consecutive days, the sails carried at the start must remain the same throughout the entire race.
- 1.12. Exceptionally, in the case of significant damage or loss:
  - 1.12.1. With prior permission from the Race Committee, sails may be replaced with similar sails; and
  - 1.12.2. With permission from the Race Committee, sails may be removed from the yacht and no longer carried. This changes IRC rule 21.1.5 (d), (e) and (f).
- 1.13. Racing rules will be changed as follows. The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions. The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules.

- 1.13.1. Yachts with lifting keels shall have keels locked in the down position and not moved whilst racing. This changes RRS 51.
- 1.13.2. Yachts with movable ballast, in the form of a canting keel or water ballast, may move that ballast to increase or decrease weight, or to change trim or stability. This changes RRS 51.
- 1.13.3. Movement of sails not in use while racing is allowed; however sails not being flown must remain within the boat's lifelines. This modifies RRS 51 only as to the movement of sails.
- 1.13.4. RRS 52 shall not apply to the adjustment of a canting keel, water ballast or powered winches.
- 1.13.5. Yachts may use an autopilot or other self-steering device. This changes RRS 52.
- 1.13.6. Between the hours of sunset and sunrise the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea shall apply. This changes RRS Part 2.
- 1.13.7. Suspension of racing: (changes RRS 41 and RRS 48.1.)
  - 1.13.7.1. A yacht may suspend racing for safety or seamanship reasons (e.g. to make repairs) provided that she informs SSANZ at the first reasonable opportunity. This shall not be used to gain tactical advantage (e.g. to get out of adverse tide or current, etc.)
  - 1.13.7.2. A yacht that has suspended racing may use a propulsion engine, haul out, or make fast, until she resumes racing.
  - 1.13.7.3. A yacht that has suspended racing, may, before resuming racing, remove garbage, use any equipment or receive help to effect repairs but shall not take on food or other provisions, or replace equipment, without the prior permission of SSANZ.
  - 1.13.7.4. Before resuming racing, a yacht shall return to the position where she suspended racing and inform SSANZ at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 1.13.8. Outside Assistance
  - 1.13.8.1. Whilst racing, boats may utilise weather information that is routinely available throughout the year to the general public, and whose availability is publicly indexed. (e.g. searchable by Google). Boats shall not arrange for weather routers or meteorologists or other individuals to provide them with advice, custom data or compilations of public data during the race, no matter how that information is communicated.
  - 1.13.8.2. Boats may receive regularly scheduled weather broadcasts, GRIB data, weather fax transmissions or other internet based forecast information including weather routing functions within an application, whether subscription based or free of charge. (e.g. Metservice or Predictwind).
  - 1.13.8.3. Prior to the Warning Signal for a leg, there is no limitation on private services or any other source of data or consulting.
- 1.13.9. Neither the Skipper nor the Co-skipper may be replaced without the prior written approval of SSANZ. This approval may be given at any time up until six hours prior to the start of a leg. Approval shall be granted provided SSANZ Race Committee is satisfied that the replacement is suitable. The same crew must complete all legs to be eligible for overall prizes.

## **2. Advertising**

- 2.1. Yachts may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the SSANZ in accordance with World Sailing Advertising Code.

## **3. Eligibility and Entry**

All required documentation must be provided to the SSANZ by the due date to retain a valid entry.

- 3.1. The event is open to all self-righting monohull yachts of not less than 7.924m hull length (as defined in the Equipment Rules of Sailing).
- 3.2. Each yacht must have a current PHRF certificate.
- 3.3. Each yacht must have a current Category 2 safety certificate. To be submitted no later than 1830 hrs 2nd February 2026.
- 3.4. Lifteraft inspection certificate. To be submitted no later than 1830 hrs 2nd February 2026. .

- 3.5. 406 EIRPB registration certificate for all EIRPB's and PLB's to be carried during the race. (see [beacons.org.nz](http://beacons.org.nz)) Emergency contacts must be up to date. These certificates are to be submitted no later than 1830 hrs 2nd February 2026.
- 3.6. Each yacht must, in the opinion of SSANZ, be capable of safely taking part in the race. Designs and construction may rule out some yachts that may otherwise meet other requirements.
- 3.7. All yachts are to provide a receipt of antifouling or hull clean in line with all regional bylaws. A copy of the receipt or evidence to be provided no later than at the briefing on Friday 27 February 2026. Yachts are required to carry a receipt as proof of cleaning onboard for the entire race. This may be required to be produced to get entry into marinas or harbours during the race.
- 3.8. To be eligible to compete, each Co-Skipper shall:
  - 3.8.1. Be a financial member of a club recognised by the co-skipper's national authority;
  - 3.8.2. Born on or before 28 February 2008
  - 3.8.3. Have completed a qualifying voyage of approximately 250 nm or more, non-stop, on open water, together on the entered yacht two handed, and provided evidence of the voyage to the satisfaction of SSANZ. Ideally this will be in a recognised race.
  - 3.8.4. Entrants may be required to submit a log of their qualifying miles showing their course and daily progress, worked up navigation calculations, or independent evidence to substantiate their qualifying miles. Yacht Club Officials, Harbour officials or a person/s authorised by SSANZ would form such evidence. To be submitted no later than 1830 hrs 2nd February 2026
  - 3.8.5. Have a current certificate from a Yachting New Zealand approved Advanced Sea Survival or Offshore Personal Safety course . To be submitted no later than 1830 hrs 2nd February 2026
  - 3.8.6. Hold a current workplace/coastal first-aid certificate and at least one co-skipper (or more) holds an advanced first-aid certificate, such as Dr. Dave's Offshore Medic or Oceania Medical Offshore Medic. These courses or equivalent must cover the safe use of medications and treatments/procedures required for offshore sailing. To be submitted no later than 1830 hrs 2nd February 2026.
  - 3.8.7. All co-skippers must supply a medical certificate declaring them fit to compete. The certificate shall be issued within two months prior to the start to be submitted no later than 1830 hrs 23rd February 2026.
  - 3.8.8. Competitors may be required to produce additional documentation following receipt of their entry and will be given a reasonable amount of time to produce this.
  - 3.8.9. For publicity purposes high-resolution digital images of the yacht and co-skippers (approximately 1MB in size) must be forwarded to the Organising Authority no later than the closing date for entries.
  - 3.8.10. One or more digital colour photos of the boat, suitable for search and rescue purposes forming part of the required documentation. One photo shall be of the boat under full sail.
  - 3.8.11. Boat Name, Boat Design and both co-skipper names must be communicated no later than 7th November 2025.
- 3.9. Entries will open to SSANZ members at 1900 on Thursday 8th May 2025. Entry for Non SSANZ Members will open at 1900 on Saturday 10th May 2025. Eligible yachts may enter by completing the entry form on the SSANZ website.
- 3.10. Standard entries will close at 1830 hrs on Monday 7th November 2025 .
- 3.11. Any entry will not be considered complete until full payment has been received by SSANZ
- 3.12. Late entries will be accepted until 1830 hrs on Sunday 11th January 2026.
- 3.13. In the event of an entrant being found to have made a false statement, their entry will be refused, and their entry fee will be forfeited.
- 3.14. All required documentation must be provided to the organising authority by the due date to retain a valid entry.

- 3.15. A decision of the Organising Authority or the Race Committee as to any matter under NoR 3, including as to whether a boat and her crew meet the eligibility criteria for entry in the race, is final and binding and will not be grounds for a request for redress (this changes RRS 60.1 and 62.1(a) and RRS 63.1 shall not apply).

#### **4. Fees**

- 4.1. Required fees are as follows:
- Entry fee:           \$2500.00 (Non SSANZ members)
  - \$2200.00 (SSANZ members)
  - Late entry fee:   \$3500.00
- 4.2. Entry fees will not be refunded unless the entry is rejected by SSANZ.
- 4.3. Yachts failing to return a tracking device will be charged the full cost to replace the tracking device.

#### **5. Schedule**

- 5.1. Both Co-Skippers must attend the following:
- 5.1.1. The farewell function at 1900 hrs on Thursday 26th February 2026 Westhaven Marina.
  - 5.1.2. The event briefing at 1000 hrs on Friday 27th February 2026 at Westhaven.
  - 5.1.3. The Leg Two, Leg three and Lleg Four briefings at the time and place set by the Race Officer.
- 5.2. Racing Schedule:
- 5.2.1. Leg One start 1000 hrs on Saturday 28th February 2026
  - 5.2.2. Leg Two, Leg Three, and Leg Four starts: At a time set by the Race Officer
- 5.3. Compulsory Stopover Durations
- 5.3.1. Mangonui 24 hours minimum after 60% of the yachts have finished
  - 5.3.2. Waikawa 48 hours minimum after the 60% of the yachts have finished
  - 5.3.3. Napier 48 hours minimum after the 60% of the yachts have finished
  - 5.3.4. There will be a mass start for each leg at a convenient time set by the Race Officer soon after 60% of the fleet have fulfilled the stopover duration.

#### **6. Inspection**

- 6.1. Every yacht must be in an approved central Auckland Marina with a current Category 2 (or higher) safety certificate and be available for inspection by 1000 hrs on Tuesday 24th February 2026.
- 6.2. Every yacht will be inspected by inspectors appointed by the Race Committee for compliance with its safety certificate, this Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions and it's ability to safely take part in the race.
- 6.3. Yachts that do not pass the inspection may remedy any defects and request a further inspection.
- 6.4. Any yacht that does not pass an inspection by 1700 hrs on Friday 27th February 2026 will be deemed to have withdrawn from the race.

#### **7. Divisions**

- 7.1. Yachts will be split into the following divisions.
- 7.1.1. Division 1 – PHRF 0.9500 and above
  - 7.1.2. Division 2 – PHRF 0.8600 to 0.9499
  - 7.1.3. Division 3 – PHRF 0.7900 to 0.8599
  - 7.1.4. Division 4 – PHRF 0.7899 and below
- 7.2. The Organising Authority reserves the right to alter the divisional split according to entries received.

## **8. Measurement**

- 8.1. Each yacht shall produce a valid PHRF certificate by 1830 hrs on Wednesday 3rd December 2025.
- 8.2. No changes to PHRF certificates may be made after 1700 hrs on Tuesday 10th February 2026, except as a result of a rating protest, to correct rating office errors, or as a result of a new certificate issued by Yachting New Zealand or the rating office.
- 8.3. Yachting New Zealand may adjust PHRF handicaps at the end of each leg. Yachts will remain in the same division as they were during the first leg regardless of subsequent changes to PHRF handicap.

## **9. Sailing Instructions**

- 9.1. Final Sailing Instructions will be available on or before Friday 20th February 2026.

## **10. The Courses**

- 10.1. The course rounds the North Island of New Zealand in an anticlockwise direction starting and finishing in Auckland's Waitemata Harbour.
- 10.2. The course shall be:
  - 10.2.1. Leg One: Auckland Harbour to the entrance of Mangonui Harbour (approximately 154 nautical miles)
  - 10.2.2. Leg Two: Entrance of Mangonui Harbour to Queen Charlotte Sound (approximately 475 nautical miles)
  - 10.2.3. Leg Three: Tory Channel to Napier Harbour (approximately 215 nautical miles)
  - 10.2.4. Leg Four: Napier Harbour to Auckland Harbour (approximately 366 nautical miles)

Approximate total 1210 nautical miles.

## **11. Penalty System**

- 11.1. The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, will apply.

## **12. Scoring**

- 12.1. Legs will be scored on PHRF Shorthanded Base.
- 12.2. The Low Points scoring system of Appendix A will apply.
- 12.3. No individual leg scores will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.
- 12.4. Any change to the PHRF handicap for a yacht received by the Organising Authority prior to the start will be applied for that leg and subsequent leg, unless a further change is received.

## **13. Prizes**

- 13.1. The following prizes will be awarded:
  - 13.1.1. Major prize 1<sup>st</sup> PHRF Overall (lowest total corrected time overall for all 4 legs)
  - 13.1.2. Major prize 1<sup>st</sup> Line Overall (shortest total elapsed time)
  - 13.1.3. Minor prizes PHRF Overall (lowest total on points for all 4 legs)
  - 13.1.4. Minor prizes PHRF by Division (Divisional lowest total on points for all 4 legs)
  - 13.1.5. Minor prizes Line by Division (Divisional lowest total on points for all 4 legs)
- 13.2. The number of places in each division will be determined by the number of yachts starting according to the following scale;
  - 13.2.1. Starters 3, 1 Prize. Starters 4-6, 2 Prizes. Starters 7 or more, 3 prizes.
- 13.3. Other awards may be presented for noble events and achievements during the race.
- 13.4. A race memento will be issued to each co-skipper completing the race.

## **14. Declarations**

- 14.1. Competitors are required to submit a declaration form prior to and at the end of each leg, declarations are to be made online via the race portal .

## 15. Disclaimer of Liability

- 15.1. Competitors who participate in any SSANZ event do so entirely at their own risk. Refer to RRS Fundamental Rule 4. SSANZ will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the event.
- 15.2. SSANZ will make starting signals unless in the race committees' opinion it is manifestly unsafe for yachts to race. Each yacht shall exercise her responsibility under RRS Fundamental Rule 4 and decide whether or not to start or continue to race.
- 15.3. SSANZ is not responsible for the sea-worthiness of a yacht whose entry is accepted and/or the sufficiency / adequacy of its equipment or the competence of its co-skippers.

## 16. Insurance

- 16.1. Each yacht shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of five million dollars (\$5m) and a recommended cover of ten million dollars (\$10m) for the race.
- 16.2. Evidence of insurance shall be provided by 1830 hrs on Monday 2nd February 2026.

## 17. Summary of key dates

Regular entries close	NOR 3.10	Monday 7th November 2025
PHRF certificates to be provided	NOR 8	Wednesday 3rd December 2025
Late entries close	NOR 3.13	Sunday 11th January 2026
Evidence of insurance to be provided	NOR 16.2	Monday 2nd February 2026
Qualifying evidence, Advanced Sea Survival, First-Aid Certificates	NOR 3.8	Monday 2nd February 2026
Cat 2 safety certificate	NOR 3.3	Monday 2nd February 2026
Liferaft servicing certificate	NOR 3.4	Monday 2nd February 2026
EPRIB & PLB registration certificates	NOR 3.5	Monday 2nd February 2026
Final Sailing Instructions on or before	NOR 9.1	Friday 20th February 2026
Medical Certificate	NOR 3.8.7	Friday 20th February 2026
Boats to be present for inspection	NOR 6.1	Tuesday 24th February 2026
Farewell function	NOR 5.1.1	Thursday 26th February 2026
Boats to pass inspection	NOR 6.4	Friday 27th February 2026
Hull cleaning or antifouling receipt or evidence	NOR 3.7	Friday 27th February 2026

## **Further Information**

[www.ssanz.co.nz](http://www.ssanz.co.nz)

[racing@ssanz.co.nz](mailto:racing@ssanz.co.nz)

Race Officer - Garry Jolliffe 027 434 8186

Safety Officer - Geoff Herd 027 559 4466

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