



Notice of Race

2026 2027 Season

This is the Notice of Race for the races being held by the Russell Boating Club (which is the Organising Authority) during 2026 and 2027 that are identified below. The dates and starting times of the specific races are given in the calendar.

This Notice of Race should be read in conjunction with the current Russell Boating Club Keelboat General Sailing Instructions.

RULES The races will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing and Yachting New Zealand prescriptions (Racing Rules) , the current Russell Boating Club Keelboat General Sailing Instructions (copy kept in clubhouse), this Notice of Race, and any further notice to competitors on a course sheet or issued by the Officer of the Day.

Racing Rule 44.1 is amended so that a one turn penalty applies. Racing Rule 44.3, which provides for scoring penalties, shall not apply

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Club's Race Announcements WhatsApp Group, in Racing News, and, where relevant to the running of a specific race, on VHF Channel 77 by the Officer of the Day at least 10 minutes before the scheduled race start time. Notices to competitors may also be posted on the Club Notice Board.

RACE SERIES The following race series will be run this season.

Patron's Cup for the yacht with the most starts in Russell Boating Club races and interclub races between the first evening race of the season and the last Duke of Marlborough Hotel Weekend Series race inclusive.

Emerkit Weekend Series for Duke of Marlborough Cup, 6 weekend races, all count. Each individual race in this series has a specific race trophy.

Phat House Spring and Summer Series. Wednesday evening races. The Spring Series for the Freedom Cup is 5 races, best 4 count. The Summer Series for Windward Cup is 5 races, best 4 count.

Omata Estate Spring and Summer Series. Wednesday evening races. The Spring Series for the Paramena Bowl is 5 races, best 4 count. The Summer Series for Sprint Cup is 4 races, best 3 count.

Willis Sails Winter Series for the Hassall Shield, 4 races, all count.

Northern Hiab Hire Single Handed Series. 3 weekend races, all count. Auto pilots are allowed if their use is declared at the start of the series.

Bonbodi Women's Spring and Summer Series. Wednesday evening races. The Spring Series for the Macushla Cup is 3 races, all count. The Summer Series for Women's Series Tray is 3 races, all count. To be eligible for the race there must be a woman helming from 5 minute gun until finishing.

Opua-Russell Interclub Race Series The Opua-Russell Series is a 3 race series between the Opua Cruising Club and the Russell Boating Club for the Fisher & Paykel Trophy. This series has its own Sailing Instructions. The Bengal Trophy is awarded for the best performing Russell boat in the combination of this series and in the Epiglass Series

Epiglass Series This interclub series is for 3 races, with Kerikeri, Opua and Russell each running one race.

Etchells Series The Etchells Challenge Trophy for the best performing Etchells in the Wednesday evening races over the season. The 2 lowest scoring Spring Series races and the 2 lowest scoring Summer Series races are dropped. Abandoned evening races are also not counted.

Etchells Regatta This has a separate Notice of Race and entry requirements.

A minimum of 2 boats coming to the starting area is required for any specific race to be held.

All boats in a series will be scored DNS for any abandoned race in that series.

ELIGIBILITY All races It is a requirement of entry in any Russell Boating Club race that all competitors sign a declaration that they comply with the relevant safety standards before the racing for the season. Failure to provide this declaration shall result in disqualification from races. *The RBC website has a registration form for the season's racing which includes a declaration of compliance with required safety standards.*

Registration for a race occurs by a boat being in the start area prior to starting.

All Wednesday evening series Series points and trophies will only be awarded to boats skippered by a member of the Russell Boating Club who has paid the season's Racing Fee. At the discretion of the Sailing Committee, series points may be awarded for races participated in before the season's Racing Fee is paid.

Emerkit Weekend Series Series points and trophies will only be awarded to boats skippered by a member of the Russell Boating Club, Opua Cruising Club, Bay of Islands Yacht Club, or Kerikeri Cruising Club who has paid their club's Racing Fee for the season. At the discretion of the Sailing

Committee, series points may be awarded for races participated in before the season's Racing Fee is paid.

Willis Sails Winter Series Series points and trophies will only be awarded to boats skippered by a member of the Russell Boating Club or Opuia Cruising Club who has paid their clubs' Racing Fee for either the 2025-2026 or 2026-2027 season.

Interclub Races These are open to any Russell boat skippered by a member of the Russell Boating Club who has paid the season's Racing Fee. Points for the Hassall Shield will only be awarded to boats skippered by a member of the Russell Boating Club who has paid the season's Racing Fee. At the discretion of the Sailing Committee, series points may be awarded for races participated in before the season's Racing Fee is paid.

Northern Hiab Hire Single Handed Race Series is restricted to one person on each boat racing. Series points and trophies will only be awarded to boats skippered by a member of the Russell Boating Club or of the Opuia Cruising Club who has paid their club's Racing Fee for the season.

Etchells Series This series is open to all Etchells skippered by a member of the Russell Boating Club who has paid the season's Racing Fee.

SAFETY STANDARDS Unless otherwise specified, all boats racing in Russell Boating Club races must, at a minimum, meet the safety standards set out in the Russell Boating Club General Keelboat Sailing Instructions:

The following safety standards must be complied with:

- i. For keel boats and multihulls: Category 5 of Part II of the Safety Regulations.
- ii. For sports boats: Category B of Part VI of the Safety Regulations with the addition of a waterproof vhf radio and a second means of communication such as a mobile phone.
- iii. For trailer and sports trailer yachts (includes Elliott 5.9s): Category C of Part V of the Safety Regulations with the addition of a waterproof vhf radio and a second means of communication such as a mobile phone.
- iv. For Etchells: the safety equipment listed in the Appendix to these Sailing Instructions *Additional requirements are listed that apply when racing beyond a line between Tapeka Point and Brampton Buoy.*
- v. For unballasted centreboard and open yachts, sailboards, and ballasted yachts not covered by i to iv above (includes Tornado catamarans): Part 1 of the Safety Regulations with the addition of a waterproof vhf radio and a second means of communication such as a mobile phone. Where any race goes beyond the line between Tapeka Point to Brampton Buoy these vessels shall be accompanied by a motorised support boat carrying adequate safety gear when no official RBC safety boat is present. One support boat can support more than one competitor.
- vi. It is recommended that all personal floatation devices are at least to Type 402 (inshore waters) standard and have a whistle attached.

Some races may have a higher safety standard. Boats may be disqualified if safety standards are not met. Random inspections will be held and a declaration must be provided that the required safety standard is met.

RACE TIMES The dates and start times for the races in the series are given in the calendar on the Russell Boating Club's web site. The minimum warning signal given for races will be at 5 minutes before the start. All boats will race in one division unless otherwise advised.

COURSES Races will be held in the waters of the Bay of Islands, including within the Pēwhairangi Marine Mammal Sanctuary. Course sheets will be provided for races.

RADIO COMMUNICATION Except in an emergency or to communicate with the OOD, a boat shall, while racing, neither make or receive radio transmissions not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones. We use VHF channel 77.

HANDICAPPING General handicaps based on a time correction factor will be applied to races. General handicaps may differ between series. Single handed series handicaps will reflect whether a boat has declared the use of an autopilot for the series or not. PHRF results may be given for boats with current PHRF certificates.

SCORING All series except the Etchells Series, Patron's Cup and the Interclub Races are scored using the low point system in Appendix A of the Racing Rules. The Etchells Series is scored using a bespoke high points scoring system reflecting the number of Etchells in a race and the position of each Etchells in that race. The Patron's Cup is scored as 1 point per finish, half a point for a DNF. The Interclub Race Series is scored as set out in the sailing instructions for that series.

PRIZES Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third in a series, and for Weekend Series races. There are trophies for most of the series and weekend races.

A prize-giving will be held on the day noted in the calendar.

DISCLAIMERS Competitors participate in races entirely at their own risk; see racing rule 4, Decision to Race. 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, racing. It is recommended that all boats racing have, at a minimum, third party insurance.

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