

Muritai Yacht Club 2025/2026 Club Racing Season

20 September 2024 to 25 April 2025

Version 1. Updated 22 August 2025

Muritai Yacht Club, Eastbourne, New Zealand

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SIs)

Preamble

The notation '**[DP]**' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. Guidelines for discretionary penalties are available on the World Sailing website.

The notation '**[NP]**' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. **This changes RRS 60.1(a).**

1. RULES

1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). The 2025-2028 Racing Rules of sailing will apply.

1.2. The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations Part I shall apply.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to these sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board, at least 30 minutes before the first warning signal of the race affected by the change. Code flag L will be flown,

and a sound signal made.

3. CODE OF CONDUCT

3.1. [DP] [NP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

3.2. [DP] [NP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with government and health authority rules regarding public health measures.

4. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board (white board) located upstairs in the Clubhouse at least 30 minutes before the first warning signal of any race affected by the change.

5. ENTRIES

5.1. Competitors shall comply with respective class rules and the rules of the Muritai Yacht Club relating to membership.

5.2. Eligible boats shall enter each race day by recording their details in the “Entry Book” in the Clubhouse. Any competitor who fails to enter as required will be recorded “Did Not Register”, (DNR) and awarded points as for DNF as described in **SI 17.2.**

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

6.1. All signals made ashore will be displayed on the start box flagpole on the yacht club.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

7.1. Races will be held according to the current Club Calendar which forms part of these Sailing Instructions. The Club Calendar is available on the clubroom noticeboard.

7.2. A decision on whether to race will be made by the Racing Committee at the Clubhouse no later than 1300hrs.

7.3. Courses and actual start times will be posted on the official notice board by 1315hrs.

7.4. Racing is generally scheduled as follows but may be varied depending on the number of entries and the racing conditions:

Fleet	Flag	Start Time
Opti A	Class Flag (white)	1400
Starling	Class Flag	1405
Sunburst	Class Flag	1410
Laser	Class Flag	1415
Opti B	Class Flag (green)	1420
Paper Tiger	Class Flag	1425

7.5. Additional separate fleet start times may be added as necessary. Any individual fleet's restart after a general recall will occur at the end of the sequence.

7.6. Any change to the Schedule of Races, Class Flags or Start Times will be posted on the Official Notice Board at least 30 minutes before the warning signal for the first class.

7.7. On a regular race day, the intention will be to sail the championship race scheduled for that day, followed by a handicap race sailed back-to-back with the first race. This will be notified on the notice board when the courses are posted.

7.8. The order that fleets start in the second race of the day may differ from that of the first race to better match the finish order of the first race.

7.9. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

7.10. The first warning signal of the day will be made no later than 1530hrs.

8. RACING AREA

The racing area will be on Wellington Harbour in the vicinity of the Muritai Yacht Club.

9. COURSES

9.1. The course number and order that marks will be rounded will be displayed on the official notice board at least 30 minutes before the first warning signal is scheduled.

9.2. The course diagram is only to indicate the relative positioning of the marks and is not intended to show their actual locations.

10. MARKS

10.1. Rounding marks will be large orange cylindrical buoys. The starting and finishing marks will be spherical buoys. All marks shall be taken as un-numbered.

10.2. The Optimist B fleet may use a separate top mark, which will be approximately 60% of the distance from Mark 3 to Mark 1, this will be posted on the official notice board when the full course is posted.

10.3. The Paper Tiger fleet may use a separate wing mark which will be set a greater distance from the top and bottom mark than the standard wing mark.

11. OBSTRUCTIONS

The following are designated as obstructions:

11.1. Rona Bay Wharf.

11.2. Any fishing lines originating from Rona Bay wharf and running into the sea.

12. THE START

12.1. Starts will be conducted in accordance with **RRS 26**.

12.2. The Warning Signal for each succeeding class will be made simultaneously with the Starting Signal of the preceding class.

12.3. The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the MYC committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.

12.4. [DP][NP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

12.5. A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. **This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.**

13. SHORTENED COURSE

13.1. Courses may be shortened in accordance with **RRS 32**.

13.2. If the race committee signals a shortened course (Flag S with 2 sounds) at a rounding mark of the course, boats shall leave the mark to the required side and proceed to cross the finish line from the direction of the mark which the course was shortened at. **This changes RRS 32.2.**

14. THE FINISH

14.1. The finishing line is between a staff on the clubhouse start box and the finish mark near the clubhouse.

14.2. [DP][NP] At all times, boats shall pass outside (to seaward) of the finish mark unless finishing. **This changes RRS 28.1.**

14.3. The time limit will be 90 minutes for the first boat in each class. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat finishes in their race will be recorded as DNF. **This changes RRS 35.**

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

Penalty turns shall be a 360 degree penalty turn for all classes. **This changes RRS 44.1.**

16. HEARING REQUESTS

Protests shall be written on forms available in the starting box and lodged with a club official or member of the sailing committee within 60 minutes after the time of the last boat's finish. Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt at a time determined by the nominated protest panel.

17. SCORING

17.1. The scoring system is the low point system described in **RRS Appendix A.**

17.2. RRS A5.3 applies. For clarity, DNF, DNS, OCS, DSQ and DNR will score points equal to the number of boats in a race plus one. DNC will score points equal to the number of boats in a series plus one.

17.3. A minimum of two competitors are required to constitute a scored race except for the Opti B fleet where one competitor will suffice. This requirement may be waived at the discretion of the

Commodore or, in the case of a junior sailor, the Junior Bosun.

17.4. If a competitor volunteers for patrol boat or starting box duty, they will receive the average of their series points (championship and handicap) for the race(s) missed.

18. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

18.1. At least one championship race is scheduled on every club race day as notified in the Club Calendar.

18.2. A second race on the day will be a handicap race or, at the discretion of the race officer, a second championship race. Races will be scored as follows:

	Counts towards championship	Affects club handicap	Counts towards a handicap series
Championship race	Yes	Yes	Yes
Handicap Race	No	Yes	Yes
Fun race	No	No	No
Special race e.g. harbour race, regatta	No	No	No

18.3. The club championship will run season long. Only championship races will count towards this competition. Results will be scored based on finishing place.

18.4. Separate Championships will be run for each Class, for the Standard and Radial Laser rigs and for the Opti B and Opti A fleets.

18.5. The championship may consist of up to 22 races. A minimum of 4 races are required to constitute a championship.

18.6. A certain number of a competitor's worst races may be excluded depending on the number of races sailed per the following table:

After completing this number of races	3	6	9	12	15	18
Number of races that may be excluded	1	2	3	4	5	6

One further race may be excluded after every three additional completed races.

19. CLUB HANDICAP COMPETITION

19.1. A season-long handicap competition will run for each Fleet. Both championship races and handicap races will count towards this competition.

19.2. Results will be scored based on elapsed race time corrected using the competitor's club handicap. Handicaps will be set using a progressive handicap system.

19.3. A minimum of four races are required to constitute a season-long handicap competition

19.4. A competitor's worst race or races may be excluded from this competition using the same exclusion profile as the club championship. A competitor may exclude different races in the championship and handicap series.

19.5. Individual competitors sailing other classes (Feva, Topaz, Bic etc.) may race with an appropriate fleet. They can develop a club handicap relative to the fleet and will be scored in the season-long handicap competition.

20. HANDICAP SERIES COMPETITIONS

20.1. Five handicap series competitions will be held during the season. Both championship races and handicap races will count towards these five competitions.

20.2. Results will be scored based on elapsed time corrected using the competitor's club handicap. Handicaps will be set using a progressive handicap system.

20.3. Each series will take place over three to five club race days as notified in the Club Calendar. Each series will be contested only within these race days regardless of the number of races sailed.

20.4. Handicap series are open to the Optimist (A and B Fleets), Starling, Sunburst, Laser (both Standard and Radial rigs combined) and Paper Tiger classes only. Individual competitors sailing other classes will be excluded from the scoring of these series.

20.5. A minimum of one race is required to constitute a handicap series. If no races are completed for a class in the race days available for a series, the relevant series trophy will not be awarded.

20.6. A competitor's worst race or races may be excluded from this competition using the same exclusion profile as the club championship. A competitor may exclude different races in the handicap series from those excluded in the other club competitions.

21. RS FEVA CHAMPIONSHIP

21.1. This season, there may be a RS Feva championship with the intention of developing a meaningful competition.

21.2. The third race day of each of the five handicap series will be designated as a RS Feva championship day. On these days, both races in the RS Feva class will count towards a season-long RS Feva championship which will therefore consist of up to ten races.

21.3. The RS Feva championship is scored on finish place only. No handicaps will be applied.

21.4. A minimum of one race is required to constitute a RS Feva championship. If no races are completed for the class in the race days available the relevant trophy will not be awarded.

21.5. A competitor's worst race or races may be excluded from this competition using the same

exclusion profile as the club championship. A competitor may exclude different races in the RS Feva championship than those excluded in the other club competitions.

21.6. The RS Feva championship is open to junior and intermediate crews only. Boats competing with one or more senior members are not eligible.

21.7. Any competitor in a FS Feva championship race who usually races another class of boat at the club may receive the average of their series points (championship and handicap) for the race(s) missed in their usual class.

21.8. The RS Feva championship will be scored either by individual or by team at the discretion of the club handicapper.

22. SAFETY REGULATIONS

[DP] [NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

23. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

24. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges

that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury**

or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.