



Waikato Yacht Squadron 2021 Gulf Classic

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Start: 1000 hours Saturday 27th February 2021

1 RULES and CONTROL

- 1.1 The Race shall be governed by the ISAF 2021-2024 Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of Yachting New Zealand (YNZ), the current rules of individual trailer yacht classes, (except as any of these are altered by these sailing instructions), by the Notice of Race issued for this event, and by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 The following is added to Rule 51: "Yachts using water ballast shall have all ballast tanks full before the warning signal. These shall remain full for the duration of the race."
- 1.3 Racing Rule 52 is amended to permit the use of self-steering devices.
- 1.4 Between the hours of sunset and sunrise, the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collision at Sea shall override the provisions of Part 2 of the Rules of Sailing where there is any conflict.
- 1.5 The Waikato Yacht Squadron Gulf Classic Race Committee delegates full authority for the conduct of the race to the Senior Race Officer (SRO).

2 ELIGIBILITY and SAFETY

- 2.1 Entries are open to keelboats and trailer yachts. All skippers must be a member of a club affiliated to Yachting New Zealand.
- 2.2 The minimum crew is two persons (including the skipper) over the age of 16 years.
- 2.3 A yacht sailing two handed in keeler divisions shall be fitted with jackstays as

per YNZ Safety Regulations 17.23(K) and 17.28(c)(M) respectively: and in Trailer Yacht divisions, shall be fitted with jackstays or alternative means of securely attaching a safety harness while working on deck.

- 2.4** Where a yacht sails two handed, safety harnesses with features complying with YNZ Safety Regulation 17.08 shall be available for both crew members.
- 2.5** A marine VHF transceiver shall be carried, fitted with channels 16, 77, 60 and 64, available for use and switched to the appropriate channel at all times.
- 2.6** A mobile smart phone must be carried for tracking progress via the tracking app RaceQs which is a free download. The phone must have the Data Usage set to "Mobile Data On" to allow access to the internet via the mobile network. The RaceQs app is to be set to "Live Streaming ON" and the Start Tracking button activated. The mobile phone will also be used for comms in the event of lost contact via VHF.
- 2.7** All yachts shall carry an up to date copy of Chart NZ 532 (Approaches to Auckland) and Chart NZ 5324 (Tamaki Strait).
- 2.8** Trailer Yachts: Designs must be approved by the New Zealand Trailer Yacht Association (NZTYA) and shall comply with the Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations Part V, Trailer Yachts.
- 2.9** Trailer Yachts are to carry at least 10 litres of fuel for their outboards at the start of the race (Part V para 13.3 refers).
- 2.10** Keelboats: All keelboats shall comply with Category 4 of the Yachting New Zealand Offshore Safety Regulations (excluding dinghies).
- 2.11** All yachts shall make themselves available for inspection for compliance with safety regulations up to 30 minutes before their warning signal. A yacht may also be inspected after the race.

3 INSURANCE

- 3.1** All yachts must carry third party liability insurance to a minimum value of \$500k with racing cover. Your Certificate of Insurance shall be declared with your entry.

4 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 4.1** Notices to competitors shall be posted on the official notice board located in the Upstairs Lounge of the Maraetai Beach Boating Club. Such Notices as well as the rating assigned to each yacht shall be posted on the official notice board before 2030 hours NZDT on Friday 26th February 2021.

5 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 5.1** Changes in sailing instructions shall be posted on the official notice board (or made available by other means) before 2030 hours NZDT on Friday 26th February 2021.

6 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 6.1** No signals regarding the race will be made from the Maraetai Beach Boating Club Clubhouse.

7 DIVISIONS

- 7.1** Keeler Division: Keel Boats Long Haul approx. 80 nautical miles.
Shall be open to all Keel Boats, with ratings assigned by the Gulf Classic Handicapper based on PHRF ratings and recent club racing handicaps.
Division Flag: GREEN.
It is intended that this division will sail Course A, Port or Starboard.
- 7.2** Trailer Yacht Division A: Trailer Yachts Long Haul approx. 80 nautical miles.
Shall be open to Trailer Yachts with a current NZTYA rating of 0.850 or higher.
Division flag: WHITE.
It is intended that this division will sail Course A, Port or Starboard.
- 7.3** Trailer Yacht Division B: Trailer Yachts approx. 60 nautical miles.
Shall be open to all Trailer Yachts with a current NZTYA rating of 0.810 or higher.
Division Flag: ORANGE.
It is intended that this division will sail Course B, Port or Starboard.
- 7.4** Trailer Yacht Division C: Trailer Yachts Short Haul approx. 40 nautical miles.
Shall be open to all trailer Yachts with a current NZTYA rating of 0.700 or higher.
Division Flag: BLUE.
It is intended that this division will sail Course C, Port or Starboard.
- 7.5** Prior to the start of their division each entrant shall fix their divisional flag measuring 200 mm by 200 mm to their backstay or Starboard shroud.

8 TIME of STARTING SIGNALS

- 8.1** Saturday 27th February 2021.

1000 hours Starting Signal for Keel Boats & Trailer Yachts Division A.

1005 hours Starting Signal for Trailer Yachts Division B.

1010 hours Starting Signal for Trailer Yachts Division C.

9 RACING AREA and COURSES

- 9.1** The courses described herein shall be sailed in either an anti-clockwise direction (Port Course) or a clockwise direction (Starboard Course), depending on wind direction. The direction to be sailed shall be identified by the Committee Boat flying a red flag (Port Course) or a green flag (Starboard Course). The Port Courses are described below.
- 9.2 Port Course A** — approximately 80 nautical miles.
From START, leave Passage Rock to PORT.
Through Waiheke Channel and through the Ruthe Passage.
Thumb Point (Waiheke Is) to PORT.
To Whangaparaoa Navy Buoy to PORT.
To the Rakino Channel, Rakino Island to PORT, Motutapu Island to STBD.
Through the Motuihe Channel, Motuihe Island to PORT, Motutapu Island to STBD.
Rangitoto Island and Motutapu Island to STBD.
To and rounding Rakino Island to STBD.
Through Sergeant Channel.
To FINISH.
- 9.3 Port Course B** — approximately 60 nautical miles.
From START, leave Passage Rock to PORT.
Through Waiheke Channel and through the Ruthe Passage.
Thumb Point (Waiheke Is) to PORT.
To Rakino channel leaving Motutapu to PORT and Awash Rock to STBD.
Around Rakino Island to STBD.
Through the Motuihe Channel, Motuihe Island to PORT, Motutapu Island to STBD.
Rounding Rangitoto Island and Motutapu Island to STBD.
Through Rakino Channel with Rakino Island to PORT.
Through Sergeant Channel.
To FINISH.
- 9.4 Port Course C**— approximately 40 nautical miles.
From START, leave Passage Rock to PORT.
Through the Waiheke Channel, Waiheke Island to PORT, Ponui Island, Rotoroa Island and Pakatoa Island to STBD.
Leave Waiheke Island to PORT, to Rakino channel leaving Motutapu to PORT and Awash Rock to STBD.
Around Rakino Island to STBD.
Through Sergeant Channel.
To FINISH.
- 9.5** The courses for each division will be announced on VHF Channel 77 by Waikato Race Control at approximately 0930 hours on Saturday 27th February 2021 whilst the Committee Boat is flying Code Flag "L". Following that announcement Waikato Race Control will not respond to competitor requests

for information until the starts for all divisions have been completed. After the start, all competitors should switch to VHF Channel 60 or 64.

- 9.6** Fairway Marks - Passage Rock is a fairway mark for all courses. Awash Rock is a fairway mark for courses B and C.

Yachts shall keep to the outside of the Red Buoys which mark the reefs to the north of Motuihe Island.

10 COURSE HAZARDS

- 10.1** Although other hazards may exist, special attention is drawn to the following hazards to navigation:

- D'Urville Rocks, The Noises and Ahaaha Rocks - particularly on Course A.
- Awash Rock - SW of Rakino Island - for all courses.
- Reefs to the North of Motuihe Island marked by red buoys and a lateral red marker.

10.2 Locations

Passage Rock (FI (2) W 10s 8M)	S36 51.353	E175 07.870
Tarahiki Island	S36 47.324	E175 13.459
D'Urville Rocks (Red sector Maria Island Light)	S36 43.330	E175 04.102
Ahaaha Rocks 1.4 nm NE Maria Island light (East Cardinal)	S36 41.340	E175 01.901
Maria Island Light (Red/White sector light) (FI (3) WR 15s 7M)	S36 42.528	E175 00.331
Whangaparaoa Navy Buoy	S36 36.908	E174 50.548
Awash Rock lateral beacon	S36 44.090	E174 56.744
Rangitoto Light (FI R 12s 7M)	S36 46.914	E174 49.344

11 RADIO SCHEDULES AND WAYPOINT IDENTIFICATION CHECKS

- 11.1** All entrants shall identify themselves to Coastguard Radio as a "Gulf Classic Competitor", BY VHF RADIO on the assigned channel at the passing of the following waypoints on their course:

Course A Port and Starboard courses

Whangaparaoa Navy Buoy Ch 60/64

Course B Port Course

Rangitoto Light

Ch 60/64

Starboard Course

Thumb Point

Ch 60/64

Course C Port Course

Awash Rock

Ch 60/64

Starboard Course

Thumb Point

Ch 60/64

12 THE START

12.1 Each entrant shall confirm their intention to start by sailing past the stern of the Committee Boat and at that time contacting the Committee Boat by VHF radio on Ch 77. Each entrant shall await an acknowledgement by VHF from the Race Officer's representative. The Committee Boat's name will be advised at the briefing. At this time the tracking app RaceQs must be set to tracking and live streaming and remain on for the duration of the race. Acknowledgement by VHF from the Race Officer's representative that the boats tracking signature can be seen by the SRO is required.

12.2 All skippers and crew members are required to wear an approved personal flotation device when confirming their intention to start or from 30 minutes prior to their start time (whichever is earlier) and until they have started the Race by crossing the start line. Thereafter, the decision to continue wearing life jackets becomes the skipper's responsibility.

12.3 The race shall be started in accordance with Racing Rule 26.

12.4 Unless otherwise advised, the start line shall be between a staff bearing an orange WYS pennant on the Race Committee Boat at one end and an inflated orange buoy at the other end. The Race Committee Boat will be positioned approximately due north of the Maraetai Beach Boat Club and the line set at approx. 90 degrees to the first mark.

12.5 A yacht whose starting signal has not been made, shall keep 50 metres clear of the starting line during the warning and preparatory period of another division.

12.6 No yacht may start the race later than 20 minutes after her division has started.

13 RECALLS

13.1 Individual recalls shall be signalled in accordance with Rule 29.1. Sail numbers of offending yachts may be hailed as a gesture and not as a responsibility.

13.2 Any boat returning to the start shall keep clear of all other boats.

13.3 A general recall shall be signalled in accordance with Racing Rule 29.2. The starting sequence will be maintained. The warning signal for the new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the first substitute is removed (one sound), and the starts for any succeeding classes shall follow the new start.

14 CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

14.1 Changed and/or shortened course information and the altered location of a finish line shall be advised by Coastguard on VHF Radio on Channels 60 & 64. This may be done at any time during the race as conditions dictate.

14.2 Accordingly all entrants shall keep their VHF radio switched on and shall maintain a listening watch on Ch 60 or Ch 64 at all times after the start of the race and acknowledge any course change transmissions. In the event of no acknowledgement being received, a call to the skipper's mobile phone will be made.

14.3 In the event of the course being shortened, cross the finish line in the direction of approach from the previous mark.

15 ABANDONMENT

15.1 Abandonment after the start shall be advised by Coastguard on VHF radio on Channels 60 & 64.

15.2 The Race Officer or his representative may also contact entrants from time to time. It shall be the responsibility of each skipper to forward an accurate position when requested to do so. In the interests of safety, radios shall be left on VHF Channel 60 or 64 for the duration of the race.

15.3 When necessary to communicate with all entrants, Coastguard on behalf of Waikato Race Control will endeavour to make any such transmissions at 15 minutes past each hour or at 45 minutes past each hour during the race. All entrants are required in particular to listen on VHF channel 60 or 64 at these times and for 5 minutes thereafter in order to receive important messages. When requested by Coastguard all entrants shall acknowledge the transmission.

15.4 In the event of radio failure, it is the entrant's responsibility to find alternative means to fulfil the reporting obligations.

15.5 At the start and finish, all race communications with the Race Committee Boat shall use the call sign "Waikato Race Control" on VHF radio Channel 77. At all other times use VHF Channel 60 or 64 to Coastguard.

16 USE OF RACEQS APP FOR TRACKING PURPOSES

- 16.1** For safety reasons, increased interest in online viewing of the race, and developing race organization practice, each entrant is required to use the **RaceQs GPS** tracking service. To use the service you will need two smartphones (one as a back-up) that use either iOS8 and above or Android 6 and above operating system. The **RaceQs GPS** tracking service is being made available at no cost to each competitor.
- 16.2** Full instructions on how to install and use the app are found at <https://www.raceQs.com>
Manually enter your boat name.
Your phone or tablet must be set to have data ON.
It is recommended that all competitors test the tracking functionality at least one month before the event and view the data on their home computers. This requires that the tracking test be saved and uploaded before it can be viewed externally.
- 16.3** It is the crews' responsibility to test that the system works on their phones prior to the race. Each competitor is expected to check their RaceQs is turned on and check battery levels are satisfactory at the start. Only one phone should be used to send tracking data at any time. Failure to use the RaceQs for the entire race may result in, at the sole discretion of the Race Committee, a time penalty for the yacht.

17 THE FINISH

- 17.1** The finish line shall be located in the Tamaki Strait in front of the Maraetai Beach Boating Club Clubhouse. The finish line shall be between the staff of the Race Committee Boat, which will be in a similar position as the start, and the buoy which formed the pin mark at the start though the line may have been shortened.
- 17.2** A flashing yellow light shall, if possible, be displayed from the Race Committee Boat for yachts finishing during the hours of darkness.
- 17.3** Skippers shall make radio contact with Waikato Race Control on VHF Channel 77 as they approach to within 200 metres of the finish line. This is especially important during the hours of darkness.

18 TIME LIMIT

- 18.1** There will be no time limit for finishing for yachts sailing courses A and B.
- 18.2** Any yacht sailing Course A or B not completing the race before 0800 hours NZDT on Sunday 28th February 2021 shall record their own finishing time and report it to the Race Officer in the clubhouse.

18.3 Prizegiving will only be held up if it is likely that yachts finishing after 0800 hours NZDT on Sunday 28th February 2021 will affect the first three placings on handicap in their division.

18.4 Yachts sailing Course C and not completing the race before 2200 hours NZDT on Saturday 27th February 2021 shall be scored "Did Not Finish".

19 WITHDRAWAL

19.1 Any yacht withdrawing from the race MUST notify Coastguard on Ch 60 or 64 and receive acknowledgement as soon as possible after withdrawing. Yachts shall not cross the finish line if not completing the race. If VHF contact is not possible then mobile phone contact shall be used.

20 PROTESTS

20.1 The protester shall advise the Race Officer on the Race Committee Boat of their intention to protest and shall receive acknowledgement from the Race Officer (or his representative) before returning to shore. This should be confirmed when crossing the finish line.

20.2 Protests shall be written on forms available from the Shore Base at the registration desk and lodged there by 0800 hours Sunday 28th February 2021.

20.3 The Protest Committee shall hear protests as soon as possible. The date and time of the hearing shall be posted on the official notice board and notified to those concerned. The intent is to hold the hearing prior to the prize giving between 0800 hrs and 1000 hours on the Sunday morning.

21 SCORING

21.1 Race placings shall be determined on corrected time from the ratings assigned to each yacht.

21.2 Two Inter Club Challenge Trophies (one for keelers and one for trailer yachts) are open to any Club affiliated to Yachting New Zealand. The winning club will be determined by the best four boats in their club as declared on their entry form. The low point scoring system (Appendix A Rule 4 of the Racing Rules) shall apply.

22 PENALTIES

22.1 The Two-Turns Penalty, Part 4 Rule 44 shall apply for an infringement of Rules 10 through 22 of the Racing Rules, i.e. two turns means full turns with two tacks and two gybes as soon as practicable.

23 PRIZEGIVING

23.1 Prize giving shall be held in the upstairs lounge of the Maraetai Beach Boating Club at 1030 hours NZDT on Sunday 28th February 2021 unless otherwise announced on VHF Radio Channel 77 at 0900 hours on Sunday 28th February 2021 (Refer "Time Limit" Item 15).

23.2 Race prizes shall be awarded for each division. Spot prizes may also be awarded. No skipper or crew member shall be eligible for more than one spot prize except for those early bird entries which be exempt. Any spot prize not collected by the winner at the time of prize giving will be redrawn.

24 RESPONSIBILITY

24.1 All those participating in the race do so at their own risk. Attention is drawn to Part 1 Fundamental Rules, in particular Rule 4; A boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to continue racing. (The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone).

24.2 Neither the Waikato Yacht Squadron, its officers or agents, the Race Committee, nor any of the individuals appointed or volunteering for the event, accept responsibility for any damage, material or personal, suffered to an entrant or any third party during or as a result of the event.

25 PROCEDURE FOR AN EMERGENCY SITUATION

25.1 In an emergency make the appropriate distress call on VHF Channel 16. The emergency response services of the Coastguard or other authority will initiate action and advise Race Control. A Mayday call should only be used in a life-threatening situation.

25.2 Where Coastguard deem it necessary, they will take control of the situation and will work under direction of the Duty Inspector at Central Police Control. Coastguard may request all participants, rescue vessels, aircraft, police vessel and any other resource in use, to change to another VHF Channel. Until that occurs, all communication will be on the channel initially used to make the emergency call.

25.3 Should a police vessel be on the scene, she may take control of the search and rescue operations. Alternatively, Coastguard operations shall appoint a Scene Controller who will co-ordinate all resources and form vessels into search patterns.

25.4 Successful resolution of a distress situation will be assisted by attention to the following points:

- (a) If possible report position using GPS coordinates. If a GPS is not available, determine position using the most accurate positioning method available under the circumstances.
- (b) Keep radio chatter to a minimum.
- (c) Follow exactly the instructions issued from Scene Control regardless of how silly they may seem.
- (d) If a skipper wishes to withdraw from the incident, they should advise Scene Control, then withdraw from the scene quickly and absolutely.

25.5 At the conclusion of the distress incident, Coastguard operations will stand down the assisting resources and cancel the distress message.

25.6 Irrespective of how the incident is resolved, all personnel involved will be invited to attend a debrief within a few days. This is an important meeting, to ensure all that could have been done was done.

25.7 Competitors' attention is drawn to Part 1 Fundamental Rules, Rule 1.1 "Helping Those in Danger"; A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.