Rally Division

In conjunction with NZ's iconic Auckland to Russell yacht race

Thursday 22 October or
Friday 23 October 2026

The Organising Authority (OA) is:
The NZ Multihull Yacht Club
www.coastalclassic.co.nz

CALL TO RALLY

Here are the conditions of entry that we, The New Zealand Multihull Yacht Club (the NZMYC) wish to draw your attention to:

1.0 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1.1 Attendance at the Skipper's Briefing is compulsory unless a boat is doing the 2 day rally and starting on Thursday morning.

1.2 The race will be governed by the rules as defined in the latest edition of *The Racing Rules of Sailing.* After dark both fleets will be adhering to the "*ColRegs"* and it is unlikely that you will be able to determine vessel identity. Please refrain from "lighting" any vessel with spotlights etc at all times.

1.3 The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations 2025 - 2028, Part 2, Category 3 OR 2021-2024, Part 2, Category 3 shall apply with the following modifications:

a. Yachts are not required to carry a Life raft or dinghy, If a yacht does not have a life raft or dinghy onboard the crew ***SHALL wear lifejackets at all times, unless*** the designated skipper (Master) / person in charge of the yacht considers that conditions are such that there is no significant increase in the risk to safety to any person through not wearing a lifejacket, and expressly gives permission for lifejackets or tethers not to be worn. The OA **strongly recommend** that above 15 Knots and during the hours of darkness lifejackets are worn above deck **at all times.**

b. Multihulls are to pay attention to ensuring they comply with SR APPENDIX 2: Life rafts and grab bags; YNZ Safety Regulations 2021-2024, as they pertain to grab bags.

c. Monohulls shall comply with the above with either life raft or dinghy as specified in that yacht's Safety Certificate;

d. Each yacht shall have at least one installed Marine VHF radio (55 channel VHF) and one handheld waterproof multichannel VHF radio.

e. Each yacht shall have on board a registered 406 EPIRB or 406 PLB. Failure to do so automatically renders their existing safety certificate invalid;

f. Crew on rallying multihulls should wear a lifejacket at all times, this is a "mandatory race rule" for the main race and we encourage you to respect this also. Nevertheless, the wearing of lifejackets and the carrying of a personal waterproof strobe light by all crew is recommended.

1.4 A boat shall not discharge trash in the water.

1.5 All forms of navigational aids, GPS, Sat-Nav, weather facsimiles, radar, autopilot etc are permitted. GPS and Sat-Nav should be regarded as navigational aids not navigational systems.

1.6 All boats shall prepare and eat a roast!

2.0 ADVERTISING

To assist us in promoting the event, advertising material, eg flags, may be supplied to all entrants and should be applied in a location stipulated by the NZMYC. Any advertising (other than that supplied by the NZMYC) displayed on yachts should be declared to the NZMYC as soon as possible.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 The Rally is open to all sailing yachts 6.5 metres and over.

3.2 All entries must be made online at the www.coastalclassic.co.nz.

3.3 Eligible boats must enter by completing the online entry form found on the PIC Coastal Classic website (www.coastalclassic.co.nz) meeting all criteria here and paying the entry fee noted below by Monday 12th October 2026.

Entry Fee $295

3.4 Entries remain provisional until all required documentation is provided as follows:

- Details of the YNZ Cat 3 safety certificate must be uploaded prior to entries closing. The certificate must remain current for the duration of the rally. Your attention is drawn to the need to ensure that Safety Certificates are obtained in good time. Yachting New Zealand have advised that they will not be issuing Safety Certificates **within two weeks of the race**. Please also be aware that the Safety Certificates issued for the PIC Coastal Classic are category three minus therefore cannot be used for other category three races.
- Correct crew lists must be provided. In particular, it is the skipper's responsibility to ensure that the crew list is furnished online and is correct at the time of entering the race.

3.5 Late entries may be accepted online at the NZMYC's discretion until 1700 hrs on Monday 19th October 2026 and shall be accompanied by a late entry fee of $100.00 in addition to the standard entry fee set out above.

3.6 To be eligible to participate in this event the skipper of each yacht shall be a financial member of a club recognised by that Skipper's National Authority. We ask this as it is our intention that we encourage you to get into this wonderful sport we share by joining a club.

4.0 SKIPPERS BRIEFING

The skippers briefing will be held on Thursday 22nd October at 1830 hrs. Full details to be advised in Sailing Instructions. If a boat is starting the rally on Thursday they are excused from the briefing.

5.0 ADDITIONAL SAILING INFORMATION

From time-to-time we may add or amend this document or provide additional information in the lead up to the event. Please check www.coastalclassic.co.nz regularly.

6.0 THE COURSE

From the start in the vicinity of Devonport Wharf and Orakei, leave Little Barrier and The Poor Knights to Starboard, to the finish off Russell Wharf in the Bay of Islands.

6.1 RACE RALLY - THE START

Your participation in the Rally can commence from the Start a time between 0815 hrs and 0915 hrs Friday 23rd October. Should you be "running late" we ask that you refrain from entering the start area for the main race between 0915hrs and 1000hrs. You are welcome to commence your voyage any time after that. The start line will be a transit between Devonport Buoy and Resolution Buoy. As you go through the start line we ask that you make a VHF radio call to channel 17 advising them of your start in the COASTAL Rally.

6.2 TWO DAY RALLY – THE START

Your participation in the Rally can commence from the Start a time between 0815 hrs and 0915 hrs Thursday 22nd October 2026. The start line will be a transit between Devonport Buoy and Resolution Buoy. As you go through the start line we ask that you send a txt message to the Event Director on 029 239 5449 stating your start time. Or send a photo through showing your GPS position and GPS start time.

FINISH AND START MARSDEN COVE

All yachts are to record their finish and start time using GPS as they pass between No.8 Buoy (RED) and No.5 Buoy (Green) in Bream Bay (see Appendix A). If commercial shipping prevents a yacht from safely passing between these Buoys, a yacht may record their time as they pass the transit of the Buoys. These times are to be sent to the Event Director as per the start time.

6.3 **HOME PORT – THE START**

Your participation in the Rally can commence from your home port. As you start we ask that you send a photo of your GPS position and GPS time.

6.4 **FINISH TIME**

Any boat not reaching the finishing line by 1400hrs on Saturday 24th October time will be entitled to send in a photo of their GPS position to the Finish Boat (number TBA in the Sailing Instructions) and make haste to Russell under motor. Please notify race organisers as soon as possible if you withdraw from the race.

6.5 **THE FINISH**

The finishing line will be located approximately 600m west of Russell Wharf and will be in line with the wharf, which bears 078 degrees True. An inflated buoy with flashing strobe light (or other lighting) will mark the eastern end of the finish line and the finish boat will mark the Western end of the finish line. Please ensure you pass between the finish boat and the buoy. The line is relatively short in length. The finish boat is a 20m Powercat.

It is the responsibility of each boat to ensure it is properly identified. Shine a torch on the sail number as you approach and cross the finish line if in darkness. Please note finish boat communications on VHF Channel 63.

6.6 **DURING YOUR VOYAGE**, you are permitted to use your motor for propulsion no more than 5 hours.

6.7 **BAY OF ISLANDS MARINE MAMAL SANCTUARY**, no yacht will race within the Marine Mammal Safe zones as prescribed in the Bay of Islands Marine Mammal Sanctuary regulations. https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/northland/places/bay-of-islands-mms/?tab-id=Boating

7.0 PREDICTWIND TRACKER

7.1 For safety reasons, increased interest in online viewing of the race and developing race organisation practice, **each entrant is required to use the PredictWind GPS tracking service.** To use the service, you will need two smartphones (one as a back-up) that use either iOS11 and above or Android 8.0 and above operating system. The PredictWind GPS tracking service is being made available at no cost to each competitor.

7.2 Full instructions on how to install and use the app are found at http://www.predictwind.com/tracker; Select yacht club: NZMYC; Race: Coastal Classic 202454. Select your division and manually enter your yacht name. It is recommended that all competitors test the tracking functionality at least one month before the event and view the data at http://forecast.predictwind.com/tracking/race/nzmyc to ensure that the service is working on their phone. Any technical enquiries or issues, please email PredictWind at support@predictwind.com.

7.3 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 tracker is turned on and check battery levels are satisfactory at the start and each radio schedule. Only one phone should be used to send tracking data at any time. Failure to use the tracker for the entire race may result, at the sole discretion of the race committee, **a 20-minute time penalty** for the yacht not sending the tracking data and also render an entry ineligible for the spot prizes.

8.0 PRIZEGIVING

8.1 Details of the race prize giving will be published on www.coastalclassic.co.nz as soon as possible.

8.2 A Trophy will be awarded for Line Honours. You will also be included in spot prize draws.

9.0 SAFETY

9.1 Safety Inspections

Every entry has the responsibility to ensure it is fully compliant with its safety 3 certificate. Safety inspections will be carried out on boats in the lead up to the rally, the day of the rally before starting and/or following the completion of the rally. Any boat found to be in contravention of YNZ Safety Regulations Part II Category 3 shall have their entry deemed null and void and the entrant will be requested not to join the fleet.

9.2 Responsibility of Person in Charge

The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Skipper who must do their best to ensure that the yacht is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who have undergone appropriate training and are physically fit to face bad weather. The Skipper must be satisfied as to the soundness of hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. The Skipper must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew knows where it is kept and how it is to be used.

Decision to Rally – The responsibility for a yacht's decision to participate in a rally or to continue to participate is hers alone.

All those taking part in Rally do so entirely at their own risk and their own responsibility.

10.0 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

10.1 The NZMYC and sponsors are not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment or crew, or for any other matter, however arising from this rally.

10.2 The NZMYC and its officers, members and servants, sponsors or other persons assisting with the conduct of the event will not be responsible or liable for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after the rally.

11.0 POSTPONEMENT

The organisers reserve the right to postpone the start due to adverse conditions. In the event they do so, notice will be posted inside the RNZYS and on line at www.coastalclassic.co.nz, any time from 1700 hours on 22 October 2026, together with the expected time to restart.

12.0 ANCHORAGES IN THE VICINITY OF RUSSELL

Charts NZ 5122 and NZ 5123 apply. Suitable anchorages will be subject to wind direction and strength. Suggestions are as follows:

RUSSELL / MATAUWHI BAY are both suitable in winds from North through to South East, with Matauwhi Bay having the better holding.

OPUA for marina berth bookings contact Bay of Islands Marina phone 09 402 7124.

ONEROA / LONG BEACH if the weather has been settled from the westerly quarter eliminating any easterly swell, this anchorage has good holding in 4 metres of water close to shore. It is an easy 1.25 km walk to Russell.

13.0 RACE and RALLY HEADQUARTERS:

Race Headquarters will be located at the Ray White Office at 19 York Street, Russell (next to the Nauti Penguin Tavern), from 1400 hrs Friday 23 October until 1400 hrs Saturday 24 October 2026. All information can be found at Race and Rally Heaquarters.

WATER TAXI

A water taxi service to take all entrants from their boats to Russell Wharf will operate from the first boat's arrival in Russell until 1000 hrs Sunday 25 October 2026.

RUSSELL INFORMATION

The Russell information office will be open on Saturday and Sunday. For bookings and enquiries for moorings, transport, accommodation, sightseeing, etc. contact: 09 403 8020.

RUSSELL PUBLIC PLACES LIQUOR BAN

The Far North District Council Public Places Liquor Control Bylaw 2003 prohibits the consumption or possession of liquor in all public places at all times. This means you may not consume or carry alcohol through Russell's public places at any time. Please respect the Russell community by complying with this ban.

RACE & EVENT MANAGEMENT

Event Director:	Fran Holland	029 2395449 fran@multihull.org.nz
Race Director:	Megan Kensington	021 306 180 ccinfo@coastalclassic.co.nz
Media:	Suellen Hurling	021 892 004 suellen@multihull.org.nz

APPENDIX A

