



Northland O'pen Cup
26th/27th/28th September 2026
The Organising Authority is Taipa Sailing Club

NOTICE OF RACE

NB: The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the Sailing Instructions means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1 RULES

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- 1.1** The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2** Yachting New Zealand Prescriptions 2017-2020 shall apply.
- 1.3** The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations Part 1 shall apply. In addition all competitors shall wear safety helmets whilst on the water.
- 1.4** The 4.5 sqm class legal sail shall be used in the Gold and Silver Fleets. Bronze Fleet may elect to use a smaller cut down sail.
- 1.5** Under rule 86, Changes to the Racing Rules, the following rules will be changed as follows:
- RRS 35, A4 and A5 will be changed to state that boats still racing but failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat starts, sails the course and finishes may be given a finishing position based on the last mark they rounded and/or their position on the course. Their score will be greater than any boat who rounded further marks or who finished.
 - RRS 44.1 will be changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced with the One-Turn penalty



- RRS 60.1 (a) will be changed to state that a competitor cannot protest another boat or competitor for breaches of some specific parts of Sailing Instructions or Supplementary Sailing Instructions

1.5 Fleets:

A competitor may nominate the fleet they wish to sail in, with guidelines as follows:

Gold: Made up of more experienced sailors who have raced at least five events previously. The “O’pen BIC Class On Water Umpiring Rules” allowing umpiring on the water for races may apply. The Sailing Instructions will state if they apply.

Silver: Made up of sailors who have raced in less than five events and will have a similar, but shortened course to Gold Fleet, with coaching assistance throughout racing.

Bronze: For Bronze Fleet, the emphasis is on fun and the objective is to offer younger and less experienced sailors the opportunity to sail and participate at these events without feeling the need or burden to sail in the more competitive Silver or Gold Fleets. *Refer Guidelines – Attachment 2.*

- 1.6** If the Race Committee believe that the average wind speed is clearly over 8 knots across the course, they may signal in accordance with RRS Appendix P5 that pumping, rocking and ooching are permitted except on a windward leg. This changes rules RRS 42.2(a), RRS 42.2(b), RRS 42.2(c).

2 ADVERTISING

- 2.1** Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority. [DP]

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1** The regatta is open to all boats of the O’pen Skiff class.
- 3.2** Each competitor shall be:
- (a) a financial member of a club recognised by the competitor’s National authority;
 - (b) a member of the New Zealand O’pen Skiff Association.
- 3.3** The event is open to all competitors under the age of 19 on the first date of the event. Boys



and Girls compete in the same Divisions.

- 3.4** Eligible competitors may enter online at – www.openskiff.org.nz/whats-on. Credit/Debit Card payment is required.
- 3.5** Late entries will be accepted at the Organising Authority's discretion until 1000hrs on the 25th September 2026
- 3.6** All entries requiring a charter boat are subject to availability and will be allocated on a "first-served basis". When completing the online registration, the sail number used shall be "TBA". Entrants using Charter Boats will have sail numbers and boats allocated to them at the time of on-site registration.
- 3.7** Non-charter boats must use their designated O'pen Skiff Sail Number at the time of online registration.

4 FEES

- 4.1** The entry fee is NZ\$75 (plus booking fee) and must be paid online at the time of entry. This includes dinner on the Sunday night. Parents and siblings are \$15 per person

5 SCHEDULE

5.1 On-Site Registration **26/9/2026**

5.2 Dates of racing:

Date	Time	Event
Day 1		
26th	1100-1300	Registration
	1300-1600	Training
Day 2	0800 – 1000	Registration
27th	1000	Welcome, Introductions & Briefing
	1100 – 1500	On Water Session 1 (Points Racing)
	1700	Family Activity and dinner
Day 3	1000	Briefing
28th	1055 – 1500	On Water Session 3 (Points Racing)
	1630	Prizegiving



5.3 The number of races for all divisions will be at the discretion of the Race Committee after consultation with the Class Representative and advised at the morning briefing. Depending on the number of entries the divisions may race as one fleet.

5.4 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day will be advised at the morning briefing.

6 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available after the 20th September on the O'pen Skiff website

7 VENUE

Attachment 1 shows the location of the regatta venue and racing area.

8 THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be as follows: Salmon, Sail Gp, Trapazoids

8.1 For the Points Races a variety of courses will be used including Windward/Leeward, Triangular, Reaching, long race and a combination of these.

8.2 Special Courses will be used for Non Points Races.

9 PENALTY SYSTEM

9.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty for all Penalties except any Penalty signalled by an umpire, which shall be a Two-Turn Penalty.

9.2 Umpires may impose one or more penalties for an incident as described in Attachment 2.

10 SCORING

10.1 FIVE (5) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

10.2

- a) When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- b) When up to seven (7) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.



- c) When eight (8) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

10.3 Any Long Race shall be scored as half points.

11 SUPPORT BOATS

- 11.1 All support vessels must register with the Organising Authority at registration and nominate the boat(s) they support.
- 11.2 All support vessels shall always have an engine safety cut out switch (kill cord) attached to the driver while the engine is running, unless prior written exemption has been provided by the Organising Authority.

12 PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

Sportsmanship Award(s): Awarded in recognition of qualities such as (but not limited to) sportsmanship, perseverance, assistance to others, positive attitude

Gold Fleet:	Overall:	1st, 2nd and 3rd
	Girls:	1st, 2nd and 3rd

Silver Fleet (if sailed):	1st, 2nd and 3rd
Bronze Fleet (if sailed):	1st, 2nd and 3rd

13 INSURANCE

It is highly recommended by Yachting New Zealand that each participating boat be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of NZ\$1,000,000 per event.

14 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 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 the regatta.

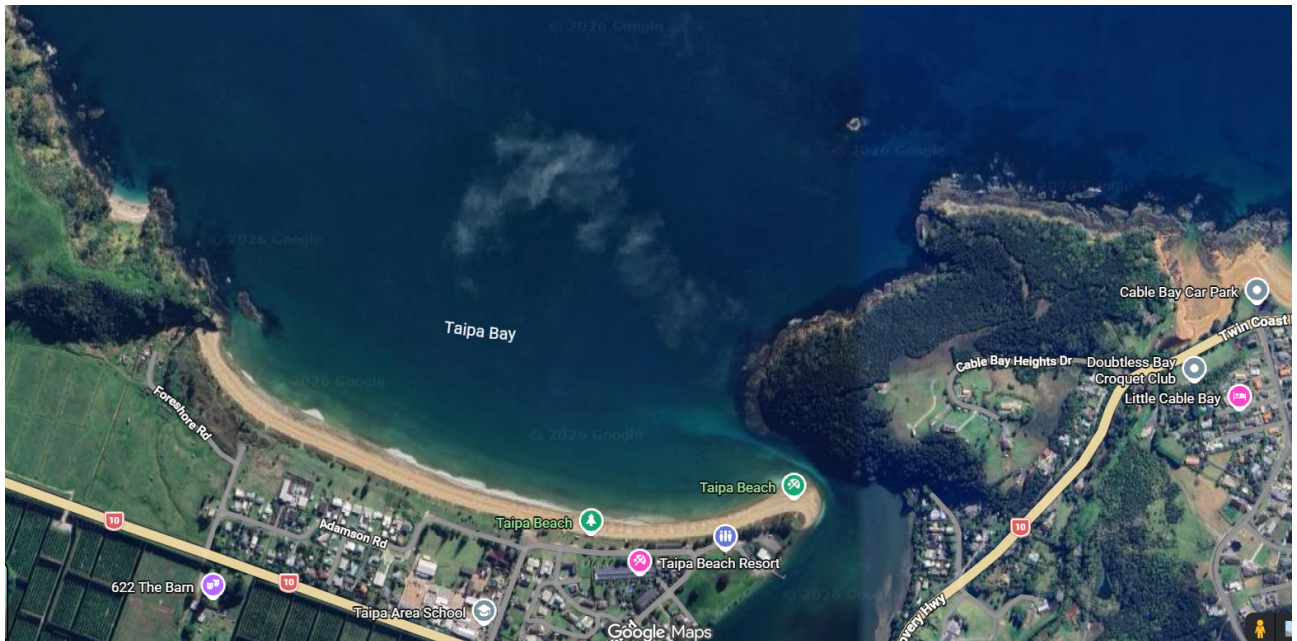




Attachment 1: Regatta Venue and racing area.

Venue: Taipa ailing Club

Racing Area:



Attachment 2:

BRONZE FLEET GUIDELINES

For the Bronze Fleet, the emphasis is on fun and to offer younger and less experienced sailors the opportunity to sail and participate at O'pen Skiff events without feeling the need or burden to sail in the more competitive Gold and Silver Fleets.

- Sailing will be a mixture of adventure sailing, racing, freestyle and any other form of sailing that the organisers deem fit.
- Sailors will benefit from a high level of coaching throughout the event.
- Sailors entering the Bronze Fleet should be of a beginning level of sailing
- Bronze Fleet racing is intended to be run dependent on weather forecasts and prevailing winds. Should the conditions be such that racing is an option, this will be conducted on a separate course.
- The Bronze Fleet will consist of a variety of activities, led by appropriately qualified activity leader/coach (in an approximate ratio of 1:10 on the water). These activities may include shore and on-water based skills, coaching and on-water games.

