

## **Significant Voyage**

### **1. Purpose**

Lowry Bay Yacht Club has a 'Significant Voyages' Honours Board to formally recognise LBYC members who undertake significant voyages in boats that are on the LBYC boat register. Significant voyages are those which demonstrate notable seamanship, endurance, navigational skill, and commitment to the spirit of yachting.

The purpose of this paper is to establish clear, consistent and objective criteria for determining what constitutes a Significant Voyage for the purposes of the LBYC Honours Board.

### **2. Discussion**

The voyages listed on the honours board are a mix of long-distance cruises (circumnavigations), Pacific cruises, and solo cruises around either the North Island or the South Island (there is a circumnavigation of NZ but it is not clear if it was solo or different crew changing over during the circumnavigation).

The criteria appear to have been a cruise which involves crossing of a sea or ocean, or at least a distance of over 1,000 nm. Alternatively, the cruise involves a shorthanded circumnavigation of either the North or South Island, presumably with stops along the way.

Only one race appears on the honours board – the Am Meer Solo Tasman Challenge in 2018. In many ways racing differs from cruising. The start time is determined by a race committee, and the competitors have to endure the weather conditions which exist. They do not have the ability to select a weather window, as a cruiser might be expected to do. Coastal races can be particularly challenging as it is not possible to select a course to avoid weather systems or use the motor to continue the passage during very light winds (and avoid adverse conditions which follow the light patch).

New Zealand straddles the roaring forties and sees the constant arrival of weather systems which can be challenging for sailors. Close to Wellington, Cook St is difficult, the Tasman Sea has a fearsome reputation, and the South Pacific can be challenging at the best of times. It is therefore appropriate for LBYC to recognise voyages made by club members in club-registered boats. Races or cruises across Cook St are clearly outside the definition of significant voyage – it is a challenge many members accept multiple times of the year. Voyages across the Tasman Sea or up to the South Pacific Islands are much less common and should be recognised.

Shorthanded circumnavigations of either Island should continue to be recognised. Solo cruising around either Island is already recognised, but there is an argument that the definition of shorthanded circumnavigation of either Island should include two handed races. If the intention is to recognise notable seamanship, endurance, navigational skill, and commitment to the spirit of yachting, then a two-handed race around either Island, or around New Zealand should be included in the definition of significant voyage.

### **3. Proposed Definition**

A Significant Voyage is a voyage that meets the criteria outlined below. The criteria are designed to reflect the general capabilities of the club's fleet and the challenges of New Zealand and South Pacific waters.

### **3.1 Criteria**

An LBYC Significant Voyage:

1. Is completed on a vessel owned or co-owned by the member and which is on the LBYC Boat Register; and
2. May be undertaken for racing, cruising, or delivery; and
3. Comprises **1,000** nautical miles or more in a single continuous passage and is crewed with three or more crew; or
4. Comprises a total of **1,000** nautical miles with a shorthanded crew, that is, one or two crew with no substitutes during stops.

### **4 Approval process**

1. The executive determines who meets the criteria and those will be announced at the Prizegiving and names on the Honours board.
2. This decision will be in the Annual calendar for May.