



Lowry Bay Yacht Club

Black Spot Rum Regatta 2026

22 November 2026

The Organising Authority is the Lowry Bay Yacht Club Incorporated (LBYC)

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1 Event

- 1.1 This Notice of Race covers all racing for the Black Spot Rum Regatta 2026.

2 Rules

General and Safety Rules

- 2.1 All racing will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) along with the Wellington Regional Navigation and Safety Bylaws.
- 2.2 Compliance with safety regulations.
- (a) Keel Boats shall comply with Part II of the Yachting New Zealand ("YNZ") Safety Regulations, Category 5 upgraded to include a VHF transceiver, bosun's chair and Wellington Harbour Chart NZ 4633.
 - (b) Trailer yachts shall comply with Part V of the YNZ Safety Regulations; Category C upgraded to include a VHF transceiver and Wellington Harbour Chart NZ 4633
 - (c) Sports boats shall comply with Part VI of the YNZ Safety Regulations; Category B upgraded to include a waterproof VHF transceiver, one "First aid kit - basic" (as described in the YNZ Safety Regulations Appendix 1), an out board motor, at least 5 litres of fuel, and Wellington Harbour Chart NZ 4633. In addition, YNZ Safety Regulations Part V paragraphs 2.1 to 2.4 will apply to sports boats.
 - (d) Multihull sports boats shall comply with part VII amended to include a waterproof VHF transceiver (or a VHF transceiver in a waterproof bag), one first aid kit – basic (as described in YNZ safety regulations appendix A), at least 5 litres of fuel, and Wellington harbour chart NZ 4633
- 2.3 Crew shall wear lifejackets at all times, unless the 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 not to be worn. Lifejackets must be worn when the "Y" flag is flying.

- 2.4 Yachts may be inspected for safety compliance from time to time and yachts failing to meet the relevant requirements in any safety inspection carried out under YNZ safety regulations shall not be allowed to race until corrective action has been taken.
- 2.5 Spinnakers or multipurpose sails shall not be used in the Non-Spinnaker Division. The only sails permitted are normal upwind sails that must be attached in the same manner as if the yacht was sailing to windward i.e. hauled to the forestay or fitted with a forestay foil. Headsails may be poled out.

Changes to Racing Rules

- 2.6 Racing rules will be changed as follows. The changes will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions. The Sailing Instructions may also change other rules.
- (a) Yachts may use movable ballast in the form of water and/or a canting keel only, provided such ballast has no practical function in the boat other than to increase weight and/or to influence stability and/or trim and which may be moved but not varied in weight or length whilst racing, and further provided that such ballast is used in accordance with all applicable requirements of the boat's Safety Certificate. This changes rule 51.
 - (b) Yachts with lifting keels shall have keels locked in the down position and not moved whilst racing. This changes rule 51.
 - (c) For protests where only a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 is alleged to have been broken, an arbitration hearing may be offered prior to any formal protest hearing.

3 Advertising

- 3.1 Yachts may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority

4 Eligibility and Entry

Eligibility

- 4.1 The Rum Regatta is open to all keel boats, multihulls, trailer yachts and sports boats that meet the requirements of clause 2.2.
- 4.2 The Organising Authority reserves the right to re-allocate an entrant to another division to ensure fair competition or because of minimal entries to a Division. Four boats may constitute a division.
- Amendments to divisions will be made by 0900 hrs on Sunday 22 November 2026.
Yachts will race in the following divisions.
- (a) Division 1
 - (b) Division 2
 - (c) Non-spinnaker Division
- 4.3 To be eligible to compete, each skipper shall be a full financial member of a yacht club affiliated to Yachting NZ and the yacht shall be on their club's boat register.

Entries

- 4.4 Eligible yachts may:
- (a) Complete the online entry form (available at www.lbyc.org.nz/rum-regatta) by 0845hrs on race day – Sunday 22nd November 2026
 - (c) A complete list of crew names and phone numbers are required on the entry form.

- 4.5 Eligible boats wishing to enter PHRF shall indicate this on their entry form. PHRF results will be available for Divisions 1 and 2, only if there are 2 or more qualifying boats.

Fees

- 4.6 The entry fee for the Black Spot Rum Regatta 2026 will be \$60.00 (**which will entitle each competing boat a complimentary bottle of rum at prize giving**), payable in full along with the completed entry form by registration.
- 4.7 Early bird entry fee: \$40.00, payable in full along with the completed entry form by 14 November 2026.
- 4.8 Late entry fee: \$80.00, payable in full along with the completed entry form at the discretion of the race committee by 0830hrs 22 November 2026

5 Schedule

5.1 Registration

- (a) Registration: 1800-2100hrs on Friday 20 November 2026 at LBYC clubrooms.
or 0800-0845hrs on Sunday 22 November 2026.

There will be no in person briefing.

All information will be available in the race packs. These can be collected from the club at the Registration on Friday, or on the morning of the event.

For visiting boats that cannot make the registration on Friday, we will be able to deliver your race pack to you on the water. Please indicate if this is required on your entry form

5.2 Racing Schedule:

- a) Racing is scheduled to take place on 22 November 2026.
- b) A maximum of four races are scheduled for the regatta.
- c) The warning signal for the first race is scheduled for 1025hrs
- d) For harbour courses
 - a. If there are two Spinnaker divisions (Divisions 1 and 2):
 - i. A 20-minute finish window will apply after the first monohull in Division 1 finishes.
 - ii. Boats in both Divisions 1 and 2 must finish within this window to be scored.
 - b. If there is only one Spinnaker division (Division 1 only):
 - i. A 30-minute finish window will apply after the first monohull in Division 1 finishes.
 - ii. Boats must finish within this window to be scored.
- e) For non-harbour courses
 - a. If there are two Spinnaker divisions (Divisions 1 and 2):
 - i. A 15-minute finish window will apply after the first monohull in Division 1 finishes.
 - ii. Boats in both Divisions 1 and 2 must finish within this window to be scored.
 - b. If there is only one Spinnaker division (Division 1 only):
 - i. A 20-minute finish window will apply after the first monohull in Division 1 finishes.
 - ii. Boats must finish within this window to be scored.

- 5.3 No warning signal will be made after 1530hrs on 22 November 2026.

- 5.4 The OA reserves the right at its sole discretion to change the format and event schedule for any reason prior to the event or during the event due to the prevailing weather conditions.

- 5.5 There is no reserve day.

6 Sailing Instructions

- 6.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available at the registration. They will also be available on the LBYC website from Thursday 19 November 2026.

7 Racing Area

- 7.1 The races will be held within the Northern and Eastern Wellington Harbour.

8 Courses

- 8.1 Windward–leeward, triangular and/or harbour courses may be sailed.

9 Scoring

- 9.1 A division or race will not be scored unless two or more boats start in that division or race.
- 9.2 Races will be scored on General Handicap, PHRF (if 2 or more qualifying yachts race) and Line Honours.
- 9.3 One completed race constitutes a series for the regatta.
- 9.4 A yacht's score will be the total of her race scores.
- 9.5 All yachts will be handicapped by the LBYC official Handicapper. Provisional handicaps for boats entered prior to Friday 20 November, may be posted 0850hrs on Sunday 22 November. Regatta handicaps will change between races. The decision of the handicapper shall be final.

10 Radio Communication

- 10.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall not make transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 10.2 Boats may receive and use any information freely available to all yachts, and any publicly offered internet or broadcast weather information from sources available to all competitors (whether on a subscription or free basis). Permitted sources of information must provide the same information to all competitors who seek it. Competitors may use any means to retrieve information. This changes rule 41.

11 Prizes

- 11.1 Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on general handicap, PHRF (if enough entries) and line honours for the regatta in each division.
- 11.2 The prize giving for the Blackspot Rum Regatta will be held in the LBYC clubrooms on Sunday 22 November 2026.
- 11.3 Each yacht that races in the regatta will get a bottle of Black Spot Rum for competing.
- 11.4 Other spot prizes may also be awarded.

12. Dinner

- 12.1 On Sunday night there will be a "build your own burger" dinner available (**\$15**). Please ask your crew if they are interested in this so we can gauge interest for catering purposes. We will ask for numbers at registration.

13. Disclaimer and Liability

- 13.1 Competitors participate in all races entirely at their own risk. Refer to rule 4. 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 race.
- 13.2 The OA will not be responsible for the sea-worthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted and/or the sufficiency and/or adequacy of its equipment or the competence of its skipper or crew.
- 13.2 The OA reserves the right in its sole and uncontrolled discretion to refuse any entry.

14. Insurance

- 14.1 Each yacht that races shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$5,000,000.