

## Get prepared for the 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race – Part Two

First of all, we are delighted to have Gibson Sheat Lawyers as our Gold Sponsors for the 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race for at least the next three years. Thanks to Ed Cox (Pulse) and his partners at the law firm for their belief and support in this great Wellington sporting event. Welcome aboard!

In Part One of these series on safety on the water, we mentioned Yachting New Zealand's Safety Regulations for keel boats (Cat 5) and trailer yachts (Modified Cat B). Make sure that you are familiar with them.

Also part of your preparation is making sure that you have your crew 'signed up' early to avoid disappointment. Participating yachts must have at least four crew on board during the race, including the skipper and one of them (besides the skipper) needs to be experienced in taking command of the vessel while the skipper is resting down-below. This requires some forethought and planning that should not be left to the last moment. As a hopeful skipper, find out from your regular crew who is/is not available for the race. Then there will be willing crew who would look forward to the challenge of the 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race, but whose regular skipper will not be entering the race. Be proactive. Closer to the time, the LBYC website will again feature a 'crew wanted' and 'crew available' page, so there is no excuse of missing out.

It is exciting to see a few new arrivals at the club; Ingrid's Amnesty and Murray's Squid Viscious, both strong contenders for a top prize. Would also love to see Masterpiece, Celebrity and Quetzalli entering the race. What a contest!

On the eve of the 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race, on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2019, the Vice Commodore and his Sailing Committee will be staging a special Invitation Race and we will invite our sponsors to sign up as crew on some of the participating yachts. After the race, our sponsors will be invited to stay for some complimentary drinks and dinner at the club as a token of our appreciation for their continued support. Without them an event like this would be a whole lot more difficult to organise. We are very grateful for their support. Pending some confirmations, most sponsors of the first two races have again signed up with us.

Theo Muller  
Race Director 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race