ROYAL NEW ZEALAND YACHT SQUADRON

SUNDOWNER RUM RACE SERIES

(Incorporating Sundowner Rum Race Autumn Series, Winter Series, Spring Series, Summer Series and the Matariki Race)

Fridays from 2nd October 2026 to 24th September 2027

The Organising Authority is the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron
181 Westhaven Drive, Westhaven, Auckland 1011
Tel: 09 360 6800 | VHF: CH 77

SUPPLEMENTARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions, including attachments, are a supplement to the RNZYS Standard Sailing Instructions found in the RNZYS Handbook and on the RNZYS website.

1 RULES (SI 1)

1.1 The event is governed by the rules as detailed in Notice of Race (NoR).

2 SCHEDULE OF RACES (SI 5)

2.1 The scheduled dates for racing are:

a) **Spring Race Series:** 2nd October 2026 to 11th December 2026
- 10 races.
- No racing on 23/10 (Coastal Classic).

b) **Summer Race Series:** 15th January 2027 to 2nd April 2027
- 8 races.
- No racing on 29/01 (Auckland Anniversary), 5/02 (Waitangi Day & Gold Cup Balokovic Race), 12/02 (Commodores Cup).

c) **Autumn Race Series:** 9th April 2027 to 9th July 2027
- 12 races.
- Includes the Matariki Race on Thursday 24/06
- No racing on 23/04 (Easter), 4/06 (Kings Birthday).

d) **Winter Race Series:** 16th July 2027 to 24th September 2027
- 11 races.

3 START TIMES AND CLASS FLAGS (SI 6)

3.1 The scheduled start time and class flag for each division is as follows:

Division	Definition	Start Time Spring/Summer	Start Time Autumn/Winter	Matariki Race	Class Flag
B	> 10.4 metre	1700	1600	1700	White
E	< 10.4 metre	1705	1605	1705	Black/White

3.2 For the Mark Foy 'pursuit races, all boats will be given a GPS start time.

a) The start schedule with start times for all boats will be posted on the event website and published 30 minutes before the warning signal.

b) A boat starting before their scheduled start time will have 3 points added to their score. There will be no individual recalls. This changes RRS 29.

c) Note: No sound signals will be made after the first group of Open division boats have started.

4 THE START (SI 10)

4.1 The start line will be between the flagstaff on the Westhaven Tower displaying an orange flag and the course side of the yellow Westhaven buoy.

5 THE FINISH (SI 12)

5.1 The finishing line will be as follows:

a) **Spring / Summer Rum Race Series - Squadron Tower**
The finish line will be a transit line extending from the centre of the Tower on the Eastern End of the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron Clubrooms and the course side of the yellow Westhaven Buoy. To finish, boats must cross this line from the direction of the last mark, *passing north of the yellow Westhaven Buoy.*

b) **Autumn / Winter Rum Race Series - Westhaven Tower**
The finish line will be from the flagstaff on the Westhaven Tower and the course side of the yellow Westhaven Buoy, *passing south of the yellow Westhaven buoy.*

5.2 50m before crossing the finish line, all boats are requested to identify themselves via VHF channel 77 and if there's low light competitors are also requested to shine a light on their main sail to illuminate the sail numbers.

6 TIME LIMITS (SI 14)

6.1

Division/Class	Time Limit for First Finisher	Time Limit
B Division	2 hours	2 hours & 15 minutes
E Division	2 hours	2 hours & 15 minutes

6.2 There will be no Mark 1 time limit.

Date: 28 September 2026