



2026 New Zealand Europe Dinghy National Championship

Qualifying event for the 2026 Europe World Championship

This event will be run in conjunction with the NYC's "2026 Whakatu Regatta"

10th – 11th January 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

V2. Amended 15.12.2025



The Organising Authority is Nelson Yacht Club (Inc.)

322 Wakefield Quay, Nelson 7010, New Zealand.



The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a). The notation [DP] is defined in the RRS introduction.

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The Yachting New Zealand Safety Regulations part 1 shall apply.
- 1.3 Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.
- 1.4 The [Nelson City Council Navigation Safety Bylaw 2019](#) shall apply.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available on the event page of the Nelson Yacht Club website after the 5th January 2026:
<https://www.nelsonyachtclub.org.nz/racing-and-regattas/whakatu-regatta-2026-10th-11th-january/>
- 2.2 No paper copies of the sailing instructions will be issued.
- 2.3 The sailing instructions will consist of the instructions in RRS Appendix S, Standard Sailing Instructions, and supplementary sailing instructions that will be on the official notice board located at Nelson Yacht Club.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official website is here:
<https://www.nelsonyachtclub.org.nz/racing-and-regattas/whakatu-regatta-2026-10th-11th-january/>
- 3.2 The official notice board is located on the door of the lower lounge at Nelson Yacht Club.
- 3.3 [DP] From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to boats of the Europe class that are current financial members of their national Europe Dinghy Class Association. NZ membership is \$25 per year, or \$15 for unwaged members (e.g. school students), payable to the EUROPE DINGHY CLASS NZ account 03 1591 0031910 00 including name & sail number. Send an application by email to tandrhill8@gmail.com that states the date of payment, sailor name, sail number, and contact details.

- 4.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing the entry form on the event website:
<https://www.nelsonyachtclub.org.nz/racing-and-regattas/whakatu-regatta-2026-10th-11th-january/>

Fees can be Deposited into Bank Account No. 03-0703-0474907-00

Particular = Class, Code = Sail Number, Reference = Surname

Completed entries and payment must be received by 1159hrs on the 4th January 2026

- 4.3 Late entries, accompanied by the contest entry fee plus the late fee may be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority until 1000hrs on Saturday 10th January 2026

4.4 To be eligible to compete in this event each competitor shall be a financial member of a club recognised by the competitor's National Authority. Proof of affiliated club membership to be presented at registration.

4.5 This regatta is the qualifying event for New Zealand representation at the Europe Dinghy Class World Championships 2026. Up to three males and three females will be selected to represent New Zealand at the 2026 Europe Class World Sailing Championship. Places on the team will be determined by their finishing place in the overall regatta.

5. FEES

Required fees are as follows:

- a) Early Entry Fee: **\$100** (until 1159hrs on the 4th January 2026)
- b) Late Entry Fee: An additional **\$50** (after 1159hrs on the 4th January 2026)

6. CREW LIMITATIONS - N/A

7. ADVERTISING - N/A

8. QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES - N/A

9. SCHEDULE

9.1 Registration - Saturday 10th January - 0900 – 1000hrs @ Nelson Yacht Club

9.2 Briefing – Saturday 10th January - 1100hrs @ Nelson Yacht Club

9.3 Dates of racing: Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th January 2026.

9.4 Number of races:

Class	Total races scheduled	Races per day scheduled	Races per day maximum	Target time (minutes)
Europe	7	4 / 3	5	30

9.5. The scheduled time for the first warning signal each day is **1300hrs**.

9.6 On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1630hrs.

10. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

10.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules as designated acceptable by the class officers. No measurement certificate is required.

11. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT - N/A

12. VENUE & RACING AREAS

12.1 The venue is the Nelson Yacht Club, 322 Wakefield Quay, Nelson, 7010.

<http://www.nelsonyachtclub.org.nz/the-club/location/>

12.2 The racing areas will be the waters of Tasman Bay and/or Nelson Harbour.

13. COURSES

The courses sailed will be Trapezoid, Triangular, Windward/ Leeward or a combination of both.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM - N/A

15. SCORING

15.1 5 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

15.2

a) When fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

b) When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

16. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

16.1 Support person vessels must be registered with the Organising Authority on the online entry form or at registration.

16.2 A representative from each support vessel shall attend the daily support vessel briefings.

16.3 [DP][NP] Support person vessels shall be marked with the sail number or club of the sailor (s) being supported

16.4 [DP][NP] All support person vessels shall always have an engine safety cut out switch (kill cord) attached to the driver AT ALL TIMES while the engine is running, unless prior written exemption has been provided by the Organising Authority.

16.5 Unless requested to assist by the race committee, support person vessels shall keep at least 100metres from the race area while boats are racing.

16.6 No support vessels may launch from the Nelson Yacht Club ramp. Support vessel launching is available at the public ramp at Nelson Marina More details here:

<https://www.nelsonmarina.co.nz/page/83103-boat-ramp>

16.7 Attention is drawn to the local navigation bylaw:

[Nelson City Council Navigation Safety Bylaw 2019](#)

17. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

17.1 A chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of her class rules, provided that the race committee has approved her sail identification before the first race.

18. LAUNCHING AND STORAGE

18.1 [DP][NP] Unless otherwise directed by the Organising Authority, all competing boats and equipment shall be launched and retrieved from the Nelson Yacht Club ramp.

18.2 Boats may be stored on the hardstand at Nelson Yacht Club for the duration of the event. This is entirely at the competitor's / owner's own risk and Nelson Yacht Club does not accept any liability for damage or loss.

19. RISK STATEMENT

19.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

20. INSURANCE

20.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid marine third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$1,000,000 per incident or the equivalent. Certificate of insurance is to be presented at registration

21. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

21.1 By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organising authority and the event sponsor(s) the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue for the event, until their final departure, without compensation.

21.2 Drones / RPAS (Remote Piloted Aircraft System) under the control of the organising authority may be used during the event. Participation in the event will be taken as agreement and consent to be overflown by and have RPAS operate within close proximity to competing boats.

22. SUSTAINABILITY

The Nelson Yacht Club is focused on minimising the environmental impact of its events. To this end the following requirements will apply to this event.

22.1 [DP][NP] The 2026 Whakatu Regatta presented by Solander is being run as a Sailors for the Sea “Clean Regatta” and we request that competitors, supporters and officials support this initiative:

- a) Bring your own reusables: water bottle, coffee cup, lunch box/bag for yourself and your support team and avoid single-use plastics.
- b) Carefully choose the correct waste stream at the venue:
 - General recycling (Labelled YELLOW lidded bin) - cardboard, tins, cans, plastics 1,2,5.
 - Glass recycling (Labelled BLUE lidded bin) - no bottle tops please!
 - Compostable (return to Penguin’s Nest window)
 - Landfill (Labelled RED or BLUE lidded bins).
- c) Choose electronic viewing over printing out NOR or Sailing Instructions.
- d) Try to minimise your environmental impact when travelling to the event. Consider carpooling, active transport, public transport, community minibus and offsetting carbon emissions.
- e) Whilst afloat, race management and support vessels are requested to minimise the use of fuel where possible and appropriate.
- f) Competitors and supporters are encouraged to minimise use of resources. For example, limiting the use of fresh water when washing boats.

23. PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

Europe Class New Zealand National Champion Trophy for First NZ Competitor

Kendall Trophy for First New Zealand Female

Handicap Trophy for First New Zealand Competitor on Handicap

Other prizes may be awarded.

24. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact Club Manager, Tim Fraser-Harris

- Phone: 0225487501
- Email: manager@nelsonyachtclub.org.nz
- Website: <https://www.nelsonyachtclub.org.nz/racing-and-regattas/whakatu-regatta-2026-10th-11th-january/>