

# Sailors for the Sea Clean Regatta Platinum Level Sustainability Report



Bay of Islands Sailing Week Inc

26 - 29 January 2021

<https://bayofislandssailingweek.org.nz/>

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## 1. Eliminate Single-Use Water Bottles and Provide Water Refill Stations:

We invested in two water refilling stations and have them well signposted. We also over the past two years have provided all volunteers with reusable bottles and encourage them to put the message out there for everyone to use the facilities provided. Judging by the amount of water we go through, it has been working well.



## 2. Eliminate Plastic Straws:

New Zealand has been plastic straw free for the past two years. We are a well educated nation and we do not provide any straws in our bar.

## 3. Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware:

All glassware, plates, knives and forks are all bio-compostable. We have spoken to our food contractors and they only buy this product. All dinnerware and eating utensils are shredded and hot composted by the Sustainable Russell Group. None of the above reaches the landfill until it has broken down properly.

#### 4. Use or Provide Reusable Bags:

We forwent using plastic bin liners in all the wheelie bins except the landwaste wheelie bins and we had four of these set up. The landwaste was reduced by on the spot sorting of rubbish throughout the Regatta. All biocompostable was put aside for hot composting, and the bottles separate.



#### 5. Award Practical Items or Use a Perpetual or Upcycled Trophy:

All our trophies are made from recycled wood. We also held off this year putting the date on them until last minute so they would not be wasted due to any Covid shutdown.



## 6. Publicize Your Sustainability Efforts:

Sustainability is on our webpage and facebook page and we encourage all participants to think about doing their bit for sustainability. This year we had our youngest person Warren who is very passionate about recycling and doing his bit for the cause. He asked his mum to bring him along and by the second day was teaching the adult volunteers how to ensure everything was in the right place. This photo was placed on the local facebook page and also on our website. Great to see someone so young doing this.



# Clean Regatta

## Bay of Islands Sailing Week Clean Regatta Policy

As an event that depends heavily on the health of the ocean and the beauty of our local area, Bay of Islands Sailing Week believe it's of the utmost importance that we respect, preserve and help improve the natural environment around us.

Our aim is to have zero negative impact on our local environment, and ultimately to deliver positive benefits on land and at sea through our policies, partnerships and educational efforts.

We are all sailors – organisers and participants alike – who share a love and respect for the ocean. We want Bay of Islands Sailing Week to continue to provide opportunities for sailors to enjoy their sport, and benefits to our local community, long into the future. That's why we are committed to running an environmentally responsible and sustainable regatta.



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We hope you will help us run a clean regatta, even if you only make small changes, because:

*"Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together."*

### Our clean regatta goals are:

- **Less waste:** Reducing our reliance on landfill is one of our primary goals. We'll reject unnecessary waste, replace disposable options with eco-friendly alternatives, reuse items instead of creating new ones each year and recycle or compost much of what would otherwise end up in landfill.
- **No discharge:** None of us want to see rubbish floating in our oceans or washed up on our shores. Nor do we want to the health of our marine ecosystems to suffer the effects of waste discharge from vessels. We have a no discharge rule for all competitors to ensure we do not contribute to pollution in the Bay of Islands.
- **Emissions reduction:** We're exploring ways we can reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, by minimising vehicular travel, and utilising more efficient and less polluting options where possible.
- **Locally sourced:** Not only will we minimise our carbon footprint, but we'll also support our local community by prioritising local suppliers of the products and services we need.
- **Education & engagement:** The more people on board with our sustainability goals, the better. We aim to spread the word about our sustainability efforts, educate people about how they can help, and facilitate positive environmental change from everyone involved with the regatta, so we can all work together towards a sustainable future.

### How you can help when you come to BOISW

- **Minimise** on-board waste by taking reusable food containers and bottles with you.
- **Refill** your water bottles for FREE at our water refilling stations at Regatta HQ in Opuia.
- **Separate** recyclables, compostables and general waste. We will have recycling stations at Regatta HQ so please make sure your bottles, cans, plastics and food waste go into the appropriate bins! Local community group Russell Recyclers will be helping us with this.
- **Don't discharge** any waste into the ocean. Use the free pump out facilities at Opuia fuel dock, retain all rubbish until you return to shore, and keep absorbent oil spill pads handy when refuelling.
- **Download** the BOISW App to access the Sailing Instructions – we're going digital this year to further reduce waste.
- **Car pool** to the Marina each day or walk/bike if you're staying close enough. It'll help alleviate the parking problems in Opuia too. Check out **Twin Coast Cycle Transport** for bike and e-bike hire in Opuia.

Thank you!

We're working together with **Sailors for the Sea** to achieve **Clean Regatta Certification** for Bay of Islands Sailing Week.

In 2020, CRC Bay of Islands Sailing Week was proud to be awarded GOLD Clean Regatta status. [Read the full story here >>](#)



## 7. Involve Local Organizations:

We have involved both Sustainable Russell Group and also a local representative for sustainability from our local Council. We do to both of these groups for information, advice and support.



 **Bay of Islands Sailing Week**  
February 3 · 🌐

Our beautifully crafted trophies were created locally for us by Romeyn Woodcrafts Ltd, with the kind financial assistance of Pelorus Trust (<https://www.pelorustrust.net.nz>).



**1<sup>st</sup>**  
**BAY OF ISLANDS SAILING WEEK**  
BLUEFIX  
GENERAL HANDICAP SERIES  
ISLAND RACING  
F DIVISION MULTIHULL  
*26-29 January 2021*

**Pelorus Trust**



## 8. Post Educational and Reusable Signage:

All our signs are now laminated and reused every year. This includes the bar, restaurant, recycling, landfill, biocompostable, water station, first aid and Sailors of the Sea posters.

## 9. Serve Local Food or Source Seafood Sustainably:

All food and drinks are all sourced locally. I think the only thing outsourced out the area are the flags.

## 10. Organize a Green Team:

We have our committee all on board with the sustainability efforts plus the wonderful Sustainable Russell Team. Every night they had 6 volunteers come and work for 4 hours helping us in our efforts.

## 11. Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement and Signage:

We had three areas for recycling and rubbish. We then had our main area for the bins where we could monitor them constantly.



## 12. Divert Food Waste from the Landfill:

All food scraps were taken away for a local pig farmer.



### 13. Use Paperless Event Management:

This year we put the sailing manual online instead of printing out 150 of them. Also we have our phone app which gives information out in real time. Any other paper from office waste was recycled.

### 14. Host a Beach or Marina Clean-up:

Nina and Tony Kiff (Our Chairperson) hosted a clean up in the Opuia area earlier last year. Most of the rubbish was plastic in some form or another. This year we will be encouraging more people from the community to join us.



### 15. Promote Alternative Transportation:

For the first time in our area we now have a shuttle taxi. This was promoted both online and also at the bar.

### 16. Increase Awareness of Wildlife and Habitat Protection:

There is a 'no harassment' out on all dolphins and whales in the Bay of Islands.

### 17. Offer Vegetarian or Vegan Alternatives:

Our caterer offers vegetarian options every night at the restaurant. They will cater for Vegans too if they give them time to ensure they can accommodate them. There is almost zero waste with our food. The pigs went a bit hungry this year as there hardly were any scraps left for them.

### 18. Use Eco-Smart Race Management Techniques

We have our phone app giving updated news in real time.

### 19. Prevent Toxins from Entering the Water

We have clear instructions for all participants on the placement of the bow stickers to ensure they do not come off. We have talked about doing away with them but the logistics at this stage do not stack for us.

We are very aware that they can come off into the water but have put in place instructions on how to ensure they stay on and also that if anyone sees anything floating, whatever it is to pick it up!

## 20. Encourage Green Boating Practices

We encourage all our Regatta Entrants to ensure they bring minimal waste with them. Reusable bottles, lunch bags etc.

### Bonus Opportunities:

We have had our waste audited again this year. We have managed to have slightly less landfill than last year according to them. I have pasted the email onto a word format. I am still not convinced they have this right as I know that we had a considerable amount less than last year but the person doing the audit did it late at night in the dark. I have many photos of our rubbish taken the next morning before they were taken away. Also I lapsed on our photos this year. We ended up short staffed and I found myself having to do a lot of running around myself (6.7km) in one day just in the Regatta village. I was not aware that I needed photos of so many things so we are very limited in that area. Next year, I shall be more onto it, showing you our amazing efforts.