

Sailors for the Sea Clean Regatta Platinum Level Sustainability Report



Bay of Islands Sailing Week

01/24/2023

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Green Team Members include: Whole Bay of Islands Sailing Week committee and volunteers with a help of Resilient Russell

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



We have a water refilling station, where people can fill up their reusable bottles with filtered water for FREE. We also provide all volunteers with reusable bottles and encourage them to put the message out there for everyone to use the water refilling facilities provided. We encourage regatta sailors to minimize on-board waste too by taking reusable food containers and bottles with them and refilling their water bottles.

2. Eliminate Plastic Straws:

We don't have any signage for this, but in Bay of Islands Sailing Week we never provide plastic straws in our bar.

3. Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware:



All glassware, plates, knives and forks are bio-compostable. All dinnerware and eating utensils are shredded and hot composted by the Sustainable Russell Group.

4. Use or Provide Reusable Bags:



At the registration we provide reusable bags from our sponsors for the sailors.

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





All our trophies and keyrings for our 20th event were made from recycled wood by a local company. We always try to give practical spot prizes, to make sure they end up fulfilling their mission, instead of ending up in a landfill or forgotten somewhere in the attic. One of the spot prizes, for example, were dry-bags for which sailors were greatly appreciative.

6. Publicize Your Sustainability Efforts:

**Bay of Islands Sailing Week**
Published by Helen Horrocks · 22 January · 🌐

Help us run another Clean Regatta! In 2021 we were proud to be awarded PLATINUM Clean Regatta status - the highest level of sustainability certification in the [Sailors for the Sea](#) programme. Please help us reach the same high standard again this year by minimising waste, separating recyclables, car pooling where possible, and refilling your water bottles at our free chilled & filtered water refilling stations.



Before and throughout the event we not only share our passion and efforts for sustainability but encourage all the participants and volunteers to take part in conscious choices. [On our website](#), people can read our clean regatta goals as well as how they can help us to be a sustainable event. We communicate our views on sustainability on Facebook page sharing photos of ways people can help us, as well as encouraging to use our mobile app instead of printed materials as it's part of our efforts to cut waste and reduce our environmental impact. We are proud that we received Top sustainability award for CRC in 2021 and [have shared it on our website](#).

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.

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 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 Opuā.
- **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 Opuā 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've gone digital 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 Opuā too. Check out [Twin Coast Cycle Transport](#) for bike and e-bike hire in Opuā.



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7. Involve Local Organizations:

The image shows a Facebook post from the 'Bay of Islands Sailing Week' page, published by Helen Horrocks on 16 January. The post features a promotional graphic for the 20th anniversary gear. The graphic includes the event logo, a '20th ANNIVERSARY' badge, and four items for sale: a blue T-shirt (\$45.60), a white short-sleeved polo (\$48.60), a navy/white long-sleeved T-shirt (\$50), and a navy/white cap (\$33). Each item is shown in two views (front and back) and has its price and size information listed below it. The text at the bottom of the graphic encourages adding boat names for \$6 per item and provides contact information for ordering: email logo@ddgold.co.nz or call 09 407 1527. The Facebook interface shows 5 likes and a comment section.

BAY OF ISLANDS SAILING WEEK 20th ANNIVERSARY

T-Shirt (Blue) \$45.60
Sizes: Men's S-5XL Women's 8-24

Short Sleeve Polo (White) \$48.60
Sizes: Men's S-5XL Women's 8-24

Long Sleeve T-Shirt(Navy/White) \$50
Sizes: Unisex S-5XL

Cap (Navy/White) \$33
One Size

Add your boat name for just \$6 per item (standard text only). Graphics by request.
To order email logo@ddgold.co.nz or call 09 407 1527

Bay of Islands Sailing Week
Published by Helen Horrocks · 16 January · 5 likes

The official range of 20th anniversary Bay of Islands Sailing Week gear is now available to pre-order. Customise a shirt with your own boat name or graphics, or pre-order to make sure you secure your gear and avoid missing out if supplies run out during the regatta. Order now by emailing office@ddgold.co.nz or call 09 407 1527.

Like Comment Share

Write a comment...

Our event always tries to involve as many local businesses as possible, because we all share love for our beautiful Bay of Islands. Just to mention few of them:

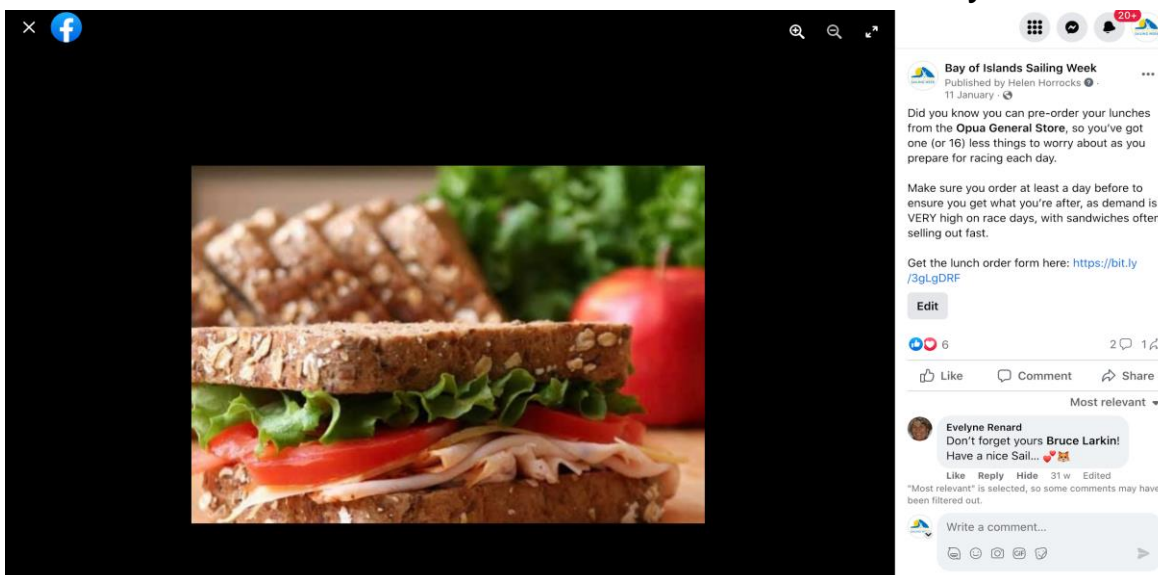
- We have help from our local Resilient Russell team to manage recycling and compostable items.
- Our trophies are made by a local company Romeyn Woodcrafts, that uses recycled wood.
- The official range of 20th anniversary Bay of Islands Sailing Week gear provided and sold by DD Gold.
- Opuia General store provides lunches to racers and volunteers.
- Caterers at Opuia Cruising Club providing meals each night.
- Our volunteers and sailors stay in local accommodation across Russell, Opuia and Paihia.
- Security, event gear hire, waste refusal and portaloos emptying is done by/from the Bay of Islands companies.

8. Post Educational and Reusable Signage:



All our signs are laminated and reused every year, unless they have been damaged. 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 sourced locally, for example lunches are provided by our local Opua General Store where sailors can pre-order they meals, as well as we organize lunches for our volunteers from them alongside with New World Kerikeri sponsored muesli bars and fruits.

10. Organize a Green Team:



We have all our committee on board with the sustainability efforts. We also get help from the wonderful Resilient Russell team. Every night they had volunteers come and work for a couple of hours.

11. Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement and Signage:





We had separate areas for recycling and rubbish, and main area for the bins where we could monitor them constantly. As with any other signage around the HQ, we had laminated the signs and are reusing them from previous years, unless they have been damaged.

12. Divert Food Waste from the Landfill:

The key effort to divert food waste from landfill is by having such good food, that there are no leftovers. And that is what we did this year. The food provided was so good, that no food waste was collected. But if there was any, it would have been collected and taken to local pig farmer as per previous years.

13. Use Paperless Event Management:



We are really proud that we have gone away from printing sailing instructions for the sailors and have them available online. Screenshot of SI's web page attached. Plus we had a screen to display race media, sponsor messages and announcements at the event base.

For communication we use WhatsApp Groups for the committee, sailors and volunteers. Any paper from office waste after/during the event was recycled.

14. Host a Beach or Marina Clean-up:



We have had organized Marina Clean-ups previously, but this year we more kept encouraging committee members and their families to pick up rubbish on their walks on daily basis, because each little step and action we take sometimes is more effective than having one-off event, as it also shows team's dedication to sustainability in a long run, and may inspire those around them.

The collected debris varies from single use coffee cups, fishing lures and lines, pegs, broken plastic, sea glass, plastic bags, old signs, hair ties, rubbish from boats, glass and plastic bottles etc.

15. Promote Alternative Transportation:

We encourage everyone to carpool to the Marina each day or walk/bike if they're staying close enough, as it helps alleviate the parking problems in Opuia too. We inform everyone of the option to check out Twin Coast Cycle Transport page for bike and e-bike hire in Opuia. A shuttle taxi was provided as an option for participants to get from event base to their accommodation.

16. Increase Awareness of Wildlife and Habitat Protection:

PROJECT ISLAND SONG

A community partnership
 TE RAWHITI GUARDIANS OF THE BAY OF ISLANDS INC. Department of Conservation Te Papa Ataturangi

Bringing back the birdsong to the pest-free islands of Ipipiri note by note

VISIT THE ISLANDS

Seven pest-free islands Ipipiri

The Bay of Islands, New Zealand

Our volunteer weedbusters identify and locate plant pests on the islands - then deal to them!

Translocations: five native species reintroduced 15 more planned

Ongoing volunteer planting programme 30,000 native plants and trees in the ground to date

Ongoing pest monitoring and control to keep the islands pest-free

Promoting biosecurity awareness for visitors to the islands

The floating classroom - educating future generations of kaitiaki

Thank you to volunteer run Kerikeri Shadehouse who propagate and supply Project Island Song with native plants and trees - 30,000 to date!

Mainland pest control programmes reduce the likelihood of pests swimming to the islands. Thank you to these groups!

Department of Conservation
 Eastern BOI Preservation Society
 New Zealand Kiwi Foundation
 Nga Whenua Rahui
 Northland Regional Council
 Russell Landcare Trust
 Te Rawhiti Enterprises

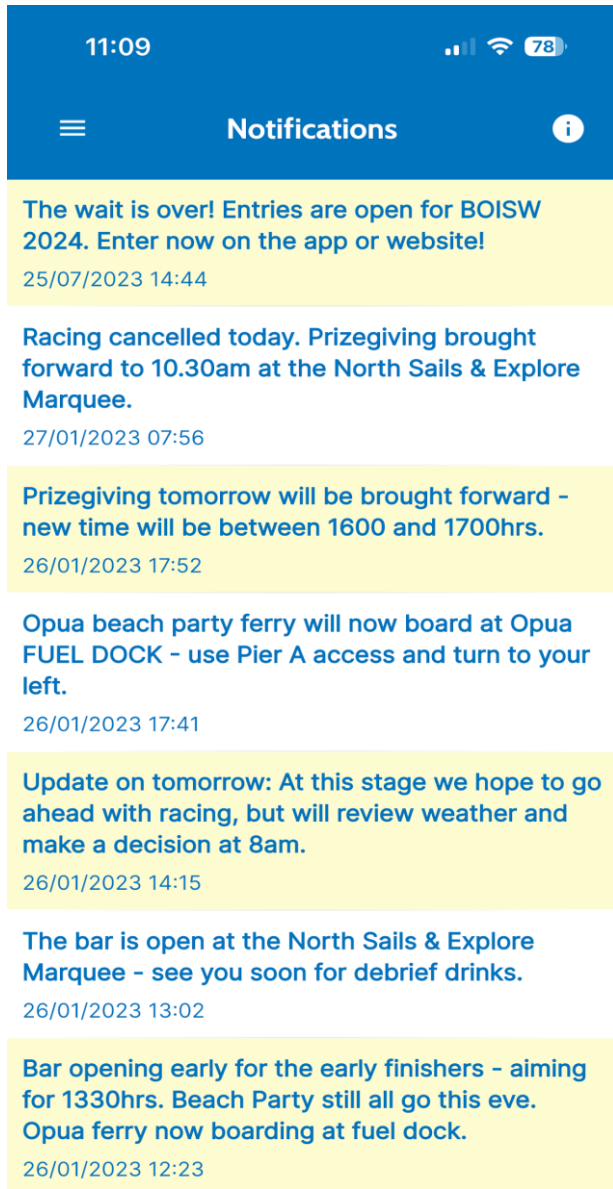
ENVIRONMENT TRUST Department of Conservation Te Papa Ataturangi explore FOUNDATION NORTH 12 member Parties to Te Rauwharua o Te Tai Tokerau GreatSights Lottery Grants Board Te Pūtea Tūroa NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

We informed all the sailors on Bay of Islands Marine Mammal Sanctuary Restrictions via our website <https://bayofislandssailingweek.org.nz/bay-of-islands-marine-mammal-sanctuary-restrictions/>. While Bay of Islands Sailing Week was granted an exemption to the restrictions for racing, sailors still had to be aware of the restrictions in force throughout the Bay and adhere to them while not racing in the regatta. Also, a Project Islands Song informative poster was on the premises to keep the sailors educated.

17. Offer Vegetarian or Vegan Alternatives:

Our caterer offered vegetarian options every night at the OCC restaurant by providing for example fish and chips and chickpea and spinach curry. They are ready to cater for Vegans too if given enough time to ensure they can accommodate them. As well as lunches from Opuia General Store are available with vegetarian options, like egg salad roll or quiche. As the food was so delicious, it didn't make it to the photos.

18. Use Eco-Smart Race Management Techniques



All race management is via the website/app, so notices are posted as push notifications and web posts during the event, instead of printing it out to all the sailors (screenshot of push notifications on app attached). We were using WhatsApp group for committee boats to communicate results back to regatta HQ.

19. Prevent Toxins from Entering the Water

We advise all competitors about marine discharge rules and pump out facilities, and specifically prohibit the use of ties & bands for spinnakers in our sailing instructions, as well as ask to retain all rubbish until sailors return to shore, and keep absorbent oil spill pads handy when refueling.

20. Encourage Green Boating Practices:



As mentioned before, we encourage sailors to follow green boating practices by:

- Minimizing their on-board waste.
- Refill their water bottles for FREE at our water refilling stations at Regatta HQ in Opua.
- Separating recyclables, compostables and general waste.

- Not discharging any waste into the ocean.
- Downloading the BOISW App to access the Sailing Instructions.

We do this by having it on our website, communicating via emails and across social media.

As well as we advise all competitors about the clean hull requirements they need to comply with to attend the regatta, i.e. proof of recent antifoul or lift & scrub, as per local authority requirements.

Bonus Opportunities:

This year we have been mostly trying to carry on with already established practices that have proven themselves working, but we have started discussions and looking forward to improving where we can to reach even better results in our sustainability efforts.