

Shipping movement,

Last season in a Wednesday nights race the RNZYS received a complaint from the harbour master over racing yachts sailing under the bow of a ship leaving port. This is not the first time the RNZYS has received such a complaint.

The result was RNZYS protested most of the MRX fleet, the boats that were protested then withdraw from the race. RNZYS also had a similar situation with the young 88 fleet later in the season.

As a yacht club we have to share the harbour with many users, it is very important for the future of our sport that everyone keeps to the bylaws that control the all users in the harbour. The main issue at the moment is 'yachts will keep clear of any vessel limited in manoeuvrable or over 500t.'

In the RNZYS sailing instructions for the upcoming season point 1.8

*'Competitors shall keep clear of all ships of 500 tonnes net register and upwards. The minimum required distances are 500m ahead and 100m port/starboard/astern of the vessel. This particularly refers to, but is not limited to, ships in the main navigational channel. Competitors shall abide by current harbour regulations. This rule is not open to protest by other boats'*

The RNZYS will be strictly enforcing this sailing instruction this season, with one hundred plus boats on the water we actually do a pretty good job of adhering to the rules, as always it is the 5-10% that ruins it for everyone else.

The consequences of repeated infractions from racing yachts would have a negative effect on the yacht racing for everyone.

Here it what we are doing

- Notifying all racing yacht now
- Protesting all boats that are witnessed breaking any bylaws
- We have changed the SI to make this a simple process

Shipping movement can be found here [www.poal.co.nz](http://www.poal.co.nz) please check before each race.

Please make sure you keep clear of ships in the future