



2027 NZOPA National Rules

New Zealand Offshore Powerboat Association Incorporation
(NZOPA)

These rules apply for any National Event held in New Zealand run under the auspices of the New Zealand Offshore Powerboat Association Inc. and are supplementary to the UIM Offshore rules

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GENERAL

Intention of the Rules

- (a)
To ensure that racing craft are safe and seaworthy.
- (b)
To provide safe and fair competition in offshore-type races.

Course Distances

- (c)
Will be stated in kilometres and/or statute miles.

Course Layout

- (d)
It is recommended that an L-shaped course, double buoyed on the inside turn mark, be used.
- (e)
The course and race pack must be approved by the NZOPA prior to its distribution.

Race Format

- (f)
One or two championship races may be held on the same day. Races will be a minimum of

1 race – 60/100miles/1hour

2 races – 30/50miles/30minutes

The timing is started once the Start Flag has dropped; the finish is at the discretion of the National Officer of the Day, but should be no less than the specified quantity of laps per class.



DEFINITIONS

1.2

The number is the rule reference.

1.3

The words WILL, SHALL, and MUST indicate a compulsory requirement. The word MAY indicates a discretionary specification.

TERMINOLOGY

Driver means the crewmember responsible for the boat and crew, and who is either the helmsman, throttleman or navigator.

Entrant means the competing craft and crew.

Jury means those persons named by the NZOPA (in discussion with the organising club where appropriate) as judges for the event.

National Officer of the Day ("OOD") means the person appointed by the NZOPA for each race. The OOD manages Race Control and communication with the rescue teams and Patrol/Mark boats. The OOD has full power to stop and/or shorten a race for safety or logistical reasons. In the event that the OOD is unavailable on race day the NZOPA will appoint the National Safety Officer, National Technical Officer, or another suitably qualified individual.

National Safety Officer means a voted position of the NZOPA executive also referred to as the "*National Steward*"). This person is overall responsible for ensuring compliance with the rules, particularly regarding safety, both of the competing boats and the racecourses. This includes approving all race courses, patrol boat grids, and race packs at least 2 weeks prior to any event.

National Technical Officer means Deputy to the National Safety Officer and the person responsible for all technical matters relating to boats and engines.

NZPBF is the New Zealand National Authority.

NZOPA is the New Zealand Offshore Powerboat Association Incorporated.

Race Day Secretary means the Race Secretary is an NZOPA appointed position and is responsible for race day administration. This includes accepting and processing all race entries and day licence applications, checking off all completed scrutineering forms, and taking the roll call at the start of the Drivers Briefing (including issuing the identity bracelets to all competitors).

UIM is the Union International Motonautique.



EIGHT REMINDERS TO ENTRANTS

- (a) Entries may only be emailed to the NZOPA Secretary or completed at the race bus on race day. Entries that are emailed, the money must be deposited via online banking, and entries that are completed on the day, must be accompanied with either cash or a cheque.
- (b) Complete your paperwork properly; e.g. correct race, HP and piston displacement on the entry form. Check your scrutineering form.
- (c) Prepare your boat and crew thoroughly before scrutineering. Familiarise yourself with the course.
- (d) Be early on race day.
- (e) The driver must attend briefing before the start of the race.
- (f) Don't forget to debrief after returning to shore, as per Rule 008.
- (g) If you are unable to attend the prize giving, arrange for a friend to represent you at prize giving.
- (h) RETURN YOUR SPECIALIST TROPHIES ONE MONTH BEFORE THE EVENT.



HANDY CALCULATIONS FOR ENTRANTS AND OFFICIALS

$$\text{SPEED} = \frac{\text{Distance x 3600}}{\text{Time in Seconds}} \text{ ie. } \frac{98.6\text{km x 3600}}{(86\text{min}32\text{sec}) 5192} = 68.36\text{km/h}$$

$$\text{TIME} = \frac{\text{Distance x 3600}}{\text{Speed}} \text{ ie. } \frac{98.6\text{km x 3600}}{68.36\text{km/h}} = 5192\text{secs} = 86\text{min}32\text{sec}$$

Multiply	By	To Find
Miles or mph	1.60935	Kilometres or km/h
Miles or mph	0.8684	Nautical miles or knots
Knots or nautical miles	1.152	Statute miles or mph
Kilometres	0.62137	Miles or mph
Knots or nautical miles	1.8535	Kilometres or km/h
Kilometres or km/h	0.53952	Knots or nautical miles
Litres	0.219976	Imperial gallons
Imperial gallons	4.54596	Litres
CC (cubic centimetres)	0.061024	Cubic inches
Cubic inches	16.38706	CC Decimal minutes 0.6 Seconds
Seconds	1.66667	Decimal minutes
Metres	39.37	Inches
Inches	0.0254	Metres
lbs. (pounds)	0.453592	kgs (kilograms)
Kgs	2.20462	lbs.
BHP (brake h/p)	0.7457	kW (kilo Watts)
KW	1.341	BHP



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Technical Committee

NZOPA National Safety Officer

NZOPA National Technical Officer

NZOPA President (ex officio)

Appeal Board

As appointed by the NZOPA President referring to National Rule 207 (The Appeals Procedure).

Any member(s) who are directly involved in the appeal under adjudication will be substituted with a suitable replacement at the President's discretion.



PROPOSED RACE CALENDAR 2026/27

Auckland 17th October

Marsden Cove 14th November

Napier 30-31st January

Wellington 27th February

Whitianga 13th March



RULES

001 STANDARD BRIEFING FORMAT THAT ALL LOCAL EVENT ORGANISERS MUST FOLLOW

001.01 A drivers meeting must be held before the race.

001.02 It is mandatory for at least one driver from each race boat to attend the drivers meeting(s) and/or briefing. Where this is not possible the OOD may, at his discretion, conduct a personalised briefing for the crew concerned and apply an appropriate penalty.

001.03 The drivers briefing shall take place approximately two hours (except in cases of force majeure, one hour) before the start of the race.

001.04 The briefing must cover:

- (i) name registration,
- (j) all drivers and/or crew are issued with wrist identification bracelets,
- (k) important items not mentioned in, or changes from Race Instructions which must be in writing,
- (l) important local conditions and rules,
- (m) special safety routines,
- (n) weather forecast,
- (o) telephone number of Race Secretary
- (p) First aid position,
- (q) debriefing Officer and position after race, and
- (r) where race results will be posted after last boat finished (UIM rule 323 Posting of the Results).

002 STARTING PROCEDURE

002.01 Refer UIM Rule 305 (Procedure for U.I.M. Offshore Starts).

002.02 All competing boats must start on the designated Port or Starboard side of the 'Start Boat' as stated at the briefing & in the written instructions of the day. The OOD will impose a 10 minute time penalty if any race boat starts on the wrong side of the race 'Start Boat'.

003 COURSE DISCIPLINE

003.01 Refer National Rule 542 (Rules of the Road).



004 RACE SIGNALS

004.01 The following signals may be made by Control Boats, Patrol Boats and Officials:

- (a) Red Flag Race stopped or postponed.
- (b) Black Flag Competitors to stop for instructions
- (c) Pink Flags Regulation mark boat flags
- (d) Yellow Flag/Green Flag Flown together in 10 minute increments indicates delay of start time of race

005 FINISHING PROCEDURE

005.01 The finish for the race is shown to a driver by waving a black and white chequered flag, or other as described in the Race Instructions or at race briefing. Or up to a maximum time limit of 75 minutes. When the two race format is being used the maximum time limit shall be 40 minutes for each race.

005.02 When the overall leading boat completes the course and crosses the finish line, the chequered flag will be waved. This designates the winner and the start of the finish procedure for the race..

005.03 Any boat crossing the finish line after the overall winning boat will be classified a finishing position according to its time and the number of laps completed, provided that it has completed at least 70% of the laps recorded by the winning boat in its class (rounded up or down to the nearest lap.)

005.04 To qualify in any event, an entrant must average not less than 32kph from start to finish, and complete the course not later than 15 minutes after the class winners finishing time.

005.05 The race may be curtailed or stopped at the finish line by waving the chequered flag. This designates the end of the race. To be classified as a class finisher, the normal finishing rules as above apply.

006 DISTRESS PROCEDURES

006.01 If you require assistance use any of all of the recognised distress signals:

- (a) Fire flares or smoke signals,
- (b) Use hand signals as per UIM Rule 206.02 (Hand Signals).
- (c) If RT equipped, use normal distress procedures, advise your race number, position and nature of the emergency.

006.02 Stay with the boat. If a helicopter gives assistance, observe the following procedures:

- (a) Head into the wind at 8 km/h.



- (b) When the helicopter lowers its winch wire, hold in hand. Do not under any circumstances tie the wire to your boat.

007 RETIREMENT

- 007.01 If you decide to retire and do not require assistance, report to the nearest RT equipped Patrol or Control Boat and request that they advise Race Control of your retirement.
- 007.02 If you go ashore without reporting as quoted, telephone HQ and report your retirement.
- 007.03 Make every effort to report your retirement and the safety of your crew and vessel as soon as possible to eliminate unnecessary searching.

008 DEBRIEFING

- 008.01 All drivers or co-drivers **must debrief**, whether they have completed the course or not. Any entrant who fails to start, or retires from the race must report to the debriefing officer, or to race headquarters, as soon as possible to eliminate the need for unnecessary searching.
- 008.02 At debriefing, all wrist identification bracelets for all drivers and/or crew must be handed in.
- 008.03 Competitors who complete the course must debrief within one hour either in person, by VHF radio, cell phone, or another crew member. The ID bracelets needs to be returned within two hours after the last qualifying boat crosses the finish line. Failure to debrief may cause disqualification.

009 CRANING

- 009.01 No driver or crewmember may ride on a boat whilst being lifted by a crane.

010 ENGINE PROTEST PROCEDURE

- 010.01 Upon a protest being lodged against a team regarding engine eligibility the following procedure will be applied:
- (a) A bond of \$3000.00 payable to the NZOPA and held by the NZOPA until an official decision is made.
- (b) NZOPA technical officer to co-ordinate with protested team the removal of vessel from the water.
- (c) After wash down and engine flush the engine hatch and or cowl will be sealed by appropriate means
- (d) At an agreed time and place between parties the engine/s will be inspected and a report on the outcome submitted to the NZOPA for discussion and a ruling submitted to the protesting team.
- (e) The seal shall remain in place and if broken or tampered with, will cause immediate disqualification, this decision remains entirely with the



NZOPA technical officer.

(f) Should the engine/s be legal ALL appropriate costs involved shall be payable by the protesting team

(g) Should the engine/s be illegal ALL appropriate costs involved shall be payable by the protested team, the bond refunded to the protesting team and necessary disciplinary action taken.

(h) The driver or co driver shall be permitted to open the engine hatches, on the completion of the race, for the purpose of a brief visual inspection only. No entry into the engine bay will be permitted except where crew or boat safety is at risk.



ADMINISTRATION

100.1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In addition to the Executive officers elected at the Annual AGM, a Senior Management Team shall also be appointed. As many of these positions are to be elected at the AGM, with the remaining to be filled by the Executive members by 31 October. The positions of the team shall be:

- Event Coordinator
- Race Day Coordinator
- Course coordinator & harbour master liaison
- Local Council Liaison
- Series sponsors Manager
- TV & Film Production Manager
- Bus & Equipment Manager
- Rescue Team & Helicopter Coordinator
- Funding & Fundraising Manager

One person may hold more than one position. Members of the Executive can also hold a position on the Management Team.

101 RULES

- 101.02 New Zealand offshore powerboat racing is run to the UIM Offshore Rules in conjunction with the current New Zealand National Rules. The NZOPA may change National Rules that affect the safety of events if such action becomes necessary. Major revisions of the NZOPA rules are made at the Annual General meeting. Minor revisions of the rules can be made at any time by a majority vote of the NZOPA Executive, but should be published on the NZOPA web site at least one month prior to any race that may be affected.

102 TECHNICAL & RULES COMMITTEE

- 102.01 The NZOPA Executive may appoint this committee to adjudicate on matters related to the rules. Competitors must apply to the NZOPA at least one month before their first event of the season for any special dispensation they may require. The committee may, at their sole discretion, exempt any craft from a requirement of the rules provided that the dispensation does not reduce safety or gives any speed or financial benefit to the applicant. Such exemptions may be granted where a rule is made impossible to comply with, or unnecessary by virtue of an unusual design. However, any exemption may be overruled at the end of the season by the NZOPA committee.



103 REGISTRATION OF BOATS & RACE NUMBERS

103.01 Boats can register in any one of the following classes:

- (i) NZ Offshore Superboat 1000
- (ii) NZ Offshore Superboat 600
- (iii) NZ Offshore Superboat 400
- (iv) Sports 300
- (v) Sports 225
- (vi) Sports 200
- (vii) Sports 140
- (viii) Sports Classic 80MPH
- (ix) Sports Classic 70MPH
- (x) Family Class

103.02

New classes can be created, but only after gaining the approval of the NZOPA. As a guideline, submissions requesting the NZOPA to establish a new class should provide evidence that the class will be supported by at least 3 new boats in its first season.

103.03

Drivers, who intend entering NZOPA sanctioned events for championship points in any class, must first register their boat and apply for a permanent race number, and pay the championship entry fee prior to the published deadline.

Drivers may enter a one-off NZOPA sanctioned event as a day entry, however they will not be eligible for championship points. If at any stage they wish to enter the championship they must complete the championship registration, register, apply for a permanent race number and pay the championship entry fees. The driver will collect championship points from all races in which they compete from the payment date forward, for 2026 they are eligible to back date their prior results to contribute towards the championship for a maximum of four races.

103.04

2026 Boat registration fees are:

100Mile Classes	\$3,600
Sports Classes	\$1,350



- 103.05 2026/27 Casual Non Championship Fees (non Championship Points):
- \$250 per day (includes day license costs)
- Casual boat entry – (4 race maximum)
- * Day licences are required for both driver and co-driver, and any additional crew members (available for Classic Class competitors only).
 - *** Day entrants can only enter a maximum of four events before they are required to enter as season entrants.

- 103.06 As well as NZOPA Association, individual membership fees:

Driver License & Membership Fee

per person as per National Rule 104 (Drivers Licence) - \$25.00

Non Participant Social membership

\$ 25.00

Registration forms are available on the NZOPA web site or from the NZOPA Secretary.

- 103.07 Applications for a permanent race number may be made to the NZOPA Secretary. Drivers wishing to renew their race number from a previous season must do so by completing their Boat Registration form 30 days before the first event of the season, otherwise such numbers will be available for free issue to other drivers.

104 DRIVERS LICENCES

- 104.01 All drivers and co-drivers wishing to compete in any racing class must first obtain an NZOPA Drivers Licence, submitting application (including rules) with the exception of casual non-championship racing sports class entrants (refer rule 103.05). All licence applicants must have completed the following requirements in order to have a licence issued:
- (a) Once the applicant pays the licence fee, they then become a full financial member of the NZOPA.
 - (b) Drivers: Be of a minimum age of 18 years of ages for boats greater than 150hp, or a minimum 15 years of age, with written parental consent, (and having participated in suitable training and/or proving competency).
 - (c) Drivers acting as co-drivers: Be of a minimum age of 18 years of age, or minimum 15 years with written parental consent.
 - (d) Pass a written test as prescribed by the National Steward to ensure that any applicant understands the basic rules as to course discipline.
 - (e) Have demonstrated to the National OOD or the National Technical Officer that they are capable of handling and understanding the controls



and workings of the boat prior to their first event of the season if they have not competed in three or more sanctioned NZOPA events previously with control of the helm.

(f) Have completed the NZOPA provided first aid and CPR Course. Drivers competing in boats fitted with restraint systems must have taken part in a suitable Driver Immersion Test as described in UIM Rule 120.01 (Licences).

(g) Courses will be held before and during the season. All applicants intending to enter the first event of the season must have first completed the course. Applicants intending to enter the season at a later stage must at least do a CPR training course and attend the next available NZOPA provided session.

(h) Have passed the medical Certificate of Fitness.

(i) Overseas Competition – all competitors entering an event outside the territorial waters of New Zealand, must have the written support of the NZOPA. The NZOPA then requests approval for their drivers (and crew if applicable) from the NZ Power Boat Federation wishing to race abroad (refer to UIM Rule 203.1 (Entry)). The drivers and crew must have current NZPBF licences issued by the NZOPA (refer to UIM Rules 120.01 – 120.07 (Licences)).

104.02 Application forms are available on the NZOPA web site (www.nzoffshore.co.nz) or from the NZOPA Secretary.

104.03 Drivers wishing to compete on a casual basis e.g. one or more races per season must pay the fee stipulated in Rule 103.05 for each event that compete they in. Drivers must be at least 18 to obtain a day licence, and co-drivers must be at least 15 (with parental consent). The applicants must also satisfy the National Steward that they are capable of handling the controls and workings of their boat and that they understand the basic rules of the sport and seamanship. This form of licence is intended for new entrants to the sport.

105 NZOPA DRIVERS CHAMPIONSHIP (REFER ALSO TO RULE 200)

105.01 For Superboat classes: Drivers wishing to compete for Drivers Championship Points must identify the Driver competing for points by registering their boat on the NZOPA Licence Application Form covering both the boat and championship driver points registration (forms are available from the NZOPA web site or the NZOPA Secretary).

105.02 For Sports classes: It is the Boat that is registered for Championship Points. The driver of a registered boat may change throughout the season providing such driver complies with all other requirements of the NZOPA Rules.

105.03 Registration forms and fees must be forwarded to the NZOPA prior to pre-season scrutineering. Drivers/boats must start in at least three championship events to qualify for final championship points.

105.04 All championship events shall count equally for championship points.



105.05 The points scoring system can be found under UIM Rule 321 (Scoring System).

105.06 **Starting Points:**

Entrants will receive 75 points for starting each event. To qualify, the entered boat must cross the start line within the allocated start time. If the race is cancelled, the 75 start points are awarded to all boats that have attended the drivers briefing at the cancelled race. The 75 starting points will be added to the normal points table placing amounts (e.g. winner will get 400 points plus 75 starting points).

105.07 **Replacement Boat:**

For Superboat entrants, points accumulated over the racing season are awarded to the nominated driver/boat combination as registered. The nominated boat shall not be exchanged for another during a racing season except when it may be damaged beyond repair. Application may then be made to the NZOPA and Class for approval of a replacement boat. Such replacement boat shall be similar in design and performance to the previously registered original boat for the driver to continue to accumulate race season driver's championship points. For Sports Class entrants, as it is the boat that accumulates points, any such registered boat that is damaged beyond repair can only be replaced with a like boat subject to NZOPA and Class approval.

106 ENGINES (GENERAL)

106.01 A driver may elect to race in any class provided his engine(s) do not exceed the maximum HP quoted for that class, then he will gain championship points only from the class he competed in.

106.02 Engines may be checked at any time during the racing season and if found to exceed the declared HP rating, instant disqualification shall apply for the whole season.

106.03 All Superboat class boats may be prop shaft dynode preseason to check that engines are not exceeding both Max RPM and Max Hp ratings. (Actual max ratings are still to be agreed).

106.04 Random testing of any boat can be formed by the OOD at the completion of any race at their sole discretion. Protests can be lodged against any team in the normal manner.

106.06 The OOD may randomly select a super boat at each race meeting to run a data logger for the duration of the race, at their sole discretion, to check that the agreed max rpm limit is not being exceeded during the race.



107 NATIONAL CLASSES

107.01 NZ OFFSHORE SUPERBOAT 1000

Preface to the rules

NZ Offshore Superboat 1000 provides an alternative for race boats that generally complied to the previous UIM class 2 specifications and previous NZ Offshore Super boat 1000 specification (Pre 2019). To maintain a satisfactory level of safety and competition the following rules apply.

Classification

Open to gasoline inboard powered catamaran boats that fit within the following specifications.

	Minimum	Maximum	Tunnel
Length	9.15m (30ft)	No Restriction	N.A.
Width	N.A	3.35m (11ft)	1.63m (64in)
Weight (inboard)	Weight (inboard) minimum 3600kg as per UIM Rules. E.g., The weight is ready to race dry, including all safety equipment (except the crew and their helmets and life vests). For control after a race, residual fuel in tanks will be included in the minimum weight. Slings carried in the boat during the race will count as safety equipment. The boat must be empty of water.		

These measurements will be taken off the moulded hull at the widest point ‘port to starboard’ and the longest length ‘bow to stern’.

Engines

Engines must be Mercury Racing 565hp model and must be as supplied or offered by the engine manufacturer with a maximum of 600hp at the flywheel if dyno tested. For any reason during the competition, engines may be tested by an independent company. The competitor assumes full responsibility



for engines that do not comply. Exhaust tail pipes must be water jacketed, any variation must be approved by the NZOPA.”

The following non-performance modifications are allowed:

- (a) Removal of one power steer pump
- (b) Aftermarket raw water pumps are allowed
- (c) Header modification to improve reliability. Any modifications must not be performance

enhancing.

Drives

No Restrictions.

Steering

No Restrictions.

Tunnel Flaps

Moveable tunnel flaps shall be permitted.

Cockpits

Boats must conform to UIM Rule 508 (Crew Safety) in its entirety.

Safety

The minimum safety requirements shall be contained within the NZOPA National Safety Rules and the UIM Rule 205 (Safety Rules).

Engine Rebuilding

Any engine rebuilding must be pre-approved by the NZOPA and arrangements made for an inspection dyno test, and releasing by an appointed independent company, before assembly to determine engine compliance. Allowed engine re-boring to 30thou in all cylinders.

Grandfather Clause

The following rules apply to New Zealand boats that have competed before the 2019 season.

Measurements

Length 9.15m (30ft) Width N.A

Minimum

Maximum



10.66 (35 ft)

2.90m (9.5 ft)

These measurements will be taken off the moulded hull at the widest point 'port to starboard' and the longest length 'bow to stern'.

Weight

Weight minimum 3200kg as per UIM Rules. E.g., the weight is ready to race dry, including all safety equipment (except the crew and their helmets and life vests).

For control after a race, the boat must be empty of fuel and water.

Engines

Engines must be Mercury Racing 525hp model and must be as supplied or offered by the engine manufacturer with a maximum of 560hp at the flywheel if dyno tested. For any reason during the competition, engines may be tested by an independent company. The competitor assumes full responsibility for engines that do not comply. Exhaust tail pipes must be water jacketed, any variation must be approved by the NZOPA."

The following non-performance modifications are allowed:

- (a) Removal of one power steer pump*
- (b) Aftermarket raw water pumps are allowed*
- (c) Header modification to improve reliability. Any modifications must not be performance enhancing.*

Drives

Drives must only be Mercury #6 stern drives. Drives must be capable of forward, neutral and reverse.

Steering

Mercury #6 stern drives only.

Tunnel Flaps.

Moveable tunnel flaps are not allowed.

Cockpits

Boats must conform to UIM Rule 508 (Crew Safety) in its entirety.

Safety

The minimum safety requirements shall be contained within the NZOPA National Safety Rules and the UIM Rule 205 (Safety Rules).

Engine Rebuilding



Any engine rebuilding must be pre-approved by the NZOPA and arrangements made for an inspection dyno test, and releasing by an appointed independent company, before assembly to determine engine compliance. Allowed engine re-boring to 30thou in all cylinders.

107.02 NZ OFFSHORE SUPERBOAT 600

Engine Restrictions

- (a) A maximum OEM Manufacturer's badged rating of 300Hp per engine, standard OEM production outboard engine with a combined total of 600 Hp badged. No CC (Cubic Centimetre) rating or literage limits will apply.
- (b) The following non-performance modifications are allowed to increase the reliability of all manufactures engines:
 - (i) Aftermarket 15" mid sections which include 2.5 Mercury Offshore SS swivel brackets, with the standard Mercury factory tuner baffle cut to fit the length of the mid-section.
 - (ii) After market alternator brackets and pulleys.
 - (iii) Removal of the standard Mercury oil injection system.
 - (iv) Insertion of a "pop-off" diverter water pressure valve in the exhaust plate.
 - (v) Replace the standard fuel VST with an external fuel pump directly into an injection rail. Fuel pressure must be controlled at a pressure no greater than that delivered by the standard VST system.
 - (vi) 300 XS and 300 X Engines can run with or without the Internal water baffle inside the cowl
- (c) Propulsion system must be capable of forward, neutral and reverse.
- (d) The following non-performance engine modifications are allowed to reduce the rebuilt costs of the Mercury 2.5 Offshore (ROS) engines:
 - (i) Joe Smith Wizard pistons are approved for use when rebuilding the Mercury 2.5 Offshore ROS engines.
- (e) Mercury 300XS ECU can be sent to an approved company



to have the 'back to idle' mode removed for safety reasons. The rev limiter may also be lifted to 7000rpm. This process is to be managed and controlled by a representative from NZOPA.

(f) Outboard motors with above water relief plates as fitted by manufacturer may run with these plates removed. All other outboard motors may add after-market above water trunk exhaust kit or add exhaust relief holes in the lower part of the trunk or adjust gearbox housing above the cavitation plate. Maximum relief of 3.5 sq. inches (90mm²) per engine. Full length baffle/megaphone may be altered by removing material from the lower 5"/127mm. The megaphone must not be modified

- (g) To allow Mercury 2.5 outboards to be fitted with mercury part number 818451A/2 an air intake spacer

Boat Specifications

Boat dimension specifications are as per UIM Rule 730.1 3(S). The power rating must comply with the horsepower specifications in NZOPA Rule 107.02(a).

Grandfather Clause

N/A.

Low Water Pickup

Low and remote water pickups shall be allowed on engines providing the engine prop shaft height does not exceed 65mm above the last planning surface of the hull

Tunnel Flaps

Moveable tunnel flaps shall be permitted.

Safety

The minimum safety requirements shall be as contained within the NZOPA National Rules and the UIM Rule 205 (Safety Rules).

Cockpits

Boats must conform with UIM Rule 508 (Crew Safety) in its entirety.

- (A) In all other respects, the UIM Class 3 / 6 litre rules shall apply.

(B) Engine Rebuilding

Any engine rebuilding including removal of any major components must be pre-approved by the NZOPA and arrangements made for an inspection, and releasing by an appointed independent company, before assembly to determine engine specifications are the same. All heads, engine blocks and ECU's are to be sealed. specifications are the same.

Repairing Superboat 600 Engines

All Superboat 600 engines are able to be rebuilt using oversized pistons in one or more cylinders. The pistons are available in 15 thousands and 30 thousands of an inch oversized manufactured factory pistons. This is not



meant to be a performance enhancing repair. All modifications to be approved in writing on a case by case basis by the Technical Officer.

107.03 NZ OFFSHORE SUPER BOAT 400

Preface to the rules

NZ Offshore Super Boat 400 provides an introductory class into canopied boats; it is the intention to provide a class which is competitive through boats being relatively even on size, weight and performance.

Boat Specifications:

- (a) Maximum Width: 2.5m
- (b) Maximum Tunnel Width: 1250mm
- (c) Weights:
 - a. Minimum weight of 1700kg for all boats up to 8.1mtrs length
 - b. for all boats over 8.1mtrs length and additional 155kg will be added per 300mm
 - c. Weights are race ready dry, this includes all safety gear/helmets/vests, but excludes lifting strops and crew. Residual Fuel after a race will be included in the final weight, boat must be empty of water.

Hull Measurement:

(A) The length must be measured between the perpendiculars of the external moulded length of the boat, taken at the extreme bow and the interface between the hull and engine or jack plate bracket, whichever is directly attached to the hull – The width must be measured between the perpendiculars of the external moulded width of the boat.

- (b) Tunnel Flaps are not permitted

Engine Specifications:

- (a) Mercury 2.5ltr Optimax 200XS ROS engines with a maximum manufacturers rating of 200hp per engine, with a combined total of 400hp
- (b) Dispensation for any 200hp production engine may be granted at the discretion of the current Super boat 400 Championship competitors, dispensation can only be granted if the engine cubic capacity does not exceed 2.5ltrs



- (b) Propulsion system must be capable of forward, neutral and reverse
- (c) Aftermarket pistons are approved to reduce rebuild costs
- (d) Water pick-ups are to remain on the gearbox – remote water pickups are not permitted
- (e) After market Alternator Brackets and pulleys are permitted.
- (f) No Modification allowed to Gear Boxes for Water Pickup. Gear Boxes to be Standard Ex Mercury Factory

Propellers:

All competitors are restricted to 2 pairs of propellers which must be declared and recorded at pre-season scrutineering.

Propellers requiring replacement due to damage must be of the same brand/size/pitch as declared pre-season.

Dispensation maybe granted at the discretion of the Super boat 400 Championship competitors if replacements cannot be sourced in time for next round

107.04 SPORTS 300

- (A) Single Inboard or outboard engine.
- (B) Boats may be any design and/or built on a one-off basis.
- (C) The maximum engine capacity shall be 3500 cc (3.5 litre) for outboard engines and 6000cc (6.0 litre for inboards).
- (D) Minimum horsepower shall be 22 and maximum horsepower shall be 350hp for either inboard or outboard engines.
- (E) All engines shall be naturally aspirated with the explicit exclusion of turbo or super chargers and any forced air induction systems. Production supercharged four stroke outboard engines shall be allowed to run.
- (F) Inboard engines shall be conventional four stroke engines with the explicit exclusion of Rotary engines.
- (G) There shall be a minimum weight to power ratio of 3.3kg / HP.



(H) The weight is “ready to race” dry, including all safety equipment (except the crew and their helmets and racing vests). For control after a race. Left (spare) fuel in tanks will be included in the minimum weight. The owner is to present a weight certificate at pre-season scrutineering which may be checked at any time during the season.

(I) Engine modifications shall be allowed, but only if the standard (published) engine horsepower is less than 85% of that allowed by the weight to power ratio. i.e., if the ratio is 3.88 kg / HP, then the engine may be modified, providing the resultant HP is declared. Those boat / engine combinations that fall within the 85% - 100% power to weight ratio range must use stock production (un-modified) engines.

(J) Engines may be checked at any time during the racing season and if found to exceed the declared HP rating instant disqualification shall apply for the total season.

(K) The minimum length shall be 5.486 metre (18' 0") for boats under 300hp and 6.096 (20' 0") for boats 300hp or over.

(L) Drives must be capable of forward, neutral and reverse gears with the engine running.

(M) Safety

The minimum safety requirements shall be as contained within the NZOPA National Rules and the UIM Rule 205 (Safety Rules).

(N) Cockpits

Boats must conform with UIM Rule 508 (Crew Safety) in its entirety.

(O) Canopies

Boats with canopies will run in a separate unrestricted class

Maximum Speed 80 mph

(a) OOD can make it compulsory to carry a handheld GPS (or other approved tracking device) that is zeroed at scrutineering and is capable of recording maximum and average speed and distance travelled.

(b) Penalties for exceeding the speed limits will be as follows:

(i) Every Mph over 80mph recorded will result in a cumulative 30sec penalty

(ii) Exceeding 85 mph will result in a disqualification.

Penalties will be applied only to the race in which the overspeed occurs in. In the event of the race being a 1hour race the penalty applied will be recorded as double (i.e for 81mph speed record 2x 30sec penalty will be applied).

(c) The decision of the Officer of the Day will be final with no rights of appeal.



107.05 SPORTS 225, SPORTS 200, SPORTS 150 , SPORTS 140

General

These classes are limited to standard production boats and/or engines sold as finished boats, kitset boats, or built to a standard plan as commercially available to the general public. Sports class boats may be either monohull or catamaran. Ballast tanks are allowed.

Boat Requirements

- (a) Boats must be a production model runabout with a minimum length of:

Sports 225 18' 0" (5.486 m)

Sports 200/150 17' (5.18m)

Sports 140 16' 0" (4.88m)

- (b) In the case of a 'one-off' craft, the owner must obtain permission to compete at the discretion of the National Steward or his/her NZOPA deputy.
- (c) All boats are to be powered by a single engine.
- (d) All Sports Boats must be capable of seating four people and have a minimum of two crew members whilst racing. Bat Boats or similar specialist race craft must obtain permission to compete at the discretion of the National Steward or their NZOPA deputy.
- (e) All boats must have secured: Fuel Tank, Battery, Steering and Seats.
- (f) All boats must be structurally sound.
- (g) For minimum safety equipment refer to National Rule 501 (Minimum Safety Equipment).
- (h) Driver and co-driver must have minimum of a day licence.



Engine Requirements

- (a) Powerheads must be stock two or four stroke production "Out of the Box" units with no additional porting, polishing, blueprinting, deburring, or any metal removal allowed. No flywheel, alternator, or ECU changes are allowed. Sports 140 class must be maximum of a 140hp 4 cylinder engine.
- (b) Standard production exhaust tuners must be fitted. No remote water pick-ups are allowed.
- (c) Replacement parts etc., are to be those catalogued as such by respective outboard manufacturer's for the applicable engine.
- (d) Exceptions allowed are:
 - (i) Nose cones;
 - (ii) Racing propellers;
 - (iii) Fibreglass reeds;
 - (iv) No restrictions on engine mounts or mid-sections.
 - (v) Oil injection may be removed;
 - (vi) Factory water pick-up optional;
 - (vii) Low water pickup gearcases (excluding 140hp class); and
 - (viii) Toque Tamers can be fitted to all gearboxes
- (e) All engines competing for points may be scrutineered by a specific mechanic before the first race. The heads will be removed at the owner's cost at the owners cost the heads and crank case are to be sealed.
- (f) Sports 200, Sports 150 and Sports 140 Classes shall compete in an unrestricted speed class.
- (g) Engine Sizes:

Sports 225	maximum manufacturers rating of 225 hp
Sports 200	maximum 200 hp - factory standard engines. Mercury 200XS ROS motors are excluded from competing in this class.



Sports 150	maximum manufacturer rating of 150hp factory standard engines.
Sports 140	maximum manufacturer rating of 140hp 4 cylinder factory standard engines.

Maximum Speed 80mph

- (a) OOD can make it compulsory to carry a handheld GPS (or other approved tracking device) that is zeroed at scrutineering and is capable of recording maximum and average speed and distance travelled.
- (b) Penalties for exceeding the speed limits will be as per Sports classic 80mph class.
- (c) The decision of the Officer of the Day will be final with no rights of appeal.

107.06 SPORTS CLASSIC 80MPH CLASS

- (A) 80mph Boats shall have no horsepower limitations.
- (B) 80mph Boats can be either monohulls or catamarans
- (C) 80mph Boats are min 18ft in length.
- (D) Crew numbers to a maximum of 5 (depending on seat and boat layout) and to the discretion of the Safety Committee on the day.
- (E) Minimum safety equipment as detailed in the National Rules 501.
- (F) Any type of propellers are permitted.

Maximum Speed 80 mph

- (c) OOD can make it compulsory to carry a handheld GPS (or other approved tracking device) that is zeroed at scrutineering and is capable of recording maximum and average speed and distance travelled.
- (b) Penalties for exceeding the speed limits will be as follows:
 - (i) Every Mph over 80mph recorded will result in a cumulative 30sec penalty
 - (ii) Exceeding 85 mph will result in a disqualification.

Penalties will be applied only to the race in which the overspeed occurs in. In the event of the race being a 1hour race the penalty applied will be recorded as double (i.e for 81mph speed record 2x 30sec penalty will be applied).

Penalties will be applied only to the race in which the overspeed occurs in.

- (c) The decision of the Officer of the Day will be final with no rights of appeal.

- (A) Day Licences are required for all drivers and crew up to a maximum of four races. A full Offshore Championship License is required for more than four races.



107.07 SPORTS CLASSIC 70MPH CLASS

- (A) 70mph Boats shall have no horsepower limitations.
- (B) 70mph Boats can be either monohulls or catamarans
- (C) 70mph Boats are min 18ft in length.
- (D) Crew numbers to a maximum of 5 (depending on seat and boat layout) and to the discretion of the Safety Committee on the day.
- (E) Minimum safety equipment as detailed in the National Rules 501.
- (F) Any type of propellers are permitted.

Maximum Speed 70 mph

- (a) OOD can make it compulsory to carry a handheld GPS (or other approved tracking device) that is zeroed at scrutineering and is capable of recording maximum and average speed and distance travelled.

(b) Penalties for exceeding the speed limits will be as follows:

- (i) Every Mph over 70mph recorded will result in a cumulative 30sec penalty
- (ii) Exceeding 75 Mph will result in a disqualification.

Penalties will be applied only to the race in which the overspeed occurs in. In the event of the race being a 1hour race the penalty applied will be recorded as double (i.e for 81mph speed record 2x 30sec penalty will be applied).

(c) The decision of the Officer of the Day will be final with no rights of appeal.

107.08 FAMILY CLASS

- (A) This is a nominated speed class open to all boats not eligible or wanting to race in the other classes. The class may be cross entered into via other racing classes. Boats will be timed and the boat closest to the nominated speed is the winner. In most cases the course layout will be the same as the sports class race.

Maximum Speed 160kmh

Minimum Speed 40kmh

- (B) Minimum safety equipment required:
 - (a) NZ Standard Helmets
 - (b) NZ Standard Buoyancy Vests for boats under 60 mph
 - (c) NZ Standard Race Jackets for boats 60+ mph
 - (d) Fire extinguisher
 - (e) 1 x smoke flare



- (f) Anchor and warp
- (g) Tow Line secured to towing eye
- (h) An Oar or Paddle
- (i) A 4 litre bailer
- (j) All competitors to have VHF or cell phone
- (C) Boat requirements:
 - (a) Must display a number on each side that is visible from 200m
 - (b) Tanks, Batteries, Steering and Seats must be adequately secured
 - (c) Engine/s must be securely mounted
- (D) All drivers and crew will be require Day Licenses

107.09 CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

The Executive has the final decision which championship classes will be competed for in each season. Competitors may be asked to choose an alternative class if there is limited numbers for a particular class.

108.01 RACING NUMBERS

- (A) All boats are to be allocated a race number the NZOPA, which is to be painted in waterproof black paint on a yellow or white background. No number may begin with a zero. All numbers shall be plain and upright.
- (B) These numbers shall be painted or made of self-adhesive tape of adequate strength so as to be clearly visible from both sides and from above. Those on the beam shall be placed on the forward half of the boat.
- (C) Individual **numbers** should conform to the following minimal dimensions:

Height	0.30 m
Width	0.23 m
Thickness	0.05 m
Spacing	0.13 m
- (D) The white background shall extend at least 228 mm in front of and beyond the **end** numerals and at least 76mm above and below the numerals. We recommend that the numbers be as big as practically possible.
- (E) The only discretion **should** be for a boat that does not have



sufficient height on the top sides.

(F) Superboat class boats will need to keep 1230mm x 300 mm for sponsor signage on three x locations:

- 1 on starboard side
- 1 on port side
- 1 on the deck

(G) Sports class boats will need to keep 900mm x 220mm for sponsor signage on three x locations;

- 1 on starboard side
- 1 on port side
- 1 on the deck



200 CONDITIONS AND CONDUCT OF EVENTS

- 200.01 For superboat entrant to be eligible for points, the named driver (driver or throttleman) must be in the boat at all times either crewing or driving the races entered in that season.
- 200.02 A driver shall enter only one boat for any one race.
- 200.03 In the event that a Superboat entrant named driver cannot attend one event due to circumstances beyond their control they may apply in writing for approval of the NZOPA to be awarded points if their boat competes under the control of another driver. Approval is solely at the NZOPA discretion. Under extenuating circumstances, the NZOPA may grant dispensation beyond the current one race rule. **[Note:** this rule does not apply to the sports classes where the boat rather than the driver is registered for points].
- 200.04 To qualify for championship points the entrant must have fully paid boat registration fees, completed entry documentation and passed scrutineering before the drivers briefing. Such entries must be accompanied by full payment of the entry fee, including membership fees, and accompanied by all returnable trophies won in the organiser's previous events, if not already returned.
- 200.06 All entries will be covered by an insurance company nominated by the NZOPA for Public Liability.
- 200.07 The organising club, its members, committee, sponsors and paid or voluntary assistants will not be responsible for any damage, injury or Act of God or accident connected with the event or organisation. Competitors are reminded that normal marine insurance is in most cases void while racing unless special arrangements have been made with their insurers.
- 200.07 In the event of a dispute over the interpretation of rules, the race day Jury or National OOD may, at their discretion, give an interim dispensation or ruling for that event only and refer the matter to a technical and rules committee for final adjudication.
- 200.08 Entrants must comply with all regulations and instructions of the organising club and observe Harbour Authorities and Police rulings and obey all Civil Laws and By Laws. Drivers and crew shall observe the instructions of the race officials and abide by the rules of the UIM, NZOPA and the race organisers.
- 200.09 Competitors, crew and their supporters must conduct themselves in an orderly and reasonable manner during the full period of race activities. Delinquent behaviour and failure to pay charges incurred as a result of attending any event shall be referred to the NZOPA executive committee who have the power to invoke Rule 213 or instruct the offender to make payment of accounts, charges for damages, or make apologies to offended persons. Such instructions shall be issued by the Executive Committee after a properly conducted inquiry.
- Delinquent behaviour includes any malicious comments, personal insults, threats of violence or legal action directed at race day officials, sponsors, and members of the NZOPA.
- 200.10 Any entrant found, in the opinion of the NZOPA executive to have contravened any



regulations or evaded the intention of the regulations, may be disqualified and may be prevented from entering any, or some, future events under these rules. Reference should also be made to Rule 217 - Penalties.

- 200.11 The Jury may impose time, or other, penalties on entrants who fail to comply with rules and instructions. Any time penalties imposed shall be added to the entrant's finishing time.
- 200.12 The entrant shall be entirely and solely responsible for all costs incurred by any search and rescue or salvage of the boat.
- 200.13 All drivers and/or crew must wear, for the duration of the race, a wrist identification bracelet.

201 PROMOTIONAL MONEY

- 201.01 Minimum Pool of \$6,000. All organising committees and/or local event organisers are to guarantee a pool of \$6,000 to cover event promotion and running costs. Balance of fund after helicopter, paramedic and maximum of \$500 trophy costs have been paid must be utilized as promotional funds via an NZOPA trust account.
- 201.02 The administration of the promotional funds shall be managed by the NZOPA.

202 TIME PENALTIES

- 202.01 The OOD will impose a 10 minute time penalty if any race boat misses any mark of the course within identifiable distance of the mark Control Boat. Multiple missed buoys will result in multiple time penalties.
- 202.02 Other time penalties may be imposed by the OOD for minor course or other race infringements. For infringements that the OOD or race day Jury consider to be serious, then disqualification should be considered.

202.1 OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

- 202.01 As per UIM rule 319, outside assistance is not permitted throughout the duration of the race. Outside assistance includes receiving parts, tools, onboard assistance or being under tow, unless purely to move you off the direct race course to allow you space to work to re-join the race without becoming a course hazard. Outside assistance does not include ship to shore radio communications. Any boats identified as receiving outside assistance of any sort other than verbal ship to shore communications shall be disqualified from that race.

203 PROTEST & APPEAL PROCEDURES

- 203.01 These judicial rules are as supplied and recommended by the New Zealand Power Boat Federation for use by all member groups nationally. The context remains as for the previous NZOPA rules, but far greater detail is provided on procedural matters. For International events, the U.I.M. judicial rules shall be used.



204 THE JURY

The Jury hears any protest raised by a driver.

204.01 Composition

- (a) The Jury must be composed of at least three members. The Organisers of an event appoint a Jury Chairman. This person must be experienced and have a good knowledge of the rules pertaining to the event. The other two members must be chosen from the best persons available taking into account their knowledge and experience also. If the Organisers fail to appoint these persons, then it shall be the responsibility of the Chairman to find two suitable people.
- (b) The composition of the Jury is announced at the Drivers briefing. The Jury members must also be present at such meeting.
- (c) Race Officials or Drivers cannot be Jury members.

204.02 Authority and Duties

- (a) The Jury sits as long as the event lasts, including the nominated time period following posting of results. The Jury shall not be excused until either any or all protests are heard, or the Race Secretary has declared that no protests have been received relating to the event.
- (b) The Jury must decide as soon as possible on all protests presented to it during the event.

204.03 Interested Parties

- (a) No member of a Jury who knows himself to have directly or indirectly an interest in one of the parties involved, may judge the protest.

205 PROTEST PROCEDURES

205.01 Validity of Protests

- (a) Only a driver may protest against facts pertaining only to the race(s) in which he takes part.
- (b) Joint protests signed by several members will not be considered.
- (c) All protests must be in legible writing.
- (d) It must state the reason for the protest and be accompanied by any relevant documents that shall provide evidence and the protest fee as stipulated by the Race Organiser.
- (e) All protests must be signed by the protester.
- (f) The protest must be handed to the Race Secretariat within the prescribed time. The Race Secretariat must, in the presence of the protester, record the time of receipt.



(g) Any costs involved in verification are to be borne by the losing party.

(h) A written protest can be withdrawn by the protester. He then loses the protest fee.

(i) The Jury must determine whether the protest presented to it has been lodged according to the rules. If it is found to be invalid, the reason(s) must be given to the protester.

205.02 Protest Fee

(a) The amount of the protest fee for NZOPA events shall be \$250.

(b) If a protest is upheld by the Jury, the fee must be returned to the protester.

205.03 Right of Protest

(a) A protest can be lodged against the posted provisional results or against any decision made by the Race Committee or against one or several competitors.

(b) In the event of a competitor protesting against a penalty imposed on him by the OOD, and another driver protesting simultaneously against this competitor due to the same incident, the Jury will only have one meeting with both competitors being party of this protest procedure.

(c) A protest can only be lodged on a subject that directly concerns the protester himself. A protest which complies with these rules cannot be refused by the Jury.

(d) No protest is permitted on Jury decisions. They may only be contested by the appeal procedure.

205.04 Time of Lodging a Protest

(a) A protest regarding the qualification of a boat, a motor, or a driver must be made before the drivers briefing. Starting in a race is considered as acceptance of the conditions and the eligibility of the other competitors. The only exception to the above is when the protester can prove the facts were not given to him before the drivers briefing. Then a protest can be lodged within the normal one hour time following the results being posted.

(b) Any other protest must be lodged within one hour of the first results being posted.

205.05 Judgement

(a) Decisions by the Jury shall be reached by simple majority of votes. In the case of equal votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

(b) Any judgement pronounced by the Jury stays in effect until altered by the Appeal Board.



205.06 Notification of Decision

- (a) All decisions by any Jury must be notified to the concerned parties in writing, including their right of appeal.

205.07 Availability of Documents

- (a) All documents relevant to any decision by the Jury must be filed with the NZOPA secretariat and held available at least until the time limit for an appeal has expired.

206 HEARING OF THE PROTEST

206.01 Right to a Hearing

- (a) Any person being party to a protest, or being charged for an offence against the rules shall have the right to be heard before the Jury in order to defend him/herself.
- (b) The Jury must give notice to all parties of where and when the hearing will take place.
- (c) If any party duly notified, fails to appear without giving an acceptable reason, judgement can be rendered by default.

206.02 Evidence

- (a) It is the responsibility of the parties involved in a protest to ensure that witnesses appearing on their behalf together with any other evidence are present and the Chairman of the Jury at his/her sole discretion may take their availability into account when determining the timing of the hearing.
- (b) Any costs incurred by the appearance of witnesses shall be borne by the respective parties unless decided otherwise by the Jury.

206.03 The Hearing Procedure

- (a) The following procedure must be followed in all hearings unless otherwise stated elsewhere in these rules:
 - (i) Written minutes must be taken
 - (ii) All parties to the case are entitled to be present and to hear and question all evidence at the hearing up to the time the Jury makes its decision. The protest shall be read out to the parties.
 - (iii) The parties shall be invited to state their cases. The parties may call witnesses. Each witness, after having given his account of the case, may be questioned by all parties and by the members of the Jury.
 - (iv) Any member of the Jury who is familiar with the case may



give his evidence.

(v) The witnesses shall withdraw and the parties shall be invited to make a final statement of their cases.

(vi) The Jury may recall any party, previous witness or new witness and call on other evidence.

(vii) The parties must be present during the whole of the recall and must be given the opportunity to question any new evidence after which they may re-make their final statements.

207 THE APPEALS PROCEDURE

207.01 Appeals Board¹

(a) The Appeals Board will decide on any appeal lodged by a competitor refuting a decision of the Race Day Jury.

207.02 Composition

(a) The Appeals Board shall be composed of at least three neutral members, but no more than five, the Chairman included. The members shall be appointed by the President of the NZOPA. These persons shall be knowledgeable and experienced within the sport. One member shall be drawn from another NZPBF member organisation. No member shall have served on the Jury from which the decision is being appealed or have directly or indirectly any interest in the parties involved.

207.03 Authority and Duties

(a) The Appeals Board shall assemble and hear all evidence relating to any appeal within 28 days of the event. It shall sit until a decision is reached. Upon such decision being reached by simple majority, which shall be final and binding, the Appellant shall be notified in writing (letter, fax or email) of the result.

207.04 Costs

(a) All costs of the Appeal procedure shall be borne by the Appellant. This includes all travel, accommodation, communication, venue cost, miscellaneous costs and any costs borne by any witness's requested to attend. The minimum Appeal deposit amount required shall be \$500.

207.05 Right of Appeal

(a) A decision made by a Jury may be appealed by the losing party when they consider that an injustice has been made against them and/or fresh evidence has been made available that may have altered the decision of the Jury.

¹

The Executive Committee are obliged to action any decisions made following the appeal boards ruling.



207.06 Notice of Intention to Appeal

- (a) The intention to appeal must be notified in writing to the Secretariat of the NZOPA by the appellant within four days of the day following the Jury decision.

207.07 Lodging of an Appeal

- (a) The appeal must be sent by letter, fax or email and it must be signed by the appellant. The reason for the appeal must also be stated.
- (b) All appeal documents must be received by the NZOPA Secretariat within ten days from the date when the notice of intention to appeal was received.
- (c) Address, telephone, email and/or fax should be clearly mentioned on the appeal so that the NZOPA Secretariat can send any correspondence regarding the appeal.

207.08 Notification of the Parties of the Appeal

- (a) The NZOPA Secretariat must within two days from receiving the appeal, notify by letter, fax or email the other parties that an appeal has been lodged and that they may provide any additional fresh evidence. A time limit for the provision of such fresh evidence must be provided.

207.09 Appeal Board Decisions

- (a) The Appeal Board takes its own decisions based on every item of information available. The decision of the Jury may be upheld, changed or not upheld. The decision of the Appeal Board is final.

207.10 Costs

- (a) Should the Appellant be successful with his appeal, he/she may make application for a partial refund of his/her deposit paid. Such refund shall be calculated as the difference between the actual cost of the Appeal hearing and the deposit paid, assuming the actual cost is less than the deposit.

207.11 The Hearing Procedure

- (a) The following procedure must be followed in all hearings unless otherwise stated elsewhere in these rules:
 - (i) Written minutes must be taken
 - (ii) All parties to the case are entitled to be present and to hear and question all evidence at the hearing up to the time the Appeal Board makes its decision. The protest shall be read out to the parties.
 - (iii) The parties shall be invited to state their cases. The parties may call witnesses. Each witness, after having given his account of the case, may be questioned by all parties and by the members of the Appeal Board.



(iv) Any member of the Appeal Board who is familiar with the case may give his evidence.

(v) The witnesses shall withdraw and the parties shall be invited to make a final statement of their cases.

(vi) The Appeal Board may recall any party, previous witness or new witness and call on other evidence.

(vii) The parties must be present during the whole of the recall and must be given the opportunity to question any new evidence after which they may re-make their final statements.

208 PENALTIES

208.01 Penalties

- (a) Any proven breach of applicable Rules may be penalised. The OOD may impose penalties during the event under his control. He may take advice from other Race Officials, but only he may dispense such penalties during the event.
- (b) If the Rules do not determine a special penalty for a relevant breach, the penalty given has to be proportional to the seriousness of the breach. The proportionality is at the discretion of the decision maker.
- (c) The event Race Committee or the NZOPA shall only impose penalties when they deem the relevant infringement to be so serious that it has to be penalised, although the deadlines for penalising or lodging a protest have already expired. After the expiry of the aforementioned deadlines, a penalty for an ordinary breach of the Rules shall in general not be imposed.
- (d) The Race Jury or the Appeal Board following a protest or an appeal can (only) impose penalties which can be imposed by the OOD.

208.02 Deadlines for Penalising

- (a) The OOD can only impose penalties until the first results of the race are posted.
- (b) The NZOPA can only impose penalties within three months from the day the infringement occurred.
- (c) These deadlines are not valid for penalties imposed by the OOD for the reason of post-race technical scrutinising. In this case, the penalty has to be imposed as soon as possible after the receipt of the scrutinising results.

208.03 Unacceptable Behaviour

- (a) In order to protect the interests of the sporting community, the following actions may also be penalised by the OOD or the NZOPA.
 - (i) Any deliberate act taken to gain unfair advantage.



- (ii) Any false act made or statement given with the intention of suppressing facts required for the proper conduct of a race.
- (iii) Any attempt to bribe or the taking of a bribe.
- (iv) Any abusive or unsportsmanlike behaviour.

208.04 REPRIMAND

- (a) A reprimand is a notice of disapproval of an unacceptable action. It must be recorded by the Race Secretariat. A reprimand must be witnessed. A reprimand automatically constitutes warning that if the offence recurs, a heavier penalty will be given. A reprimand is valid for twelve months.
- (b) A reprimand can be given by the OOD or the NZOPA.

208.05 Yellow / Red Cards

- (a) A yellow or red card may be given by the OOD.
- (b) Notice of a yellow or red card will be posted with the race results. The recipient must be notified privately before a red card is posted.
- (c) The driver has one hour from the posting of the penalty to protest. If the protest is not upheld, he can make an appeal.
- (d) All yellow / red cards count towards the drivers CV.
- (e) Yellow / Red cards can be given for bad behaviour on the water, including:
 - (i) up to two yellow cards at a time for dangerous driving
 - (ii) one red card for extreme blatant dangerous driving.
- (f) A driver with a red card is immediately prevented from taking any further part in the event or further heats if a multi-heat race.
- (g) A driver with a red card or three yellow cards will also lose the right to take part in the next race in his class. Then all cards are removed.
- (h) All yellow cards will remain valid for the four events in which he competes following the date on which the last yellow card was delivered.

208.06 Disqualification

- (a) Disqualification deletes a competitor from the results of the heat or race where the offence occurred.
- (b) Disqualification is imposed by the OOD.

208.07 Temporary Suspension

- (a) Temporary suspension suspends a competitor, a competitor together with crew, a crew member, or an Official from all or part of an event. Temporary



suspension may be given for serious indiscipline.

- (b) Temporary suspension is imposed by the OOD.

208.08 Prolonged Suspension

- (a) Prolonged suspension can be imposed on a competitor, an Official or an organisation for deliberate fraud, repeated or very serious indiscipline or very serious misconduct.
- (b) Prolonged suspension can be imposed only on the licence holders, Officials and local event organisers of the NZPBF member organisation, by that organisation.
- (c) A prolonged suspension is National. The NZPBF member organisation must immediately advise the NZPBF and the NZPBF must inform all other NZPBF member organisations.

208.09 Exclusion

- (a) Exclusion means permanent loss of all rights to take part in any activities falling under the NZPBF members and its affiliated organisations. A person or an organisation who has committed a moral or sporting offence of extreme gravity is liable to be excluded.
- (b) A sentence of exclusion can be pronounced only by the NZPBF on the recommendation of the NZPBF member organisation.
- (c) Exclusion is International. The NZPBF must immediately notify all NZPBF member organisations and the UIM.

209 PRIORITY OF THESE RULES

- 209.01 The course of these rules has to be exhausted before a dispute can be brought before SPARC, or a civil court.

300 CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL

- 300.01 Any crewmember or driver under the influence of alcohol or drugs prior to the start of the race will cause automatic disqualification of the entrant craft. Substitution of the crewmember will not be permitted. No alcohol may be carried or consumed during the race. The level of alcohol permitted in the blood shall be not more than 50% of that permitted by the Road Traffic Act. Refer also to UIM Rule 205.02.
- 300.02 New Zealand Power Boat Federation/UIM Anti-doping code applies.



400 SCRUTINEERING AND BRIEFING

- 400.01 Every NZOPA registered race boat shall be subject to annual scrutineering at a time and place designated by that the NZOPA Technical Committee.
- 400.02 It is the prime responsibility of the driver to ensure that all rules are complied with. The scrutineers will check the craft, insofar as is possible, for the observance of rules however the judges may at any time cancel the approval of a scrutineer if there is evidence that an incorrect interpretation of the rules has been applied.
- 400.03 The NZOPA Technical Committee will ensure that all boats are check weighed during the season. If any boat is found underweight, the driver will lose all previous points for that season, as well as any other penalty that the Race Day Jury may impose. The costs of weighing boats and/or trailers are to be borne by the entrant.
- 400.04 All NZOPA registered entrants must self-check all pre-race scrutineering requirements as shown on the pre-race scrutineering and disclaimer forms in the race pack or on the web site www.nzoffshore.co.nz. These forms must be signed by each driver and it is their responsibility that the checks have been done and adhered to the rules. These completed forms must be handed into the Race Control bus before briefing otherwise that boat will not be eligible to start. There will however be pre-race spot checks done and if the disclaimer and scrutineering forms have been signed but the boat does not pass a spot check then the responsibility goes back to the driver and therefore an unsafe boat will be prevented from starting the race. All boats entering as a Day Entry will be fully scrutineered by the scrutineering team.
- 400.05 Failure to comply with the above requirements may result in a severe penalty being applied. The scrutineer's decisions are final, except where an entrant is refused permission to start. The entrant has, in that case, right of appeal to the NZOPA Technical Officer.



500 SAFETY RULES

- 500.01 The moulded length of entrant craft shall not be less than 4.25m.

- 500.02 Entrant craft must have at least 20% of their length fully decked from the bow with rigid material able to be walked on by a 75kg adult.

- 500.03 A suitable towline shall be easily accessible, with a minimum diameter of 8mm for family class, 10mm for sports class boats and 12mm for superboat class boats. The line shall be capable of towing the craft under adverse conditions.

- 500.04 A life jacket complying with NZ Standard Specifications must be worn by each competitor and crew member for the duration of the race, also on craft capable of exceeding 100 km/h NZOPA approved racing type life jackets must be worn. Fully restrained drivers should refer to UIM Rule 508.26 - Racing Vests.

- 500.05 All fuel tanks, containers, batteries and equipment likely to cause damage if let loose in the craft must be properly secured. Rubber shock boards etc. is not considered adequate for batteries and fuel tanks. Tie down ropes should be at least 6mm diameter and at least two turns used to secure a battery or outboard fuel tank. Scrutineers should check and carefully inspect all steering anchor points, cables and safety stop devices and engine mounts.

- 500.06 An entrant which, in the opinion of the scrutineers or officials, is overloaded shall be given the opportunity of restowing or unloading unnecessary equipment. If the scrutineers are not satisfied with the loading the entrant will be disqualified.

- 500.07 All crew seats must be securely fixed to the main hull structure.

- 500.08 The structure of cockpit fairings must at least equal the strength of the main deck, i.e. made of rigid material and be able to be walked on by a 75kg adult. The forward fairing must rise to a minimum height to be level with the crew person's lower chin when sighted on the horizontal plane. It is recommended that the top 50mm of the fairing front to be at least 45° from horizontal. This will apply to all classes and types of hull except when an approved safety cockpit is fitted.

- 500.09 All NZ Superboat class boats must be canopied and fitted with head restraints. These shall comply with UIM Rule 508.

- 500.10 All boats using restraints shall comply in full to UIM Rule 508.

- 500.11 It is illegal (under crantage act) to ride on boats in any way whilst being craned.

- 500.12 It is mandatory that the first two boats that arrive after any accident involving other competing boats stop to render assistance and remain at the accident scene until relieved by another suitably qualified rescue crew on one of the patrol boats. Failure to do so will result in instant disqualification from the race.

- 500.13 Placing and Championship Points will be awarded to any boat / driver that stops at the accident scene and provides assistance. Such placing shall be related to the last confirmed position it held prior to the time of stopping at the accident scene after deleting all non-finishers from the placing list.



- 500.14 Each Superboat must carry a minimum of two or more fire extinguishers totalling at least 4kg which are easily accessible by both crew. In addition, a fully automatic on-board type fire extinguisher system is strongly recommended but not mandatory.
- 500.15 All competitors shall carry VHF and / or cellphones for use in emergencies only.
- 500.16 It is the competitors responsibility to ensure that their craft is fitted with appropriate flotation. All boats must be constructed or fitted with enough reserve buoyancy to support their own weight even when fully swamped.

501 MINIMUM SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- 501.01 One hand fire extinguisher (for Sports classes boats).
- 501.02 A First Aid kit.
- 501.03 Two oars or paddles (for Sports classes).
- 501.04 Suitable gear for berthing must be carried on all craft.
- 501.05 An orange flag measuring a minimum of 1m x 1m and the means of hoisting it to indicate retirement.
- 501.06 For open cockpit boats, a kill switch attached to driver (recommended for co-driver as well).
- 501.07 A working compass or GPS (these may be hand held).
- 501.08 An adequate tool kit and sharp knife.

502 RULES OF THE ROAD

- 502.01 When two boats are approaching one another so as to involve risk of collision, one of them must keep out of the way of the other as follows:
 - (a) When two boats meet head on, each must alter her course to starboard (right).
 - (b) When two boats are crossing, the one which has the other on her starboard side must give way.
- 502.02 Where by any of these rules one of the two boats is to give way, the other must keep her course and speed.
- 502.03 Every boat which is directed by these rules to give way to another boat must, if the circumstance of the case admit, avoid crossing ahead of the other.
- 502.04 Every boat which is directed by these rules to give way to another boat must on approaching her, if necessary, slacken her speed, or stop or reverse.
- 502.05 Any boat overtaking any other must give way to the overtaken boat.



- 502.06 No boat may deliberately alter its course to prevent another boat overtaking it, except as required to round a course mark.
- 502.07 In obeying these rules, due regard must be made to all dangers of navigation and collision, and to any special circumstances which may render a departure from the above rules necessary in order to avoid immediate danger.
- 502.08 An overtaking boat is deemed to have completed the overtaking manoeuvre when the stern / transom of the overtaking boat has passed the bow of the overtaken boat.
- 502.09 For clarity, National Rule 502.08 replaces all related U.I.M. rules including overlap rules. If you are passing another boat, then YOU must give way.

503 DAMAGE TO BUOYS

- 503.01 Any buoy damaged, for any reason, shall be paid for in full by the driver / team. This will be at a minimum, to cover the cost of an effective repair, or full replacement cost of the buoy.



600 FUELLING AND FUEL INSTALLATIONS

- 600.01 Fuel lines must be fitted with shut off valves for each tank outlet. "Plug in" outboard fuel line connectors comply with this rule.
- 600.02 No fittings whatsoever except a threaded fitting shall enter or leave a fuel tank at any point lower than 75mm from the top.
- 600.03 Filters after the fuel pump are prohibited other than fully metal encased filters with threaded fuel line connections. Care must be taken that possible leaks from the above cannot reach any source of ignition.
- 600.04 Fuel lines may be any hose recommended by its manufacturer for carrying fuel but all pressure fuel lines must be fuel rated for that pressure. Specifically ordinary PVC hose is prohibited, rubber hose manufactured as "oil and grease hose" is suitable for fuel tank filter and breather pipes. Suction lines between the fuel pump and the fuel tank may be nylon, nitril, neoprene or hose marked and sold as suitable for petrol. Pressure lines may be copper or steel tube.
- 600.05 Flexible pressure lines should be purpose made metal braided petrol hose as described above to retard the danger of a hose burning.
- 600.06 All unions and fittings shall be properly secure and tight. Fuel lines to be properly clamped to the hull, except in the case of a standard outboard fuel line.
- 600.07 Outboard tanks may be original equipment or as specified in rule 610.
- 600.08 Permanent fuel tanks must have the fillers installed outside the cockpit and cabin coamings so that any fuel spillage runs overboard, and 12mm internal diameter lines to vents outside the coaming, adequately protected against the ingress of water
- 600.09 Filler and vents must be of approved materials as in rule 604 above.
- 600.10 Outboard boats may use fuel tanks with direct filling up to 32 litres per tank provided that:
- (a) Not more than four such tanks are carried in the boat, all properly secured;
 - (b) these tanks are removed from the cockpit during refuelling.
- 600.11 Refuelling on the two race format is expressly prohibited. Anyone caught refuelling between races will be disqualified from that race. Under exceptional circumstances, the OOD can overrule this rule.



700 ENGINE INSTALLATIONS (INBOARDS)

- 700.01 On open cockpit boats engines and transmissions to be properly covered by boxes or shields designed to prevent any person touching any hot, moving, or live electrical part when the covers are secured in place.
- 700.02 The exhaustive gases must be designed in such a way that the driver and his crew are protected against the dangers represented by these gases. The whole exhaust circuit shall be cooled in its entire length, and this shall be effected by water circulation, water jacketing, *or by mixing water with the exhaust gases. It may be tolerated that a short pipe length not exceeding 3cm in length and connecting the exhaust piping to the cylinder block or between the different sections of the piping or the connection with the turbine supercharger, or the interruptions necessary for the supercharger, need not be cooled.

701 ENGINE INSTALLATIONS (OUTBOARD)

- 701.01 The fitting of one tie bar assembly is required for all outboard multi-engined boats.
- 701.02 Outboard motors must be properly covered by an original equipment hood.
- 701.03 Outboard motor exhaust outlets must be below the water level when the boat is stationary. Outboard motors must be securely bolted to the transom.

702 ELECTRICAL

- 702.01 All electrical equipment must be adequately guarded or screened against sparking likely to ignite fuel or gas. Generator brushes should be screened by a gauze cover under the generator endplate. Starter motors should be checked to ensure that the motor unit and brushes are sealed. All electrical connections must be tight to eliminate sparking. Spark plug leads with push on terminal clips must be covered by rubber mouldings that are a tight fit to the HT lead and porcelain, or coil and distributor cap.
- 702.02 Entrant craft should be fitted with a safety battery isolating switch; i.e. enclosed contact type to prevent arcing.



800 DISPENSATIONS TO UIM RULES

801 All Classes

801.01 Plastic reed valves may be fitted as made available from the outboard engine manufacturer.

802 All Classes - Lifting Eyes

802.01 UIM Rule 703.7

803 All Classes

803.01 Outside communication via ship to shore radio link is no longer viewed as outside assistance. UIM Rule 319

804 NZ Offshore Superboat 600 Class

807.01 Allow GPS navigation. UIM Rule 319



900 ORGANISER PROCEDURE FOR RUNNING OF RACES IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE

901 PRE RACE

- 901.01 All entry fees are payable directly to the NZOPA. Organisers must liaise with the NZOPA to set a budget, confirm their minimum \$6000 funding and to agree how the race will be funded. Where possible the NZOPA will attempt to assist in funding the Rescue Helicopter, Paramedics, and Insurance.
- 901.02 Details of courses, patrol and control boat positioning should be submitted to the National Steward for approval at least 2 days in advance of the event.
- 901.03 One month before your club race date, race packs and entry forms should be sent out. These are to go to all competitors on the register (available from the NZOPA Secretary) plus one to each member club secretary and to each of the executive of the NZOPA. Prior to this your Officer of the Day must have submitted all relevant information, including course details, race committee, jury, patrol boats, etc to the National Steward for approval. This is so any problems can be sorted out before competitors get their race packs. These race packs must contain all information as listed in UIM Rule 204.01 (Programme/Racing Instructions), plus the following;
- (a) Place for debriefing.
 - (b) Prize list, prize giving place and time.
- 901.04 **Documentation for competitors intending to race include:**
- (a) Licences - for both driver and intending co-drivers.
 - (b) Boat Measurement Certificate.
 - (c) Club membership.
- 901.06 **Scrutineering**
- (a) Every entrant should have had his pre-season scrutineering done at least 24 hours prior to his first race.
- 901.07 **Pre-Race Scrutineering**
- (a) Must be done within the time specified in the race pack. The Area Steward (Officer of the Day) must oversee all scrutineering. The National OOD carries all homologation papers should they be needed.



901.08

Race Organisation Minimum Requirements

- (a) Standard briefing format as per National Rule 001
- (b) Control Boats to have one red, one black and one pink flag; radio communication with base and race entry list.
- (c) NZOPA AGM recommendation: Races to be run as early in the day as possible
- (d) Contact NZOPA Publicity Officer and supply him as much pre-race information as possible. Have phone and fax facilities available for him at the race venue.
- (e) Lap scorers to have contact with headquarters.
- (f) Medical assistance to be present.
- (g) Fire prevention equipment to be present.
- (h) Local Authorities should be contacted.
- (i) Patrol boats to be adequate and approved by National OOD.
- (j) All turning points of the course must be clearly identified and have a control boat in close proximity, but not closer than 100 m from the turning mark. If a permanent object is not utilised, then the mark will be a temporary, clearly identifiable coloured buoy that should not be less than 1.5 m high x 1 m diameter, or equivalent, anchored in position. A control boat must not be the turn mark. All marks shall be provided with compass co-ordinates in the written race instructions.
- (k) Craning facilities provided will be sufficient to allow all boats that require to be craned, to be lifted in (and out) within a one hour time period.
- (l) NZOPA should endeavour to video the start / finish line (for the duration of the race) to assist in resolving and disputes over the accuracy of the time keeping records.

901.09

Control Boats

- (a) In the event of an accident, the 'Official' on the witnessing Control Boat must report to the 'Officer of the Day'.
- (b) The Officer of the Day has the sole responsibility of stopping or postponing the race, except in cases of ²force majeure, where the 'Safety Officer' will resume that responsibility. Should communications to either of these Officers fail and the accident is injury related where the rescue paramedic leaves the helicopter, the Race Official on the Control Boat MUST raise the RED FLAG.

²

Cases of force majeure - time of mishap, failure, dangerous conditions, etc. of natural elements, machinery or communications.



901.10 Sports Boat Classes

- (a) Local event organisers wishing to conduct such events must comply with NZOPA rules 108.1 to 108.11, 504 and 541. Bright/Fluro crash helmets are compulsory for boats that exceed 80kph and all boats must also carry a kill switch system of some description. Local event organisers not wishing to comply with these requirements must arrange their own insurance and will run outside the jurisdiction of the NZOPA.

901.11 Immediate Post Race

- (a) Posting of Results: Results must be posted at a point designated in briefing. Results can be corrected by the OOD at any time. The OOD should notify any competitor involved if a correction is required.
- (b) Inspections: These can take place straight after the race or at a time and place designated by either the National OOD or the National Technical Officer or the Technical Committee.
- (c) Prize money: In the case of a protest effecting prize money, the prize money purse for the class(es) concerned shall be remitted to the NZOPA who will distribute following the outcome of the final decisions.
- (d) Results: The lap scorers must complete lap sheets and hand them to the Race Secretary. The Race Secretary is then responsible for collating any minutes of the Jury, pre-race scrutineering forms and all other relevant information contained in UIM Rule 326 and forward all these immediately to the NZOPA Secretary.

902 OTHER EVENTS

- 902.01 Any Organisation that wishes to run an event either as part of or separate from the Offshore Powerboat Events annually sanctioned by the NZOPA Inc, must apply in writing at least three calendar months prior to the planned event for approval. Such application must be accompanied by a written copy of the Rules that the planned event is to be run under and a signed declaration that such Rules will be rigidly applied should the event be approved. No NZOPA registered boat or licensed driver shall be permitted to compete unless such NZOPA sanction is obtained. Such special event Rules must place emphasis on both driver and spectator safety.

End