



NEWCASTLE YACHT CLUB

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Newcastle Yacht Club Sailpast Protocol

What is the Sailpast ??

Based on 600 years of British Naval traditions, it is common practice for yacht clubs to hold an annual Sailpast shortly after launch, as an official start to the boating season. This is a ceremonial event that encourages skippers to return their vessels to “Bristol condition” for the season ahead, and provides an opportunity for members to come together as a club with all vessels, both power and sail, participating in a joint activity on the water. It is typically followed by a social event attended by Sailpast participants and invited guests.

This Year's Event:

The Annual Sailpast and Review of the Fleet will be officiated by the Club's Rear Commodore of Sail. This is necessitated by circumstances preventing our Commodore's attendance.

Times to note are:

- 12:30 Skippers' Meeting
- 13:00 Boats leave the docks to assemble in the marshalling area
- 13:45 Sailpast
- 19:00 Buffet and dance at Bobby C's

Assembly in the marshalling area:

- The fleet will assemble in a marshalling area (normally) upwind of the Rear Commodore's yacht (CAJUN), and toward the south or west mark. The location will be determined at the 12:30 skipper's meeting.
- The Past Commodore's vessel, will signal the start of the sailpast at 13:45 with one long signal. This signal will be preceded by a warning signal and radio all-call at 13:30; 13:35; 13:40 and 13.44.
- When you have sighted the vessel you are to follow, fall in behind and attempt to maintain a three (3) boat length interval.
- Radio communication will be via Channel 09.
- The Review Ship is the Rear Commodore's yacht (CAJUN) which will be anchored in an area close to the North race mark.

The Sailpast order of Yachts:

At 13:45, the Past Commodore will lead the fleet past the Rear Commodore's yacht and will be followed by the Newcastle Yacht Club Fleet in assigned order, followed by the Rear Commodore of Power. The actual order of yachts will be reviewed at the Skippers' Meeting.

The Salute:

Sail past the Rear Commodore's yacht maintaining an interval of approximately three boat lengths and salute in the following manner.

- Yachts with an ensign will dip the ensign. (Lower to half staff and then raise again)
- Yachts without an ensign will luff their foresail (Release the jib sheet and allow to luff).
- The Rear Commodore will return the salute by hand.

The salute should commence one boat length before reaching the Review Vessel and continue for one boat length beyond. Wherever possible the skipper and crew should stand and face the Rear Commodore. Only the Rear Commodore salutes by hand.

After passing the Review Vessel, and depending on the sea state, it is preferred that vessels round up and break off toward open water (south) at least until all vessels in the fleet have passed through the review. With fair winds...enjoy the day!

Upon arriving back at your slip, dress ship. (Fly your flags burgees, streamers, signal flags etc... whatever you have...Dress it up!)

In the event of inclement Weather:

In the event of foul weather, and upon instructions from the Rear Commodore, the fleet shall remain at their moorings and the Rear Commodore's yacht will pass through the harbour.

Post Sailpast Event:

Please join us at Bobby C's for our hot and cold finger foods buffet and dance. Our evening together starts at 7 pm. \$40/couple. IF you have not already RSVP'd to the vicecommodore@newcastle yachtclub.com please do so now!

Attire:

This is the Club's only 'formal' event. As such, traditional blue and white attire is preferred.

Please note:

- All participating vessels must have an operating radio on board, tuned to channel 09.
- Weather conditions may dictate small changes in the plan. Thus, it is important that at least one crew member attend the Skippers' meeting at 12:30.
- We will have a mix of power and sail craft.

Questions?

Members of the Board will be on hand to answer any questions re this event.

If you are interested in assisting this great event, please speak to one of the Board members listed on our web site...We are looking forward to a great day!

See you on the water!