



PredictWind 2025 NZ Wingfoil National Champs

7th - 9th March

Wakatere Boating Club SFS Clean Regatta Aiming for Platinum

ELIMINATION OF SINGLE-USE ITEMS

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



As usual, Wakatere used our trusty water stations that have now been in use for over 5 years. We also backed this up with water jugs and glasses freely available at the bar. Competitors were reminded to bring their own bottles in the **Letter to Competitors** emailed to all entries on 6th March 2025.

REFUELLING & HYDRATION

- Water Stations: Several locations set up to refill drink bottles. Please bring your own bottles.

2. Eliminate Plastic Straws

We stand by our NO STRAW policy and continue to offer paper straws instead.

3. Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware



We offered a range of food during the event - all was served using compostable serveware and we made sure to match our compost signs to further emphasise the importance of composting. Especially as some of the clear drinking cups that are made from sugar cane can look deceptively like plastic, this is another important aspect of education around plastic alternatives.

4. Use or Provide Reusable Bags



Our wonderful Doyle lunch bags continue to serve us well. We had 40 volunteers on each of the 3 days of racing - that's 120 lunches that went out in bags that will be reused many more times in their lifetime. Red bags are used to clearly indicate the vegetarian option.

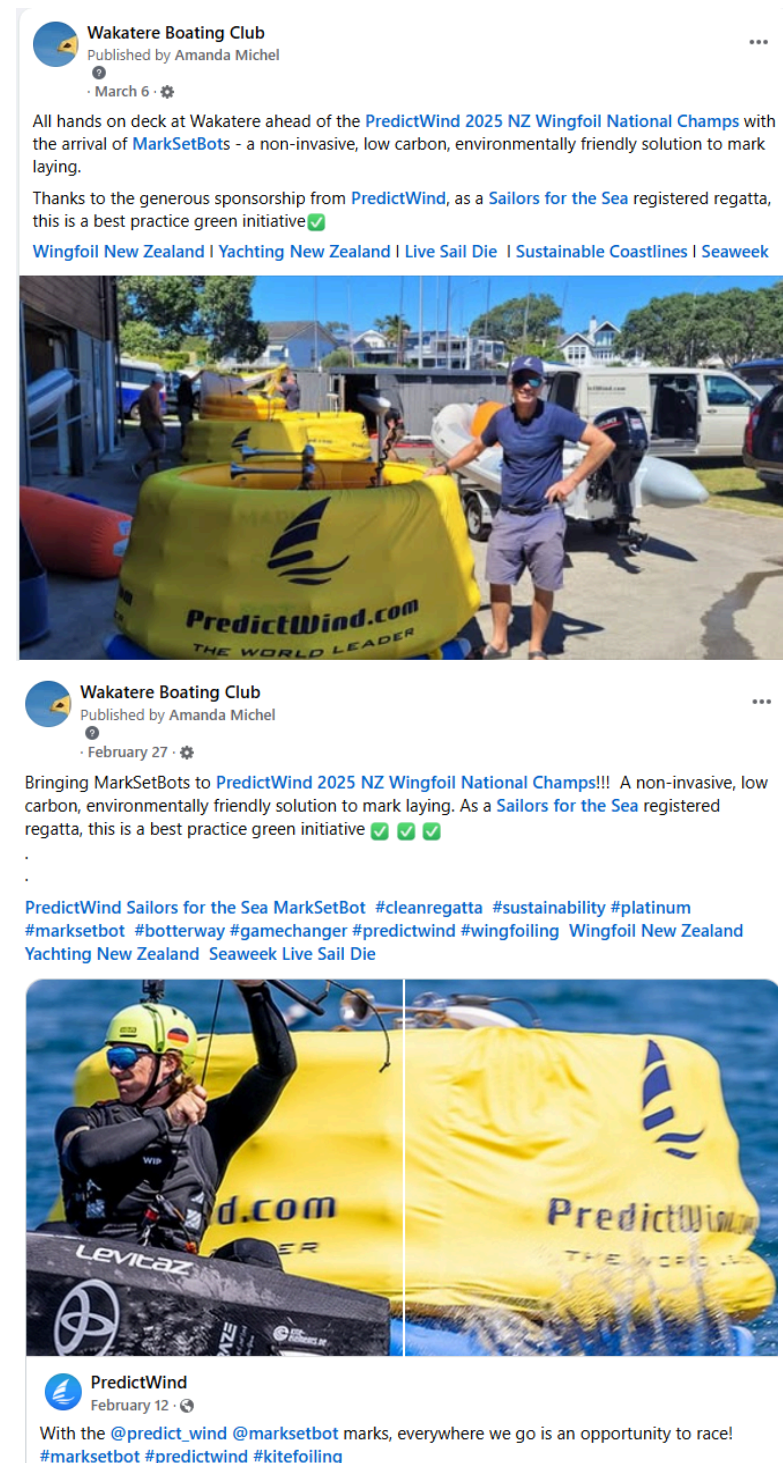
5. Award Practical Items or Use a Perpetual or Upcycled Trophy



Our lucky competitors were awarded a fantastic range of foiling equipment, as well as all trophies being perpetual.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

6. Publicize Your Sustainability Efforts



Working with PredictWind, we used MarkSetBots for this regatta, which minimises seabed damage from anchoring and cuts fuel consumption for course setting.

The Sailors for the Sea logo is on the Wakatere Events page, linked to the SFS website and tagged in all event Facebook posts.

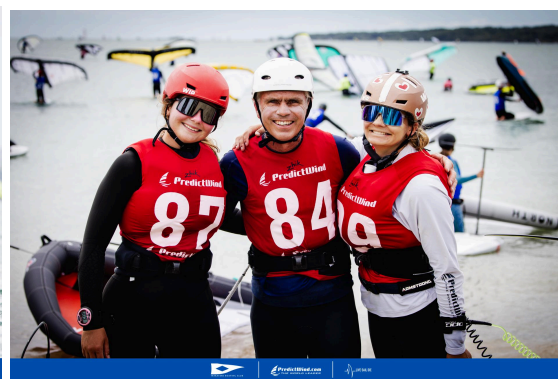
7. Involve Local Organisations



MarkSetBots - Wakatere members collaborated with our title sponsor, PredictWind, to optimize the set-up and use of the [MarkSetBots](#). A trial session was run the week before the regatta as well as on race day, which provided an opportunity to inform and share knowledge about the environmental advantages of using MarkSetBots. The following week, Wakatere members participated in the Secondary Schools Keel Boat Regatta at the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron and the same MarkSetBots were utilized. By sharing expertise and information, we contribute to the protection of our ocean.

Sailmakers - Wakatere's leadership in environmental practices is inspiring other clubs and members of the marine industry. Collaborating with Doyle Sails, Wakatere introduced reusable lunch bags for volunteers, a concept now being adopted by other clubs like the Royal Akarana Yacht Club, which also used Doyle Sails lunch bags at the subsequent Optimist Nationals.

Race Bibs - Another collaborative effort between sponsors PredictWind, the foiling classes and each of the clubs hosting regattas is that we all share the same bibs for regattas. Rather than purchasing new bibs for each event, the bibs are shared around host clubs, saving the need for the production of multiple batches of single-use bibs.



8. Post Educational and Reusable Signage



COMPOST US



The plastic reminder poster remains on the Notice board at Wakatere, highlighting the impact of plastics on oceans. The compost signs are updated for each event to reflect the specific serveware that guests will use, providing real-time education.

9. Serve Local Food or Source Seafood Sustainably



One of our fabulous sponsors was Karajoz Coffee, a local company that uses Fairtrade-certified coffee. We procured all our produce locally from New World Supermarket, including bread, pastries, and muffins, which were baked and delivered fresh daily to eliminate the need for plastic wrapping.

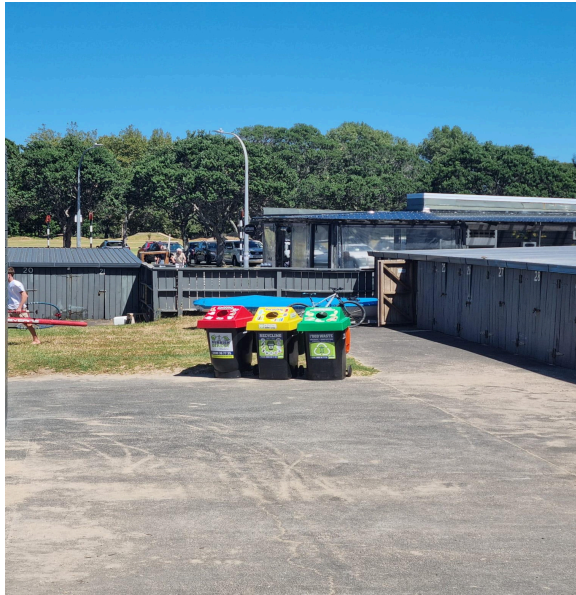
RESPONSIBLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

10. Organize a Green Team



Where would we be without our wonderful Wakatere volunteer Green Team.

11. Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement and Signage



Careful waste streaming is a standard practice at Wakatere.

We use Landfill, Recycling & Compost wheelie bins that are then emptied into larger collection bins to ensure we keep rubbish contained and managed during the event. This was highlighted to all entrants in the **Letter to Competitors** -

Wakatere Facilities

Waste management: organic, inorganic, and recycling bins will be stationed in various zones. Take a moment to choose the right waste stream.

Sailors for the Sea

The Wingfoil Nationals is registered with Sailors for the Sea, and we appreciate your support in helping us achieve Platinum Clean Regatta status.

To avoid single-use plastics, please bring your own reusables: water bottle, coffee cup and lunch box/bag for yourself and your support team members. Choose the correct bin for your refuse; choose electronic viewing over printing out NOR or Sailing instructions; consider carpooling, bike riding or walking to the club each day. Aim to leave the marine environment and shoreline better than you found it.

12. Divert Food Waste from the Landfill



Our compost bins were the most frequently emptied during the regatta, not because we had any volume of food waste, but because we used all compostable plates, cups, serviettes and bowls for serving food.

We use a local company called Rubbish Direct who collect our bins weekly and are able to use

food waste and compostables, which are sent to Ecogas (<https://www.ecogas.co.nz/>). This is an anaerobic digestive system utilising organic matter to capture biogas to generate sustainable biogas. Rubbish Direct are exploring other alternatives to managing food waste - black soldier flies, home composting, chickens, worm farming and recently banana swales. The chicken home composting combo is a favourite so far – because they receive tasty eggs daily!

<https://rubbishdirect.co.nz/products-services/food-waste/>

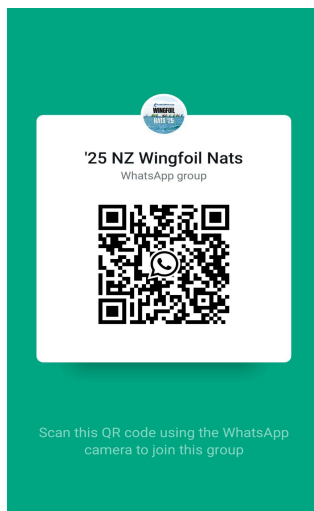
13. Use Paperless Event Management

As is standard practice at Wakatere - we run all our regattas as paperless. We use online entry, QR code system for sign on/off and all results are viewable on a big screen tv or are available on the regatta website. All NOR and SI are posted on our Facebook event page and available via the competitor WhatsApp groups we established for the event.

1. Online Entry
2. Online Support boat form
3. Online Volunteer form
4. Online sign-on/off via QR code
5. Registration is in person on race day via laptop
6. Whatsapp groups: Competitors, Race Management, Volunteers, Admin.



Join the Sailor WhatsApp group QR SignOn Form



Questions Responses 281 Settings

PredictWind
2025 NZ WINGFOIL NATIONAL CHAMPS

SIGN ON - PredictWind 2025 NZ Wingfoil National Champs.

B I U ↻ ✖

All wingers must complete this form BEFORE launching every day of the event.

First name *

Short answer text

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

14. Host a Beach or Marina Clean-up



During such a busy event, this is one area we did not manage to organise during this regatta. We plan to prioritise this in the early stages of our next regatta planning and work with our friends from [The Clean Up Crew](#) to help us achieve this.

15. Promote Alternative Transportation

For all our regattas, we have transport and parking advice for visitors and members of the club. It is part of our standard regatta procedure under [Transport Options](#) on each event page.

16. Increase Awareness of Wildlife and Habitat Protection



Race Officers running the sailors' Briefing put extra emphasis on the safety of sealife in the waters off Wakatere. Special mention was made that Wakatere run our regattas as Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas and explained the waters off Narrow Neck Beach are a frequent route for Orca and Dolphin pods. Sailors were advised to be aware and be prepared to halt winging or divert their path if needed.

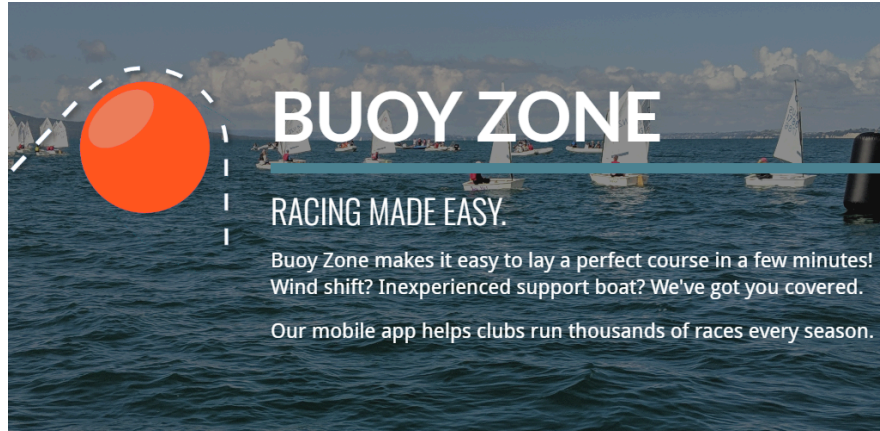
17. Offer Vegetarian or Vegan Alternatives



Vegetarian option available in the club kitchen and for race management lunches. One of our guests' favourite dishes was the Vegetarian nachos. Nothing better!!

GREEN BOATING

18. Use Eco-Smart Race Management Techniques



At Wakatere, we use the [BuoyZone](#) app for course setting on a regular basis. Reusable finish sheets are also a regular item in the finish boat, with results of each race photographed and sent to the race office via WhatsApp, and the sheets reused for future scoring.

19. Reduce Day-of Emissions

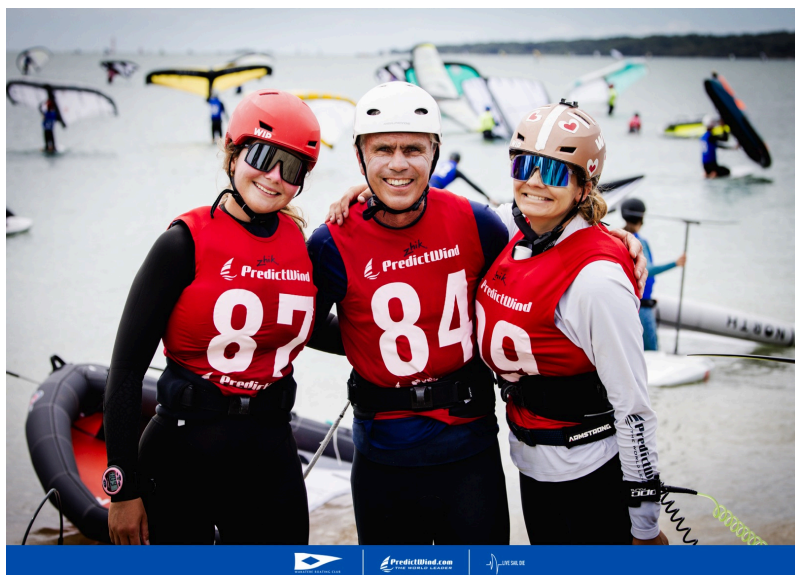
One of the challenges of organising a WingFoil Regatta was figuring out a way to provide safety support to the competitors on the water, without the need for large numbers of support boats. The Wingfoiling class is unique in that sailors can spend long periods of time in the water if they are not up and foiling (unlike dinghy classes where sailors can sit and rest inside their boats). Our solution to the problem was to anchor a large inflatable pontoon to the side of the race course, with a rib tied to the pontoon holding drinks and a first aid kit. This allowed a safe resting platform for multiple sailors at one time and removed the need for large numbers of support boats, using big volumes of fuel throughout the day.

Added to this method of reducing Emissions, we also used the Mark-Set-Bots which provided a huge reduction in fuel Emissions in comparison to using RIBs with 40hp engines that need to constantly move marks and re-anchor buoys throughout a days racing.

20. INSPIRE FUTURE ACTION

In the weeks before the Wingfoil Nationals, 2 members of Wakatere Boating Club who had previous experience with Mark-Set-Bots, supported work to iron out some technical issues with the marks set-up. By collaborating with PredictWind, and the Wingfoil Association to develop this understanding we hope to encourage more clubs to use this technology and replace a number of RIBs for each regatta they host with the Mark-Set-Bots.

There are a lot of efficiencies to be gained in sharing knowledge and equipment such as the Mark-Set-Bots, rather than each club repeating the same processes or doubling up on equipment, we see a more cost effective and efficient option to share and work together.



How lucky were we to have great Sponsors that provided reusable race bibs for a fleet of boards and wing sails that did not require washing during the event. By working together with sponsors, classes and clubs, bibs are reused at each event, saving wasted production of multiple single-use bibs.

No washdown toxins entered the water and our support boats were able to focus on safety rather than marks, as we used MarkSetBots, avoiding damage to the seabed and reducing emissions.

Our safety boats were cleaned at the end of the event using [EcoStore Boat Washdown](#) products.

Our members and guests enjoyed local food, delivered without plastic wrap, served sustainably, while we made sure to reduce our waste by composting all food and serveware scraps and recycling our glass and aluminium.

Wakatere Boating Club is proud of its efforts and super proud of the beautiful Narrow Neck Beach we continue to strive to keep clean and green.

