

**Sail GP FAQs – PUBLIC FACING**

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## **Background / Sail GP history**

### **What is SailGP?**

SailGP races for a better future, championing a world powered by nature. The sport's pinnacle league, SailGP features national teams battling in short, intense races at iconic stadium-style venues across the globe, building to the grand final – and sailing's top prize of US\$1 million. The high-tech, high-speed action features sailing's best athletes racing in identical supercharged F50 catamarans, flying at electrifying speeds exceeding 60 mph/100 kph.

### **What countries compete in the racing series?**

Australia, Denmark, France, Great Britain, New Zealand, Spain, United States, Canada, Switzerland

### **When will the SailGP 2023 event be held in Lyttelton and what will it entail?**

It will be held on 18-19 March 2023 on Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour. The racing itself takes place over two days for approximately 90 minutes per day, starting at about 3pm.

### **What other cities around the world are scheduled to host the Season 3 series?**

USA, San Francisco, Chicago; Bermuda; Spain, Cadiz; UK, Plymouth; Denmark, Copenhagen; France, Saint-Tropez; Singapore; Sydney, Australia; Dubai

## **Why here and what's the impact for Christchurch?**

### **How was Lyttelton selected as a location for SailGP?**

ChristchurchNZ successfully bid to host the event in Christchurch. See <https://www.christchurchnz.com/news/otautahi-christchurch-confirmed-to-host-sailgp>.

### **Why did ChristchurchNZ bid for this event and how much did it cost?**

Part of ChristchurchNZ's job is to attract major events to the region for the economic impact, excitement and entertainment, and showcase of the region they provide. Hosting an international sporting event like SailGP is a coup for Christchurch, especially as it expands the range of events people associate with Christchurch. ChristchurchNZ is contributing \$1 million and an additional \$500,000 of value in kind to bring the first New Zealand Sail Grand Prix to Christchurch in 2023 and the same amount again for the event in 2025.

### **Why is hosting this event such a great thing for Lyttelton and Christchurch?**

SailGP will boost our reputation as a city with a viewership of over 50 million watching the racing globally. The event will showcase our incredible outdoor assets, a passionate sporting and sailing community, and further develop the infrastructure and capability to hold major international events. ChristchurchNZ estimates that this event will bring more than 4000 visitors to Christchurch who will spend more than \$3.2 million

**How many international visitors are expected to attend this event?**

It is estimated that approx. 15,000 people will attend the SailGP event in Christchurch in 2023. Around two thirds of these attendees will be ticketed spectators, with a further 5,000 non-ticketed spectators expected to watch from harbourside locations or at a public fan zone. The remaining attendees would be sailing teams, sponsors, media, event staff, and volunteers. Around 70% of all attendees are expected to be from Christchurch, a further 25% from elsewhere in New Zealand, and the remaining 5% from overseas.

**What will be the economic impact of SailGP for Lyttelton and Christchurch?**

The quantified cost to Christchurch of hosting SailGP in 2023 is estimated at \$8.57million, and the quantified benefit is estimated at \$10.32million. The net benefit of \$1.76million is calculated as the quantified benefit less the quantified cost. There will also be an international viewing audience of 50 million.

**Is Lyttelton likely to host SailGP again in the future?**

SailGP has committed to bring two events to Lyttelton between 2023 and 2025. Economic development agency ChristchurchNZ brokered the deal for the city as part of a four-year agreement between SailGP, Auckland Unlimited and New Zealand Major Events that will bring four world-class sailing events to Aotearoa.

**How can I keep informed about the SailGP event being held in Lyttelton?**

Head to [www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp](http://www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp) or for more about the SailGP global competition and racing, see [www.sailgp.com](http://www.sailgp.com).

**What are you doing to manage the risks of holding an event of this size?**

We have a robust risk management plan and mitigation strategies in place, and we're working with all agencies including NZ Police, Fire and Emergency NZ and security experts to keep everyone safe and secure.

**What happens after year four?**

Following the 2025 event in Christchurch, ChristchurchNZ will assess the economic and community benefits of the event and take community views on it into account as it decides whether to bid for future seasons of the event.

**What legacy will there be for Lyttelton and Christchurch?**

Hosting SailGP will have positive legacy impacts for Christchurch and Lyttelton by boosting the reputation of the harbour as a sailing destination, and the city as a place capable of hosting large-scale international events. A Leverage and Legacy Plan has been developed for the event which aims to create lasting social, environmental and economic outcomes for the region. These are focused on the areas of:

community outreach, sustainability initiatives, marine mammal protection, cultural promotion, and destination promotion.

**What is the expected international TV audience and how is ChristchurchNZ capitalising on that?**

50 million viewers are expected worldwide. SailGP has a contract with ChristchurchNZ to include promotional footage and local stories as part of the coverage. All of the races are also broadcast free on YouTube, with 100,000 followers in New Zealand alone. Social media channels are also used to cover the event. This is an opportunity for Christchurch to tell our story to the world; culturally, environmentally and showcase our amazing city.

## **Event management / tickets**

**Who will be able to attend the event? Is it ticketed or can residents watch for free?**

There are many ways to view and get involved in the excitement of SailGP. Tickets for the event sold out almost immediately, but that doesn't mean you can't still get involved. ChristchurchNZ and SailGP are setting up a Central City Live Site just next to Te Pae where all the racing action will be broadcast live, along with other entertainment and activities. If you don't have a ticket, vehicle access for non-residents to Lyttelton and surrounding areas are only via cycling, walking and public transport. For more information about the traffic management restrictions in place over the event weekend please visit [www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp](http://www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp).

**What is the course length?**

One nautical mile (1600m).

**When will the boats arrive in Lyttelton?**

The Sydney event is on 17 and 18 February and boats will be transported after that. They are expected to arrive in Lyttelton no later than the Thursday ahead of racing.

**Will the races be broadcast free-to-air?**

SailGP is exploring free-to-air options. We have coverage on Sky at the moment and all of the races can be viewed on YouTube.

**Will there be restrictions on boats coming into the harbour from elsewhere?**

There will be an exclusion zone around the course on the water that will be accessible only to boats displaying a flag as part of the Bring Your Own Boat Premium Pass programme. We are encouraging all boaties to ensure they have a way to get on and off the water as the Naval Point public boat ramp will be closed. See <https://www.christchurchnz.com/explore/whats-on/sailgp/watching-from-the-water> for more information.

**Will boat access be restricted on practice day, Friday March 17?**

Yes, an exclusion area will be in place at that time and it is larger on practice day as there are more boats on the water. Use of the Naval Point public boat ramp and Starks Engineering ramp will be closed from March 15-22.

**Lyttelton residents / local issues (*traffic & Naval Point separate sections*)****How can Lyttelton residents watch the racing?**

Lyttelton residents will be able to view the racing for free from vantage points around the township and harbour. Pre-sale tickets were offered to the Lyttelton Business Association and others to give local people first chance to secure tickets. As with all major events, benefits are often longer-term, including revitalised Naval Point, putting Christchurch on the map as a sailing venue, and great place to visit.

**Will the cruise ships due in port block the view?**

No, the cruise ship scheduled to be in Lyttelton that weekend has been moved away from the cruise berth to make for better viewing.

**Will the Naval Point site be ready to host the event?**

Yes! Work has been going ahead at pace and the only remaining work on surrounding roads will be finished soon. When the event is over, we'll have the benefit of this work including new surfacing, better water and power access, improved safety and security with more lighting and cameras, and area beautification. The upgrade also includes a waterfront walkway area painted with designs from Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Rāpaki, developed to reflect the area's history and value to mana whenua.

**What are you doing about the tank farm?**

We have been working with Worksafe and other safety experts to put a safety plan in place.

**How can my business get involved?**

Local businesses can get ready now to make the most of the influx of people to the township and wider region. ChristchurchNZ have set up several groups to ensure Lyttelton businesses have the knowledge and time to be able to be involved and leverage from this event as much as possible. The event itself will also showcase the local region and ensure a wide audience gets a taste of what we have to offer visitors. If you would like to host a watching party at your hospitality business, see URL TK.

**How will the event impact on the wider Lyttelton community and other residents around the bays ie. Cass Bay, Corsair Bay, Governors Bay?**

We've put a lot of work in place to minimise the disruptions as much as possible and the event is only underway for two days. The benefits of hosting SailGP are expected to be significant for the area. Find out more in the traffic management section at [www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp](http://www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp).

**Will the Lyttelton Farmers Market, Saturday from 10am to 1pm, still be held on the weekend the event is running?**

Yes, the market will still be held – although attendees will only be able to come to Lyttelton via the tunnel prior to midday. All attendees will be able to leave Lyttelton after midday, as the Traffic Management Plan only restricts entry to the town. Parking restrictions will be in place.

**Will the event impact on Lyttelton Port Company activities and how is this being mitigated?**

LPC are working closely with SailGP and have adjusted their shipping schedule to facilitate the races. Given the short duration of the races, LPC are confident there won't be any material impact on the supply chain.

**Can I kayak out to watch the race – how close can we get?**

With a busy harbour and racecourse, we strongly recommend that kayaks, paddleboards and other small non-motorised vessels do not head out on Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour on race days.

**What's being done to beautify key parts of the town for the global coverage?**

Christchurch City Council has committed significant funding to the work underway to upgrade Naval Point and surrounding areas. All of the promotional videos will be sure to show the area at its absolute best. [Learn more about the development of Naval Point – Te Nukutai o Tapoa.](#)

**What happens if visitors to the farmers' market stay in the village all day, leaving few parks for others?**

We've tried to balance the need to allow the market to open, with the restrictions required to make the event work for everyone. There will be parking restrictions in place ahead of the market and we are also considering the idea of resident only parking areas, which has been done in the past.

## **Traffic management**

**What traffic restrictions are going to be in place for SailGP?**

Vehicle access to Lyttelton will be restricted from midday to 6pm on race days to those with a resident access pass, emergency vehicles and public transport. Free shuttles will carry ticketholders from the Central City Live Site near Te Pae to Lyttelton and return throughout the day. Parking restrictions will be in place around the township. Find out more at [www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp](http://www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp)

**Will Lyttelton and other Banks Peninsula residents be able to drive through the tunnel to Lyttelton?**

Yes. Local residents located within the restricted area can get a resident access pass to drive through the tunnel from the Christchurch side (there will be no restrictions on leaving from Lyttelton). The restricted

area is between the Dyers Pass Road and Governors Bay turn-off to the top of Sumner Road. This means that all Lyttelton and Banks Peninsula residents will only be able to enter via the tunnel with a resident pass.

**How do I get a resident access pass?**

Passes will be available for pick-up at a location in Lyttelton between March 1 –17. You will need to provide a proof of address and have your vehicle license plate number. Location and hours will be confirmed soon and publicised on [christchurchnz.com/sailgp](http://christchurchnz.com/sailgp).

**What if I don't get a sticker and need to leave urgently?**

We'll make it easy for you to get a pass, but you won't need a pass to leave Lyttelton – they are only for vehicles wanting to come into the township. We will have emergency registration for instant sticker approval and distribution if required. Note proof of residential address may be required.

**How will traffic management affect other areas of Banks Peninsula during the event period?**

Resident vehicle access passes will be required to travel through the tunnel from Christchurch. And road closures will restrict access to Lyttelton for all motor vehicles, with roads blocked from Sumner and Governors Bay. Find out more at [www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp](http://www.christchurchnz.com/sailgp)

**Will emergency services have access to the tunnel?**

Access for emergency services will be maintained at all times.

**What will happen if there is an emergency while the event is underway if access is restricted? Will Civil Defence still be able to operate?**

There is a comprehensive emergency management plan developed by SailGP in correspondence with all stakeholders, including Civil Defence and NZ Police. Should an emergency happen Civil Defence and NZ Police take over the site and will have an operational plan to follow.

**Are the Lyttelton vehicle access passes only needed from midday to 6pm on race days?**

Yes. Only vehicles with a resident access pass (and emergency vehicles/public transport) will be able to enter Lyttelton at those times. There are no restrictions on vehicles leaving Lyttelton – you'll be able to leave any time.

**Proposed parking restrictions are outside my home, but I have accessibility needs; what do I do?**

Contact us directly and we'll talk through the situation – email [hello@sailgpnzl.com](mailto:hello@sailgpnzl.com).

**If you don't have a ticket, and you can't use the event shuttle, can people still access Lyttelton?**

Yes – residents can get a vehicle access pass and other members of the public can use public transport or taxis which will remain in operation.

**Where exactly on Governor’s Bay Road and Sumner Road are you turning people around?**

You can see all the detail on the map at [Getting Around During The New Zealand Sail Grand Prix - ChristchurchNZ.com](http://Getting Around During The New Zealand Sail Grand Prix - ChristchurchNZ.com). Restriction points in the plan are at the Governor’s Bay turnoff and near the top of Sumner Road/Dyers Pass Road intersection and the top of Sumner Road where it intersects with Summit Road.

**Do motorcycles require vehicle passes as well?**

Yes.

**You’ve noted there is pedestrian access from the town to Naval Point via a new pathway – are you confident that will be completed in time and can you give any more detail? Can bicycles use it too?**

Yes, good progress is being made and the pedestrian walkway will be ready for the event. Visitors will be able to walk along the waterfront from the town to Naval Point and back again. Bicycles can use the path also.

**Will the shuttle bus for ticket-holders stop in the village?**

No. We have purposely made the shuttle process as streamlined as possible to efficiently carry ticket-holders back and forth.

**Can family and friends of residents get a vehicle access pass?**

There will be no access passes issued for visiting friends and family of residents. Parking in Lyttelton will be extremely limited, so if you have friends coming to visit, please ask them to be parked on your property before midday on both event days, March 18/19.

**The traffic restrictions start at midday, but will people come in before then and take up all the parking in the township?**

We’ve sought a balance between allowing the Lyttelton Market to remain open on the Saturday morning and managing the amount of traffic in the township from midday. There will be parking restrictions in place, and we’ve taken feedback about creating specific resident-only parking areas that we’re considering now.

**Can you cycle from Governor’s Bay to Lyttelton?**

Yes.

**Will the shuttle buses run earlier in the day so ticket holders could come to the market?**

This is under consideration.

**Will the event shuttle have any other pick-up points?**

No. We have purposely only allowed pick-ups and drop-offs in the Central City Live Zone and at Naval Point so we’re able to move a lot of people as quickly and efficiently as possible.

## Naval Point impacts

### **What work needs to be done on the Naval Point site to prepare for the event?**

Christchurch City Council has been preparing Te Nukutai o Tapoa-Naval Point for the prestigious series, as part of a wider development plan for the area that was adopted by Council in November 2020. Work done to date includes the sealing of a large section of the car park, rock revetment improvement and upgrading of utilities. Improvements are also planned for the site's main access road, Godley Quay, and a waterfront upgrade incorporating cultural elements – to be completed before the event is held.

### **When does the site need to be handed over to the SailGP event team?**

The site was handed over to SailGP on January 17 2023.

### **How can I find out more work being carried out at Te Nukutai o Tapoa Naval Point?**

Visit <https://www.ccc.govt.nz/the-council/future-projects/major-facilities/naval-point/>

### **Will the public boat ramp at Naval Point be able to be used during the event?**

Both the Naval Point public boat ramp and the public boat ramp near Stark's Engineering will be closed from March 15-22.

### **Will other boat ramps around the harbour be open during the event period?**

Boat ramps around the harbour remain open, excluding the public boat ramp at Naval Point and the public boat ramp near Stark's Engineering. Note there will be restrictions getting to some of these boat ramps via the tunnel due to traffic management and extremely limited boat trailer parking available at these locations.

If you wish to take a boat out on the water, you will require a pre-arranged method for getting your boat on the water (i.e., marina parking, pre-arranged mooring/anchorage for visiting boats, arrangement with Naval Point Club Lyttelton for limited boat trailer parking if you're an existing club member). Find more information about boat access at: <https://www.christchurchnz.com/explore/whats-on/sailgp/watching-from-the-water>

### **Will the Naval Point Boat Club ramp be able to be used during the event?**

This is a private ramp owned by the club. Details of how this will be able to be used during the event are still being worked through.

### **Will freedom camping be allowed at Te Nukutai o Tapoa Naval Point while the event is on?**

No freedom camping will be allowed at Te Nukutai o Tapoa during SailGP as the space will be needed for event activities.

**What do you have planned for the football field at Naval Point?**

It will be used for limited paid parking, as an event entry point, and some activations as part of the event.

**How will you look after the recreation ground?**

SailGP has agreed to restrictions for the use of the field, and will restore the grass after the event if required.

## **Marine Mammals Management Plan**

**What considerations have been made for the protection of marine mammals in Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour and who has been involved in the planning?**

SailGP under the guidance of Te Roopū Tiaki Whakaraupō Advisory Group, has developed an industry-leading marine mammal management plan (MMMP) for its inaugural New Zealand event, in partnership with Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Rāpaki, manawhenua and mana moana over Whakaraupō. The Marine Mammal Management Plan (MMMP) has been collated by Enviser Limited, with information on event logistics provided by SailGP and technical expertise provided by Cawthron Institute.

Members of Te Roopū Tiaki Whakaraupō Advisory Group provided valued input and reviewed the MMMP throughout its development. This includes representatives from Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Rāpaki (Chair of the Advisory Group), Department of Conservation (DOC), Environment Canterbury, University of Otago, Christchurch City Council (Banks Peninsula Community Board), Live Ocean, Lyttelton Port Company and Black Cat Cruises. Observers of the Advisory Group also include ChristchurchNZ, Department of Conservation, Enviser Ltd, Cawthron Institute and SailGP.

As with any body of experts, a range of advice was debated and discussed in meetings, with members providing scientific, cultural, environmental and local advice. All recommendations developed by this Advisory Group were submitted to the ChristchurchNZ Board of Directors to support their acceptance of the plan subject to approval of final additions.

**What mitigations will be in place during the event on Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour?**

The MMMP for the New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch is bespoke to the unique environment of Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour, outlining a range of mitigations to be implemented during training and racing days in March 2023. Over and above these proactive measures, the operational plan also includes step-by-step protocols should marine mammals be sighted in the vicinity.

**On-land surveys** - The unique geology of Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour with its steep sides and narrow channels, makes it an ideal location for the use of on-land observation stations. Suitably trained Hector's Dolphin Observers (HDO)s will be on continuous watch at ten elevated land-based observation stations positioned on both sides of the harbour with binoculars, tasked with finding and tracking the presence of any marine mammals in the area. Additional volunteers will be used to help and assist HDOs at each station. Teams will commence observing the race area four hours before the scheduled start of

on-water activities on practice and race days and continue throughout the race and for a period of 30 minutes after cessation of on-water activities.

**On-water surveys & observation** - On-water transect surveys will also be undertaken by two boats, commencing no earlier than two hours before training and racing. The surveys will determine if and where any marine mammals are in the harbour and will help inform visual tracking prior to and during training and racing. At least two experienced observers will search the area from the bow or an elevated position on each boat using binoculars when necessary, recording GPS positions, group sizes and direction of movement of any marine mammals communicated to land-based observation teams. On-water observation crews will remain on the racecourse throughout on-water activities.

**Passive and active acoustic monitoring** - Artificial intelligence (AI)-powered acoustic listening will continuously monitor for the echolocation of dolphins during the New Zealand Sail Grand Prix, reporting detections in real time. Developed by Styles Group Acoustics, the system has a detection range spanning hundreds of metres - meaning dolphins can be detected well outside the course to proactively mitigate risk. The system has been trained on more than 100,000 hours of acoustic data recorded from Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour over the last five years, with a detection accuracy of more than 95 per cent in all weather conditions.

**Aerial surveys** - An AI-powered tracking drone will also be used to find, follow and identify any dolphins in the vicinity of training and racing. Developed by MAUI63, the drone will survey Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour while taking approximately 1700 photos per hour to be uploaded and analysed by AI to detect dolphins in the vicinity. Findings will be uploaded to the marine management platform in real time, enabling on-water operations teams to modify their plans if required.

**Marine mammal sighting apps & informal observers** - In addition to the comprehensive observation methods above, all water users, including teams, spectators and course marshalls, will play a part in monitoring for marine mammals in the vicinity. Pre-event briefings will encourage spectator boats to use the Sea Spotter App, a citizen science tool which enables users to take and upload photos of marine mammals - in particular their dorsal fin - to be analysed by AI with the exact location pinned. For the New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch, the use of the Sea Spotter App, will enable sightings to be shared instantly with on-water operations teams during training and racing. Support vessels and official spectators will also report sightings via VHF radio.

### **What happens when the racing is over?**

ChristchurchNZ and SailGP have a joint aspiration to create legacy outcomes for the Upokohue / Hector's dolphins as part of hosting the New Zealand Sail Grand Prix, which includes raising global awareness of the much loved, nationally-vulnerable species as well as the implementation of new or enhanced technology to detect and / or track Hector's dolphins. Specific legacy benefits include:

- Raising global awareness of the Upokohue / Hector's dolphins through broadcast and media opportunities.
- Training, capability and capacity building for trained marine mammal observers as well as local volunteers, including more than 20 people in observer roles who will receive location, species and event-specific training from marine mammal experts, as well as in introduction to manawhenua values and tikanga.
- Fast tracking the development of new technology as a direct result of hosting the event, including real-time underwater acoustic surveillance using a custom-made algorithm to detect Upokohue / Hector's dolphin clicks. The algorithm incorporates 100,000 hours of data from Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour with acoustic data from the 36th America's Cup, considering both high-speed foiling boats and engine and depth sounds of support and spectator vessels, to

adjust for noise contamination and ensure findings are fit-for-purpose and relevant to future on-water events.

- Conservation benefits to Upokohue / Hector's dolphins through host city purpose initiatives.
- Educating the boating public on best practice marine mammal observation and reporting methods, including use of the Sea Spotter App, in briefings to all on-water users, including teams, the spectator fleet and other user groups.
- The creation and implementation of an industry-leading MMMP to set the benchmark for future iterations of SailGP around the world, held in the vicinity of dolphins.

#### **Where can I find out more?**

You can find the MMMP at [www.christchurchnz.com/explore/whats-on/sailgp/marine-mammal-management](http://www.christchurchnz.com/explore/whats-on/sailgp/marine-mammal-management)

## **Ngāti Wheke**

#### **What involvement have Ngāti Wheke had with the planning for this event?**

Connected to New Zealand's second largest city by tunnel and hill passes, Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour is the southern edge of a great extinct volcano that created Banks Peninsula. Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Rāpaki hold guardianship over the harbour and have worked closely with ChristchurchNZ and SailGP to bring the event to life. ChristchurchNZ and SailGP are committed to continuing to build and foster an understanding of Te Ao Māori and cement an enduring relationship with Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Rāpaki. We will work together to engage with the hapū for guidance and direction around matters of tikanga and kawa, to ensure the New Zealand Sail Grand Prix is carried out in a way that upholds cultural integrity and ensures local communities are given meaningful opportunities to engage with and benefit from the successful hosting of the New Zealand Sail Grand Prix.

We recognise that the principle of intergenerational impact is critical to ChristchurchNZ's success and is informed by the stated intent of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu: Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri ā muri ake nei – for us and our children after us.

Keep an eye on the ChristchurchNZ website in the coming months to find out more about this partnership and our collaborations. <https://www.christchurchnz.com/explore/whats-on/sailgp/additional-information>

## **[Watching on the water](#)**

#### **Why will the Naval Point and Stark's Engineering public boat ramps be closed in the lead up to and during the New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch?**

During the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch, Naval Point will be transformed into a vibrant event village, accompanied by a technical area for visiting teams and operations. As such, the Naval Point public boat ramp will be closed to ensure health and safety and mitigate issues of congestion on a busy, working site.

The boat ramp near Stark's Engineering will also be closed. This ramp is behind a proposed road closure, limiting its access, and also has limited parking so will be closed to the public to mitigate potential issues of congestion.

**How long will the Naval Point and Stark’s Engineering public boat ramps be closed?**

Naval Point public boat ramp - closed Wednesday 15 March - Wednesday 22 March 2023

Stark’s Engineering boat ramp - closed Wednesday 15 March - Wednesday 22 March 2023

Cass Bay, Sandy Bay, Charteris Bay, Purau Bay ramps and on water access - extremely limited access 16 March – 19 March 2023.

**With the Naval Point public boat ramp and Stark’s Engineering boat ramp closed, where else can I launch my boat during the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch?**

During the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch, most surrounding boat ramps, including Cass Bay, Sandy Bay, Charteris Bay, Purau and the Sumner ramp will not be suitable for large numbers of on-water users. This is due to limited parking, tide dependency and other factors.

There is no guarantee of launching at the open public boat ramps and access will be at a first-come-first-served basis, as per normal operation at these ramps. Enforcement will be in place at all ramps to manage the flow of vehicles and ensure on-water users do not create issues of parking or congestion.

If you have missed out on tickets to the event and don’t have private access to the water, the best place to watch the racing is from the central city live site. The big screen will be showing all the action across both days, and there will be a vibrant atmosphere with food, drink and other entertainment.

**Will I be issued with a vehicle access pass to accompany my bring-your-own-boat premium ticket?**

In order to mitigate issues of parking and congestion, bring-your-own-boat premium passholders will not be issued a vehicle access pass to go through the road closures. Bring-your-own-boat premium users must already be on the water, and not be relying on access to a public boat ramp in Lyttelton.

If you have further questions or wish to discuss your unique requirements, please contact [hello@sailgpnzl.com](mailto:hello@sailgpnzl.com)

**I’m planning to bring guests on my boat, how will they access Lyttelton?**

During both days of the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch, road closures will restrict access to Lyttelton for all motor vehicles between 12 – 6pm, with roads blocked from Sumner and Governors Bay. There will be no access to Lyttelton via Tunnel Road at Port Hills Road and parking in Lyttelton will be extremely limited. As such, we encourage your guests to carpool with you, take public transport or take a taxi.

### **Where can I learn more about proposed traffic management measures during the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix?**

For more information about the plan, see the [Traffic Management Details](#) page.

### **Where can I find more information about local regulations and requirements?**

Like any major harbour and working port, there are unique regulations and requirements for transient boats to be aware of in Lyttelton, including the requirement for all vessels larger than 130 feet to have a pilot and designated areas where anchoring is not permitted.

Boat users can learn more about relevant regulations and bylaws relating to recreational boating in Canterbury via the Harbourmaster's Office website. If you have additional queries, please contact [hello@sailgpnzl.com](mailto:hello@sailgpnzl.com) to discuss with our on-water operations team.

### **Will there be any free on-water viewing during the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch?**

The bring-your-own-boat premium pass is the only way to watch the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch from within the exclusion zone on Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour. All other vessels will be held outside the exclusion zone.

### **I am planning to watch from outside the exclusion zone, what do I need to know?**

All boats without a bring-your-own-boat premium flag will be positioned outside the exclusion zone on Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour.

Boat users should also be aware that parking will be extremely limited in Lyttelton and at boat ramps outside of Naval Point. Road closures - in place from midday on both days of the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix (Saturday 18 - Sunday 19 March) will also restrict access for all vehicles except those with an access pass.

For more information about the plan, see the [Traffic Management Details](#) page.

### **I missed out on tickets and can't launch my vessel, where else can I watch the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix?**

During the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch, the city centre is the place to be with an action-packed live site on the grassy area in front of Te Pae. On both race days, this area will include live racing on the big screen, food, beverage and entertainment. Learn more at [christchurchnz.com/sailgp](http://christchurchnz.com/sailgp).

Racing will be available live and on-demand on Sky Sport NZ. Learn more at [sailgp.com](http://sailgp.com)

## SailGP watch parties

### Can I screen SailGP at my bar or restaurant?

Yes!

We all know locals love to get behind New Zealand in sporting events, especially when we are competing on home soil (or waters). There are a few guidelines businesses can follow to ensure that your watch party event runs smoothly. Have a read of the below answers and if you have further questions, please email [hello@sailgpnzl.com](mailto:hello@sailgpnzl.com).

### What is SailGP?

SailGP is the world's most exciting racing on water. The global championship features national teams battling in two days of short, intense races across the globe. The high-tech, high-speed action features sailing's best athletes racing in identical hydro foiling F50 catamarans, flying at speeds of up to 100 km/h!

Hitting Kiwi shores for the first time, The ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch is a two-day spectacle of exhilarating racing, intense rivalries, and action-packed entertainment on the spectacular Whakaraupō, Lyttelton Harbour. Catch the best sailors in the world battle it out in identical hydro foiling catamarans - nine teams flying high, with plenty of thrills, spills and boat-on-boat action.

### What is the correct name of the event?

The ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch

### Is there an official SailGP live site already organised?

Yes. **The ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix Live Site Powered by Enable** is the official event live site that will be operating in the central city during the race weekend. Find more information about the live site [here](#).

### What can I name the watch event at my venue?

- It is important that ancillary events do not form an unauthorised association with the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix or **the ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix Live Site Powered by Enable**. As such, we recommend avoiding the use of the words 'live site' or 'fan zone' and instead opting for 'watch party.'
- e.g **SailGP Watch Party at (venue name)**
- *Other important notes for when referring to your event:*
- Do not use language such as 'official' when describing your event as there is no official affiliation.
- Always refer to **SailGP as one word**, there is **no space** between Sail and GP

**How can I stream the live racing?**

Races will be broadcast live on Sky Sport NZ and live on YouTube.

**When is the racing in Christchurch?**

The broadcast window is from 3-5pm March 18-19, each day. For more event information, [check here](#). The timings of the racing will depend on weather and other elements.

**Where can I access imagery to use for my event page?**

You can find fantastic rights-free imagery from SailGP [here](#). Feel free to download and use this imagery for your watch party event page.

**What teams are competing in SailGP?**

There are nine nations competing in Season 3 of SailGP – New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States of America

Why not 'adopt-a-team' and get behind one of the nations!

You can keep up with the team's progress and leader board [here](#).

**Can I host a watch party for the Sydney races?**

Yes!

There is nothing we love more than a good Kiwi/Aussie rivalry. With the Australian team currently top of the leader board, and the New Zealand team close behind them, the last three races of the season are going to be as competitive as ever between the two nations.

Because of the similar time-zone, a watch party for the Sydney SailGP is the perfect way to get locals excited, ahead of The ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix | Christchurch.

The KPMG Australia Sail Grand Prix | Sydney is taking place across Saturday 18 February and Sunday 19 February. The racing will take place between 4pm - 6pm AEDT each day (6pm - 8pm NZ time).

You can watch the racing live on Fox Sports 507 & Kayo Sports.

**What is the city planning to celebrate the event in Christchurch?**

ChristchurchNZ will be organising SailGP Banners and Content Boards throughout the city at key locations. There will also be a large SailGP installation with LED messages rotating through and other dressing throughout including footpath decals and wayfinding signage.

**What traffic restrictions will be in place during the weekend of SailGP?**

On both days of the racing weekend, road closures and restrictions will be in place around midday on Saturday and Sunday and lifted around 6pm each day. Road closures will restrict access to Lyttelton for

all motor vehicles, with roads blocked from Sumner and Governors Bay. There will be no access to Lyttelton via Tunnel Road at Port Hills Road.

Traffic management will also be in place surrounding *The ITM New Zealand Sail Grand Prix Live Site Powered by Enable* to facilitate a safe pick up and drop off area for buses, with taxi pick-up and drop-off available on Worcester Boulevard. Measures will be in place on Armagh Street and Colombo Street only during pick up and drop off times.

Find more information on traffic restrictions [here](#).

**I still have questions, who can I talk to?**

For more information, email [hello@sailgpnzl.com](mailto:hello@sailgpnzl.com)