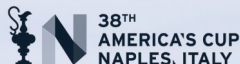


PRESS KIT

PRESS KIT /// V 1.2 /// 10 SEPTEMBER 2026



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WHO WE ARE

Emirates Team New Zealand is the world's leading sailing team driven by speed, innovation, and Kiwi spirit. As five-time winners and current Defenders of the America's Cup, we push the boundaries of performance both on and off the water. From pioneering foiling and engineering technology to redefining what's possible in high-performance sport, our strength lies in teamwork, ingenuity, and a relentless pursuit of excellence.

New Zealand first entered the America's Cup in 1987 and made an immediate impact on the world stage, building a fibreglass 12-metre yacht rather than traditional aluminium. The breakthrough came in 1995 during the 29th America's Cup, when the team made history by capturing the Auld Mug in San Diego for the first time: Only the third nation to have ever done so in the Cup's 144-year long history at the time. A successful defence in 2000 in Auckland confirmed New Zealand's place among the

sport's greats as the first non-US team to successfully defend the America's Cup in its history.

After losing in 2003 and a 14-year period of fierce competition and rebuilding, 2017 marked a triumphant return in Bermuda during the 35th America's Cup, when Emirates Team New Zealand reclaimed the America's Cup with a new generation of sailors and groundbreaking technology including putting bikes on the boat and introducing 'cyclors' to the America's Cup. The team went on to defend the Cup in 2021 in Auckland and again in 2024 in Barcelona in the revolutionary AC75s, achieving an unprecedented three-peat and reinforcing our position as the most successful team in modern America's Cup history.

Rooted in Aotearoa New Zealand yet sailing on a global stage, we're powered by a nation and united by the belief that true progress comes from resourcefulness and constant innovation. Each campaign continues to build on this legacy: combining experience,

emerging talent, and cutting-edge design to keep New Zealand at the forefront of the world's most prestigious sailing competition.

/// The America's Cup is more than a race. It is a test of innovation, design, and teamwork. Every challenge pushes us to rethink what's possible and inspires us to keep raising the bar, on and off the water.

– Grant Dalton

Looking ahead to 2027, Emirates Team New Zealand are preparing to defend the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup in Naples, Italy. Building on decades of innovation and success, the campaign unites seasoned experience with fresh talent, pushing the limits of design, technology, and performance once again. With the support of our nation behind us, we're ready to take on the challenge and continue shaping the future of high-performance sailing.

1987

FIRST CAMPAIGN

5x

5 AMERICA'S CUP WINS

12

12th AMERICA'S CUP CAMPAIGN

1987	1988	1992
1995	2000	2003
2007	2013	2017
2021	2024	2027

BARCELONA 
2024
37TH AMERICA'S CUP

AUCKLAND 
2021
36TH AMERICA'S CUP

BERMUDA 
2017
35TH AMERICA'S CUP

/// THE THREE-PEAT

 SAN FRANCISCO
2013
34TH AMERICA'S CUP

2010 /// 33RD AMERICA'S CUP

 VALENCIA
2007
32ND AMERICA'S CUP

 AUCKLAND
2003
31ST AMERICA'S CUP

AUCKLAND 
2000
30TH AMERICA'S CUP

SAN DIEGO 
1995
29TH AMERICA'S CUP

/// THE FIRST WIN AND
THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE

 SAN DIEGO
1992
28TH AMERICA'S CUP

 SAN DIEGO
1988
27TH AMERICA'S CUP

 FREMANTLE
1987
26TH AMERICA'S CUP

THE FIRST NEW ZEALAND CHALLENGE ///

OUR HISTORY IN THE AMERICA'S CUP

Twelve campaigns. Five victories. In 2024, Emirates Team New Zealand claimed the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup in Barcelona for the third consecutive time. This win marked the fifth time that the team lifted the Auld Mug since the first challenge in 1987, and solidified our place as the most successful team in the modern era of the 175-year-old America's Cup history: a testament to decades of sailing expertise, innovation, resilience, and Kiwi spirit.

From the moment New Zealand entered the America's Cup arena in 1987, the team quickly proved it belonged among the sport's elite; despite having less financial power than some of the bigger and more established syndicates. The early campaigns were marked by bold designs, fearless racing, and a growing belief that a small nation at the bottom of the world could take on – and beat – the best. That belief became reality in 1995, when Black Magic swept the Louis Vuitton Cup and then defeated Team Dennis Conner

5–0, bringing the Auld Mug to New Zealand for the first time. The Cup became “New Zealand's Cup”, and home parades packed city centres with hundreds of thousands of people. The team backed it up in 2000 with another dominant defence on the Hauraki Gulf, firmly establishing New Zealand as a powerhouse in sailing.

After that high point, the team faced one of its greatest challenges. Key sailors and designers departed, and in 2003 the Cup was lost to the newly formed Swiss team, Alinghi. Yet, the team rebuilt with grit and determination. In 2007, now competing as Emirates Team New Zealand, the team won the Louis Vuitton Cup and delivered a thrilling America's Cup Match, narrowly missing victory. The following decade brought further reinvention and heartbreak but ultimately culminating in one of the most transformative moments in modern sport: the 2017 win in Bermuda. Pioneering concepts like ‘cyclors’ and redefining the AC50 catamaran's

potential, the team stunned the world and recaptured the Cup with a decisive 7–1 victory over the US team. With the America's Cup back in Kiwi hands, the team set out to reshape the event once again. Emirates Team New Zealand introduced the AC75—a bold, revolutionary foiling monohull—and hosted and won the 2021 defence on home waters in Auckland. Three years later, in Barcelona, *Taihoru* showcased the class's evolution, demonstrating blistering speed, precision, and teamwork as the team secured its historic three-peat. Across these campaigns, the team's hallmark has remained the same: innovation, resourcefulness, and the uniquely Kiwi blend of humility and ambition.

Today, Emirates Team New Zealand carries forward nearly four decades of accumulated knowledge, talent, and technical leadership. As preparations build toward Naples 2027, the team continues to push the boundaries of what these boats can achieve.



 BARCELONA

2024

37TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// THE BARCELONA CHAPTER

The Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup in Barcelona marked another monumental leap in sailing technology and competition. Emirates Team New Zealand returned as the Defender, facing fierce challenges in a regatta set on the Mediterranean's dynamic waters.

With cutting-edge AC75s, we pushed the boundaries of aerodynamics and control, showcasing a relentless pursuit of innovation. The regatta was a thrilling spectacle, with Emirates Team New Zealand securing victory against the Challenger of Record INEOS Britannia 7—2, solidifying our legacy as the most successful team in recent history, and the first to win the Cup in three consecutive campaigns.

[/// VISIT THE FULL AC37 OVERVIEW](#)



 AUCKLAND

2021

36TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// PUSHING THE LIMITS OF INNOVATION

18 years after the America's Cup left New Zealand, the 36th America's Cup finally returned to the 'City of Sails', Auckland.

Originally scheduled for 2020, the Cup finally unfolded in March 2021, amidst the global COVID-19 pandemic. The introduction of the AC75, a revolutionary foiling monohull, completely changed the game.

The America's Cup Match against Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli was a display of skill, strategy, and resilience. After a nail-biting 3—3 scoreline after 3 days of racing, the result ultimately culminated in a 7—3 victory. The win confirmed that the future of the America's Cup was firmly in the hands of those daring to innovate: Emirates Team New Zealand.

[/// VISIT THE FULL AC36 OVERVIEW](#)



 BERMUDA

2017

35TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// THE REDEMPTION

After the brutal defeat in San Francisco, Emirates Team New Zealand continuing to be led by a tenacious Grant Dalton and Kevin Shoebridge quietly rebuilt a refreshed young and hungry team skippered by Glenn Ashby and helmed by Olympic Gold Medalist Peter Burling. Developing the campaign in our home base, we continued to innovate and push the boundaries in secrecy and surprised the sailing and America's Cup world by launching a revolutionary boat with unique foil shapes and 'cyclors' powering the AC50 catamaran.

The boat concept was so groundbreaking that there was no time for replication, despite Oracle Team USA's futile attempts to catch up. Emirates Team New Zealand won all of the double Round Robin races except the two races against the Defender, providing the US team with a false sense of hope. Oracle Team USA were also racing in the Challenger Selection Series for the first time in history, although being the Defender.

 SAN FRANCISCO

2013

34TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// INTO THE TOTAL UNKNOWN

The 34th America's Cup marked a turning point in the history of the event. 72ft catamarans with massive wing sails squared off. Emirates Team New Zealand had to become masters of multihulls. As Kiwis, and always pushing the boundaries of innovation, we were the first team to bring foiling to the America's Cup, enabling the AC72 to get up and out of the water on foils and soon all the teams were flying above the water at speeds over 40 knots.

Some spectacular sailing was seen on San Francisco Bay, with Emirates Team New Zealand leading the charge through the Challenger Elimination Series. Eventually, Emirates Team New Zealand and Oracle Team USA met at the start line. Another chapter in the then 162-year history was about to be written: The team started the America's Cup Match superior, but Oracle

was catching up fast in a boat designed to perform better in the reduced upper wind limit of 23 knots, mandated after the tragic Artemis capsize in training. Oracle won the best of 17 regatta 9—8.

An event never to be forgotten.

 VALENCIA

2007

32ND AMERICA'S CUP



/// ONE-SECOND DELTA ENDS A THRILLER

After the heartbreaking loss of 2003, Grant Dalton was brought in to rebuild the team from the ground up for the 32nd America's Cup in 2007. He signed Emirates as the naming sponsor of the team and Emirates Team New Zealand quickly re-established themselves as a top contender. Competing in pre-regattas across Europe, the team dominated the series, won the Louis Vuitton Cup, and earned the right to challenge Alinghi in Valencia, Spain.

The Cup was contested sailing the 5th generation of IACC (International America's Cup Class) monohulls.

Thousands of Kiwi fans lined the canals in support, witnessing one of the most thrilling Cup finals in history: a battle ultimately decided by just one second in the final race.

 AUCKLAND

2003

31ST AMERICA'S CUP



/// DEFEAT AND REBUILD

After the successful defence in 2000, Sir Peter Blake and his management team stepped aside, and key sailors, including Russell Coutts and Brad Butterworth, departed to join the Swiss Challenger, Alinghi.

Under new leadership, Tom Schnackenberg and his team rebuilt from scratch, getting the black boats back on the Hauraki Gulf for intense testing and training.

However, nine other teams were eager to lift the trophy as well and despite their efforts, Team New Zealand lost the Cup to its former teammates at Alinghi, marking the end of one era and the beginning of another under Grant Dalton's leadership.



 AUCKLAND

2000

30TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// THE MAGNIFICENT DEFENCE

Back in Auckland, Sir Peter Blake and his team set about creating a venue like no other to stage the 2000 America's Cup. Blake got financial backing from the Government and the Auckland City Council to redevelop the Viaduct Basin and his vision transformed a run-down base for a few fishing boats into a Cup Village.

In the eight years the America's Cup was in residence at the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron, a thriving boat building and services industry grew in New Zealand worth more than a billion dollars. A small country at the edge of the south-west Pacific Ocean became the holiday destination for millions.

Meanwhile, the team began preparing their defence with Tom Schnackenberg heading design and Russell Coutts leading the sailing

team. Eleven syndicates from seven countries turned up in Auckland.

After a bruising Louis Vuitton Challenger Series, the Italian team Luna Rossa won the right to challenge for the Cup.

In a repeat of the 1995 result, Team New Zealand's black machine NZL60 eliminated the Italian challenge by 5—0. Peter Blake, Russell Coutts, and a young Dean Barker were national heroes.



 SAN DIEGO

1995

29TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// HOW TO WIN THE AMERICA'S CUP

Sir Peter Blake renamed the team 'Team New Zealand', introduced the silver fern to the logo, and painted the boats black—a nod every Kiwi could rally behind. With Russell Coutts leading a world-class crew and Blake securing vital sponsorship, the 1995 campaign became a textbook example of how to win sport's oldest and most elusive trophy.

New Zealanders watched in pride as Black Magic NZL32 dominated in San Diego, winning the Louis Vuitton Cup and then sweeping Dennis Conner's *Team Stars & Stripes* 5—0.

As the Kiwis crossed the finish line, commentator Peter Montgomery declared the now-legendary words: "The America's Cup is now New Zealand's Cup!"

 SAN DIEGO

1992

28TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// A SKIFF ON STEROIDS

By 1992, New Zealand had established itself as a serious America's Cup contender.

Sailing the innovative NZL20, a short, wide, light Bruce Farr design sporting an unusual double strut keel and no rudder. The boat was dubbed a 'skiff on steroids'. The team surged to the Louis Vuitton Challenger Finals. Leading 4—1, they were stunned as Italy's *Il Moro di Venezia* came back to win 5—4.

When sponsors stepped back, Peter Blake stepped in: confident that tiny New Zealand could take on the mighty Americans.

 SAN DIEGO

1988

27TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// THE BIG BOAT CHALLENGE

Not content to wait the usual three- or four-year Cup cycle, Sir Michael Fay exploited a loophole in the century-old Deed of Gift to issue an immediate challenge in 1988.

New Zealand sailed KZ1, a massive 90-foot carbon-fibre monohull with wings extending from the deck. Even in light winds, the 30-man crew had to sit on the wings to keep the boat upright. New Zealand was facing Conner's *Stars & Stripes*, a smaller but faster winged catamaran.

For the first time in the Cup's history, two different styles of boats raced each other. Predictably, the cat won on the water and a protracted court battle followed. Ultimately New Zealand lost but once again the team had reshaped the event.

 FREMANTLE

1987

26TH AMERICA'S CUP



/// UPSTARTS IN PLASTIC BOATS

Until the Australians took the Cup to Perth in 1983, anyone brave enough to suggest that little New Zealand could match the United States in a sporting event dominated by technology and cash would have been a laughing stock.

With backing from merchant bankers Michael Fay and David Richwhite, the New Zealand Challenge made its debut in the 1987 America's Cup in Fremantle, Western Australia. The team built fibreglass 12-metre yachts, rather than using aluminium. This upstart challenge rattled the opposition and America's Cup veteran Dennis Conner, who had lost to Australia at the 25th America's Cup in Newport in 1983, accused Team New Zealand of cheating.

Against the odds the 'Plastic Fantastic' KZ7 romped through the Challenger rounds, winning 37 of 38 matches. The Kiwi charge was stopped by Dennis Conner sailing for the San Diego Yacht Club in the Finals of the Louis Vuitton Cup.

THE BOATS

TAIHORO /// AC75



The AC75 is the cutting-edge foiling monohull that represents a revolution in yacht design and redefined the limits of high-performance sailing. Introduced for the 36th America's Cup in Auckland, Emirates Team New Zealand have conceived this design process by challenging what's possible in the sport of sailing. This 75-foot foiling monohull is the pinnacle of innovation, combining aerodynamic precision, hydrodynamic mastery, and data-driven power in perfect balance.

Taihoro, Emirates Team New Zealand's second-generation AC75, embodies years of design evolution and innovation, built to fly above the water with unrivalled stability, speed, and control. During the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup in Barcelona, Taihoro showcased its supremacy and unmatched pace across all conditions. Together with the skills and experience of the sailing crew and the seamless teamwork on shore, the result was a commanding performance that secured Emirates Team New Zealand's third consecutive Cup victory, reaffirming both the boat's technological brilliance and the team's relentless pursuit of perfection.

Looking ahead to the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup in Naples, the evolution continues. The new AC75 Class Rule will see five sailors on board, supported by

increased battery power to handle onboard systems. This change allows for the sailors to focus more on strategic overviews, tactical decisions, and overall more exciting and closer racing.

Emirates Team New Zealand has started the on-water performance trainings in March 2026 in Auckland—being the first team to train on the recommissioned AC75 ahead of the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup. Straight out of the shed, the team managed to sail Taihoro immediately, launching the campaign into a fierce and relentless development and optimisation race.

- /// CREW ONBOARD
5 sailors
- /// TOP SPEED
RECORDED DURING RACING
55.6 knots (102.97 km/h)
- /// HULL LENGTH
20.7 m
- /// MAST HEIGHT
26.5 m
- /// HULL DISPLACEMENT
6,435 kg

AC40



The AC40 is the smaller, one-design sibling of the AC75. A high-performance foiling monohull built for speed, agility, and precision. The design and development of the AC40 also comes from the design studio of Emirates Team New Zealand, and it soon gained the title of "Boat of the Year" in 2023.

Designed as both a training platform and a gateway for emerging talent, the AC40 allows sailors to hone their skills and teamwork in a more dynamic, hands-on environment. Used in the Youth and Women's America's Cup as well as training for senior crews, it plays a vital role in shaping the next generation of elite sailors.

- /// CREW ONBOARD
4 sailors
- /// TOP SPEED
RECORDED DURING PRACTICE
50.09 knots (92.77 km/h)
- /// HULL LENGTH
11.3 m
- /// MAST HEIGHT
18.0 m
- /// ALL RACING IN ONE-DESIGN MODE



THE TEAM

Emirates Team New Zealand is a team built on versatility, ingenuity, and an unshakeable drive to go beyond what's expected. A team who understands the America's Cup is not just a sailing race but a constantly shifting challenge that demands skill, instinct, and adaptability. That mindset shapes everything we do, from the way we train to the way we design, innovate, and perform under pressure. 'Team' is everything.

Our strength comes from the breadth of talent within the team. Designers and engineers who think like sailors. Sailors who understand engineering. Innovators who challenge convention and science because they know what it means to push boundaries on and off the water. This blend of perspectives and our Kiwi spirit allows us to solve problems differently; not by following the obvious route, but by finding the one that unlocks more speed, more efficiency, or a smarter way of sailing. Every campaign is a chance to evolve, and every person contributes to pushing us further than the campaign before.

Over 40 years, from the preparations for the first entry in 1987 to the upcoming defence in 2027 in Naples, our experience is built on more than 12 campaigns and five America's Cup wins. As a small nation, we have shown the sailing world and all of sport that New Zealand is at the forefront of innovation

and unconventional solutions to technical endeavours. What sets us apart is the culture behind the performance: one built on grit, resourcefulness, and the confidence to test ideas that haven't been tried before. We embrace pressure and back the next generation to step up and shape the future of high-performance sailing.

**/// The recognition as
2025 Team of the Year
is especially meaningful
to us because it is not
about any one individual.
It is about the strength
of the team.**

– Kevin Shoebridge

Emirates Team New Zealand is proud to have recently been named the 2025 World Sailing Team of the Year, a prestigious honour that recognises not only the team's continued success on the water but also its enduring commitment to teamwork, innovation, and community within the sport of sailing.

Together, we're not just defending a trophy. We are redefining what a modern sailing team can be.

/ TEAM PRINCIPAL
Matteo De Nora

/ CEO
Grant Dalton

/ COO
Kevin Shoebridge

/ HEAD OF DESIGN
Dan Bernasconi

/ SKIPPER
Nathan Outteridge

AC75 CORE SAILING TEAM

ROLES

COACHES

RAY DAVIES
SAM MEECH



SKIPPER

NATHAN OUTERIDGE



SAILING TEAM

ANDY MALONEY
JO ALEH
CHRIS DRAPER
BLAIR TUKE
IAIN JENSEN
SEB MENZIES
JOSH ARMIT
ERICA DAWSON
JAKE PYE
SERENA WOODALL
HELENA SANDERSON



NATHAN OUTERIDGE



/ NATIONALITY

AUSTRALIA

/ DOB

28/01/1986

/ YACHT CLUB

WANGI WANGI SAILING CLUB /
RNZYS



Nathan Outeridge brings a remarkable pedigree to the team's quest for the America's Cup. A gold medallist at the 2012 London Olympics and silver medallist in 2016 in the 49er class, Nathan has also competed in multiple America's Cup campaigns, including as helmsman for Artemis Racing in 2017, before joining Emirates Team New Zealand for the Cup in 2024.

In May 2025 he was officially named skipper of Emirates Team New Zealand for the defence of the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup, combining his tactical insight, foiling expertise and calm leadership to guide the team's next chapter.

/// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2027: 38th America's Cup
- . 2024: 37th America's Cup Winner
- . 2017: 35th America's Cup (Artemis)
- . 2016: Rio Olympics . 49er ●_S
- . 2013: 34th America's Cup (Artemis)
- . 2012: London Olympics . 49er ●_G
- . 2008: Beijing Olympics . 49er . 5th
- . 4x 49er World Champion
- . 2x Moth World Champion
- . 3x World Youth Sailing Champion

ANDY MALONEY



/ NATIONALITY

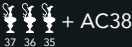
NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB

02/06/1990

/ YACHT CLUB

KERIKERI CRUISING CLUB / RNZYS



Andy Maloney has been part of Emirates Team New Zealand's sailing squad across three America's Cup winning campaigns (2017, 2021 and 2024), serving as a Flight Controller. He rose through dinghy and keelboat classes, winning the prestigious Finn Gold Cup in 2019, before bringing his technical expertise to the foiling world of the Cup.

Having entered the America's Cup world through the Youth America's Cup in San Francisco in 2013 and coming away with a win, Andy has been a constant in the team and continues to play a major role in the team's ongoing campaign for the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup, blending deep New Zealand sailing roots with cutting-edge high-performance racing.

/// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2027: 38th America's Cup
- . 2024: 37th America's Cup Winner
- . 2021: 36th America's Cup Winner
- . 2021: Finn Gold Cup ●_G
- . 2017: 35th America's Cup Winner
- . 2013: Red Bull Youth America's Cup Winner with NZL Sailing Team ●_G
- . 2012: World Championship . Laser ●_B
- . 2008: World Championship . Laser Radial ●_G

JO ALEH



/ NATIONALITY

 NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB

15/05/1986

/ YACHT CLUB

KOHIMARAMA YACHT CLUB / RNZYS

1st AC



 WAC

37

Jo Aleh is one of New Zealand’s most accomplished sailors, bringing her Olympic pedigree and technical expertise to Emirates Team New Zealand’s Cup programme. She competed as a helm in the inaugural Women’s America’s Cup in 2024, showcasing her adaptability to high-performance foiling after transitioning from a decorated Olympic career in the 470 class.

Jo is best known for winning Olympic gold in London 2012 and Olympic silver in Rio 2016, achievements that cemented her status as one of the country’s most respected athletes. A multiple World Championship medallist and long-time leader within the New Zealand sailing community, Jo continues to help shape the next generation of high-performance sailors while contributing her experience to the top tier of the sport.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America’s Cup
 - . 2024: Women’s America’s Cup
 - . 2024: Paris Olympics . 49erFX . 7th
 - . 2023: Women’s Foiling Gold Cup ●_G
 - . 2021: NZ Nacra 17 Coach 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games
 - . 2016: Rio Olympics . 470W ●_s
 - . 2013: Rolex World Sailor of the Year
 - . 2012: London Olympics . 470W ●_G
 - . 2008: Beijing Olympics . Laser Radial . 7th

CHRIS DRAPER



/ NATIONALITY

 GREAT BRITAIN

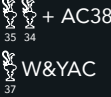
/ DOB

20/03/1978

/ YACHT CLUB

MURRAYS BAY SAILING CLUB / RNZYS





35 34

37

Chris Draper is a highly experienced and versatile sailor whose career has spanned Olympic success, world-class match racing, and strategic leadership roles in multiple America’s Cup campaigns.

Chris won Olympic bronze in the 49er in Athens in 2004 and later became helmsman for Luna Rossa Challenge, where he was the first Brit to helm in the Louis Vuitton Cup Final for the 34th America’s Cup. Chris went on to serve as Sailing Team Manager, Tactician, and Wing Trimmer for SoftBank Team Japan during the 35th America’s Cup in Bermuda, and his high-performance expertise continues to influence top-level foiling globally.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America’s Cup
 - . 2024: Women’s and Youth America’s Cup Team Performance Manager (Athena Pathway)
 - . 2017: 35th America’s Cup (SoftBank Team Japan)
 - . 2013: 34th America’s Cup (Luna Rossa)
 - . 2004: Athens Olympics . 49er ●_B
 - . 2003/2007: World Champion . 49er ●●_{2x G}
 - . 2004, 2005, 2010: European Champion . 49er ●●_{3x G}

BLAIR TUKE



/ NATIONALITY

 NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB

05/07/1989

/ YACHT CLUB

KERIKERI CRUISING CLUB / RNZYS

 + AC38



 YAC 34

Blair Tuke is one of New Zealand’s most decorated sailors, most recently helping Emirates Team New Zealand secure their America’s Cup victories in 2024, 2021, and 2017 as a key member of the afterguard, specialising in flight control and foil trimming. Blair entered the America’s Cup as part of the Youth team during the 34th America’s Cup in San Francisco, where the NZL Sailing Team won the inaugural Youth America’s Cup.

Before his success in the Cup, Blair, together with long-time sailing partner Peter Burling, dominated the 49er class, winning multiple World Championships and capturing Olympic gold in Rio in 2016 after earning silver in 2012 in London, and another silver in Tokyo in 2021. Beyond the racecourse, Blair is deeply committed to protecting the marine environment.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America’s Cup
 - . 2024: 37th America’s Cup Winner
 - . 2021: Tokyo Olympics . 49er ●s
 - . 2021: 36th America’s Cup Winner
 - . 2017: 35th America’s Cup Winner
 - . 2017/18: Volvo Ocean Race ●s
 - . 2016: Rio Olympics . 49er ●G
 - . 2013: Red Bull Youth America’s Cup Winner with NZL Sailing Team ●G
 - . 2012: London Olympics . 49er ●s
 - . 6x World Champion . 49er ●6x G

IAIN JENSEN



/ NATIONALITY

 AUSTRALIA

/ DOB

23/05/1988

/ YACHT CLUB

WANGI AMATEUR SAILING CLUB / RNZYS

 + AC38



 YAC 34

Iain Jensen brings deep high-performance sailing experience to Emirates Team New Zealand. A gold and silver medallist in the 49er class at the Rio 2016, and London 2012 Olympic Games alongside Nathan Outteridge, Iain has competed at the very top of the sport for well over a decade.

He has been part of multiple America’s Cup campaigns with the British and Swedish syndicates before and contributed across a range of roles that draw on his tactical understanding, boat-handling skill and calm, methodical approach under pressure. His versatility and racing instincts continue to be valuable assets as the team prepares for the next America’s Cup cycle.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America’s Cup
 - . 2024: 37th America’s Cup and Louis Vuitton Cup Winner (INEOS Britannia)
 - . 2021: 36th America’s Cup (INEOS Team UK)
 - . 2021: Moth World Championship ●s
 - . 2017: 35th America’s Cup (Artemis Racing)
 - . 2017: Moth World Championship ●B
 - . 2016: Rio Olympics . 49er ●s
 - . 2013: 34th America’s Cup (Artemis)
 - . 2012: London Olympics . 49er ●G
 - . 3x 49er World Champion ●●●3x G

SEB MENZIES



/ NATIONALITY  NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB 02/11/2004

/ YACHT CLUB MURRAY'S BAY SAILING CLUB / RNZYS

1st AC



Seb Menzies is an emerging talent in New Zealand sailing who has quickly earned his place on the big stage. He was the youngest member of Emirates Team New Zealand's youth sailing squad during the 2024 Youth America's Cup and has already accumulated an impressive junior résumé, including gold at the 2026 49er World and European Championships alongside George Lee Rush.

Recognised for his outstanding talent and trajectory, Seb, together with George, has been nominated for 2025 Youth Sailor of the Year, underlining his role as one of the future pillars of the team's 2027 America's Cup campaign.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America's Cup
 - . 2026: European Championships . 49er ●_G
 - . 2026: World Championships . 49er ●_G
 - . 2025: European Championships . 49er ●_G
 - . 2024: Youth America's Cup
 - . 2022: Europeans Championships . 29er ●_G
 - . 2022: Youth World Championships . 29er ●_B
 - . 2019: Youth World Championships . 420 ●_G
 - . 2019: Open World Championships . 420 ●_S
 - . 2018: Open World Championships ●_G

JOSH ARMIT



/ NATIONALITY  NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB 05/12/2001

/ YACHT CLUB MURRAY'S BAY SAILING CLUB / RNZYS

1st AC 



Josh Armit emerged as one of New Zealand's most promising youth sailors when he won gold in the Laser Radial at the 2018 Youth Sailing World Championships. After transitioning into the wind foiling discipline (iQFOIL), he quickly established himself as a top contender, securing several top ten finishes in major international events, winning national titles, and earning selection to represent New Zealand at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

In 2024, Josh joined the wider Emirates Team New Zealand sailing squad as a member of the Youth team. As part of the main sailing team preparing towards the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup, he brings his foiling experience and competitive drive to the campaign.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America's Cup
 - . 2024: Youth America's Cup
 - . 2024: Paris Olympics . Windurfing . 4th
 - . 2023: IQ Worlds . 7th
 - . 2018: Youth World Championsip . Laser Radial ●_G

ERICA DAWSON



/ NATIONALITY  NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB 24/07/1994

/ YACHT CLUB MURRAY'S BAY SAILING CLUB / RNZY'S

1st AC 

 WAC
37

Erica Dawson was part of the inaugural Women's America's Cup in Barcelona in 2024, where she served as reserve trimmer on the AC40. Hailing from Murray's Bay in Auckland, she is the only female athlete to ever win the Starling National Championships. After junior classes Erica moved into Olympic class yachting, initially helping in the 49erFX and then switched to crewing the highly technical foiling Nacra 17 with Micah Wilkinson. The pair qualified for the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021 where they finished 12th and then went on to win a bronze medal for New Zealand at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America's Cup
 - . 2024: Women's America's Cup
 - . 2024: Paris Olympic Games . Nacra 17 
 - . 2023: Women's Foiling Gold Cup 
 - . 2023: Olympic Test Event, Marseille, 5th
 - . 2022: European Championship . Nacra 17 
 - . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games . Nacra 17 . 12th

JAKE PYE



/ NATIONALITY  NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB 30/06/2005

/ YACHT CLUB MANLY SAILING CLUB / RNZY'S

1st AC

Jake Pye, at just 20 years old, is the youngest member selected for Emirates Team New Zealand's sailing team as the campaign builds toward the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup in Naples.

Jake joins the lineup after standout performances in the Moth class, with podium finishes at the 2024 (2nd) and 2025 (3rd) Moth World Championships, marking him as a rising star in foiling yacht racing. His selection into the team underscores the team's commitment to blending emerging talent with experience and ambition. Jake is ready to train, compete, and push for excellence alongside New Zealand's elite sailors.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America's Cup
 - . 2025: World Championships . Moth 
 - . 2024: World Championships . Moth 

SERENA WOODALL



/ NATIONALITY  NEW ZEALAND
/ DOB 08/01/2002
/ YACHT CLUB WAIHEKE BOATING CLUB / RNZYS
1st AC

Serena Woodall is a highly accomplished sailor across match racing and foiling disciplines. She finished 2nd overall on the 2023 Women’s Match Racing Tour and was runner-up at the 2022 Women’s Match Racing World Championship as main trimmer and tactician. Serena has also competed at the cutting edge of foiling as a flight controller, including podium finishes at the Youth Foiling Gold Cup Grand Final, and was part of the team awarded 2023 Yachting New Zealand Female Sailor of the Year.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America’s Cup
 - . 2023: Women’s Match Race World Tour ●s
 - . 2023: Yachting New Zealand Female Sailor of the year (awarded to Edge Women’s Match)
 - . 2023: Youth Foiling Gold Cup Grand Final with Enzedder Racing ●B
 - . 2023: Casa Vela Cup ●G
 - . 2022: Women’s Match Race World Championships ●s
 - . 69F sailing Act 1 Miami ●s

LENA SANDERSON



/ NATIONALITY  NEW ZEALAND
/ DOB 25/04/2004
/ YACHT CLUB BAY OF ISLANDS YACHT CLUB / RNZYS
1st AC

Lena Sanderson is an experienced foiling sailor with strong results across youth and international classes. Her achievements include winning the U21 Women’s title at the 2023 Waszp International Games, podium finishes at the U23 Nacra 17 World Championships, and top results at Youth World Championships. She also holds a BSc in Environmental Sciences, reflecting her passion for the ocean beyond racing.

- /// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
- . 2027: 38th America’s Cup
 - . 2024: Inspire Racing Champion ●G
 - . 2023: Waszp International Games (U21 female Winner, 2nd open women) ●G
 - . 2022: Youth World Championships . Nacra 15 . 5th place
 - . 2020: U23 Open World Championship . Nacra 17 ●B
 - . 2019: U23 Open World Championship . Nacra 17 ●s
 - . 2019: Youth World Championships . Nacra 15 . 6th place
 - . 2019: Youth World Championships . Tornado ●s

SAM MEECH



/ NATIONALITY  NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB 04/04/1991

/ YACHT CLUB TAURANGA YACHT AND POWER BOAT CLUB / RNZYS

 + AC38

Sam Meech is an accomplished New Zealand sailor who joined Emirates Team New Zealand's for the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup campaign as a key part of the sailing and performance group, bringing with him a decade of elite international racing experience.

A specialist in high-performance single-handed sailing, Sam is best known for winning Olympic bronze in the Laser class at Rio 2016, becoming one of New Zealand's few male Olympic medallists in the discipline. He also represented New Zealand at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, and across his career secured multiple World Cup medals and top ten finishes at World Championships, consistently ranking among the world's best Laser sailors. Sam has since transitioned his expertise into high-performance coaching and foiling development, contributing his tactical insight, technical understanding, and experience to the next generation of New Zealand sailors.

/// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2027: 38th America's Cup
- . 2024: 37th America's Cup Winner
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympics . Laser . 10th
- . 2016: Rio Olympics . Laser 
- . 2019: Youth World Champion . Laser 
- . U21 World Champion . Laser 

RAY DAVIES



/ NATIONALITY  NEW ZEALAND

/ DOB 22/11/1971

/ YACHT CLUB ROYAL AKARANA YACHT CLUB / RNZYS

 + AC38

Ray brings extensive offshore and America's Cup experience to Emirates Team New Zealand. He was part of the campaign that won the 35th America's Cup in Bermuda, where he competed in the World Series regattas, served as back-up helmsman, and contributed to boat development. He has since held the role of sailing team coach for the 37th and now the 38th America's Cup.

Ray has previously competed in four other America's Cup editions: he sailed with *AmericaOne* in the 2000 America's Cup, was a member of Team New Zealand's weather team in 2003, and returned as part of the afterguard in 2007 and 2013.

An experienced offshore sailor, Ray helmed *Illbruck* to victory in the 2001–02 Volvo Ocean Race, finished second on *Merit Cup* in the 1997–98 Whitbread, and sailed for the *Audi MedCup* campaigns in 2009 and 2010.

/// CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2027: 38th America's Cup
- . 2024: 37th America's Cup Winner
- . 2021: 36th America's Cup Winner
- . 2017: 35th America's Cup Winner
- . 2013: 34th America's Cup
- . 2007: 32nd America's Cup
- . 2003: 31st America's Cup
- . 2001/02: Volvo Ocean Race Winner (*Illbruck*)
- . 2000: 30th America's Cup (*AmericaOne*)
- . 1997/98: Whitbread Round the World 

INNOVATION IN THE AMERICA'S CUP

The America's Cup has always been the ultimate catalyst for innovation in sailing, driving technological breakthroughs that have reshaped not only yacht racing but the entire marine industry. From the introduction of fibreglass hulls and winged keels, to the revolutionary foiling technology that allows boats to fly above the water, the America's Cup has consistently pushed the limits of design, engineering, and human performance at the pinnacle of our sport.

Throughout Emirates Team New Zealand's history in the America's Cup, we have always been at the forefront of these evolutions. Many of these advances in aerodynamics, yacht design, composite materials, data analytics, and control systems developed for the Cup have since filtered into mainstream yacht, boat, and even aerospace design worldwide.

This relentless pursuit of speed, efficiency, and ingenuity has cemented Emirates Team New Zealand's reputation as the pinnacle of sailing innovation, where each generation of competition redefines what's possible on the water.



12TH CAMPAIGN
**2027
38TH AMERICA'S CUP**

Looking ahead to the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup, Emirates Team New Zealand continue along the path of relentless innovation and technological evolution. All teams must use their existing AC75 hulls, however the team's work in control systems, foils, aero packages and data-driven performance analysis hints at new levels of speed and control on the racecourse. With every component being refined to the smallest margins, the stage is set for a razor-tight campaign. Fans can expect thrilling developments, but the surprises will only reveal themselves on the water and once the teams line up on the start line.



11TH CAMPAIGN / 5TH WIN
**2024 / AC37
SIMULATOR & DATA ANALYSIS**

For the 37th edition, Emirates Team New Zealand focused on innovation, preparation, and the next generation of sailing technology. The new AC40 yachts became the central platform for high-intensity training and development, allowing the team to refine handling, foil dynamics, and sail control. Additionally, the AC40 provided a successful class for youth and female sailors.

Meanwhile, the team continued to lead in sustainable innovation, deploying hydrogen-powered foiling chase boats that combined zero-emissions propulsion with high-performance agility on the water.

Alongside on-water work, Emirates Team New Zealand advanced its e-sailing and simulator programmes, giving sailors the opportunity to rehearse tactics, decision-making, and race scenarios in virtual conditions. This also introduced the sport to a wider demographic.

/// RELIVE THE 37TH AMERICA'S CUP



10TH CAMPAIGN / 4TH WIN
**2021 / AC36
THE AC75**

For the 36th America's Cup, Emirates Team New Zealand pushed the boundaries of design yet again. The introduction of the AC75 class marked a return to monohulls while reimagining high-performance sailing. Sailing and manoeuvre stability improved and 'fly time' soon became a measurable target. Foil configuration, hull aerodynamics, control systems as well as boat handling, teamwork, and tactics became the focus.

In between campaigns, Glenn Ashby set a wind-powered land speed world record, demonstrating the team's ability to translate cutting-edge sailing principles to new environments and underscoring the relentless pursuit of speed, efficiency, and engineering excellence that defines Emirates Team New Zealand.

/// RELIVE THE 36TH AMERICA'S CUP



9TH CAMPAIGN / 3RD WIN
**2017 / AC35
CYCLEPOWER**

At the 35th America's Cup in Bermuda, Emirates Team New Zealand revolutionised yacht racing by introducing the now-famous 'cyclors', who generated increased hydraulic pressure for foils, wingsails, and manoeuvres. By tapping into the legs' greater strength and endurance, cyclors delivered consistent power and gave Emirates Team New Zealand a decisive edge on the water, eventually contributing to the Bermuda victory.

Tested and refined with secret input from Olympic cyclist Simon van Velthooven, the system reshaped the way human energy is converted into speed. The team's strategic vision was kept under a veil to ensure no competitor could copy the system. A risky trade-off of reducing on-water time in turn for a strategic advantage—which paid off.

/// ► "IT BEGAN WITH BELIEF"



8TH CAMPAIGN

2012 / AC34 THE BIRTH OF FOILING

In 2012, Emirates Team New Zealand began secretly developing a revolutionary foiling AC72 catamaran, testing early concepts on Lake Arapuni with a covert vessel nicknamed 'the Waka.' These real-world trials proved that a control system could lift and sustain a boat on its foils, laying the groundwork for a fully foiling campaign. While the concept didn't immediately deliver the Cup, it transformed the trajectory of America's Cup racing and world sailing as a whole, setting the stage for the team's triumph in Bermuda 2017. Today, foiling remains central to high-performance sailing, and the technology continues to evolve rapidly, with every innovation: from foil geometry to hydraulic and energy systems, all pushed to the margins, echoing the constant "design race" seen in Formula 1 and reinforcing Emirates Team New Zealand's legacy of pushing the limits of yacht performance.



5-7TH CAMPAIGNS / 2000: 2ND WIN

2000 / 2003 / 2007 DARING INNOVATIONS

At the turn of the millennium, Emirates Team New Zealand cemented its place in sailing history with a commanding defence of the 30th America's Cup in Auckland, winning every race of the Match and confirming the team's technical and sailing supremacy on home waters.

The campaigns that followed in 2003 and 2007 continued to reflect a culture of bold experimentation and relentless design ambition, even when results proved more challenging, emblematic of a team willing to push boundaries, exploring unconventional solutions, and redefining what was possible in high-performance yacht racing.



4TH CAMPAIGN / 1ST WIN

1995 / AC29 EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE

In 1995, Team New Zealand reshaped modern yacht design through a tightly integrated approach to engineering, performance analysis, and sailing execution: innovations that powered the breakthrough victory at the 29th America's Cup in San Diego.

The campaign introduced exceptionally refined hull and keel efficiency, ultra-light composite construction, advanced sail development, and a data-driven design process that linked designers and sailors more closely than ever before. Combined with the precision sailing of the crew, these technical breakthroughs created a decisive performance advantage, setting new standards for speed, reliability, and campaign integration that would influence America's Cup design for years to come, and professionalise the competition.



3RD CAMPAIGN

1992 / AC28 CHALLENGING CONVENTIONS

For the 1992 America's Cup, Team New Zealand initially took a measured approach, building two identical boats, Hulls 2 and 3, to refine performance and gather key data. With that foundation in place, designer Bruce Farr pushed the envelope on Hull 4, NZL-20, introducing a radical tandem-keel layout paired with a super-light displacement that made the yacht a weapon across the full wind range. While the innovation on the water was turning heads, tensions were brewing off the water. Controversy arose around the unconventional gybing method, using the bowsprit as a temporary attachment for the gennaker. A clever but hotly debated tactic. The combination of daring design and bold sailing manoeuvres set the tone for New Zealand's reputation as a team willing to challenge convention and redefine the Cup.



1ST / 2ND CAMPAIGNS

1987 / 1988 MATERIAL REVOLUTIONS

1987 marked a new era in 12-Metre construction, with New Zealand pushing the boundaries by building in glassfibre. A bold move that sparked what would famously be dubbed 'glassgate.' KZ-5, nicknamed Kiwi Magic, had already left a lasting impression during the 1986 World Championships, showcasing the team's ambition and innovation. Building on that momentum, KZ-7, famously known as *Plastic Fantastic*, was rolled out in Fremantle, Western Australia, turning heads with its sleek new design. The following year, 1988, saw KZ-1 take the sailing world by storm, introducing a completely unprecedented hull that further cemented New Zealand's reputation for daring and cutting-edge yacht design.

/// READ MORE HERE

/// READ MORE ABOUT THE 1987 CUP

/// AND THE 1988 DEED OF GIFT MATCH



THE HISTORY OF FOILING IN THE AMERICA'S CUP

In late August 2012, a striking photo of a giant red-and-black 72-foot catamaran flying above Auckland's Waitematā Harbour sparked wide speculation; many thought it could only have been photoshopped. In fact, it was the first public hint of the revolutionary foiling concept that Emirates Team New Zealand had been secretly developing since 2011.

The team asked themselves: Could we make an AC72 catamaran fly above water? With simulation tools still in their infancy, testing was done in real life. Initially, the team scouted at a quiet and remote lake, Lake Arapuni in the Waikato region, using a covert vessel nicknamed 'the Waka.' That early programme involved late-night meetings and muddy launches, but quickly proved the power of foils: the team found a control system that could lift the boat onto its foils and keep it flying reliably.

Although foiling boats were not a completely new development, these early tests marked the beginning of novel developments in the world of sailing, with rapid accelerations in speed records. From those humble beginnings, the project matured into a fully foiling AC72 campaign. While this revolutionary design development didn't ultimately deliver the America's Cup back to New Zealand in 2013, it fundamentally changed the trajectory

of America's Cup racing. The lessons learned laid the foundation for the team's triumph in Bermuda 2017, when Emirates Team New Zealand combined innovative design with cutting-edge engineering to redefine what a racing yacht could do.

Today, foiling is at the heart of modern sailing and the America's Cup competition, but the technology continues to evolve at an extraordinary pace. Every component, from foil geometry to hydraulic systems, wing controls to onboard energy management, is increasingly intricate. Margins for improvement are ever smaller, and even subtle gains can be decisive on the racecourse. The ongoing innovation mirrors the "design race" in Formula 1: teams iterate constantly, using data and simulation to extract performance in ways that are invisible to the casual observer, yet critical to success.

Every breakthrough and experiment contributes to the relentless pursuit of speed, control, and efficiency. Many of the technologies being quietly tested today may well define the next quantum leap in the sport, continuing Emirates Team New Zealand's tradition of pushing boundaries of what is possible and challenging conventions in high-performance yacht racing.

[WATCH THE VIDEO HERE](#)



CYCLE POWER

For the 35th America's Cup in Bermuda, Emirates Team New Zealand once again redefined yacht racing by introducing the now-famous 'cyclors.' To understand why this innovation mattered so much, it helps to first look at how modern America's Cup boats actually function.

At the heart of these high-performance foiling yachts are powerful hydraulic systems. Athletes generate physical energy to pressurise hydraulic fluid, which is stored in accumulators and then used to operate critical controls: adjusting foil angle and cant, trimming the wingsail or soft wing elements, controlling rake, and powering rapid manoeuvres like tacks and gybes. Every movement that stabilises or accelerates the boat depends on stored hydraulic pressure. Maintaining that pressure continuously is essential at racing speeds exceeding 40 knots.

Traditionally, crews produced this energy using arm-powered pedestal grinders, essentially hand-cranked systems that drove hydraulic pumps. But in Bermuda 2017, Emirates Team New Zealand replaced those grinders with leg-powered cycling stations. Instead of using their arms, the cyclors pedalled continuously to generate hydraulic pressure.

The shift tapped into the body's largest and most powerful muscle group, the legs, allowing for greater sustained output, improved endurance, and more consistent pressure delivery: And it freed up sailors' hands to be utilised for other tasks, like flight control. The concept was tested and refined with the help of Olympic cycling champion Simon van Velthooven, whose involvement remained completely secret. Rival teams had no idea that a world-class cyclist was embedded within the sailing crew, nor that a radical new power system was about to redefine performance on the water.

The innovation delivered a decisive advantage in power outputs for manoeuvrability, efficiency, and speed, helping New Zealand secure victory in Bermuda and changing the physical and mechanical dynamics of elite yacht racing.

Interestingly, the evolution didn't stop there. For the 36th America's Cup, teams returned to traditional arm-powered grinding systems, largely due to rule changes and evolving boat design priorities. However, the efficiency gains of leg-driven hydraulics had clearly been proven. By the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup, cyclor systems had made a full return, this time adopted by every team in the fleet with some teams experimenting with positioning and orientation of the cyclor pods.

What began as a bold, secretive experiment in Bermuda ultimately reshaped the standard for how human power is converted into speed, perfectly embodying the America's Cup's enduring spirit of technological innovation and competitive evolution.

Looking ahead to the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup, cyclors will no longer be onboard. Instead, teams are turning to advanced smart-battery systems designed to replicate the variable, responsive energy output once generated by human power. Drawing on years of data gathered from both arm-powered grinding and leg-driven cycling, these systems can deliver precisely managed hydraulic energy on demand.

The result is a major shift in crew dynamics: with onboard energy generation no longer requiring dedicated physical power stations, crew numbers can be reduced to five sailors. This allows greater attention and focus to return to sailing performance itself: strategy, positioning on the racecourse, boat handling, and tactical decision-making. This marks the next step in the ongoing fusion of athleticism, engineering, and innovation at the highest level of yacht racing.

[WATCH THE VIDEO HERE](#)



HYDROGEN BOATS

At Emirates Team New Zealand, innovation doesn't stop at the foils, nor sails for that matter. As the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup in Barcelona got underway, spectators witnessed that all competing teams were supported by foiling chase boats. What sets these apart from ordinary motorboats was their power source: hydrogen.

Emirates Team New Zealand have pioneered hydrogen technology in high-performance sailing support craft. Since 2022, our own foiling eChase boat, Chase Zero, has been a sustainable workhorse for the team, combining zero-emission propulsion with the speed and agility required to operate alongside AC75s. An essential development as the sailing yachts became faster and faster, demanding other technology to hold pace. The hydrogen-powered Chase boat's success has helped make eChase boats a requirement under the America's Cup Protocol.

Chase Zero runs on two 80kW Toyota hydrogen fuel cells, one in each hull. The cells convert hydrogen gas into electricity through a chemical reaction that combines hydrogen molecules (H_2) with oxygen (O_2) from the air, producing nothing but water vapour (H_2O) as a byproduct. This electricity powers the boat's motors and charges onboard batteries, which in turn provide the rapid bursts of energy needed to reach top

speeds. The fuel cells supply steady cruising power of around 30 knots, while the batteries allow acceleration to over 50 knots when needed, maintaining performance without compromise.

Hydrogen fuel offers a host of benefits: it's clean, renewable, and virtually silent, dramatically reducing environmental impact compared to conventional engines. The combination of fuel cells and batteries provides reliability, responsiveness, and efficiency, proving that sustainability and high performance can go hand in hand.

Kevin Shoebridge, COO of Emirates Team New Zealand, says it best: "Watching Chase Zero foiling across the water is like seeing the future. It's fast, powerful, and agile—and yet the only thing coming out of the exhaust is water. That's a game-changer for reducing emissions in high-speed marine craft."

The eChase boats will be back on the water to provide support to the AC75 fleets during the Louis Vuitton 38th America's Cup in Naples in 2027 as well as all other events.

[WATCH THE VIDEO HERE](#)



WIND-POWERED LANDSPEED RECORD

THE GOAL

After the 36th America's Cup victory in 2021, the stars aligned for Emirates Team New Zealand to aim for the current wind-powered landspeed world record. The attempt took shape when the passion for speed of Grant Dalton, Emirates Team New Zealand CEO, and the childhood dream of Glenn Ashby, a key team member for over 10 years, met the expertise in the technical and research industries of Team Principal Matteo de Nora. In a few weeks, they put together the core group who started working through the new design and engineering challenges, entirely focused on beating the existing Wind Powered Speed World Record.

World record attempts must undergo a stringent verification process with either NALSA (North American Land Sailing Association) or FISLY (International Land and Sand Yachting Federation) and a speed of at least >204.5km/h x 3" had to be achieved to beat the previous record of 202.9 km/h (126.1 mph) set by Richard Jenkins in 2009.

HORONUKU

Horonuku (meaning gliding swiftly across the land) was conceptualised, designed and built by Emirates Team New Zealand. Together with Team Principal Matteo de Nora, the core group consisted of naval architects Guillaume Verdier, Romaric Neyhousser and Benjamin Muyul, Mechanical/Structural engineers Jeremy Palmer, Romain Gard, Tim Meldrum, Adrian Robb and Jarrod Hammond and shore crew members Sean Regan and Dave French.

A one-of-a-kind 14-metre hard-winged land yacht with no engines was built. It's all about wind. Instead of a conventional sail, Horonuku used a rigid wing that produces thrust, as an aeroplane wing produces lift. The entire craft was built of carbon composite materials, aside from the metal parts used in bearings for the wing and the wheels.

The record was beaten on 11 December 2022 at Lake Gairdner, located 440 kilometres northwest of Adelaide, Australia. Horonuku,

piloted by Glenn Ashby reached a maximum speed of 222.43 km/h (138.21 mph). On a subsequent attempt on 24 February 2023, a top speed of 225.58km/h (140.17mph) was eventually achieved.

Length (long mode) /// 14.2m
 Max Beam /// 8.2m
 Wing height from ground /// 11.1m
 Wing /// tailplane actuated unstayed rigid wing spar
 Total Mass (incl. max ballast) /// 2,800kg
 Power /// wind only, no stored energy allowed
 Wheels /// 2x inline rears 18", 1x front and 1x pod 15"
 Construction /// vacuum-formed carbon fibre epoxy sandwich panel main body elements
 Controls /// steering from wheel, brakes/tail flap trim function from foot pedals/hand levers

225.58 KM/H

TOP SPEED RECORDED ON 24 FEBRUARY 2023

[READ MORE HERE](#)

[WATCH THE DOCUMENTARY HERE](#)



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND YACHT SQUADRON

The Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron is New Zealand's leading yacht club, with an illustrious history dating back to its formation in 1871.

Carrying the RNZYS burgee into the regatta, Emirates Team New Zealand have always been proud to represent the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron

The RNZYS is the official home of the America's Cup after Emirates Team New Zealand, representing the RNZYS, defended the oldest sporting trophy in the world at the 37th America's Cup in Barcelona in 2024.

With thousands of races per calendar year, an abundance of social events, there is something for everyone at the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron.

On the foundations laid by many successes, the RNZYS trophy cabinets have played host to some of the biggest prizes in world yachting including the Half, One and Two-Ton Cups, the Admiral's Cup, the Kenwood Cup, the Champagne Mumm World Cup, the Whitbread Round the World Trophy, the Louis Vuitton Trophy and the America's Cup.

Source: <https://rnzys.org.nz/thesquadron/>

/// RNZYS.ORG.NZ



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are the tangata whenua (the Indigenous people) of central Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, New Zealand.

They descend from the esteemed ancestor Tuperiri and continue to care for their ancestral lands and waters today.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei have a long-standing relationship with Emirates Team New Zealand and have been proud contributors to the America's Cup in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally, including recent regattas in Barcelona and events in Naples.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are both tangata whenua (people of the land) and tangata moana (people of the sea). They carry a proud history of navigation and ocean voyaging, with deep connections to the water that strongly align with the spirit of the America's Cup.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are really proud to accompany Emirates Team New Zealand as kaimanaaki (hosts and supporters) and their support will continue as the road to Naples in 2027 takes shape.

What this represents on a global stage

- These opportunities reflect how Indigenous culture and leadership can sit proudly within global sporting events.
- It is a chance to share who Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are, where they come from, and the values the iwi bring, not just as supporters of a team, but as partners in the wider America's Cup journey.
- Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei look forward to engaging with iwi taketake in Italy and in Napoli, acknowledging themselves as manuhiri and respecting the whenua we are all visiting.

Source: Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

/// [NGATIWHATUAORAKEI.COM](https://www.ngatiwhataorakei.com)

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