

Waka Ama Events Race / Safety Briefing Checklist

Your Safety Briefing should cover the following:

- Explain the Safety Waiver
- Expected conditions and local weather patterns
- Tide times and likely effect
- Wind direction and likely effect
- Required safety equipment
- Race course:
 - Explain any hazards on the course
 - Explain exit points if paddlers need to withdraw from the race
 - Give detailed information about race course – use a physical map to emphasise and explain key points/hazards/turning buoys
- Safety Checking process
- Race start time/s and race start procedure
- Finish line location and finish procedure
- Safe launching and exiting of the water
- The number of Safety Boats on the water and how to identify them, explain which boat will be the lead boat etc – Use bright flags to indicate Lead Boat and Support Boats
- How to raise assistance in an emergency – ‘paddle in the air’
- The course can be changed during the race, explain the procedure
- At any time the Race Director or Race Official can stop a paddler/s from competing/completing if they show signs that they will not complete the race in an acceptable time or acceptable condition.
- All paddlers must check out (if they withdraw from race)
- Encourage good practice e.g. hydration, appropriate clothing and equipment