**Tai Tonga 41° OCC - Ngā Mata o Te Ariki Tāwhirimātea**

**Event & Covid Pānui**

**Event Name: Ngā Mata o te Ariki Tāwhirimātea**

**Event Date: 23 October 2021**

**Event Location: Evans Bay, Wellington**

**We would like to confirm that Tai Tonga 41° Outrigger Canoe Club will proceed with our Ngā Mata o te Ariki Tāwhirimātea event on Saturday 23 October 2021. It has been a long and gloomy winter with Covid affecting earlier event plans. This third attempt is more to bring our community together in a safe way, to reconnect, to reset and to celebrate the end of one year and look forward to an exciting and promising new year.**

The following information is provided in relation to running an event during covid alert level restrictions. It is important that all attendees of our event (paddlers, officials, coaches, managers etc.) follow our strict safety protocols and restrictions put in place for the health and safety of us all for the duration of the event.

**Important information:**

* Refer to the latest event pānui regarding the races going ahead and schedule for the event day. Note these may have changed from previous information released.
* We ask that all competitors, club officials, and race officials who attend our event **please wear masks** at all times except when you are paddling/on the water. Please ensure you bring your own mask. No mask – no entry.
* We will not be offering refreshments of any kind at this event. Feel free to pack lunch or utilise food services within the local area.
* Everyone will be required to scan in via the tracing app on the QR codes provided and/or contact tracing sign in sheet which will be at registration.
* Toilet facilities are public spaces, please additionally scan in via the tracing up on the QR codes provided by the local council. Note these are separate to our event QR codes.
* All paddlers must also be registered with WANZ and entered via the online entry system for the race. **There will be no late entries on the day.**
* Attendees are limited to paddlers, officials and coaches/managers only. Please limit where possible coaches and managers. No spectators allowed.
* Hand sanitiser and cleaning aids will be made available at registration.
* To keep everyone safe we have decided not to hold a prize giving ceremony but we will celebrate competitors' effort on our facebook page and on the Hoe Tonga and Waka Ama NZ websites. We have spot prizes that will be given away throughout the event.
* Social distancing must be adhered to on land, 1m apart. This includes during registration and race/safety briefings.
* Please nominate 1 person from each crew for the race/safety briefing, preferably the steerer.
* If your crew no longer intends on racing, please update the WANZ roster at least 3 days prior to enable those who desire to race a paddle spot. There are limited paddling spots available.
* Any crews with incomplete rosters on the online entry system will be removed by Waka Ama NZ. All rosters must be complete to paddle. Please complete this by the date cut off stated online.
* The event is restricted to paddlers within our region. Anyone from regions above alert level 2 are not permitted to attend.
* Crews are being asked to abide by National Covid rules to mitigate the risk of being disqualified.
* Anyone sick or unwell, please be responsible and stay home.
* Above all else, standard waka ama rules and safety protocols also apply.
* **Please only arrive for your specific race** – check race schedule for further information. Race 1 and Race 2 will operate at different times to ensure no cross over of paddlers for each event.
* There will be no congregating between races or after races, **please leave as soon as you have finished racing.**
* We do not recommend sharing waka, paddles, lifejackets etc. However, if sharing is required, all equipment must be sanitised between races.

**Event Brief**

Events: Race 1 W1 6km & 12km, Race 2 W6 6km & 12km

Divisions: Open only.

We choose to have just one division. Open division is 14-100yrs as per WANZ Race Rules. Age is taken as reaching the specified age in the year of competition.

Categories: Men, Women, Mixed

Fees: 6km ($15 per person)

12km ($20 per person)

To support our COVID tracing efforts, all entries are to be registered online by your club rep. Clubs are to make one direct bank payment for all registrations. Tai Tonga 41 Outrigging Club 38-9011-0013609-02 ref: *club name*

Please ensure teams arrive and register on time with completed waiver forms

**We will not accept late registrations**

**Event Programme**

There will be 2 separate race starts. Due to alert level restrictions, please only turn up for your race time and leave immediately after your race to allow the next race to arrive. There cannot be a crossover of Race 1 & Race 2.

W1 short and long course will start at 11am.

W6 short and long course will start at 1.30pm.

The course will be a circuit that the short course will do once and long course twice. Details will be given on the day during the race/safety briefing. We ask that drivers follow the direction of officials as parking and rigging will be clearly marked to ensure safe social distancing.

10.00am **RACE 1:** W1 Registrations and Waka Safety Checks

10.45am Karakia / Blessing of the Event

Race 1 safety/race briefing

**11.00am Start – W1 short and long course**

**12.30pm All Race 1 packed up and leave event**

**12.45pm Race 2 start arriving**

12.45pm **RACE 2:** W6 Registrations and Waka Safety Checks

1.15pm Race 2 safety/race briefing

**1.30pm Start – W6 short and long course**

**Some Logistics**

Clubs are responsible for organising waka for their entrants. We encourage club organisers to make direct contact with other clubs for waka. Please bring enough tyres for your waka and a trolley. Our club only has 1 and we would not like for anyone to be injured while carrying waka on the ramp.

Check out our club facebook page for local information and weather forecast

<https://www.facebook.com/taitonga41marathon>

We have organised a pop-up vaccination clinic at Evans Bay Yacht club from 10.am - 3.00pm. Walk-ins are welcome. 

The Covid-19 vaccine is free, safe and the best way of protecting yourself, your whanau and your community against the Covid-19 virus.



   