

**WAIPĀ**  
HOME OF CHAMPIONS



**waka ama**  
Aotearoa New Zealand



**waka ama**  
Aotearoa New Zealand

# 2024 WAKA AMA SPRINT NATIONALS



**LAKE KARĀPIRO**



**14 - 20 JAN 2024**



**PĀNUI 2 – DECEMBER 2023**

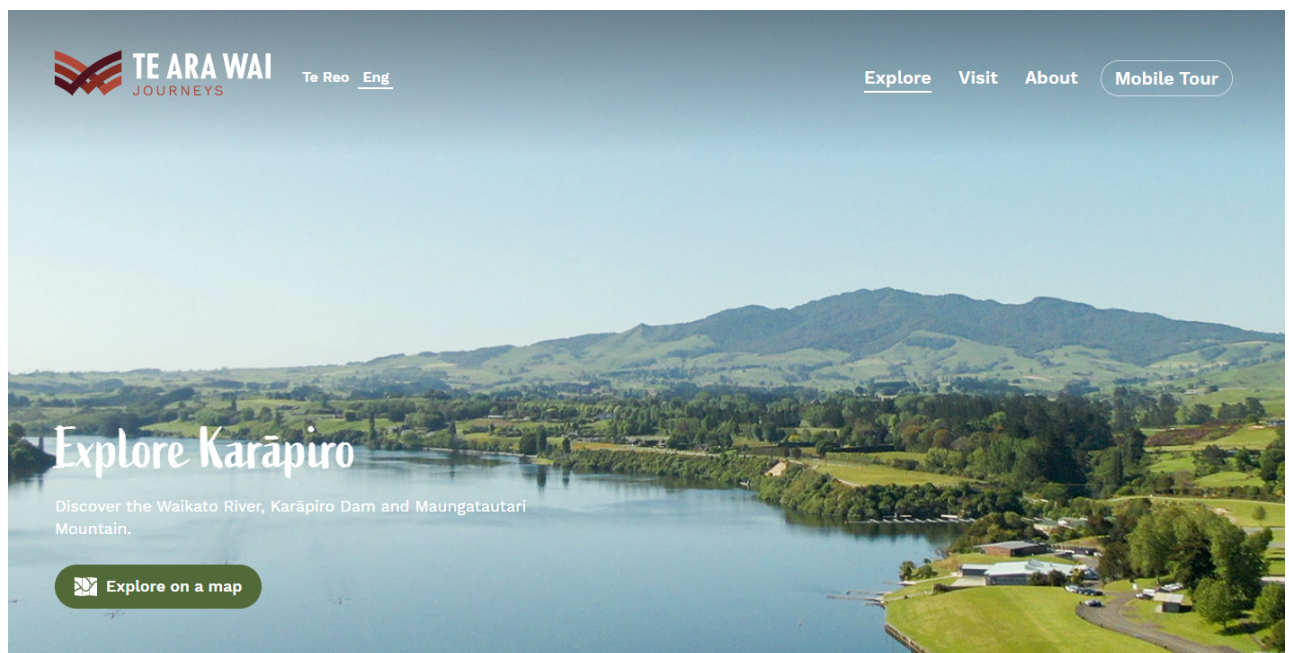
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## WAIPĀ

The Waipā District lies at the heart of the Waikato region and is home to around 53,600 residents. Covering more than 1447km<sup>2</sup> and including some of New Zealand's most fertile land and water, the district of Waipā is centred on the urban hubs of Te Awamutu, Cambridge, Kihikihi, Pirongia, Ōhaupō, and Leamington.

While you are in Waipā be sure to check out Te Awa Wai - Te Ara Wai: Journeys - this is a free, self-guided tour of culturally significant sites throughout the Waipā district. Experience places of local and national importance, and discover unique stories told by mana whenua. In particular the historic kōrero e pā ana ki Karāpiro <https://tearawai.nz/>



## EVENT DETAILS

- Classes:** W1, W6, W12
- Course:** 500m straight course for W1, W6 and W12  
500m  
250m course for turn races - W6 1000m and 1500m events  
250m Course for special W1 Dash  
Half lanes for all straight races
- Categories:** Men and Women only  
The Taitamariki boys and adaptive mixed divisions are permitted to have mixed-gender crews.
- Canoes:** W6/W12 – Moana Nui Mahi Mahi  
W1 - Any type, rudderless, weighted up to a minimum weight of **14kgs (Including ama and kiato)**
- International:** International teams may be invited at the Race Directors' discretion. International teams will only be allowed to race in an outside lane.

Please contact [events@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz) if you have any questions.

## KEY INFORMATION AND DATES

<p><b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pānui 2 released</li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>TEAM ENTRIES CLOSE</u></b></li> <li>● Alterations may occur up to 12 noon of the day prior to racing but will incur the following:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Any <u>teams added</u> after this date will be waitlisted for lanes and charged a \$50 penalty</li> <li>○ Any <u>teams withdrawn</u> after this date will be charged a \$50 penalty</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Medical or special exemptions on application to <a href="mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz">events@wakaama.co.nz</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>ROSTER CLOSES</u></b> – Paddler Registrations close - \$50 late penalty fee per paddler applies for <u>changes</u> after close-off</li> <li>● There must be enough people on your roster to fill the crews you have entered</li> <li>● <u>Additions</u> to the paddler roster after this date incur a \$50 penalty per person</li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Pānui 3 Released</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>CLUBS/TEAMS WILL BE INVOICED</u></b></li> <li>● <b><i>IMPORTANT: Once invoices are generated and sent to clubs there are no refunds on entry fees invoiced. Any teams that withdraw after the 5<sup>th</sup> of January will be invoiced the full entry amount plus the \$50 penalty fee</i></b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>ID Cards must be ordered.</u></b></li> <li>● <u>Any ID Card orders received after this date will cost \$15 each</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>PAYMENT FOR ENTRY IS DUE</u></b> (Payments can be made by Internet Banking or Cash) – <b>No cheque payments.</b></li> <li>● No payment, no racing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>ROSTER CHANGES CLOSED</u></b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>POWHIRI Sunday Morning 8:30 am.</u></b> Racing will start on Sunday <b>mid-morning</b> for Taitamariki paddlers.</li> </ul>

## EVENT SCHEDULE 2024

This is a draft race schedule; it will be confirmed once the online entries close. Please note ALL Manager's meetings will be held inside the Don Rowlands Centre.

The race schedule and lane draw will be drafted once the online entries close (after December 14th), this will be posted on the website and on [www.liveresults.co.nz](http://www.liveresults.co.nz).

Date	Racing Day	Racing info and managers meetings
Saturday, 13 January		Race briefing for all Taitamariki team managers - 4pm
Sunday, 14 January	DAY 1	Pōwhiri Taitamariki racing  Race briefing for all other Junior age groups – 6pm
Monday, 15 January	DAY 2	Taitamariki / Intermediate / J16 racing  <b>Taitamariki Prizegiving</b>
Tuesday, 16 January <b>(W1 Drop off – 4pm - 7pm)</b>	DAY 3	Intermediate / J16 racing  <b>Prizegiving</b>  Race Briefing for all J19 / Adult W1 paddlers - 6pm
Wednesday, 17 January <b>(W1 Drop 6am - 7am)</b>	DAY 4	W1 racing  <b>Prizegiving</b>  Race briefing for all J19 / Adult teams -5pm  <b>**** Waka Ama NZ - AGM - 6pm ****</b>
Thursday, 18 January	DAY 5	J19 and all adult W6 & W12 <b>Regional W12 race</b>  <b>Prizegiving</b>
Friday, 19 January	DAY 6	J19 and all adult W6 & W12 Corporate Challenge Racing  <b>Prizegiving</b>
Saturday, 20 January	DAY 7	J19 and all adult W6 racing - FINALS <b>Regional 250m Dash race</b>  <b>Prizegiving</b>

## RACE RULES



The current race rules can be found here: <https://wakaama.co.nz/pages/view/1005147>

Please note there have been several amendments to the race rules following the latest race rule review.

The following changes will be implemented at the 2024 Waka Ama Sprint Nationals:

## UNIFORMS TOPS - UPDATED RACE RULE

As per the [2023 updated race rules](#) (race rule 11), uniform tops will now be defined by the following three categories:

Category	Example of the category cut
<p><b>Category one:</b></p> <p>Singlet <i>(any cut of singlet as long as artwork and, colour and design are the same)</i></p>	 <p>Paddlers can wear either singlet in one team as long as the artwork and, colour and design are the same</p>
<p><b>Category two:</b></p> <p>Short Sleeve <i>(any cut of Short Sleeve as long as artwork and, colour and design are the same)</i></p>	

**Category three:**

Long Sleeve (*any cut of Long Sleeve as long as artwork and, colour and design are the same*)



- Teams must wear Club Uniform
- W1 paddlers may wear Club or Region Uniform
- In W6 events a team must be wearing the same category of tops.
- In W12 events, either all 12 paddlers in the same category of tops or two sets of six paddlers each with the same category of tops.
- As per the race rules, **BOTTOMS do not have to be uniform for W6 and W12 teams**

## **ONLINE ENTRIES**

Registrations are to be completed online via the Waka Ama NZ website. [www.wakaama.co.nz](http://www.wakaama.co.nz)

- Club reps will register W6 and W12 entries.
- Regional Reps will register W1 and Adaptive entries
- Regional Reps will register Premier Men/Women Regional W12, and combined club W12 teams
- New reps can obtain a login & password by emailing [events@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz)
- We are happy to help you through the entry process if it is new to you.
- Here is the list of the current club reps <https://www.wakaama.co.nz/clubs/reps>

**It is important to check your entries before the close-off date (December 14th 2023) to avoid penalty fees for changes after the closing date.**

## WORLD SPRINTS, HILO HAWAII - CLUB INFO

Qualification for the Aotearoa W1 representatives will be determined at the 2024 Sprint Nationals.

See below for the quota for each age division. To see which clubs have submitted intents, go to <https://www.wakaama.co.nz/racecalendar/entries/2193/byevent> If you have any World Sprints specific questions please contact [worlds@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:worlds@wakaama.co.nz)



### IVF VA'A WORLD SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024 – Hilo, Hawai'i AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND V1 QUOTA

The following table shows the Quota Aotearoa New Zealand has for each age category:

Category	Quota
J16 Men	6
J16 Women	6
J19 Men	3
J19 Women	5
Open Men	5
Open Women	4
Master 40 Men	4
Master 40 Women	4
Master 50 Men	5
Master 50 Women	3
Master 60 Men	4
Master 60 Women	3
Master 70 Men	3
Master 70 Women	3
Master 75 Men	3
Master 75 Women	3
Master 80 Men	3
Master 80 Women	3



## W1 WEIGHING PROCESS

We are using the same process at this event as we did in 2023.

### IMPORTANT – PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ALL W1 PADDLERS AND MANAGERS

- W1 Waka must all weigh a minimum of 14kgs (fully rigged)
- We will not be weighing all W1 waka prior to the racing
- The first 3 Waka in each race will be weighed when they come off the water at the end of their race.
- You are responsible for ensuring that your waka has weights in it when you race if it needs weighing up
- **It is your responsibility to ensure that your waka weighs 14kg when you race.**
- We will have the scales set up prior to races and you are welcome to weigh your waka yourself on our official scales to check its weight prior to racing.

**W1 Drop off times: 4pm - 7pm - Tuesday January 16th  
6am - 7am - Wednesday January 17th**

- There is no restriction to the amount or type of W1 that can be used for this event.
- W1 must only be dropped off at the allocated times above
- Drop off access is via Gate 1
- Hull, Ama and Kiato will be weighed and must weigh a minimum of 14kgs
- Space will again be marked out for each region please check in with your regional coordinator for your area
- Your W1 is your responsibility.
- Bring your own bungs for your waka and look after them.
- A limited supply of number holders will be onsite and can be purchased from the admin building for \$5 each. Please bring your own duct tape.
- Number Holders can be ordered online - <https://waka-ama-nz-shop.myshopify.com/>
- There will be access to the race course for W1s after the prizegiving on Tuesday 16th – **there will be no lake access on Wednesday morning.**

On W1 day, the loading bay bank will again be marked out for each region. Regional coordinators are expected to monitor this space and ensure access ways are not blocked. Paddlers are responsible for storing W1 in allocated spaces without causing damage to any other waka.

## ID CARDS

Cost \$5.00 (for new and replacement cards)

- Orders received after Friday 5th January will cost \$15
- All paddlers must have a bar-coded ID card to be able to race.
- Please contact your club administrator/rep to order an ID Card
- Information about ID Cards and how to order them can be found here: <https://wakaama.co.nz/pages/view/1003644>



***ID CARD TIP: To avoid the last-minute rush for club administrators you should start to collect new paddler verification documents and photos now, and do a few each week. It will save you a lot of work the week prior to Christmas when everyone is hectic or away and not able to access documents! And it will help our office immensely!***

## WAKA AMA SHOP

The Waka Ama NZ Shop is now online! Click the link to purchase Weekly Car Parking Passes, and Number Holders - <https://waka-ama-nz-shop.myshopify.com/> Social function details - still TBC



## 2024 WAKA AMA CORPORATE CHALLENGE - STILL SPACES

Once again, we are running a Corporate Challenge event at the 2024 Sprint Nationals. If you or your organisation might be interested. This year the Corporate Challenge will take place on **Friday 19th January 2024**. [Corporate Form Entry Form - Click here](#)

Registrations are nearly full !! If you have any further questions, please contact us at [events@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz)



## RACE DIVISIONS

As per the race rules, paddlers compete in divisions based on their age. Age is taken as reaching a specified age in the year of competition (year of competition is from 1 January to 31 December).

Division	Minimum age Age paddlers can turn in the year of competition	Maximum age Age paddlers can turn in the year of competition
Taitamariki	6	10
Intermediate	6	13
Junior 16	11	16
Junior 19	14	19
Under 23	16	23
Premier	14	none
Master	40	none
Senior Master	50	none
Golden Master	60	none
Master 70	70	none
Master 75	75	none
Master 80	80	none

## ENTRY FEES

DIVISION	AGE	COST
<b>Adaptive W6 only*</b>	N/A	\$40
<b>Taitamariki</b>	6 – 10	\$20
<b>Intermediate</b>	11 – 13	\$40
<b>Jnr 16</b>	14 – 16	\$60
<b>Jnr 19</b>	17 – 19	\$70
<b>Under 23 (W1 ONLY)</b>	20 – 23	\$80
<b>Premier</b>	24 and over	\$80
<b>Master Women</b>	40 and over	\$80
<b>Master Men</b>	40 and over	\$80
<b>Snr Master Women</b>	50 and over	\$80
<b>Snr Master Men</b>	50 and over	\$80
<b>Gld Master Women</b>	60 and over	\$80
<b>Gld Master Men</b>	60 and over	\$80
<b>Master 70 Women</b>	70+	\$30
<b>Master 70 Men</b>	70+	\$30
<b>Master 75 Women</b>	75+	\$30
<b>Master 75 Men</b>	75+	\$30
<b>Master 80 Women</b>	80+	\$30
<b>Master 80 Men</b>	80+	\$30

Paddler Fees are non-refundable. If a paddler is withdrawn their fee may be transferred to a replacement paddler. Any outstanding amount must be paid prior to racing. Fees are only applicable to this National Club Sprint event and may not be carried over.

\*For **Adaptive W6 only** the fee is \$40.00. This relates to Adaptive W6 and anyone else in that crew that is only racing in that division. If paddlers are doing **both** Adaptive W6 & W1 which includes any other W12/W6/W1 racing for the club or region - the full entry fee will apply.

Paddlers only pay the entry fee of the age category they are currently in. **'Age is taken as reaching the specified age in the year of competition'**.

REGATTA YEAR minus YEAR OF BIRTH = RACE AGE, eg 2024 minus 2009 = 15. If you are turning 17 in 2024 you are a J19 paddler – Not a J16 paddler.

Please see our Race Division Checker, if you wish to check the age category of a paddler.  
<https://wakaama.co.nz/agedivisionchecker>

## MANAGERS' MEETINGS

All meetings will be held inside the Don Rowlands Centre onsite

Date	Racing Day	Racing info and Managers' meetings
<b>Saturday 13th January</b>	Taitamariki racing Sunday	4:00 pm
<b>Sunday 14th January</b>	All other Junior Grades	6:00 pm
<b>Tuesday 16th January</b>	W1 Racing	6:00 pm
<b>Wednesday 17th January</b>	J19 & Senior W6/W12 racing	5:00 pm

## PHOTOS AND IMAGES

Any official photos and Images that are taken during the event remain the property of Waka Ama NZ. By entering the event, individuals, clubs and regions accept that their photo or image may be taken and used for promotional purposes by Waka Ama NZ. All images will be made available for competitors to access free of charge on our Facebook page. [www.facebook.com/wakaamanewzealand](http://www.facebook.com/wakaamanewzealand) If you have any queries or concerns regarding photos or images, please contact [events@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz)

## TAITAMARIKI AND INTERMEDIATE LIFEJACKETS

It is compulsory for Taitamariki & Intermediate paddlers to wear Maritime NZ approved PFDs/life jackets.

Inflatable PFD/life jackets are prohibited for our Taitamariki and Intermediates, as generally these jackets are made for adult sizes only once inflated. The safety of our Taitamariki and Intermediates is of the utmost importance. **At the 2024 Nationals, all Taitamariki and Intermediate competitors cannot wear inflatable lifejackets.**

## MASTER 70, MASTER 75 & MASTER 80 - TIME PENALTIES

Master 70, Master 75 and Master 80 (men and women) teams will receive time penalties of 10 seconds per infraction in the heats, which may allow them to progress instead of being disqualified automatically. In the semi-finals and finals, regular disqualifications for infractions will apply.

## ADAPTIVE W6 RACING

In 2024, the following events will be held for Adaptive W6 Crews, on **Saturday 20th January**:

- W6 500m
- W6 500m (1 turn)

Each team must be made up of a minimum of 3 adaptive paddlers. Where possible we will try to make up teams with fully adaptive paddlers.

Teams can represent a Club or a Region. If you have adaptive paddlers in your club or region that may wish to take up this opportunity, please inform them.

The Adaptive paddling movement around the world is gathering momentum very quickly and we are keen to provide opportunities for all. Please contact [events@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz) if you have questions.

For **Adaptive W6 only** the fee is \$40.00. This relates to Adaptive W6 and anyone else in that crew that is only racing in that division. If paddlers are doing **both** Adaptive W6 & W1 which includes any other W12/W6/W1 racing for the club or region - the full entry fee will apply.

## ADAPTIVE W1 RACING

Adaptive W1 racing will take place on **Wednesday 17th January**

To comply with the International Va'a Rules, adaptive races will be run by the classifications (VL1, VL1A, VL2, VL3, VL4). If you are unsure if you are classified, or do not know your classification, please contact [events@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz) Entries will need to be submitted to the region from your club. All adaptive paddlers must be affiliated to a WANZ affiliated club.

## CLUB AND REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Thank you to all the clubs who have submitted their Club Coordinator Details.

All Regions or clubs must register their coordinators for this event please. To ensure that messages, correction of entries or any other issue is dealt with urgently, it is important that National event organisers can communicate to Regions and Clubs. This will also prevent delays and/or disappointments.

Send details to [events@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz) of Club or Region:

- Coordinators Name
- Email address
- Cell Number
- Subject heading: COORDINATOR

## **BIOSECURITY INFORMATION**

As kaitiaki of our roto and awa we are emphasising the importance of following the Check, Clean, Dry steps for our Waka Ama whānau to ensure we do not spread Golden clams or any other invasive species in our waterways. More for information [click here](#)

All waka, life jackets/PFDs, clothing and footwear will need to be washed before leaving Lake Karāpiro. There will be dedicated wash stations set up for waka, ama and kiato in the loading bay area. In addition, there will be dunking bins for life jackets/PFDs, clothing, and footwear along the exit pathway.



**wakaama**  
Aotearoa New Zealand

### FRESHWATER GOLD CLAM INFO SHEET WAKA AMA

**As kaitiaki of our roto and awa we are emphasising the importance of following the new Check Clean Dry steps for our Waka Ama whānau to ensure we do not spread gold clams or any other invasive species in our waterways.**

#### Before you move

- from Lake Maraetai (Mangakino) to anywhere upstream; OR
- from any part of the Waikato River and lakes to any other lake, river or estuary; OR
- between any lake, river or estuary in the North Island; OR
- when going from the North Island to the South Island

#### CHECK - for what is visible

- CHECK and flick off any visible matter like weed, mud or adult clams at the site.

#### CLEAN - for what is not visible

- Blast your waka inside and out with tap water, including the ama and kiato, beside the waterway or at home - NOT into a stormwater drain.
- Be sure to wash out any nooks and crevices.
- Then drain it, including removing the bungs.
- Use one of the treatments (below) for absorbent materials that have been in the river or lake water and can stay wet longer - lifejackets, canvas sprayskirts, removable seats, dry bags, booties, straps/ratchets and ropes.

**TREATMENTS:**

1. Soak in hot tap water (above 55°C for at least 5 minutes); or
2. Soak in diluted household bleach (10%, or 1 to 10 ratio) for an hour; or
3. Freeze until solid (overnight)

#### DRY - to be sure

- DRY areas inside the waka where water has pooled with an old towel.
- Then leave to dry inside and out.
- Leave waka and gear to completely dry for 2 days.

 [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## NGĀ KAITAUTOKO | OUR PARTNERS

Ngā mihi nui ki ngā kaitautoko ki tēnei Whakataetae Waka Ama ā-Motu



Ngāti Hauā  
Iwi Trust



Te Wānanga  
o Aotearoa