

# Secondary School Waka Ama Nationals

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

### **We wish to attend the Pōwhiri. What time do we need to be at Lake Tikitapu?**

Schools need to be onsite by **9:30am\*** on **Monday March 24th**, at the very latest. The **pōwhiri will start at 10am sharp**, to ensure we get through the full day of racing.

\*Please remember that if you all arrive at once there will be lots of traffic.

### **Schedule for the Morning:**

**10:00 – Pōwhiri**

**11:00 – First race Call**

**11:30 – First Race Start**

### **We have more than one team. Do the team members in each team need to be confirmed now?**

- No. As long as all paddlers are on your School Roster (as per the invoice) you can decide who races in each team just before the head into the marshalling tent.
- After those 6 or 12 paddlers have raced in the heat, that team for that particular event must remain unchanged through all of the progressions to semis and finals.

### **So we can't change the paddlers who raced in a heat?**

Correct. The 6 paddlers who raced in the Heat need to be the same 6 paddlers in the Semi/ Finals

### **What if a paddler gets injured or sick?**

You may make a change as long as you have a medical cert or sign-off from medical staff onsite.

### **Can paddlers paddle in the J16 & J19 Categories?**

Paddlers can only paddle in one age category for an event. One W6 250m event (either U16 **OR** U19), one W6 500m event (either U16 **OR** U19), one W12 250 event (boys **OR** girls **OR** Mixed)  
eg; if you are a paddler competing in the J16 250m, you cannot also compete in the J19 250m

### **Is the racing available online?**

Yes, the races will be filmed and uploaded to YouTube (link below) through each day's racing.

*new link will be coming*

### **Where can I find the course maps of the lane layouts?**

These will be uploaded to the website when ready [NZSS Waka Ama Nationals](#)

### **Where can I find the racing progressions?**

These will be uploaded to the website when ready [NZSS Waka Ama Nationals](#)

### **Where are the official photos shared?**

On the Waka Ama NZ social media pages

Waka Ama NZ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wakaamanewzealand>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/wakaamanz/>

If you would like hi-res versions of any photos for media purposes, please email [admin@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:admin@wakaama.co.nz) following the event identifying the day/session/age group the race was held

### **Does everyone have to wear a lifejacket?**

Yes. Vest style lifejackets are compulsory for all paddlers.

### Can we wear the ones that just go around your waist?

No, they must be life jacket-style PFD's - **no inflatables or horseshoe styles**

### Can we enter teams on the day?

No - we will only accept scratches on the day, no entries.

### Will it be cold?

Yes, most likely! Please see Windguru <https://www.windguru.cz/227615> for the weather predictions for the week. Please bring appropriate gear for the weather, it may start sunny, but it will be get cold.

### Is there a Managers' meeting?

Yes there will be an **online manager's meeting at 7 pm on Friday 21st March**

And for those who can't make Friday's session, an on-site session will be at **4pm Sunday March 23rd** in front of the Water Ski Club aka Admin Office

### Where do we collect ID cards?

ID Cards can be collected from the admin office at Lake Tikitapu, from **Sunday 23rd March 2- 6pm, Monday 7-9am, then from Monday 12pm onwards.**

### Does everyone need an ID card?

Yes. Students will scan through at MARshalling before every race.

If cards are lost, damaged or left behind at the accommodation, replacement cards can be printed at the administration desk. The cost for replacement cards is \$17 each.

### Will we get Lanyards for the ID cards?

Yes - lanyards will be supplied for every competitor.

### What is the process for Dropping off W1's

- All W1 waka must be on-site before 9am on Monday March 24th
- W1s can be dropped off **Sunday March 23rd 2-7pm** in the W1 area, past the Water Ski Club
- W1s can be dropped off up to **Monday March 24th 7-9am - before the pōwhiri**
- W1s will need to be carried into the area.
- W1 Waka from the Waikato area will need to visit the designated wash station in Rotorua on Sunday **BEFORE** coming out to the Lake to drop off. Instructions will be sent to those schools
- The event hosts are not supplying W1 waka. If your School needs to borrow W1, then you will need to contact the student's club and/or another school to organise this.

### Will there be number holders for sale?

Yes - \$7 from the Admin desk at the venue.

### How are the lanes seeded?

- 8 lanes (turns) (starting with the fastest qualifier) =
  - Lane 4, 5, 3, 6, 2, 7, 1, 8
- 12 lanes (Straights) (starting with the fastest qualifier) =
  - Lanes 6, 7, 5, 8, 4, 9, 3, 10, 2, 11, 1, 12
- W1, W6 & W12 250m – Half Lanes
- All straight 250m W1, W6 and W12 events will be using half lanes. There will be up to 12 teams in each W1, W6 & W12 Race.

### What are lanes 9 and 13 for?

Lane 9 and lane 13 are used for the international teams joining us. These lanes will not be used for NZ School teams.

**Will there be a sound system on the start line?**

No, the Waka Ama starts will be run purely on flags. Please ensure your students are familiar with this process - see below

**How do the starts work?****Waka Ama**

- Raising the white flag - indicates two minutes before the race start. The race shall start at any time within that two minutes. (waka moves to the false start line)
- Raising of the red flag – Waka move to a starting position behind the start
- The raising of the green flag indicates the start of the race.

Please note: If the starter raises a black flag during the starting procedure, this indicates that an infraction exists and the bow of at least one canoe is across the start line. Competitors will be allowed to line up correctly.

If, after a reasonable time, the infraction has not been corrected (in which case the black flag will not be lowered), the race may be started, resulting in the disqualification of those canoes that caused the infringement.

**Are there time penalties for DQ's?**

Yes, there are time penalties (10 seconds per infraction) in all heats. From the Semi-finals and Finals DQs will result in elimination.

**Where are the results and progressions posted?**

Results and progressions will be posted in the Result Tent situated on the lower terraces and online at [www.liveresults.co.nz](http://www.liveresults.co.nz). At the end of each day, the results and draw for the following day will be posted online at [Waka Ama Secondary School Nationals](#)

**Is there a prizegiving every day?**

No, as per the race schedule, there is a prizegiving on Tuesday morning (W1/W12), Thursday afternoon (W6 500m) and Friday afternoon (W6 250m).

**What prizes will we receive?**

Te Ihu - 1st, 2nd and 3rd will receive medals

Te Takere and Te Kei 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> will receive ribbons

### Tents and Marquees - When can we put them up

- Schools can start putting up Tents and Marquees on **Sunday March 23rd from 2pm to 6pm.**
- **Due to the NZSS Canoe Racing event occurring on Sunday, we ask that you do not access the Village before this time.** Tents put up before 2pm Sunday will be taken down.
- Tents can also be put up on Monday morning 7 - 9am or **after** the Powhiri at 11am
- When you arrive on-site, you must check in with one of the Village site managers to find where your allocated space is.
- Due to the huge increase in entries, schools will be restricted to the tent space that they have been allocated via the entry numbers. **Please do not bring bigger tents than you should.**
- Bring a ground sheet or tarp so that your students can still sit on the ground if it rains.
- Bring warm clothing - jackets, hoodies, and blankets in case it is windy
- There are to be NO gazebos on the terraces.
- The Volunteer team will be in Hi-Viz, and they will allocate you to an area.

Please visit the event page for further School Village Info, including the tent allocation spaces  
[NZSS Waka Ama Nationals](#)

Please see the venue site map here: [NZSS Waka Ama Site Map](#)

### Will there be merchandise for sale?

Yes, there will be event shirts and Hoodies for sale. There will be a limited number of sizes, and styles available. Eftpos will be available on-site

### Merchandise prices:

Sublimated Hoodies	\$80
Basketball Singlet	\$65.00
Sublimated Short & Long short-sleeve shirts	\$50.00 & \$65.00
Dri-Fit Long Sleeve shirts	\$50.00
Trucker Caps	\$30.00
Beanie	\$30.00
Cotton Hoodies and Crew sweatshirts	\$60.00



***Please remember with everyone arriving together on  
Sunday afternoon and Monday morning, there will be Traffic!  
Please come early to avoid delays, and please follow the  
instructions of the Māori Wardens and the Parking team.***

***Kia pai o koutou haerenga ki Tikitapu!***