



TAI TOKERAU SECONDARY SCHOOL



REGIONAL WAKA AMA REGATTA EVENT PĀNUI



THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2025
LAKE MANUWAI



waka ama
Aotearoa New Zealand



SPORT
NORTHLAND



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INTRODUCTION

Tai Tokerau Polynesian Canoe Association (TTPCA), in association with Native Sports Performance and Sport Northland, are pleased to offer secondary school students the opportunity to participate in our region's Secondary School Sprint Champs. The event will take place on Thursday 5th March 2026, at Lake Manuwai – Waipapa (Kerikeri); Native Sports Performance will be hosting

We recognise the efforts schools undertake to ensure all students are given the opportunity to participate in sport at any level and we believe Waka Ama delivers an experience of a lifetime. We wish to acknowledge those involved in delivering programs to students, particularly clubs who provide access to equipment and coaching, and of course the many parents and teachers who offer their support and guidance.

It is our hope that students enjoy this unique experience and consider joining one of the many clubs within our region to further develop their skills and engage fully in the many different aspects Waka Ama provides. Waka Ama provides individuals with the opportunity to develop connections to our community, develop leadership skills and adopt a healthier lifestyle and sense of hauora or wellbeing. Information regarding the Tai Tokerau Secondary Schools Regional Waka Ama Sprint Regatta 2026 can also be viewed on the following websites

- [Sport Northland](#)
- [Waka Ama Aotearoa NZ](#)

CLUB CONTACTS

TTPCA is the Regional Sports Organisation representing Waka Ama (Outrigger Canoeing) in the Upper North Island region. The region stretches from Omaha, north of Auckland across to the Kaipara Harbour north of Helensville up to the Cape Reinga.

There are fifteen clubs located within the TTPCA region. Sports Coordinators and schools will need to make arrangements with these clubs to assist with or provide training. Some schools may already have existing relationships with clubs in their area and we encourage you to continue these relationships further.

All paddlers are expected to have experienced at least one capsize drill during training, and be regarded as sufficiently competent by Sports Coordinators, coaches or team managers to compete at the regatta.

Club	Contact	Email
Hikuwai O Kaipara Waka Ama Club Inc. (Dargaville)	Roxanne Kelly	gm@greenwaytrust.org.nz
Kaihoe o Ngati Rehia Trust (Te Tii - Kerikeri)	Danny Kaiawe	danielrkaiawe230@gmail.com

Mangawhai Waka Ama Inc. (Mangawhai)	Jackie Fanning	mangawhaiwakaama@gmail.com
Mitamitaga o le Pasefika Va'a-alo Canoe Club (Tutukaka Coast)	Tom Kingi	mitamitaga@hotmail.com
Nga Hoe Horo Outrigger Canoe Club (Pawarenga/Kaitaia)	Tony Clutterbuck	ngahoehoro@gmail.com
Hikuwai o Kaipara Waka Ama Club Inc	Georgina Williams	george.williams@corrections.govt.nz
Nga Kaihoe o Whangaruru (Whangaruru)	Paula Wetere	panani@hotmail.co.nz
Nga Kaitiaki Waka (Opononi)	Rob Warwick	ngakaitiakiwaka@gmail.com
Parihaka Waka Ama Inc. (Whangarei)	Daniela Johnson	parihakawakaama@gmail.com
Rangaunu Sports Club (Awanui/Kaitaia)	Hilda Halkyard-Harawira	kawariki@xtra.co.nz
Te Puu Ao (Whangarei)	Ralph Ruka	r.ruka@mokonz.co.nz
Tirohanga Waka Ama (Kawakawa)	Charles Rolleston	charles@kaperi.co.nz
Te Kauika o Patuharakeke Waka Ama Inc (Marsden Point)	Hollie Kereopa	holliesophiakereopa@gmail.com

REGATTA INFORMATION

Organiser: Tai Tokerau Polynesian Canoe Association (TTPCA)

Host Club: Native Sports Performance

Venue: Lake Manuwai - <https://maps.app.goo.gl/a54hAaDGEN8LEHAG9>

CONTACTS

Main contact: Kereama Bedggood - Noa (TTPCA)

Email: Kereama@wakaama.co.nz

Secondary Contact: Rosie King (NSP)

Email: Nativesportsp@gmail.com

Venue: Lake Manuwai, Waipapa (Kerikeri)

Date: Thursday 5th March 2026 (whole day)

Time: 8am – 4pm (finish time estimate only)

If this event is Cancelled due to adverse weather conditions, TTPCA will advise schools and

participants via email & communications with schools.

CATEGORIES AND AGE GROUPS

Category	Age groups	Comment
W6 250m	Girls, Boys and Mixed J16 and J19	Raced in a straight line.
W6 500m	Girls, Boys and Mixed J16 and J19	Raced with one turn on a 250m course.

ELIGIBILITY

- Competitors must be under 16 years old on 1 January 2026 to enter as a J16 or be under 19 years old on 1 January 2026 to enter as J19
- Competitors may only compete for the school at which they are enrolled and attend full time.
- Secondary Schools who have student enrolment from Y9-Y13 may apply.
- A student may only paddle for one crew in any one race/event, i.e. J16 or J19, but not both.
- Students competing in a team must be full-time students at the SAME Northland Secondary School.
- Teams without a steerer may request or supply their own steerer of any age but are only allowed to steer “**NO PADDLING.**”

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Please note that **each school will be asked to provide one adult volunteer** to assist in the running of this regional regatta. The volunteers will assist for a minimum of half a day and ideally the same volunteer for the whole time is preferred. TTPCA will provide team leaders for key areas who will be able to guide volunteers at each station.

All volunteers will receive a lunch pack and drinks during the day.

TTPCA requires volunteers in the following areas:

- General administration (signing in teams, runner to pick up results, errand runs)
- Finish line (results, spotters, time keeping, radio comms)
- Loading bay (marshalling, helping assist paddlers in and out of waka, bailing water out of canoes)
- Flag boat (assisting with flags and radio comms)
- Aligner boat (assisting with aligning canoes and radio comms)

Volunteers may be allocated to areas outside of their preference if required.

TTPCA wishes to thank all those who give up their time willingly to help make this event a success.

We hope you enjoy this day as we look forward to some exciting racing.

Please email TTPCA (kereama@wakaama.co.nz) with the following information, by Thursday 11th March 2026, with information on the volunteers for each school or complete via the online entries

Name:

School:

Volunteering area (preferred):

Previous experience in (if any):

Email and cell phone contact:

ONLINE ENTRIES

Entries open: 30 January 2026

Online entries close: 23 February 2026

Entries are to be made by a school representatives online through the Waka Ama Aotearoa NZ Online

Entry System: <https://www.enternow.co.nz/enternow-app/wakaama>

If you need a login or a reminder of your login details please contact events@wakaama.co.nz - **please note we will only share login details to school email addresses.**

Once logged in you can enter your teams, please note names of paddlers are not required through the online entry system (these will be collected on the day via the team waivers)

When completing the online entry form you will be required to provide the following information

1. Volunteer information (see Volunteer section of pānui)
2. The Name and contact details of the teacher in charge on the day
3. If your steerers are capable of steering the turns races

COST

\$100 per Team - Affiliated Schools

\$120 per Team - Non-Affiliated Schools

LANE DRAW AND RACE SCHEDULE

Unless otherwise notified the **lane draw and final race schedule will be published by 12pm on Monday 2nd March 2026 at:**

- [Sport Northland](#)
- [Waka Ama Aotearoa NZ](#)

Races may be combined at the sole discretion of TTPCA and are dependent on the number of entries received.

IMPORTANT TIMES ON RACE DAY

8.00am Volunteers, officials and race committee meet at Lake Manuwai (set up)

9.00am Registration commences

9.15am Karakia, race and safety briefing

10.00am to 3.30pm Racing

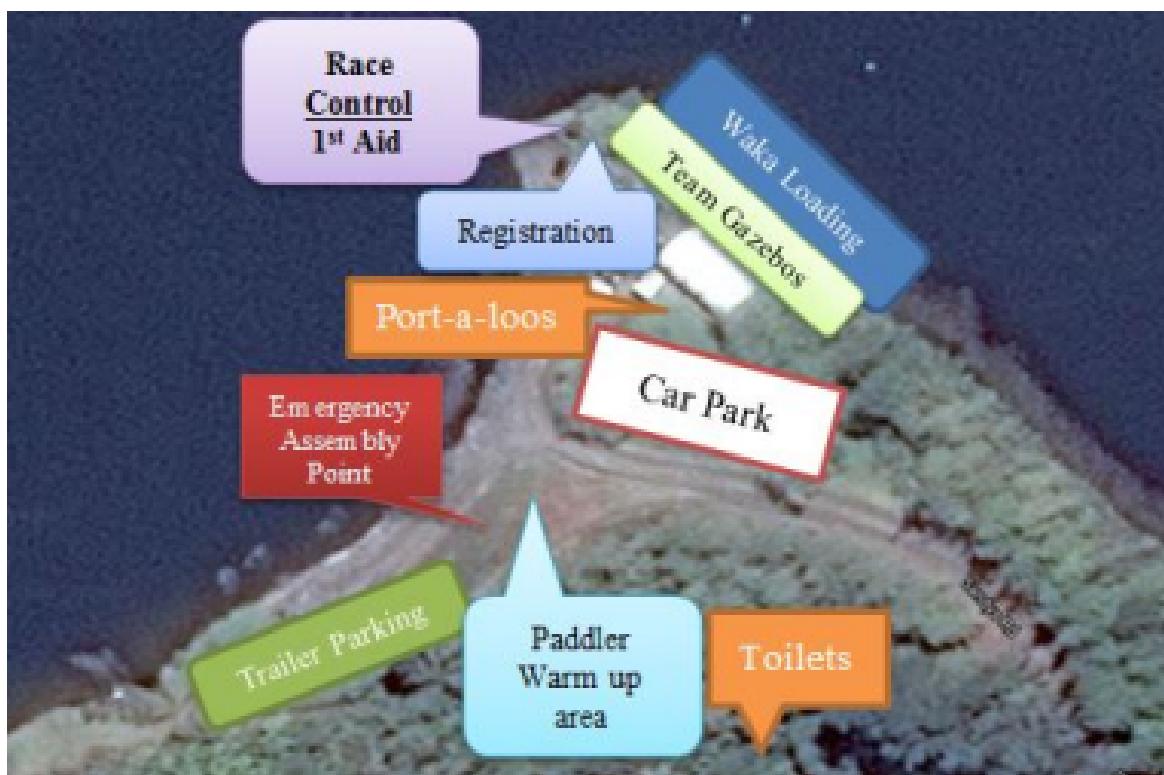
EVENT AREA

Paddlers and supporters are to keep clear of the entrances of the Kerikeri Yacht club sheds.

Schools are encouraged to provide shelter (sun, rain) for their paddlers. Please observe the event area layout and keep club tents and gazebos clear from areas that are clearly marked for official use (see event area layout below).

No alcohol, drugs or smoking is allowed at the event. This event is SMOKEFREE, please inform your supporters to smoke away from the regatta.

Teams are invited to bring shelter, refreshments and food. Organisers will endeavour to have a drinks/refreshment cart and appropriate food stalls on site.



RULES AND REGULATIONS

Waka Ama Aotearoa New Zealand race rules and the New Zealand Secondary School Sports Council (NZSSSC) bylaws apply to Schools entering this event. These can be found here: [https://www.wakaama.co.nz/content/files/682e47374294e/Waka%20Ama%20NZ%20Secondary%20School%20Nationals%20Race%20Rules%20\(Updated%20Mar%202025\).pdf](https://www.wakaama.co.nz/content/files/682e47374294e/Waka%20Ama%20NZ%20Secondary%20School%20Nationals%20Race%20Rules%20(Updated%20Mar%202025).pdf)

CODE OF GOOD CONDUCT

Schools are responsible for the behaviour of their students on and off the water. Supervisory staff and support adults will ensure that all race rules are observed and that their students display a good sportsperson type attitude when competing.

CANOES

W6 Mahi Mahi will be used for all team events.

TTPCA will arrange the supply of W6 specifically for this event with its affiliated clubs. Any team causing damage to any W6 during this event will incur the cost of the repairs which will be charged to the team's school. All contracted W6 waka are used solely for this competition.

UNIFORMS

All paddlers must paddle in a team uniform. Team uniform on the water must include tops (T Shirts/Singlets) and shorts (or skirts or lavalava). These must be standardised for the whole team.

Hats and sunglasses are permitted if individual paddlers wish to wear them.

Appropriate additional items of uniform may be worn in line with weather conditions. These items must be worn underneath their race uniform.

PROGRESSIONS AND FINALS

Progression will follow as closely to the NZ Waka Ama Secondary school progressions which is a Non-Elimination format and will be based on entries. (Guaranteed heat semi and final for all crews). Should there be any withdrawals, the Race Director may eliminate a heat and place competitors in other heats.

SAFETY

Approved Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) are compulsory and must be worn by ALL competitors. Schools must provide their own team PFDs. Note that correct sizing is an important part of safety. Waist type belts/ tubes are not approved.

There will be at least two support boats monitoring racing.

In case of adverse weather conditions on race day, the Race Director retains the right to stop, postpone and/or cancel races on race day. Organisers may be unable to refund race fees in this case.

PADDLES

Paddles must be a single blade, and may be any size or shape, and constructed from any material. Organisers will NOT provide paddles.

PRE RACE GUIDANCE

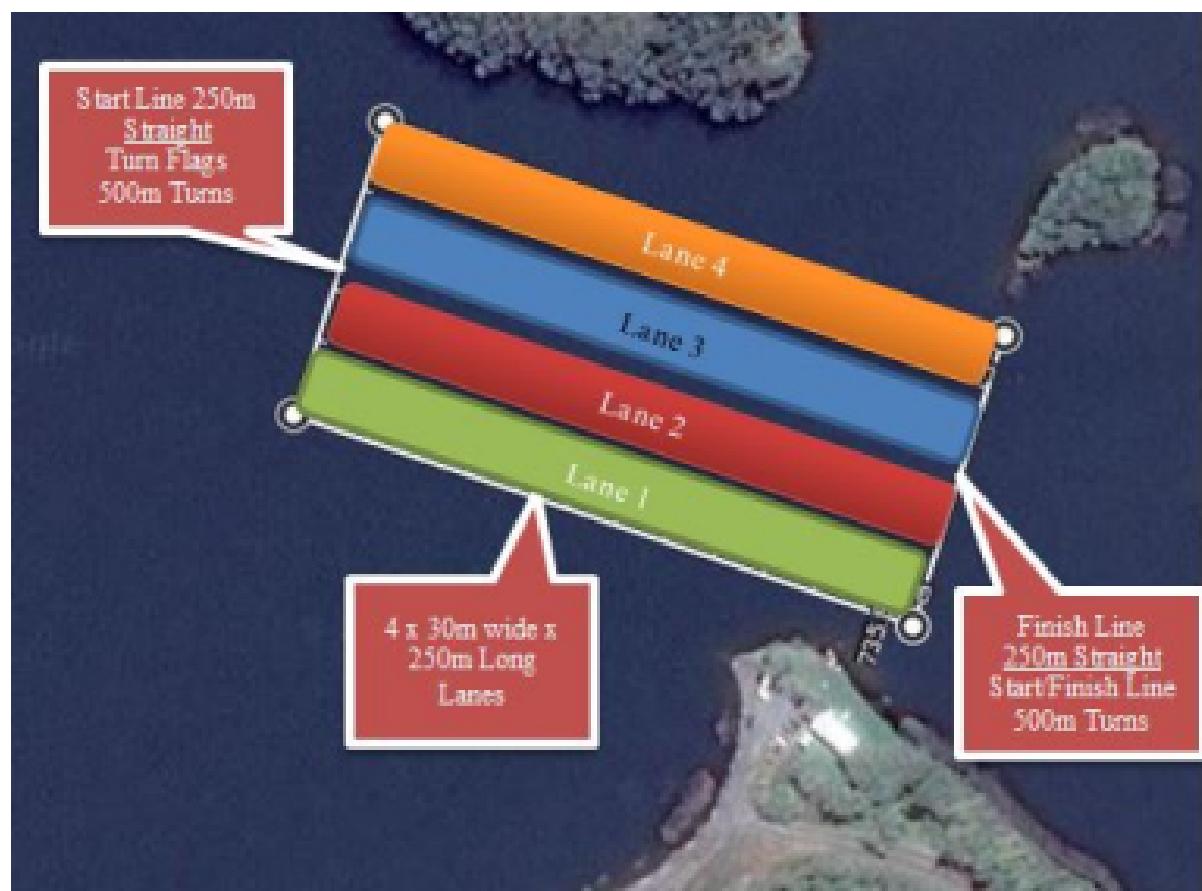
Paddlers are to follow officials' instructions at all times.

When races are called, teams/paddlers are to assemble at the loading bay. Paddlers must not load into canoes without going through the loading bay.

Loading bay officials will advise paddlers when to load. W6 will be allocated to lanes and teams by the officials in the loading bay. Once on the water, teams are to paddle directly to the start.

Teams are to wait on the water in the vicinity of the start area for their race.

RACE COURSE



In races requiring turns there will be a turning flag/buoy.

LANES

All W6 races will be 250m (straight) and for the W6 turn races waka will start from the boatshed end of course and turn around a buoy set at 250m. A team must complete the entire race within its designated lane.

In any race involving turns the canoe must turn counter-clockwise around the flag but may start or finish with the flag on any side so long as they are within their designated lane.

When a race is in progress paddlers who are not racing are not permitted to be on the course unless so directed.

STARTS

Competitors must be present at the start line for their event as shown on the programme. Starting signals shall be given regardless of absentees.

The start procedure is as follows:

- **Raising the white flag:** Teams must position their canoes approximately 10m from the actual start line.
- **Raising of the red flag:** Teams must move to their starting position but remain behind the start line.
- **Raising of the green flag:** indicates the start of the race.
- **Raising of the black flag (while the red flag is raised):** indicates that at least one canoe has crossed the startline. All teams should check, and if necessary, correct their positions. The black flag will be lowered as soon as all canoes have moved back behind the start line. If the green flag is raised while the black flag is still up, at least one team has incurred a start infringement.

DISQUALIFICATIONS OR TIME PENALTIES

Disqualification or time penalties will occur for any fault that is made before, during or after any race. This includes any breach of the Race Rules.

The following provisions are cause for an infringement:

- Misconduct or bad behaviour.
- Competing for more than one School in an event will disqualify both crews.
- Paddling in a non-seated position (standing in a canoe at any time)
- Crossing the line at any time before the raising of the green flag. 5 sec penalty
- Not rounding the flags in a counter clockwise direction.
- Not rounding the turn flag with the entire waka including the ama.
- Failing to complete a turn within the designated lane and buoys. (20sec)
- Not following the starting rules.
- Complete a race with fewer than 6 paddlers (W6).

TEAM WAIVER – (ONE PER TEAM)

2026 Tai Tokerau Secondary Schools Waka Ama Sprint Regatta

Please complete one waiver per team

School	
Team Name	
Division	

I declare that:

1. Our accepted entry will not be transferred to another entrant.
2. In the event of any “act of God” conditions causing a cancellation of the event, my total entry fee is not transferable or refundable.
3. We acknowledge that there are risks involved with Waka Ama and fully realise the dangers of participating in an event such as this and fully assume the risks associated with such participation and wellbeing during the event.
4. We understand and agree that situations may arise during the event, which may be beyond the immediate control of officials or organisers, and we must continually participate in a manner that does not endanger either ourselves or others.
5. Neither the organisers, the sponsors nor other parties associated with the event shall have any responsibility, financial or otherwise, for any risk incident that might arise, whether or not by negligence, from any direct or indirect loss, injury or death that might be sustained by us or any other party directly or indirectly associated with us, from our intended or actual participation in the event or its related activities.
6. We authorise our name, voice, picture and information on this entry form to be used without payment in any broadcast, telecast, promotion, advertising, or any other way pursuant to the Privacy Act 2020.
7. We agree to comply with the rules, regulations and event instructions of officials of the Northland Regional Secondary Schools Waka Ama Sprint Champs.
8. We consent to receiving medical treatment which may be advisable in the event of illness or injuries suffered during the event.

Date	Paddlers full name	Signed	✓ Parent/guardian signed	Medical Conditions	Date of Birth
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			or school Coordinator		