



**TE WAIARIKI PŪREA**  
CHARITABLE TRUST

# PĀNUI 2



## **Waka Ama** Secondary School Nationals

Monday 23 - Friday 27 March 2026

Lake Tikitapu, Rotorua



**waka ama**  
Aotearoa New Zealand

## IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 13 March 2026	<b>Paddler Roster/Student Names CLOSE</b> Schools will be invoiced from this date**
Friday 13 March	Paddler ID cards close <b>Photos must be uploaded by this date</b>
Thursday 19 March	<b>COMPULSORY - Volunteer Hui - 7pm - Online zoom.</b>
Friday 20 March	<b>COMPULSORY - Race Briefing/Managers Meeting 7pm - Online zoom.</b>
Sunday 22 March	<b>2pm - 6pm at Lake Tikitapu</b> - School tent set-up in the village - Onsite admin desk open for ID card collection and event payments
Monday 23 March	<b>7am - 9.15am at Lake Tikitapu</b> - School tent set-up in the village - Admin desk open for ID card collection and event payments (Closed at 9.15 for pōwhiri) <b>9.30am - Pōwhiri at Lake Tikitapu</b> <b>10.30am - First Race call</b> <b>11am sharp - Racing commences W1 and W12</b> - School tent set-up in the village re-opened - Onsite admin desk open re-opened

**\*\* After 13<sup>th</sup> March, full payment is required as per the invoice. All payments to be made to Waka Ama New Zealand. Full payment is to be made by the school before students can race.**

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- All finance queries please email [accounts@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:accounts@wakaama.co.nz)
- All other event queries: [events@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:events@wakaama.co.nz)

## ELIGIBILITY

- This event is sanctioned by School Sport New Zealand and must comply with all [School Sport New Zealand Eligibility Regulations](#)
- Competitors must be under 16 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2026 to enter as a J16; or
- Under 19 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2026 to enter as a J19.
- **Competitors may only compete for one school at a National Championship.** This must be the school at which they are enrolled and attend full time.
- A student may only paddle for one crew in any one race/event, i.e. J16 or J19, not both
- Due to scheduling constraints, W1 paddlers cannot race W12

## RACE RULES

Team Managers and paddlers are required to be familiar with the [Secondary School Race Rules](#). Please pay particular attention to the sections on: Team Uniforms, Starts, Replacement Paddlers, Lanes/Turns, and Disqualifications/Protests.

## RACE INFORMATION & EVENTS

Please click [here](#) to be directed to the event page, and Pānui 1 where you find all the Race Information regarding the various events, age groups, distance, and event limits.

## EVENT FEES

- **\$50 per paddler\*\*** This includes an event ID Card.

\*\* To promote participation, South Island Schools will again have Free entry for the 2026 event.

## ID CARDS

Event ID Cards are required for racing and will be provided for all paddlers. School sets of ID cards can be picked up at the ID Card Collection point from **Sunday March 22nd 2pm-6pm at Lake Tikitapu**. There will be a charge of \$17 for any replacement/lost, or new paddler ID cards printed at the event.

## ACCOUNTS

Schools will be sent a XERO Invoice for payment by March 13th 2026. **Once the school has been invoiced, you must pay for all paddlers – regardless of withdrawals. You will also be charged for any additional paddlers added after invoicing.**

## PŌWHIRI INSTRUCTIONS - Monday March 23rd 9.30am

All **Manuhiri** are asked to assemble in the car park area behind the tent village at 9am. From 9.10 manuhiri hiko through the Village and be seated on the Terraces facing the Lake by 9.20 am. **The pōwhiri will start at 9.30 am sharp on Monday.** We ask that the Schools with the Taonga from last year situate themselves at the front of the Pōwhiri procession.

**Manawhenua and all Rotorua Kura** are requested to assemble behind the paepae by 9 am.

All schools need to please read the full details of the pōwhiri for each group. Instructions including hiko maps can be found on the event page [NZSS Waka Ama Pōwhiri instructions](#)

## UPDATED EVENT SCHEDULE

The full race schedule can be found online on the WAANZ website [here](#)

### Sunday 22nd March – Set up Day

Start Time	Finish Time	
<b>2:00pm</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Admin desk open for payments and queries</li> <li>• ID Card Collection</li> <li>• School tents can set up in the Tent Village</li> </ul>

### Monday 23rd March – Racing Day One

Start Time	
<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Pōwhiri</b>
<b>10:30am</b>	First Race call
<b>11:00am</b>	Racing Commences all divisions <b>W1 and W12 250m - Heats and Semis</b>
<b>NOTE: W1 Paddlers are not eligible to race in the W12 category as these races are run back to back. Races will not be postponed for any paddler.</b>	
<b>12 noon</b>	Any changes for Day 2 Racing need to be received prior to this time

### Tuesday 24th March – Racing Day Two

Start Times	
<b>7:30am</b>	First Race call
<b>8:00am</b>	Racing Commences all divisions <b>W1 and W12 250m - FINALS</b>
<b>11:00am</b>	<b>W1 &amp; W12 Prize Giving</b> - De-rigging of W12 waka to W6
<b>12 noon</b>	Any changes for Day 3 Racing to be received prior to this time.
<b>12:30pm</b>	Racing Commences all divisions <b>W6 500m Heats</b>

### Wednesday 25th March – Racing Day Three

Start Times	
<b>7:30am</b>	First Race call
<b>8:00am</b>	Racing Commences all divisions <b>W6 250m Heats</b>
<b>1:30pm</b>	All divisions W6 500m Semis
<b>12 noon</b>	Any changes for Day 4 Racing to be received prior to this time

### Thursday 26th March – Racing Day Four

Start Time	
7:30am	First Race call
8:00am	W6 250m Semi Finals/500m Semi Finals
3:30pm	W6 250m Prizegiving (Te Kei/Te Takere)

### Friday 27th March – Racing Day Five

Start Time	
9:00am	First Race call
9:00am	RESERVE RACE MORNING for any weather delays
9:30am	<b>Racing Commences for Te Ihu 250m Finals and ALL 500m finals</b>
11:00am	<b>Te Ihu W6 250m Finals and ALL 500m finals Prizegiving</b> NB. The closing karakia will take place before the last presentation of the prize giving, to close the entire event.

## WATER SAFETY - CAPSIZE DRILL

Make sure that all your teams have completed a safe capsizing drill **prior to the event**. This is compulsory, and something that should be practiced with the students each year - regardless of skill and experience level. You can view a capsizing drill video on the WANZ website - [Click here](#)

This video explains:

- How to fit a lifejacket correctly for each paddler
- How to right a capsized waka
- The steps involved to right the waka, get back in it and bail

Waka Ama Aotearoa NZ recommends that all students should be proficient in this skill and feel comfortable doing it. This drill should be completed in a safe and controlled environment (that can be outside), and life jackets should be worn for the duration of the drill.

## WATER SAFETY - LIFEJACKETS

**These must be worn during racing and any practice associated with this event.** Schools are responsible for providing their own life jackets, which must be approved Personal Flotation Devices. These must be jacket style.

**Waist belts and inflatable styles are NOT PERMITTED.**

Schools without, or with incorrect lifejackets will be disqualified from racing.



## EVENT INFORMATION

### WĀHI PĀTAI | Information Desk

If you have any queries at all, please come to Admin. The admin team will do their best to help you, and if they don't have the answer, they will try to find it from someone who does.

### WĀHI RĒHI | Race Results

The Results Tent is located at the bottom of the hill below the terraces (lakeside) under the blue and yellow TWPT marquee. Results will be posted as soon as the Photo Finish and officials have processed the results. Please DO NOT remove results from the board.

### OTINGA IPURANGI | Online Results

If you have an IPAD or Phone with internet access, you will be able to access the online live results throughout the racing. The link is <http://liveresults.co.nz/>

### WAHI TURORO | FIRST AID

- Peak Safety will be onsite to provide Event First Aid.
- Schools should still bring their own 1st Aid kits, and attend to minor injuries as usual.
- Remind your students to bring their EpiPens and Asthmas inhalers should they require them, and ensure these are always accessible.
- Please note - there are no facilities for physio or strapping services on-site at the event.

### PĀPAHO MATAORA | LIVESTREAM

Whakaata Māori will be broadcasting the fully five day race schedule on Māori TV and the Māori+ app

### ME WHAKAUTE TE WĀHI | Respect the venue

Please pass on to your participants and supporters that we must respect the venue. Nobody wants to see any rubbish, tagging or vandalism, and we would like to leave the venue the way we found it

### NGĀ MEA NGARO | Lost Property

If you find any lost property, please return it to Admin. If you are looking for something, we are happy to make announcements for you.

### KAI ORA | INU WAI

Healthy Kai As in previous years there will be no fizzy drinks or deep-fried food available on-site from our vendors. There will be high-volume water stations with taps available for filling water bottles. PLEASE, ensure students bring their own drinking bottles. Keep cool, stay hydrated!

### WĀHI KURI KORE | No dogs

During our event, Lake Tikitāpu will be a 'DOG-FREE' area. Leave your dogs at home please!

**DISABILITY DROP OFF POINT AND CAR PASSES**

There will be a designated disability drop off zone for those with authorized disability permits. PLEASE NOTE, this is a drop off zone **ONLY**. Once you have dropped off your passengers you will be asked to leave the area, as this needs to be kept clear for foot traffic and emergency services. Only those with Waka Ama NZ issued car passes will be permitted vehicular access to the ramp area.

**SMOKE AND VAPE FREE**

The entire venue, including parking areas and the spectator banks is SMOKEFREE /AUAAHI KORE and Vape free. Any Drugs or Alcohol will be confiscated from this event.

**NGĀ HUARERE | Bad Weather/Lake weed**

Should we experience unsafe conditions (e.g. high winds, fog) or extreme lake weed, we will halt all racing until those conditions have passed. This is the call of the Race Director.

You should **expect wind, rain and sun during the event** - sometimes all in one day! Schools are advised to bring their own protection from the elements, including strong pegs/weights for the tents. Ensure students bring sunblock, hats and raincoats. Umbrellas are great for sun as well as rain.

**WAKA**

W6 waka will be provided for the event by the Event organizers.

All W1 paddlers will need to supply their own waka and **must also have a number holder**.

- **W1 Waka will also need to meet the MPI Biosecurity requirements for the Rotorua Lakes area - additional information can be found on pages 10-11.**

**INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL TEAMS**

We welcome students from College de Pao Pao in Tahiti who will be joining us for the event:

The following lanes will be used in the Finals for New Zealand school teams:

	<b>New Zealand School Teams</b>	<b>International Teams</b>
250m W6 and W12	Lanes 1 to 12 (half lanes)	Lane 13
500m W6 Turn race	Lanes 1 to 8	Lane 9
250 W1	Lanes 1 to 12 (half lanes)	Lane 13 +

**RUBBISH BINS**

There are waste wheelie bins for rubbish throughout the venue and Tent Village. We ask that the bins please remain in the areas they are placed, and keep the lids closed.

Please ensure your kura is managing the rubbish in your area – if you see any rubbish around your tent or on the beach, please pick it up and place in the bins provided 😊

## RACE ETIQUETTE

Any school that have teams where a student:

1. **Stands up in a waka** after the race is completed (other than to exit the canoe in the loading bay); OR
  - **Throws paddles in the air** when they have completed their race; OR
  - **Deliberately fly the ama of the waka**

**Will be fined \$100 per incident and the thrown paddles will be confiscated.**

## **MEDIA ACCREDITATION**

Media accreditation and access for the 2026 Secondary School Nationals is managed at the discretion of Waka Ama Aotearoa NZ (WAANZ). This includes photographers, videographers, and social media content creators.

If your kura/school has a media or content creator attending, or you know of any media teams interested in covering the event, please share the [2026 Secondary School Media Registration Form](#) with them. All media must complete this form prior to the event. Once submitted, confirmation of accreditation will be sent from [media@wakaama.co.nz](mailto:media@wakaama.co.nz)

**Please note:** schools may choose to opt out of livestreaming or all media coverage. Where a school elects to opt out, any accredited media onsite will need to work with event organisers to ensure that the student or team is not included in any livestream, broadcast, recording, promotional content, or other media capture.

## **ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC / TRAFFIC CONTROL**

### **NZ SECONDARY SCHOOL KAYAKING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Waka Ama Aotearoa NZ and Te Waiariki Pura Trust are proud to support Canoe Racing NZ host their 3rd NZSS Kayaking National Championships at Lake Tikitapu, on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd March. Kayakers from all over New Zealand will represent their school as they participate and compete for national secondary school titles in an inclusive and paddler-focused event. All equipment is provided to allow more students to take part, if any new schools or paddlers are keen to be involved.

### **TRAFFIC CONTROL AND PARKING MANAGEMENT**

All parking and traffic control across the week will be under strict traffic management protocols. There will be a Drop-off zone available at the top entrance to the Village for tents, paddling gear, chilly bins, etc. Then all cars and school vans/buses will be directed to park in the managed area across the road from the Tent Village. There will be controlled road crossings at all times for all competitors and spectators both to and from the car park area.

**There is to be NO parking on the grass verges and sides of the roads at any time.**

We ask all schools to please be mindful of the additional traffic, allow extra time to get to/from the venue, and follow all instructions of the traffic and parking volunteers at all times.

## TENT VILLAGE

### TEAM TENTS

Schools are encouraged to set up tents in the Village to store their gear in, and provide respite for paddlers from the elements. These sites are not located for ideal spectator viewing of the racing.

- The terraced grass areas are set aside for all schools, whanau, and spectators to sit on for the best race viewing (**no tents or gazebos are permitted**).
- All school tents will be located on the area boarded by the playground, mobile toilet block and fencing. Note: depending on the early summer weather, this area could be a mixture of gravel & grass - **please bring your own ground cover and matting** .
- **All schools must check in with the Village Coordinator on arrival to be shown a site.**

Due to participant and spectator safety, tents will be NOT be permitted in the following areas:

- Lake edge and beach
- Lower grass adjacent to beach
- Terrace grass seating area.
- By the 250m start line
- Next to the admin building
- Next to the vendors

School Tent site sizes will be allocated by the number of paddlers attending. If you have:

- 6 students or less, you will be allowed to have a 3x3m pop-up size tent
- 6 to 12 students = 6x3m pop-up size tent
- 13 to 24 Students = Equivalent of two 6x3m
- 25 to 40 Students = Equivalent of four 6x3m

**Please note:** If your tent area is larger than 100m<sup>3</sup>, you will need to apply for a special permit from the Rotorua Lakes Council.

- **Tents must not be erected before 2pm Sunday 22 March.** Any tents erected prior will be removed.
- Tents can also be erected on Monday morning from 7am - 9am, **BEFORE** the Pōwhiri commences; and then after 11am, once racing has started.
- **RAPIHI - RUBBISH** - please ensure that your area is kept clean at all times, and use the bins provided.
- **LOOKING AFTER YOUR TENT** - please check daily that your tent is securely pegged. If leaving up overnight, please remove the roof or lower the tent in case of strong winds.
- Please ensure that your tent is secured overnight, and all belongings are removed that might fly away should the weather turn.

### **IMPORTANT SAFETY REQUIREMENTS - \*\* NEW FOR 2026\*\***

Due to increased participant numbers, dry ground conditions, and distance to emergency services there is to be **NO BBQs, gas bottles, generators or cooking in the Tent Village this year.** After conducting a post-event review, it was determined that the risk of explosions and/or fires was high due to the condensed nature of the Tent Village. We have therefore decided to ban this equipment, to ensure we are keeping our rangatahi and whanau safe

## SCHOOL/PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We still need extra Volunteers in the Loading Bay area to ensure the race schedule runs to time. Please share this link to additional school staff or parents who may be attending to watch, and are keen to help. All full-day volunteers will receive a volunteer pack, including lunch.

[Volunteers - 2026 Waka Ama NZSS Nationals](#)

## **WI WAKA DROP-OFF AND PICK UP INSTRUCTIONS**

### W1 WAKA DROP OFF - Sunday March 22nd and Monday March 23rd

**ALL W1 waka must be checked into the designated area onsite by 9am Monday 23rd at the latest**

- **Drop off times are Sunday March 22nd 2 - 7pm and Monday 23rd 7 - 9am ONLY**
- Schools / Paddlers are strongly encouraged to drop their waka during the following times, where there will be a **complete road closure** - **Sunday 2pm-5pm & Monday 7am-9am.**
- Drop off Zone directions driving from Rotorua:
  - Travel along Tarawera Rd. Turn right onto Okareka Loop Rd, and follow it round.
  - At the Holiday Park turn right, and safely pull into the drop-off zone on the road.
  - Unload the waka, be checked in through the gate, and then drive off to the carpark/their accommodation.

**Overnight security of W1 waka is provided at the venue on Sunday & Monday nights**

### W1 COLLECTION - Monday March 23rd and Tuesday March 24th

- All W1 waka finished on Monday, need to follow the [Check Clean Dry](#) requirements, and be **removed from the Loading Bay**. Access will be granted from 3.30pm.
- There will be a **complete road closure at the pick up gate** on **Monday 3.30-5pm ONLY**
- After Tuesday's Finals, the remaining W1 waka need to also follow the [Check Clean Dry](#) requirements, and be removed from Loading Bay. Access will be granted from 9.30am.
- There will be a **complete road closure at the pick up gate** on **Tuesday 9.30-11am ONLY**

### W1 WAKA FROM THE WAIKATO REGION & SURROUNDING SCHOOLS

- As per the Government requirements, all W1 waka from the Waikato region must be washed and scanned in at the designated [Wash Station on Te Ngae Rd](#), **between 4-6pm on Sunday 22nd.**
- In addition, all paddles, lifejackets and clothing which have been in the Waikato River in the past 14 days, must also follow MPI directions regarding soaking and bleaching - see below

Further instructions can be found at the end of the pānui and will also be emailed to the schools concerned. **It is important that these instructions are passed onto the families who may be transporting the W1 Waka, as last year many turned up without knowing these procedures.**

[Controlled Area Notice \(CAN\) - Te Arawa Lakes](#)

## TROPHIES

### PUTU MIHAKA TROPHY

The Putu Mihaka Trophy is awarded to the school that displays manaaki, awhi, and an overall positive attitude throughout the event. This award pays homage to the late Te Putuangaanga (Putu) Mihaka nō Ngāti Pikiao. Putu was a strong advocate of rangatahi Māori, played significant roles in organisations like Te Waiariki Pūrea Trust, and was a huge supporter of the waka community.

### LAURIE DURAND MEMORIAL AWARD - TE POU TAUTOKOHIA

Te Pou Tautokohia is awarded to the school that displays tautoko to others and the event. Te Pou Tautokohia pays homage to the late Laurie Durand, a stalwart of Te Waiariki Pūrea Trust, Waka Ama, and the National Secondary School Event.

## WAANZ PUNA AKO - ONLINE COACHING COURSE

WAANZ have created an online learning platform to provide online learning courses and resources to support the development of your waka ama knowledge. Our online learning courses provide self-paced flexible learning opportunities to develop your waka ama knowledge and support coaches to provide quality waka ama experiences. There are currently four foundation level courses available online via our Puna Ako; Coaching Basics, Paddling Basics, Steering Basics, and Rigging Basics.

You will need to sign up and create an account to enrol in the courses. Each course has an enrolment fee of \$10, payable at the time of enrolment. Access to courses are available in Aotearoa NZ only and are perfect for students and teachers to complete.

You can access the Puna Ako via the following link: <https://wakaama.epicsharing.com/>

## BIOSECURITY MEASURES

This invasive freshwater clam *Corbicula fluminea* was discovered along a stretch of the Waikato River in May 2023. Biosecurity New Zealand is working with iwi and other partners to prevent the spread of the clam. [Ministry of Primary Industries \(MPI\) - Freshwater invasive clam](#)

As kaitiaki of our roto and awa, it is important to follow the MPI [Check Clean Dry](#) requirements, to ensure we do not spread the invasive clam or any other species to our lakes and rivers.

Due to the high biosecurity risk of the transmission of the invasive clam species to the Rotorua lakes, an additional Controlled Area Notice (CAN) applies to the 14 Te Arawa lakes in the Bay of Plenty region, with additional protections for Lake Ōkataina. These are in place to protect [Te Arawa Lakes](#)

**ALL W1 from the greater Waikato region, and any other waka that has been in the Waikato River in the previous 30 days must be cleaned at the designated wash station in Rotorua before entering the water.** This is in addition to the [Check Clean Dry](#) requirements.

In addition, all hoe, lifejackets and clothing that has been in the Waikato River in the past 14 days must also be soaked as below before arriving at the event. We will provide a large skip bin with solution as per #2 below for schools to soak their lifejackets in for an hour on Sunday afternoon.

For absorbent materials, use one of these treatments and refer to the manufacturer's instructions if needed:

- Soak in hot tap water (50°C to 55°C) for at least 5 minutes, or
- Soak in 5% bleach solution (5-litre mix = 250ml bleach in 4.75 litres water) for an hour, or
- Freeze till solid (overnight), or
- Soak in salt solution at 100ppt (parts per thousand) (5-litre mix = 500g salt in 5 litres warm water) for 4 hours.

At the end of the event, all hoe, life jackets, clothing and footwear will need to be **Checked and washed Clean of any visible debris before leaving Lake Tikitapu**. On return to your kura or whare, we ask everyone to also follow the Clean and Dry instructions for cleaning absorbent clothing - lifejackets, clothes, water shoes, and hats (see the image below).

## STOP PESTS INVADING OUR LAKES AND RIVERS

- CHECK
- CLEAN
- DRY

### How to 'Check Clean Dry' when you move

Follow these steps when you move between lakes and rivers.

**✓ Check – for what is visible**

Remove any plant matter, mud or visible clams from your gear and leave it at the river or lake bank, or put it in the rubbish.

Drain all river or lake water from your boat and gear.

**✓ Clean – for what is not visible**

Blast your gear and craft with tap water onto grass, not into a stormwater system or drain.

For absorbent materials, use one of these treatments and refer to the manufacturer's instructions if needed:

- Soak in hot tap water (50°C to 55°C) for at least 5 minutes, or
- Soak in 5% bleach solution (5-litre mix = 250ml bleach in 4.75 litres water) for an hour, or
- Freeze till solid (overnight), or
- Soak in salt solution at 100ppt (parts per thousand) (5-litre mix = 500g salt in 5 litres warm water) for 4 hours.

For a full list of approved treatments, including options for situations where none of the above is suitable, refer to [Treatment options](#)

**✓ Dry – to be sure**

- **Gear:** allow gear to dry to touch, inside and out, then leave it to dry for at least 48 hours (2 days) before using again.
- **Watercraft:** dry areas inside the watercraft where water has pooled, for example with an old towel, and then leave the craft to dry for at least 48 hours (2 days). The hull of a watercraft will dry when towed.

These 'Check Clean Dry' steps will also help stop the spread of other freshwater pest species. For more information: visit the [Ministry for Primary Industries website](#)

## AIR TAHITI NUI

Our partner Air Tahiti Nui is once again giving one lucky school the chance to win six tickets to Tahiti!

Last year, Western Heights High School won the six tickets and are heading to compete at the Aimeho Va'a Race in Moorea this April - organised by Collège De Pao Pao.



**To enter, students simply need to scan the QR code on the posters below or at the venue and tell us why their kura should win the tickets to go in the draw.**

The student who submits the winning entry will also receive a paddle from Tai Paddles!!

**A huge thank you to Air Tahiti Nui for their continued support.**

WIN FLIGHTS TO...

**TAHITI**

FOR YOUR KURA!

BE IN TO WIN 6 TICKETS FOR YOUR KURA!

SCAN THE QR CODE AND TELL US WHAT WAKA AMA MEANS TO YOU  
AND WHY YOU BELIEVE YOUR SCHOOL SHOULD WIN!

SCAN ME





## AIR TAHITI NUI - PRIZE DRAW

### Win School SIX (6) TICKETS!

### Terms and Conditions

- Chance to win six (6) tickets on Air Tahiti Nui
- Students must register their School to go in the draw for the 6 (Six) Air Tahiti Nui Prize drawn at the prizegiving on Friday 27th March
- Entries are to be registered by **3pm Thursday 26th March, 2025**
- To register, complete the form linked in the QR code
- Students can enter their School multiple times
- Only New Zealand Schools can be registered to win this prize.
- The Prize will include 6 x Return Tickets from Auckland to Tahiti - flying Air Tahiti Nui
- The tickets must be issued before December 31st 2026 (Travel could be in 2027)
- **The winning School must use the tickets to travel to Tahiti and take part in a Va'a race/s (V6, V3, V12, or V1)**
- Should the tickets not be issued by the end of 2026, they will become void
- Airport Taxes, Race entry fees, accommodation and transport are not covered in the prize
- Students who are under 18 must be accompanied by an adult/s to & from Tahiti
- Winning schools will be provided with a letter outlining all information and contact details to contact Air Tahiti Nui directly to arrange tickets
- The Prize will be drawn at the Prizegiving on Friday 27th March 2026. You do not need to be present
- The Student who registered the winning school will receive a Waka Ama NZ Prize.
- Winners are encouraged to tag Air Tahiti Nui and Waka Ama NZ in their social media posts wherever possible

