

Waka Ama Aotearoa NZ Event Race Safety Briefing Checklist

Your Safety Briefing (at a minimum) should cover the following:

- ☐ Explain the Safety Waiver
- ☐ Expected conditions and local weather patterns
- ☐ Tide times and likely effect
- ☐ Wind direction and likely effect
- ☐ Required safety equipment
- ☐ Relevant Biosecurity measures (Check, Clean Dry)
- ☐ Race course:
 - o Explain any hazards on the course
 - o Explain exit points if paddlers need to withdraw from the race
 - o Give detailed information about race course – use a physical map to emphasise and explain key points/hazards/turning buoys
- ☐ Safety Checking process
- ☐ Race start time/s and race start procedure
- ☐ Finish line location and finish procedure
- ☐ Safe launching and exiting of the water
- ☐ The number of Safety Boats on the water and how to identify them, explain which boat will be the lead boat etc – Use bright flags to indicate Lead Boat and Support Boats
- ☐ How to raise assistance in an emergency – ‘paddle in the air’
- ☐ The course can be changed during the race, explain the procedure
- ☐ At any time the Race Director or Race Official can stop a paddler/s from competing/completing if they show signs that they will not complete the race in an acceptable time or acceptable condition.
- ☐ All paddlers must check out (if they withdraw from race)
- ☐ Encourage good practice e.g. hydration, appropriate clothing and equipment