



KI UTA KI TAI WAKA CHALLENGE 2026

Marakura Yacht Club, Te Anau

Saturday 24th October 2026

Ngā Kete Mātauranga Pounamu Charitable Trust

Pānui #1

EVENT SUMMARY

Kōrari the Māori Public Health team at Ngā Kete Mātauranga Pounamu Charitable Trust in conjunction with Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka invite you to Ki Uta Ki Tai Waka Challenge to be held at the Marakura Yacht Club, Te Anau on Saturday 24th October 2026.

Ki Uta Ki Tai Waka Challenge is an annual event held on the beautiful Lake Te Anau and is intended to be a fun but competitive event to support whānau hauora through waka ama. Ki Uta Ki Tai Waka Challenge is a full day of fun racing, health stalls, coffee, kai vendors and prize giving. It also provides a warmup opportunity in the lead-up to the Te Waka o Aoraki Regional Sprints. We welcome you and your whānau to join us for this event.

EVENT SCHEDULE

7:30am	Safety boat meeting inside Yacht Club
7:45am	Administration desk opens for registrations
8.00am	Karakia + Welcome
8.15am	Race 1 briefing + Safety checks for 5 km W1 + W2
8:30am	Race 1 starts: 5km W1 + W2
9am	Race 2 briefing + Safety checks for 10 km W1 + W2
9:15am	Race 2 starts: 10km W1 + W2
	<i>**If limited entries for both races 5km + 10km will combine</i>

10:15am	Sprints race briefing – all rangatahi kaihoe and all other division steerers for these races to attend.
10:30am	Waka safety checks for sprints
10:45am	Race 3 – 500m rangatahi starts
11:15am	Race 4 – 1km rangatahi starts
11:45am	Race 5 – 500m all divisions
12:15pm	Race 6 – 1km all divisions
12:45pm	Race 7 – W6 10km race briefing + Safety checks
1pm	Race 7 – W6 10km starts
2:30pm	Race 8 – W6 15km race briefing + Safety checks
2:45pm	Race 8 – w6 15km starts*
	<i>Kaihoe to be ready from 2pm, race will start when the last waka from Race 7 finishes</i>
5pm	All racing finished
5:30pm	Prize giving + Closing karakia

*****SCHEDULING & TIMING IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE –
PLEASE BE READY TO RACE 30 MINUTES AHEAD OF YOUR RACE TIME**

RACE DAY INFORMATION

Friday registration: The administration desk will be open for early check-in inside the Yacht Club between 3pm-6pm on Friday 23rd October 2026.

Trailer parking: Trailer parking will be available at the rear of the Marakura Yacht Club carpark. Due to restrictions, this will only be available for trailer drop off – you will need to park your car elsewhere on the day.

Car Parking: Parking is available along the shore side in the public area. Please **do not** park in the Marakura Yacht Club carpark.

Food: We encourage you to bring your own healthy kai, however a small range of food vendors will be available onsite to purchase delicious kai.

Toilets: Toilets are located inside the Marakura Yacht Club. Note: Unfortunately, there are **NO** showers available at the club.

First Aid: First Aid will be available at the check in tent.

Rubbish/Recycling: Please recycle where possible - rubbish bins will be available.

Alcohol/Drug/Vape/Smokefree: Alcohol, smoking, vaping and any other substance use are not be permitted at this event. If you need support to give up smoking our Southern Stop Smoking Team are on hand to offer support.

Merchandise: T-shirts will be available for sale at the administration desk.

Water Station: A water station will be available at the lakeside gazebo desk.

Sunscreen: Sunscreen will be available on site.

BYO Gazebo: Please feel free to bring your own gazebo and foldout chairs for your paddlers and supporters

Prize giving: Prize giving will take place as soon as possible after the last race ends.

Pack down: please ensure you check your team/ clubs areas when departing and pick up any rubbish, items that may be left behind. Leave it like you found it!

Prize giving: Prize giving will take place 30 minutes after the last race ends.

WAKA DROP OFF & SAFETY CHECKS

Waka Drop off:

- Waka drop off and strapping up will take place from **12pm onwards on Friday 23rd October**. Kaimahi will be on site to direct and assist with this process. Otherwise on the morning of the event from 7.00am.
- All waka need to be strapped up and lakeside by 8.30am.
- **This year if you are bringing waka please bring your own tyres and take them home with you!**
- Please ensure that **all waka have been cleaned down** from your waterways previous to arriving. This is about protecting our Roto, Awa & Moana from Didymo & Golden Clam spreading.

Safety Checks:

- All waka must undergo a safety check and be officially marked off prior to racing. No safety check completed – no entry, waka that are not marked off will **not** be permitted to participate in the race.
- Please ensure your team/ waka have exactly what is required to pass safety checks.

RACE RULES

All entrants must be familiar with the Waka Ama New Zealand race and safety rules. Refer to the following link for more information: [Waka Ama NZ Race Rules](#)

AGE DIVISIONS & RACE EVENTS

WAKA	DISTANCE	DIVISIONS	GENDER
W1	5km, 10km	J16, J19, Open*, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men & Women
W2	5km, 10km	J16, J19, Open*, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men & Women, Mixed
W6	500m	Intermediate	Boys, Girls, Mixed
W6	500m, 1km	J16, J19, Open*, Masters, Senior Masters, Golden Masters	Men, Women, Mixed
W6	10km	J16, J19, Open*, Masters, Senior Masters, Golden Master	Men, Women, Mixed
W6	15km	Open*, Masters, Senior Masters, Golden Masters	Men, Women, Mixed

**Note: Open division is 16yrs+*

FEES

Fees for this event are per person by race division.

Adult fees: \$30.00 per race – 2 or more races \$60.00

Rangatahi fees (Intermediate, J16, J19): \$10.00 per person for one race/ 2 or more races \$20.00 per person

ONLINE ENTRIES & PAYMENT

- Online entries are to be completed using the Waka Ama NZ online entry system.
- All entries to be completed through your club admin – contact your club admin to process your entry
- No entries on the day, no exceptions
- Entries close on **Tuesday 20 October 2026 5pm**
- Rosters close on **Wednesday 21 October 2026**. Rosters must be completed by close date, no exceptions
- Once entered, payment can be made online to:

Te Ara a Kewa Waka Ama Trust

03-1355-0770244-00

Use your club, team name and division as your reference

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- All waka must be Safety Checked
- All Junior age divisions must wear life jackets
- Senior (Open and above) PFD's must be on board and this decision may change due to weather conditions
- Waka must have the following safety equipment:
- PFD - Personal Floatation Device (per person)
- Bailers and Spare strapping
- Flare or cell phone in waterproof case
- Spare Paddle - 2 for a W6
- Tow Rope (W6)
- Spray Skirts (Weather and conditions pending)

INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM WAIVERS

- Team waivers must be completed by all paddlers/teams prior to event and we request that they are emailed through
- All paddlers U18 must have their waiver signed by their parent/guardian
- Waivers can be sent to **nadine.young@nkmp.nz**
- Team waivers can be found on the Waka Ama NZ [website](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION

- All enquiries please email: karina.davis-marsden@nkmp.nz or nadine.young@nkmp.nz
- All urgent matters please call: **03 214 5260** or Karina on **021 315 655**

COURSE MAPS

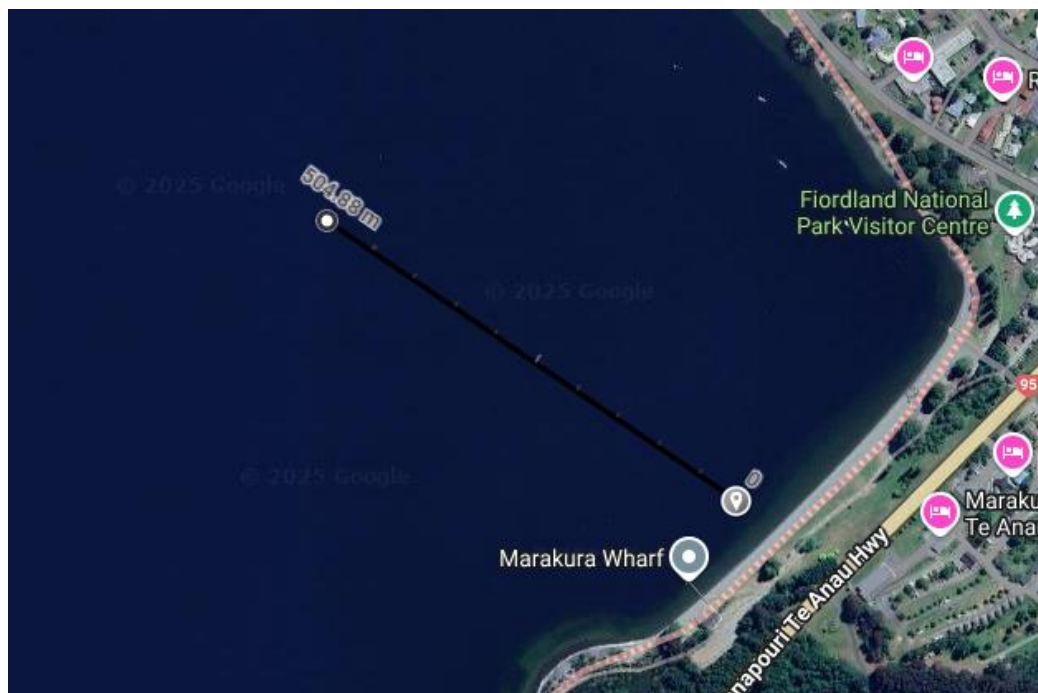
MAP 1: W1 & W2 (beach start with kaihoe turning at 2.5km buoy, following the course back. Finish line at the Marakura Yacht Club wharf.



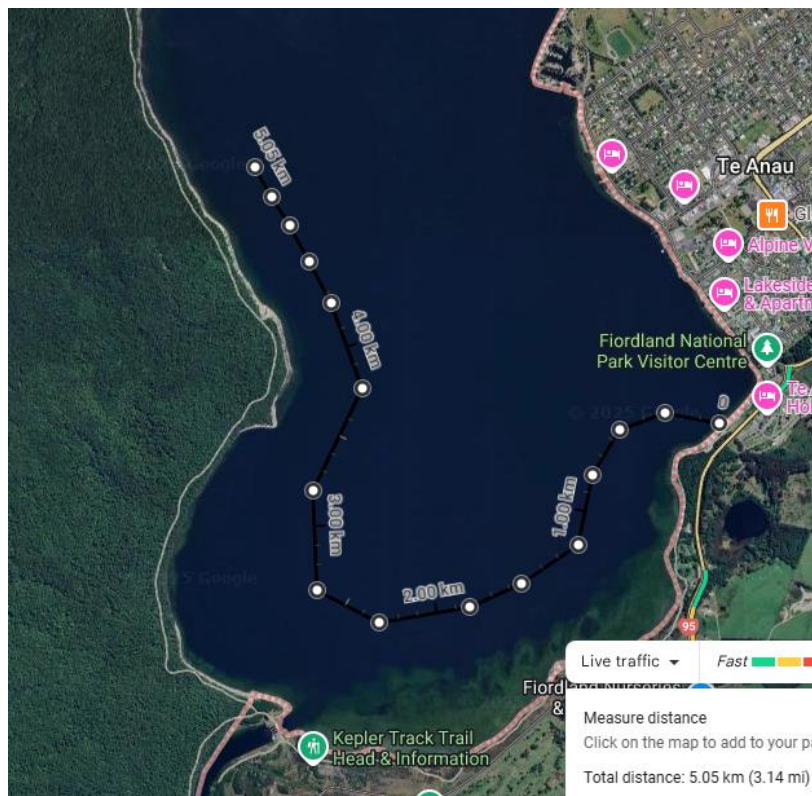
MAP 2 : Rangatahi Race's 500m (with a turn). Race starts out on the water paddling into the shoreline with the finish line at the Marakura Yacht Club wharf.



MAP 3: 500m straight sprint - start out on water heading towards the shoreline. Finish line is the Marakura Yacht Club wharf. 1000m is the same course, beach start – turning at the 500m buoy with the finish line the Marakura Yacht Club wharf.



MAP 4: 10km race. Beach start, turning point at 5km buoy and following the course back. The finish line is the Marakura Yacht Club wharf.



Map 5: 15km race – beach start, turning at the 8km buoy and following the course back. Finish line the Marakura Yacht Club wharf.

