



Mount Pacific Downwind

Race Rules, Terms & Conditions of Entry

Signing

All paddlers (kaihoe) must individually sign the indemnity on the entry form, which states they have read, understood and agreed to the Event Information, Race Rules (Tikanga), and Terms & Conditions of Entry.

Age Limit

Paddlers (kaihoe) must be 18 years of age and over on the day of the event, otherwise parental consent on the entry form is required.

Briefing

All paddlers (kaihoe) must listen intently to the race briefing, and obey all instructions given.

Competency

It is essential all competitors (irrespective of craft and category entered) are competent paddlers and must:

1. have a suitable level of paddle fitness to complete the race in any conditions.
2. have the skills and be comfortable paddling in any conditions likely to be met.
3. have good knowledge and awareness of safety procedures pertinent to the class of craft paddled.
4. be trained and proficient in open deep water self rescue techniques:
i.e., - righting and remounting a Surf-ski , (OC1) Ocean Canoes / Waka Ama or Stand-up Paddle Board...so they are capable of boarding or re-entering their craft without assistance and possess skills to assist other capsized paddlers (kaihoe).
5. be capable of swimming in rough water conditions.
6. be capable of preparing themselves with respect to dress choice, as well as food and drink carried to complete the race in any conditions on the day.

Self- sufficiency

The overriding principle is self sufficiency. Paddlers (kaihoe) are responsible for their own dress and race nutrition for the duration of the race. Be sure to carry sufficient fluid and/or solid food supplies for the journey and wear sufficient clothing for the conditions and weather likely to be experienced during the race. Remember, the water is cool - both energy and body heat can be lost quickly when cold, wet and hungry.

Captain's (Kaihautu) Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all solo paddlers (kaihoe) [the craft captains (kaihautu)] to insure they:

1. are aware where to source available weather information for the relevant body of water (i.e., MetService, Surfline, radio, newspaper etc) so they can familiarize themselves with possible conditions.
2. have a understanding of their capabilities and medical needs when paddling and take responsibility in this regard (i.e., their overall competency to compete; carrying necessary personal items and gaining proficiency in self administering specific medical treatment).
3. inspect there craft before commencing the voyage to make sure it is structurally sound and seaworthy; all onboard equipment is secured; all compulsory paddler (kaihoe)/craft gear is not only accounted for, but serviced, suitable and used appropriately .

4. have experience using the communication system onboard (i.e., VHF Radio or Cell phone), and that it is stowed safely in a watertight manner.
5. and they are appropriately clothed.

Craft

The event is open to the following category of race craft;

- Single Surf Ski's – both NZ Life Saving Association regulation and Long Distance ocean racing Ski's [Wave ski's or sit-on-top pleasure craft are not permitted].
 - Single (OC1) Ocean Canoes or Waka Ama [compliant with NZ outrigger long distance race rules].
 - Single (SUP) Stand-up Paddle Boards
- For safety reasons kayaks (such as Sea, K1 and Multi-sport) and sit-on-top pleasure craft are NOT permitted.

The choice of race craft is ultimately the individual paddlers (kaihoe) [the craft captain's (Kaihautu)] responsibility and they must ensure they have the ability to paddle the craft in any conditions.

All craft must be structurally sound and seaworthy with positive floatation (built in) sufficient to float the craft with the gunnels above the surface of the water when completely swamped.

Note 1: There are no length/width or weight restrictions on any craft.

Note 2: Rudders are optional, but recommended on all craft.

Compulsory Safety Equipment

Per paddler (kaihoe) & paddle craft - irrespective of class

- 1 x approved Buoyancy Vest or Personal Floatation Device [PFD].
- to be worn on the charter boat, barge and in transit between the two (compulsory for all), plus carried throughout the event in compliance with NZ Maritime Safety Rule 91.4 (6).
[Note: the possibility rough seas and adverse weather (i.e., large swells and high winds) arising, plus the close proximity of competitive craft and support/escort/safety vessels, class the Bay of Plenty as an area of heightened risk].
- should have a minimum of 53 Newton's of buoyancy and meet type 403 or 405 acceptable to NZ Maritime Safety Standard 5823 (2001).
[Note: visiting competitors from overseas may use an approved PFD from their country of origin].
- 1 x Whistle (attached securely to Buoyancy Vest or PDF).
- 1 x leg, waist or paddle leash (adding a further point of attachment to the paddle craft and providing a possible means to tow the craft)
- 1 x Course Map – provided on the event webpage www.dare2sweatevents.co.nz (attached securely in view of the navigating paddler (Tatai).
- 1 x Compass or GPS (attached securely in view of the navigating paddler (Tatai)).
- 1 x Handheld Smoke Flare.
- NZ Maritime Safety approved.
- 1 x Mobile Phone or VHF Radio in a sealed plastic bag. (Note: repeater channel 63 is the standard calling frequency for transmissions between craft, Coast Guard and the Harbour Master Radio).
- Minimum of 1000ml of fluid (on the paddler or attached securely in the craft within their reach).
- Some energy food (on the paddler or attached securely in the craft within their reach).

Note 1: All (OC1) Ocean Canoes or Waka ama craft will require an additional:

- Spray Deck/Skirt per seat (fitted correctly to the craft). Applicable to non –self bailing/draining craft only.
- 1 x Bilge Pump or Bailer (Tiheru) Bucket securely fastened to the craft. Applicable to non –self bailing/draining craft only. No motorized pumps are allowed.
- 1 x Repair Kit containing:

- spare rubber lashings (awkaha),
- duck tape,
- and bungs.
- 1 x Spare Paddle (Hoe) securely lashed to the craft.

Per support/escort craft (kaiawhina)

- 1 x approved Personal Floatation Device [PFD] per crew member onboard.
 - must be stowed in an accessible place onboard and in compliance with NZ Maritime Safety Standard, Rule 91.2, type 401 or 402.
- 1 x Rope for towing purposes
- 1 or more Rescue Tubes
- 1 x Throw Rope
- 1 x First Aid kit
- 1 x Flare.
 - NZ Maritime Safety approved.
- 1 x Mobile Phone or VHF Radio in a sealed plastic bag. (Note: repeater channel 63 is the standard calling frequency for transmissions between craft, Coast Guard and the Harbour Master Radio).

Race Identification

All paddlers (kaihoe), craft and gear must comply with the following points:

- High visibility race bibs (provided by race organizers) must be worn over PFD's at all times on the water.
- Race craft number stickers (if provided by race organizers) must be placed on the front right of competitor's craft.

Intermediate points

All craft must pass to the left within 20 meters of stationary official safety boats on route to the finish. Official safety boats will be flying red flags and race officials will be wearing high visibility orange tops.

Water Code

In spite of rule 91.22 of the Maritime Safety Rules (which states all powered vessels are to give way to vessels under oar (paddling); the organizer urges all entrants to give public and commercial motorized and sail craft external to the event the right of way. Please assume they are unable to see you and take a course to avoid them to be on the safe side.

Support/Escort Boats (Kaiawhina) Guidelines

Entrants have the option of providing a Support/Escort Boat (Kaiawhina). It is the responsibility of the paddling crew (Kaihoe) and/or their Club to organize such support.

All accompanying motor powered support/escort boats (kaiawhina):

1. must be of sufficient power to travel faster than the competitive craft they are supporting/escorting.
2. have to be of an adequate size to safely take the complete paddling crew (kaihoe) of the craft they are supporting and be able tow the craft.
3. need to carry sufficient fuel to complete the journey out to the start line and back to the finish in the worst conditions expected.
4. should comply with Maritime Safety Authority laws/requirements.
5. must carry compatible communication (VHF radio or cell phone) with the craft they are supporting.
6. are required to maintain visual contact with the craft they are supporting at all times so immediate action to preserve the safety of the craft and its crew (Kaihoe) is possible.
7. should stay clear of the start and at least 50m clear of any craft in the first 10 minutes of the race (provided visibility is able to be maintained with the paddler (kaihoe)).
8. can only follow behind or to the side (but not within 20 meters) of their respective paddle craft they are supporting for the remainder of the race.

9. in line with Maritime Safety rule 91.6(1)(a) must slow to 5 knots within 50 meters of any other vessel or person in the water not related to the event.
10. in line with Maritime Safety rule 91.6(1)(b) - should remain 200m from the shore to provide a safe area for swimmers and other recreational users along the shore.
11. should show courtesy to all competitive craft, so not to interfere with the race (i.e., getting in front or too close, to help or hinder as a result of boat wash/wake).
12. are not permitted to assist with any prohibited paddler changes.
13. must offer assistance to all craft & paddlers (kaihoe) in distress or in an emergency.
14. are recommended to have a person trained in First Aid onboard if possible.

Safety Boats

Some official safety boats will be organized by the race organizer for overall safety of the event.

Give-way to Large Vessels

All competitors craft, support/escort boats and official safety boats associated with the event are to keep well clear of any large vessels. DO NOT cross in front of any large vessels entering or leaving Tauranga Harbour. These vessels (over 500 grt) have the right of way under bylaw 6.3.4.

Alcohol and Drugs

The event has an unequivocal Alcohol and Drug policy. No paddler (kaihoe), support/escort boat (kaiawhina) crew should be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while on the water.

Race Close

The race is officially over at 5:30pm. All entrants still to complete the course must allow themselves to be assisted (perhaps under tow) back to land by either their support/escort boat or the official safety boats on the water.

Withdrawal on the day

Any competing paddler (kaihoe) wishing to withdraw mid race, must make themselves visible in order to be seen and picked up by a support/escort or safety boat. Anyone who withdraws from the race at any stage (either before or during) must notify the nearest official and also make contact with the race organizer and timekeeper at the finish as soon as possible. Any search costs incurred in such instances of failure to notify withdrawal will be charged directly to the competitor(s) in question.

Officials Instructions & Rights

Instructions given by race officials must be obeyed by paddlers (kaihoe) and their support/escort boat (kaiawhina) crew. Officials reserve the right to stop and withdraw any competitor if a competitor or craft appears incapable or unsuitable for any reason to complete the race at any stage, either prior or during the event.

Fair Play

Entrants must promote fair play and demonstrate sportsmanlike behavior on and off the water. The event and sport takes a hard line against the use of illegal performance enhancing drugs.

Disqualification

Any entrants who fail to comply (in the eyes of a race official or race organizers) with any of the official's instructions; breaches safety or environmental measures; or needlessly places themselves and or others in jeopardy; will be disqualified from the event. The decision of the race organizer is final.

Risk and Liability

Whilst all efforts are made by the organizer to ensure the safety of those competing, all paddlers (kaihoe) acknowledge that they compete at their own risk, and the organizer, officials, sponsors, support organizations, councils, and private property/landowners will not accept liability for any mishap, injury, damage or loss to persons or equipment during the course of the event.

Paddler (Kaihoe) in Distress

Paddlers (Kaihoe) and support/escort boats must offer assistance to any person in difficulty and notify the nearest official if necessary. Time adjustments will be made for those paddlers (kaihoe) who stop to help others.

Any paddler (kaihoe) who has difficulty and cannot continue the race must stay with their craft on the water (making themselves easy to be seen), and await assistance from an official safety boat. No one is to try to swim to land, as it is likely some distance. Follow all instructions you are given by race officials – these are for your safety.

Wash riding

Wash-hanging off another entrant is permitted across and within classes of paddle craft and categories.

Riding the wash of any motor powered boat (irrespective of support/escort or official safety boats) or yacht is strictly prohibited.

Sailing

No entrants are permitted to erect or hoist aloft any device capable of powering the craft utilizing the force of the wind.

Littering

Littering is strictly prohibited. Please do not discard any litter at any stage on the course, public or private land/property. Take away what you bring with you or utilize rubbish reciprocals available.

Toilets

Permanent toilet facilities available and any on site portaloos provided must be used whenever required.