**Safety Boat minimum requirement:**

* Tin or inflatable dinghies are not suitable to act as a Support Boat
* Vessels must be a minimum of 5m in length
* Vessels must be seaworthy and have a minimum carrying capacity of 5 people and must be able to safely carry all team paddlers and support boat crew members.
* Vessels must be fully fuelled and mechanically sound
* Vessels must be equipped with all safety gear, including personal flotation devices for ALL passengers, a first aid kit, bailing equipment, flares, VHF Radio, boarding ladder and oars.
* All Operators must be aware of and comply with all applicable Water Safety Regulations and Requirements
* All Operators must be aware of and comply with all of the Events Official Rules
* All Support Boats must have a competent Operator
* All Support Boats must have a noncompeting observer

**Support Boat Race Requirements & Etiquette**

* Support boats are to proceed to the first change over point approximately 5km before the Race start and wait. All changeovers must be made from the water. No support boats within 20m of any craft, except during an emergency.
* Towing of canoes is not permitted, except during an emergency
* Support craft **MUST NOT**reverse up to paddlers in the water.
* All support craft must have their **MOTOR TURNED OFF** when picking up paddlers.
* First changeover point will be started at the safety/support boat briefing.
* Further changes will be at the discretion of the crew until approximately 5km from the finish. Eg. Rabbit Island or Kaituna Cut.
* Support Boat Drivers have absolute discretion as to where they will manoeuvre their vessels when making changeovers.
* Any impedance of a craft by any means (eg. Wash or causing of craft to alter course) by a support boat will result in either a time penalty or disqualification being applied to the support boats canoe at the discretion of the Race Director.