

2022 Waka Ama New Zealand Elected Board Member Nominee Information

Frances Piacun– Nominated by Te Waka o Aoraki (Region)

Nominee Profile:

My name is Frances Piacun, I am of Maori, Croatian, English descent and from my Paratene whanau I whakapapa back to the Te Rarawa and Te Aupouri Iwi from the Far North and I am the eldest of 8 children.

I started paddling with the Nga Hoe Horo Club in 2016, when I returned home from living internationally, and was hired to organize the Te Houtaewa Challenge on Te Oneroa a Tohe which consisted of Ultra Marathon, Marathon, Half Marathon runs and a Waka Ama Surf Challenge at Ahipara.

I still support Nga Hoe Horo Club, having donated a Trophy for Volunteer of the year and also annually prize money for rangatahi.

I have competed in Golden Master & Master 70's teams at World Sprints in Canada, Australia, Tahiti and London since I started paddling.

I have been fortunate through life to have had wonderful mentors both in business & sport and believe it is important for me to offer the same support to our Rangatahi as I get older.

My role in coming back to New Zealand was as General Manager for the 'I am Special' Youth programme and I facilitated workshops for 50 students from Secondary Schools in South Auckland and Whangarei

I moved to Queenstown in 2014, and found no Waka Ama Club, and I decided it was time to start one here.

We are a small Club but we are very active. We now have a Masters Mens team, a Masters Women's team and a J19 Girls crew.

I have introduced Waka Ama to 124x Year 7/8 Rangatahi from Arrowtown Primary, 2 mixed crews from the Alexandra Youth Justice people and am now coaching a crew of J19 girls from Wakatipu High School with the goal of going to World Sprints in 2024.

I am now also coaching their mothers, and I personally continue to train for the next Worlds as a part of the Aratika Masters 70 team.

Reason for Nomination: (completed by Member Club / Region)

Frances is a committed and passionate person who has spent since 2014 establishing a waka ama club in Wakatipu. as part of this she has volunteered many hours to growing rangatahi in the Queenstown-Franton area involving them in the activity, sport and culture of waka ama. In addition

to this she has represented Aotearoa at world sprints recently with Te Aratika Water Sports club. She is an accomplished business woman, who works full time. This involves working with a wide diverse global community. Her passion, organisation skills, business acumen will contribute greatly to the Poari strategic outcomes for Nga Kaihoe o Aotearoa

Nominee statement: Why you wish to be a Board member of Nga Kaihoe o Aotearoa (Waka Ama New Zealand)?

I would like to make a contribution to the long term growth of Waka Ama for our future generations. I am invested in celebrating the opportunities that Waka Ama provides for our Rangatahi both as a Sport and Culturally. I am passionate about spearheading the growth of Rangatahi in Waka Ama nationally and both expanding the profile and introducing the benefits of our sport to our domestic market.

By being a member my business skills (nationally and globally) experience would contribute to the strategic outcomes of the Board. Establishing a Waka Ama club in the Wakatipu region has given me strengths that will assist in contributing to the overall decision making process for the board. My skills bring diversity within a governance structure.

Please identify below the key skills from the Board Skills Matrix (below) which you believe you will bring to the role, and provide evidence of those skills in the space below:

Ethical, open, honest, trustworthy, high levels of integrity. Financial literacy and analytical ability. Good understanding of the principles of Governance and Management. Leadership, Business Acumen, Global and national networks and credibility. Strategic thinker. I have a knowledge of tikanga Maori, Te Reo and Values of Waka Ama.

Whole of Board Skills Matrix (for reference)

Leadership	Financial literacy and analytical ability	Outcomes focused
Marketing & Communications	Inter-personal communication skills	Ethical, open, honest, trustworthy, high levels of integrity
Ability to understand and relate to stakeholders	Ability to work as a team player	Business acumen
The Sport of Waka Ama knowledge	Strong local and national community connection, credibility and networks	Ability to establish quality relationships
A knowledge of Tikanga Māori, Te Reo Māori and the Values of Waka Ama NZ	Knowledge and application of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in governance	Commitment to diversity and inclusion
Strategic Thinking	Knowledge of legal issues relating to business or the not for profit sector	Good understanding of the principles of Governance and Management

Please identify how you would apply the Values of Waka Ama New Zealand at a governance level:

Manaakitanga- care for each other, and how we make decisions for Ngaa Kaihoe o Aotearoa.

Whanaungatanga- maintaining our respect for each other and keeping our relationships alive and healthy.

Hauora- support each other to maintain our hauoratanga during our meetings and that we are well and able to participate.

Tu Tangata- be accountable for my decisions and the decisions we make as a Poari, with honesty and integrity.