

Panui #1 - 08 February 2023

Expressions of Interest (Eoi) for selection to the New Zealand (NZ) Elite Para Team for the 2023 International Va'a Federation (IVF) Worlds Long Distance Champs in Samoa is now open. **The closure for interest will be Friday 17 February at 4pm.**

After receipt of your Eoi either Nathan or Corrina will contact you to discuss the level of physical ability/mobility required for this long distance ocean race and the commitment required for training for an elite NZ team. Acceptance of your EOI to attend the selection camp will be confirmed by Nathan or Corrina.

The race could be in rough ocean conditions and you could be in the waka without a break for an hour and a half to two hours; racing not just paddling. Your health and safety are our priority concerns.



The W6 waka in use at this Worlds event will be the Matahina (cockpit style as used in Tahiti 2018 and the UK 2022).

Selection Camp (Camp 1)

The first camp will be the selection camp which will be held in Porirua (Wellington). Porirua has several options for training (inner harbour, inlet and open sea) and also has a Matahina based there.

We are currently investigating accommodation options.

There will be time trials for men on W1 over a distance of 10km and for women a 2km time trial on a W2 with a steerer who will be keeping the waka stabilised but steering only (not paddling). These trials will be followed with trialling crew combinations in the W6. The decision in regard to the model of W1 required and whether ruddered or rudderless will be made after we know who is attending Camp 1.

The total crew classification number could also impact on selection. The number has not yet been decided by the IVF but we will know by Camp 1.

The other camp dates are in 'Key dates' below. Note that paddlers selected for the Elite Para are encouraged to race at the Long Distance Nationals. However, no elite crew, including the Para, are allowed to compete as a crew.

Key dates for 2023

	Detail
Camp 1 - 25 & 26 March 2023	Venue Porirua, Wellington Para selection training camp in Wellington <ul style="list-style-type: none">- W1 Men's 10km time trial- W2 Women's 2km time trial- W6 trialling of crew combinations Camp finishes at 1200hrs on Sunday
V1 selection qualification – 21 to 23 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be the outcome of the Long Distance Nationals (LDN) in Whitianga. (rudderless only)• If racing is completed on Saturday, there will be a training session for those in Whitianga on Sunday.
Camp 2 – 06 & 07 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whaingaroa (Raglan). There is a race on Saturday 6th. Racing crews will be discussed at Camp 1.• https://www.wakaama.co.nz/racecalendar/lookup/2093• Sunday: early morning training, finish 10:00am
Camp 3 – 10 & 11 June 2023	Auckland
Camp 4 – 29 & 30 July 2023	Wellington
Travel and competition dates	
07 August 2023	Depart New Zealand (ex Auckland) for Samoa
10 August (Thursday)	Canoe / course familiarisation for next 3 days
12 August (Saturday)	Opening ceremony
14 August (Monday) to 18 August (Friday)	Race days – race programme yet to be advised
19 August (Saturday)	Race day if required
20 August (Sunday)	Anticipate return to New Zealand

Financials

All costs at this stage are a guesstimate. We are currently working up camp fee costs on an ongoing basis but can advise at this time anticipated costs for

- Airfare are a maximum of \$1200 return ex Auckland
- Accommodation likely to range depending on share options between \$1200 and \$2000
- Campaign financials to be confirmed – details to come from WANZ.
- WANZ Will contribute \$500 towards each paddlers costs.

We will be working with Waka Ama New Zealand for all financial requirements and until they are in a position to confirm we are providing best guess.

Information links

- Link for WANZ event related information <https://wakaama.co.nz/pages/view/1006204>
- Link for IVF Worlds Distance Champs information <http://www.ivfv.org/2023-world-distance-champs.html>

Para categories available

- Para Va'a V1 will include VL2, VL3 and IVF's VL4 categories with one entry per gender – allocations will be determined from participation at the WANZ National Long Distance event in April 2023.
- Para Va'a V6 will include VL1, VL2, VL3 and IVF's VL4 categories with one entry being mixed, selection of the team will be made at the March training / selection camp.
- **Note:** W6 waka to be used at Worlds will be a Matahina (the cockpit style used in Tahiti and London Worlds); V1 waka is the Fausaga V1 made in Samoa.

Para Development post Worlds Distance event

To our wider para paddling whānau, unfortunately we have not had the resources to work on the development of Para paddling since the 2022 UK World Sprint Champs. Current resources only allow us to focus through to August on the World Long Distance Champs. However, our intention is to have a training camp in October for the development of sprint racing.

We will get more information out to you once we know what resources will be available.

