

2024 Waka Ama Long Distance Nationals

Te Uranga O Te Ra GISBORNE

Thursday 3rd – Sunday 6th October 2024

Pānui 2

Te Uranga o Te Rā in association with Waka Ama New Zealand (WANZ), are proud to host the 2024 Waka Ama Long Distance Nationals (LDNs) to be held at Oneroa (Midway Beach), Gisborne.

IMPORTANT DATES

● 16 July 2024	Entries opened
● 5 Sept 2024	Entries close
● 17 Sept 2024	Rosters close
● 18 Sept 2024	Clubs invoiced
● Thursday Oct 3rd 2024	Pōwhiri - 8am , Midway Surf Rescue Community Hub
● Thursday Oct 3rd 2024	Race 1 and 2
● Friday Oct 4th 2024	Race 3 & 4
● Saturday Oct 5th 2024	Race 5 and 6
● Sunday Oct 6th 2024	Back Up Race Day (If needed)

IMPORTANT - RACE SCHEDULE CHANGES (further details found pages 7-9)

- ❖ **J16 W1 Rudderless/Rudderless events** - Due to changing the Long Distance Nationals to a 3 day event, and an unintended race clash, we have switched the J16 W1 Women Rudderless event to Race 4, and the J16 W1 Women Rudderless event to Race 3. Both the J16 W1 Men and Women's events will now run concurrently in each discipline.
- ❖ **Addition of W4 category** - Due to requests, we have added a W4 Open category (Men, Women, Mixed) to the event. This has been scheduled in Race 5 and will be contested over the 23 - 25 km distance.

BACK-UP RACE DAY

If the weather or sea conditions make it unsafe to paddle any one of the allocated races then Sunday October 6th, is the back-up race day. Paddlers are advised to make plans to be available that day.

2024 LDN PŌWHIRI

The pōwhiri will take place on **Thursday 3rd October 8am**, at the Midway Community Hub/event venue. Closer to the time we will send out a survey link for clubs to let us know how many paddlers/supporters/whānau will be attending the pōwhiri for catering purposes.

VENUE

- The event will be based at Oneroa/Midway Beach - [Google map link Midway Beach](#)
- The trailer parking will be at Churchill Park - see Site Map
- The Pōwhiri will be on Thursday October 3rd at **8am** onsite at the event - Midway Surf Rescue Community Hub. A cup of tea will follow.
- Prizegiving and paddler kai will take place at - [Awapuni School, Awapuni Rd, Gisborne](#)

LONG DISTANCE NATIONALS 2024 - Site Map 1



ENTRY FEES

The fees for all entries received prior to September 5th are:

Grade	W6/W4	W1 Rudderless/W1 Rudderred/W2	Combination
Seniors	\$60 each	\$60 each	\$90 each
Juniors	\$40 each	\$40 each	\$60 each

NOTE:

- If a senior paddler is entered for one club in both the W6/W4 and W1 Rudderless/W1 Rudderred races the entry fee payable is \$90.00.
- If a Junior paddler is entered for one club in both the W6 and W1 Rudderless/W1 Rudderred races, the entry fee payable is \$60.00.
- Entry into a third event (under the same club) would cost a further \$30.00 for seniors and \$20.00 for Juniors ie: W6 + W1+W2 or W6 + W4 + W1 = \$120.00/Senior or \$80/Junior.
- If a paddler wishes to paddle for two different clubs, **full entry fees** will be charged for each event entered (\$60+\$60/Senior, \$40+\$40/Junior). The combination discount is not applicable in this case

LATE FEE PENALTIES

Any late additions/changes made after entries close on September 5th 2024, will incur a \$20 per paddler late fee, e.g. division changes, paddler swap, additions.

Any club that withdraws teams after being invoiced will still be charged the full entry fee.

All team entries are to be entered via the Waka Ama New Zealand website through your Club Coordinator.

REFUND POLICY

- No refunds will be given for any withdrawals after September 17th when the roster is closed
- No refund will be given if the event is cancelled due to a natural disaster or extreme weather should the event be cancelled after Monday September 30th, 2024.

VERIFICATIONS

Please ensure all paddlers entered are verified and affiliated, to be able to add their names to the club roster prior to the deadlines.

RACE DISTANCES AND COURSES

The racecourse will be finalised closer to the event date based on the weather and ocean conditions to provide all paddlers with an enjoyable, challenging, and safe experience. Course maps for all alternate courses will be available in the next pānui.

J16 & Novice races will take place at this event and the courses for those will be within the harbour.

Waka	Distance	Divisions	Categories
W6	23-25km	Open, Master and Senior Master	Men, Women & Mixed
	10-16km	Gld Master, Master 70, J19	Men, Women & Mixed
	8-10km	J16, M75 & M80	Men, Women & Mixed
	8-10km	Adaptive	Mixed
	8-10km	Short course**	Men, Women and Mixed**
W4 (NEW)	23-25km	Seniors (Open) **	Men, Women Mixed**
W1 Ruddered/ Rudderless	10-16km	Seniors (Open, Master, Snr Master)	Men & Women
	8-10km	J16, J19, Gld Master, M70, M75 & M80	Men & Women
W1	8-10km	Adaptive	Men & Women
W2/W3	10-16km	Seniors (Open, Master, Snr Master)	Men, Women & Mixed
	8-10km	J16, J19, Gld Master, M70, M75 & M80	Men, Women & Mixed
W2	8-10km	Adaptive	Men, Women & Mixed

**Not a medal category

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](#)

RACE DIVISIONS

All age groups are outlined in the Waka Ama New Zealand Race Rules, rule 50.2. Note: J16 minimum age is 11 and J19 Competitors must be a minimum age of 16 in the year of competition.

DIVISION	Minimum (Age as of 31 December 2024)	Maximum (Age as of 31 December 2024)
Junior 16	11	16
Junior 19	16	19
U23	16	23
Open	16	None
Masters	40	None
Senior Masters	50	None
Golden Masters	60	None
Master 70	70	None
Master 75	75	None
Master 80	80	None

- All New Zealand entrants must be from clubs affiliated with Waka Ama New Zealand.
- All paddlers must be verified to enter. Entrants from overseas clubs are welcome to register for this event but will not be eligible for medals.
- The adaptive teams must comprise a minimum of 3 adaptive paddlers. The 3 other seats can filled by adaptive or non-adaptive paddlers
- Mixed W6/W4 Crews in mixed races are to be of mixed gender. The majority (at least 50%) of paddlers must be female
- Mixed W2 teams must be made up of 1 man and 1 woman
- Mixed W3 teams must have at least 1 woman
- International entries are permitted but not eligible for medals

IMPORTANT - PADDLING FOR TWO DIFFERENT CLUBS

As per the [WANZ Race Rules \(50.4\)](#), W1 paddlers may have the option of competing for another club in a W6/W4 event, if the club for which they are registered in the W1 event does not have sufficient numbers to field a W6/W4 crew.

If a W1 (or W2) paddlers are eligible, the following requirements need to be met:

- The paddler must be added to the W1/W2 event first by their primary club
- Their secondary club (W6/W4 team) must email events@wakaama.co.nz to notify WANZ that this paddler is racing across two clubs and which W6 team they must be entered into - WANZ will action
- WANZ will verify that the paddler/s are eligible and confirm the entry
- If a paddler wishes to paddle for two different clubs, **full entry fees** will be charged for each event entered (\$60+\$60/Senior, \$40+\$40/Junior). The combination discount is not applicable in this case
- WANZ will invoice each club the applicable fees

COMPETITORS' ABILITY

We are providing opportunities for experienced and capable crews, and individuals in age categories from J16 and above. The term “experienced” means that teams and individuals have experience in sea conditions. All Clubs are responsible for ensuring that all paddlers are competent in the divisions that they have been entered into. The Race Director has the discretion to withdraw a team or an individual who is deemed to be unfit or unprepared to complete the race.

The short course race will provide an opportunity to those paddlers who are experienced, but are unable to complete the senior distance – the short course events will not be eligible for medals. J16 and Short Course events will be held within the Harbour.

WAKA HIRE

W6 Waka Hire - We encourage teams to bring their waka to the LDNs, however we understand that is not as easy for everyone.

Waka Ama NZ has created a sheet for waka hire: [2024 Long Distance Nationals - Waka Hire](#).

This is for W6 waka hire only. Waka hire must be completed directly between the clubs hiring out and the clubs wanting to hire. All contact information and availability of waka will be shown on the sheet, as hiring clubs begin to list their waka. This sheet is live and automatically updates.

Each club hiring out waka must set their hire fee and must liaise directly with the club wanting to hire to confirm the hire and arrange payment. All Waka Hire information can be found with the information sheet online here: [Long Distance Nationals](#)

NEW PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCED

This week, Waka Ama NZ announced a new partnership with Air Tahiti Nui, the flagship carrier to the breathtaking Islands of Tahiti. Air Tahiti Nui has a long-established history of supporting the growth of Va'a; Polynesian outrigger canoe racing in the Islands of Tahiti.

As part of this partnership, the airline will serve as the preferred airline of Waka Ama NZ and feature at the four major events, working collaboratively with Waka Ama NZ to further develop the sport.

In addition, all affiliated members of Waka Ama clubs will be able to access discounted airfares to Tahiti and her Islands, to take part in Va'a events over the next year. More information about how to access discounts will be announced in due course.

For more info about this partnership and Air Tahiti Nui please visit the Air Tahiti Nui Website [here](#) and follow Air Tahiti Nui on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)



KAIMAHI - VOLUNTEERS

The heart and soul of all waka ama events is provided by the wonderful kaimahi who offer their time, strong muscles, and friendly smiles to make the events magical. If you would like to join this amazing whanau, for a day or two, then please click on this link - [2024 LDNs Volunteer Form](#)

If you have any pātai please contact events@wakaama.co.nz

VENDORS

We welcome any food, retail or promo vendors wishing to attend the event. Although not as busy and frenetic as Sprint Nationals, we still anticipate 1000+ paddlers will attend with clubs, whanau and spectators across the three days.. Click here to access the [2024 LDNs Vendor Application form](#)

If you have any pātai please contact events@wakaama.co.nz

ACCOMMODATION & TRAVEL

Tairāwhiti and the surrounding area provide multiple accommodation options either in Gisborne itself or within a 30-40 mins drive from the venue. Click here for some options, or contact providers directly <https://www.tairāwhitigisborne.co.nz/accommodation/>

Travel – Air New Zealand operates daily non-stop flights to Tairāwhiti from Auckland and Wellington - and from Napier - with connections across the New Zealand domestic network. For details of other flight services available at Gisborne Airport, click here <https://gisborneairport.nz/flights/airfield-users-information/>

PROPOSED EVENT SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 2nd	
2 pm – 8 pm	Trailer Parking and Administration areas open Registration for Races 1 & 2 open. Safety checks for Races 1 & 2 open until 6.30pm only
THURSDAY OCTOBER 3rd	
6.15 am - 7.45am	Trailer Parking and Administration areas open Registration & Safety checks for Races 1 & 2 open
8 am	Pōwhiri, Midway Community Hub (registration desk & safety checks closed)
9 am	Race briefing for Race 1
9 am - 11.30 am	Administration for general queries re-open Registration and Safety Checks for Race 2 open
11.30 am	Race briefing for Race 2
2 pm - 6 pm	Registration & Safety checks for Races 3 & 4 open
Approx 4pm	Prizegiving at event venue
Approx 6pm	Race Briefing for Race 3 & 4 at event venue (after prizegiving)

FRIDAY OCTOBER 4th	
6.15 am - 12 pm	Trailer Parking and Administration areas open Registration & Safety checks for Races 3 & 4 open
2 pm - 6 pm	Registration & Safety checks for Races 5 & 6 open
Approx 4pm	Prizegiving at event venue
Approx 6pm	Race Briefing for Race 5 at event venue (after prizegiving)
SATURDAY OCTOBER 5th	
6.15 am - 11 am	Registration & Safety checks for Races 5 & 6 open
11 am	Race briefing for Race 6
12.30 pm – 5 pm	<u>If Sunday is not required as a Race day:</u> Trailer Parking will be open for collecting of waka (AFTER the start of Race 6) ** All waka need to be collected on Saturday before 5pm, as there is no security provided overnight
5 pm	Post-event kai and Prizegiving, Awapuni School Hall, Awapuni Rd
SUNDAY OCTOBER 6th - Back-up Race Day if required	

RACE PROGRAMME - Subject to Change

Thursday October 3rd

Race 1 - Men's Rudderless, Women's Ruffled, Women/Mixed W2 & W3
Race Briefing: 9 am
Race Start: 10 am

WOMEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W1 Ruffled	16km
WOMEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W1 Ruffled	10km
MEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W1 Rudderless	16km
MEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W1 Rudderless	10km
WOMEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W2/W3	16km
WOMEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W2/W3	10km
MIXED - Open, Master, Snr Master	W2/W3	16km
MIXED - J19, Gld Master, Master 70	W2/W3	10km

Race 2 - Women's Rudderless, Men's Ruffled, Men W2 & W3

Race briefing: 11.30 am

Race Start: 1 pm

WOMEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W1 Rudderless	16km
WOMEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W1 Rudderless	10km
MEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W1 Ruffled	16km
MEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W1 Ruffled	10km
MEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W2/W3	16km
MEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W2/W3	10km

PRIZEGIVING DAY 1* - within 30 minutes of last competitor finishing

Friday October 4th

Race briefings for Race 3 & 4 will take place the day beforehand on Thursday October 3rd
at the Midway Surf Rescue Community Hub

Race 3 - Junior, Adaptive, Open Short Course

Pre race update (steerers only): 8.30 am

Race Start: 9.30 am

SHORT COURSE - J16, M75, M80 - Men, Women, Mixed	W6	10km
SHORT COURSE** - Open - Men, Women, and Mixed	W6	10km
ADAPTIVE - Mixed	W6	10km

**Not a medal category

Race 4 - Junior, Adaptive W1, Women W6

Pre race update (steerers only): 11.30 am

Race Start: 12.30 pm

WOMEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W6	24km
WOMEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70	W6	16km
J16 Women	W1 Ruffled	10km
J16 Men	W1 Ruffled	10km
ADAPTIVE - Women	W1	10km
J16 Women & Mixed	W2/W3	10km
J16 Men	W2/W3	10km
ADAPTIVE - Men	W2/W3	10km

PRIZEGIVING DAY 2* - within 30 minutes of last competitor finishing

Saturday October 5th

Race briefings for Race 5 will take place the day beforehand on Friday October 4th at the Midway Surf Rescue Community Hub

**Race 5 - Junior, Adaptive W1, W4 Open, W6 Senior Mixed
Pre race update (steerers only): 8.30 am
Race Start: 9.30am**

MIXED - Open, Master, Snr Master	W6	24km
MIXED - J19, Gld Master, Master 70	W6	16km
W4 - NEW ** - Open - Men, Women, and Mixed	W4	24km
J16 Women	W1 Rudderless	10km
J16 Men	W1 Rudderless	10km
ADAPTIVE - Men	W1	10km
ADAPTIVE - Women & Mixed	W2/W3	10km

**Not a medal category

**Race 6 - W6 Men
Race Briefing: 11 am
Race Start: 12.30 pm**

MEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W6	24km
MEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70	W6	16km

PRIZEGIVING DAY 3 * - 5 pm, Awapuni School, Awapuni Rd, Gisborne

QUESTIONS AND ENQUIRIES

For any further information please go to www.wakaama.co.nz or contact us on events@wakaama.co.nz

On behalf of Waka Ama NZ, our hosts TUOTR and the collective of Tūranganui-a-Kiwa clubs we look forward to hosting you all in Gisborne for Long Distance Nationals 2024.