



2025 Waka Ama Long Distance Nationals

Porirua – Thursday 24th – Sunday 27th April 2025

Pānui 1 – February 3rd 2025

Mai i Miria te Kākara ki Whitireia

Whakawhiti te moana o Raukawa

Ki Wairau, ki Whakatū.

Tihei mauri ora!

Ko ngā maunga whakahirahira e tū teitei ana, e whakaata ana i ngā wai kanapa o te moana!

E te tī e te tā ka pakaru te tangi o te tai ki uta, ka piki ki runga ki nga whanga o Awarua rāua ko Rereroa.

Ko Tainui te waka—hoea! Ko Whitireia te maunga—tū mai, tū mai! Raukawakawa, te moana marino, karanga mai!

E te tai huri mai, haere mai ki Kapiti, ki te kāinga o te iwi kua wehe atu i te hunga nunui i te tai pari.

Ko te reo whakamihi tēnei o Ngāti Toa Rangatira i tō mātou kāinga, haere mai e te motu, whakatata mai, whakatata mai!

Ka rauawatia tō waka ka otia rawatia, tau ana e! (Ngāti Toa whakatauki)



2025 LONG DISTANCE NATIONALS

Hoe Tonga Pacifica Waka Ama Association (HTPWAA) alongside Waka Ama New Zealand (WANZ), are proud to host the 2025 Waka Ama Long Distance Nationals (LDNs) to be held in Wellington, at **Ngati Toa Domain, Paremata, Porirua**.

2025 LDN PŌWHIRI

The pōwhiri will take place on the morning of **Thursday 24th April** - Venue & Time TBC. 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.

IMPORTANT DATES

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| ● 3 Feb 2025 | Pānui 1 online |
| ● 10 Feb 2025 | Entries Open |
| ● 1 April 2025 | Entries close |
| ● 14 April 2025 | Roster closes |
| ● 15 April 2025 | Clubs invoiced |
| ● Thursday 24 th April 2025 | LDN Pōwhiri - morning (Venue TBA) |
| ● Thursday 24 th April 2025 | Race 1 and 2 and 3 |
| ● Friday 25 th April 2025 | ANZAC DAY - Race 4 From midday only |
| ● Saturday 26 th April 2025 | Race 5 and 6 |
| ● Sunday 27 th April 2025 | Back Up Race Day (If needed) |

BACK-UP RACE DAY

If the weather or sea conditions make it unsafe to paddle any one of the allocated races then **Sunday April 27th, is the back-up race day. Clubs/Paddlers are advised to make plans to be available that day.**

ENTRY FEES

The fees for all entries received prior to April 15th, 2025 are:

Grade	W6	W1 Rudderless/W1 Rudderred/W2	Combination
Seniors	\$70 each	\$70 each	\$105 each
Juniors	\$50 each	\$50 each	\$75 each

NOTE:

- If a senior paddler is entered for one club in both the W6 and W1 Rudderless/W1 Rudderred races the entry fee payable is \$105.00.
- If a Junior paddler is entered for one club in both the W6 and W1 Rudderless/W1 Rudderred races, the entry fee payable is \$75.00.
- Entry into a third event (under the same club) would cost a further \$35.00 for seniors and \$25.00 for Juniors ie: W6 + W1+W2 = \$140.00/Senior or \$100/Junior.
- If a paddler wishes to paddle for two different clubs, **full entry fees** will be charged for each event entered (\$70+\$70/Senior, \$50+\$50/Junior). The combination discount is not applicable in this case

PAYMENT PENALTIES

After the paddler roster closes April 14th 2025, a **\$25 per paddler late fee will apply**, for any changes or additions, in addition to the entry fees.

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 April 14th 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 April 17th 2025.

RACE DISTANCES AND COURSES

The racecourse will be set closer to the event 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.

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

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

*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 - <https://www.wakaama.co.nz/pages/read/1005147>.

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 2025)	Maximum (Age as of 31 December 2025)
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 affiliated adaptive paddlers. The 3 other seats can be filled by affiliated adaptive or non-adaptive paddlers
- Mixed W6 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
- International entries are permitted but not eligible for medals

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.

AFFILIATIONS / VERIFICATIONS

As this is a National Championship, please ensure all paddlers are verified and affiliated, to be able to enter their names on the club roster prior to the deadlines.

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 (\$70+\$70/Senior, \$50+\$50/Junior). The combination discount is not applicable in this case
- WANZ will invoice each club the applicable fees

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. Please contact the clubs directly in Hoe Tonga if you want to hire a waka, or liaise with other clubs in your region who might be towing canoes. V1, OC1, OC2 Hire - please contact clubs directly in Hoe Tonga if you want to hire a single or double waka.

Closer to the event time, Waka Ama NZ will prepare a Waka Hire List that shows who is hiring out Waka for which event. For those who have Waka to hire please email events@wakaama.co.nz For those wishing to hire Waka please email events@wakaama.co.nz Waka Ama NZ will endeavour to connect you up via email for W6 Waka hire, however, it is up to you to arrange and confirm hire bookings.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation options in Porirua and the surrounding area can be found [here](#) Multiple accommodation options in the greater Wellington areas can also be found [here](#) Please allow plenty of time if travelling out of Wellington Central or south from the Kapiti Coast, because of commuter traffic. It is also advised NOT to travel on the new (windy) Transmission Gully motorway if you are carrying a W1 waka on your roof!

TRAVEL

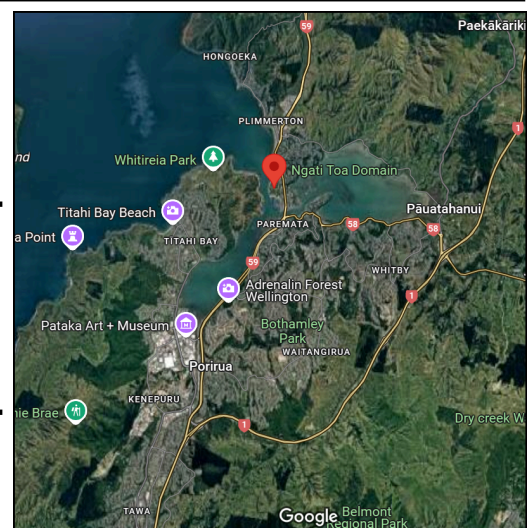
Here is a Google Map link to the venue: [Ngati Toa Domain, Paremata, Porirua](#) - and a wider image to the right

VENDORS

Vendor information will be available shortly, if you have any questions please contact events@wakaama.co.nz

KAIMAHI - VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer information will be shared shortly, in the meantime if you have any questions or are keen to volunteer for this event please contact events@wakaama.co.nz



EVENT SCHEDULE
Thursday April 24th, 2025

Morning (7am/8am?)	Pōwhiri - venue TBC
---------------------------	----------------------------

Race 1 - 10am wave start

WOMEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W1 Rudderless	10 - 16km
WOMEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W1 Rudderless	8 - 10km
MEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W1 Rudderless	10 - 16km
MEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W1 Rudderless	8 - 10km
MEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W2	10 - 16km
MEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W2	8 - 10km

Race 2 - 12pm wave start

WOMEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W1 Rudderless	10 - 16km
WOMEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W1 Rudderless	8 - 10km
MEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W1 Rudderless	10 - 16km
MEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W1 Rudderless	8 - 10km
WOMEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W2	10 - 16km
WOMEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70, M75, M80	W2	8 - 10km
MIXED - Open, Master, Snr Master	W2	10 - 16km
MIXED - J19, Gld Master, Master 70	W2	8 - 10km

Race 3 - starts 10 min after last W2 wave

SHORT COURSE - J16, M75, M80 - Men, Women, Mixed	W6	8 - 10km
SHORT COURSE** - Open - Men, Women, and Mixed	W6	8 - 10km
ADAPTIVE - Mixed	W6	8 - 10km

**Not a medal category

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

Friday April 25th, 2025

Observe Anzac Day in the morning

Race 4 - 12.30pm wave start		
MIXED - Open, Master, Snr Master	W6	23 - 25km
MIXED - J19, Gld Master, Master 70	W6	10 - 16km
OPEN - Men, Women & Mixed	W4	20 - 24km
J16 Women	W1 Rudderred	8 - 10km
J16 Men	W1 Rudderred	8 - 10km
ADAPTIVE - Women	W1	8 - 10km
J16 Men	W2	8 - 10km
ADAPTIVE - Men	W2	8 - 10km

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

Saturday April 26th, 2025

Race 5 - 8.30am wave start		
WOMEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W6	23 - 25km
WOMEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70	W6	10 - 16km
WOMEN - Master 75, Master 80	W6	8 - 10km
J16 Women	W1 Rudderless	8 - 10km
J16 Men	W1 Rudderless	8 - 10km
ADAPTIVE - Men	W1	8 - 10km
J16 Women & Mixed	W2	8 - 10km
ADAPTIVE - Women & Mixed	W2	8 - 10km

Race 6 - 12.30pm wave start		
MEN - Open, Master, Snr Master	W6	23 - 25km
MEN - J19, Gld Master, Master 70	W6	10 - 16km
MEN - Master 75, Master 80	W6	8 - 10km

PRIZEGIVING DAY 3* - Prizegiving Function for all Saturday Finals - Venue/time TBC

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 and HTPWAA and the collective of Hoe Tonga Clubs we look forward to hosting you all in Wellington for LDN 2025.