



Pānui 1: Ngā Mata o Te Ariki Tāwhirimātea Race

Saturday 11 July 2026

EVENT SUMMARY

This event celebrates Ngā Mata o te Ariki Tāwhirimātea - the large cluster of stars that signify the start of the Māori New Year.

This event is a collaboration between different sports codes based around the southern end of the Wellington Harbour – Evans Bay/Akau Tangi promoting water safety, environmental awareness and marine conservation.

We will be offering a short race (approx. 8 km), and a long race (approx. 16 km). Each race will be open to all divisions (open, masters, senior masters, golden masters), craft type (W1, W2, W4, and W6) and genders (men, women and mixed). We will also be welcoming surf skis.

We welcome you and your whānau to join us for this event.

EVENT SCHEDULE

7.00am	Registration opens
8.15am	Karakia and Race 1 briefing
8.30am	Race 1 start
9.30am	Kai served
9.45am	Race 2 briefing
10.00am	Race 2 start
11.30am	Kai served

RACE SCHEDULE

Time	Race
8.15am	Race Briefing – Race 1
8.30am	Race Start – Race 1
9.45am	Race Briefing – Race 2
10.00am	Race Start – Race 2

WAKA DROP OFF & SAFETY CHECKS

Waka Drop off:

- Waka drop off will be available from 7.00am on the event day
- Waka drop off and trailer parking will be as indicated on the plan below

Safety Checks:

- Water craft entering the race must be safety checked. Any boats not marked will not be permitted to race.



- The water craft needs to be placed at 'waka parking' in the image below to be safety checked.

Launching

- Launching is from the Evans Bay Boat Ramp.
- The ramp is very slippery and can have glass/other rubbish on it. Please bring appropriate footwear.
- We are sharing the ramp with the sail boats. Please do not leave your waka on the ramp before, after or between races. Please aim to keep to one side of the ramp.



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](#)



AGE DIVISIONS & RACE EVENTS

Race 1

WAKA	DISTANCE	DIVISIONS	GENDER
W1	8 km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men, women & mixed
W2	8 km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men, women & mixed
W4	8 km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men, women & mixed
W6	8 km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men, women & mixed

Race 2

WAKA	DISTANCE	DIVISIONS	GENDER
W1	16 km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men, women & mixed
W2	16 km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men, women & mixed
W4	16 km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men, women & mixed
W6	16 km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Men, women & mixed

- Race courses will be confirmed closer to the race.

FEES

PER PERSON BY EVENT (*charged for each event entered*)

Event	Cost
Race 1	\$20.00
Race 2	\$20.00

ONLINE ENTRIES & PAYMENT

- Online entries are to be completed using the Waka Ama NZ online entry system.
- All entries to be completed through your club admin – contact your club admin to process your entry
- No entries on the day, no exceptions
- Entries close on **Tuesday 7 July 2026**
- Rosters close on **Wednesday 8 July 2026**, rosters must be completed by close date, no exceptions
- Once entered, payment can be made online to:
 - Tai Tonga 41
 - 38-9011-0013609-00
 - Use your club, team name and division as your reference



SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- All waka must be Safety Checked
- All waka must have the following safety equipment for their races:
 - PFD - Personal Floatation Device (per person)
 - Bailers
 - Flare or cellphone in waterproof case
 - Spare Paddle - 2 for a W6, 1 for W1/2
 - Spray Skirt (W6)
 - Tow Rope (W6)
 - Leg leash (for sit on top W1)
- All surf skis must have:
 - PFD
 - Leg leash
 - Warm clothes

INDIVIDUAL & TEAM WAIVERS

- Individual and Team waivers must be completed by all paddlers/teams
- All paddlers U18 must have their waiver signed by their parent/guardian
- Waivers can be sent to ***taitonga41@gmail.com*** or handed in at the managers meeting on the day
- Individual & Team waivers can be found on our event page on the Waka Ama NZ website

POST RACE

- After the race please join us at the Evans Bay Yacht and Motor Boat Club for kai!

CONTACT INFORMATION

- All enquiries please email: ***taitonga41@gmail.com***
- All urgent matters please call: ***027 310 1587***