



RACE CONDITIONS OF ENTRY AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS ROTO HOE SERIES 2011

1. RACE MANAGEMENT:

- 1.1. The Race Management Team for the race is undertaken by Ruamata Waka Ama Club Inc. The officials are all current committee and club members. The abovementioned take responsibility for the Roto Hoe Series.
- 1.2. The Race Management Team have the sole right to cancel/postpone the race in order to protect the safety of the paddlers and if the weather conditions are not suitable.
- 1.3. A PIC (Person in charge) will be appointed for the race and will be the Race Director. Any decision-making throughout the course of the day, for the race, will be done in consultation with the Race Management Team.
- 1.4. The Race Management Team and officials will not be held responsible for any damage or injuries to Waka or Paddlers. However, all care will be taken and safety procedures adhered to.
- 1.5. The Race Management Team will withdraw any entry that may have equipment that does not meet the safety requirements.
- 1.6. The Race Management Team will withdraw any entry where they feel the crew will be in danger for their own safety and where they may not be able to finish the race in a safe manner
- 1.7. The Race Management Team has the final decision on any dispute or issue that may arise.

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2. PADDLERS:

2.1. All paddlers that fit the race categories are welcome.

Race Categories are:

J16	Men Women Mixed	W6 W2 W1
J19	Men Women Mixed	W6 W2 W1
Open	Men Women Mixed	W6 W2 W1
Masters	Men Women Mixed	W6 W2 W1
Senior Masters	Men Women Mixed	W6 W2 W1

2.2. The youngest age category is Junior 16, (13-15 years old). Proof of their age may be requested. This category will paddle the W1/W2 course only. Life jackets are compulsory for this category.

2.3. The Race Director will not allow the J16 category to compete if they feel the conditions are inadequate for junior paddlers. The decision will be made on the day and announced at the race brief.

2.4. All junior paddlers that are 18 years of age and younger MUST wear a lifejacket. This is a COMPULSORY requirement for the Roto Hoe series. No jacket, no paddling.

2.5. The crew named on the entry form will meet the age requirements for their selected category.

2.6. Mixed crews will consist of three women and three men.

2.7. Crews must have three consistent team members in a registered W6 team for three of the five races, to qualify for the points for that particular team name.

2.8. The paddlers' must be competent and be able to compete in their chosen race category and be able to paddle the required distance and course.

2.9. Paddlers must wear adequate and appropriate clothing to suit the weather and water conditions.

2.10. All paddlers are required to inform the Race Management Team or the Administration Officials of any medical condition that may cause concern. A written detailed explanation needs to accompany the entry form. It must be signed by the paddler or their Team Manager.

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- 2.11. Paddlers accept all the risks of injury or damage to property and their paddling environment, while participating in this Roto Hoe Series.

3. POINTS ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Teams must paddle three out of five races in the same race category to qualify for points.
- 3.2 There must be a minimum of three entries per category for the races to run and points to be allocated. If there are not three, then all who race will go into the OPEN category.
- 3.3 If there are not enough for the Junior categories, they will move up one category: J16 to J19. The J19 category will then move to the OPEN category if not enough to fill their race minimum. The J16 category will not be eligible to paddle in the Open category.
- 3.4 The Juniors will race as one category.
- 3.5 Teams that enter after race 3 will receive points.

4. EQUIPMENT:

- 4.1. One PFD (Personal Floating Device/Lifejacket) is required for each paddler while the Waka is on the water. The jacket must fit the paddler properly and be worn correctly. This is a Maritime Safety Association legal requirement. If weather conditions are poor, the Race Management Team/Race Director will request that all paddlers in all crews wear an appropriate PFD. Each team is responsible for supplying a lifejacket for each paddler in the crew.
- 4.2. Spray skirts for Waka are optional. If weather conditions are poor, the Race Management Team/Race Director will request that all Waka be fitted with a properly fitted spray skirt.
- 4.3. All Waka must have suitable bailers on board.
- 4.4. All Waka must carry spare paddles and towrope. The towrope must be tied in preparation for towing.
- 4.5. All Waka need to be sturdy in construction and able to withstand any water conditions.
- 4.6. All Waka need to be lashed properly and be made secure.
- 4.7. All Waka must pass a safety checklist -
(Hull/Kiato/Ama/Lashings/Bailers/PFD's/Spare Gear) and be

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signed off by a Safety Official prior to the race they have been checked for.

- 4.8. If a Waka has not been signed off, it will not be allowed to race and will be dismantled to prevent from being used.

5. SUPPORT BOATS:

- 5.1. Ruamata are providing the water safety craft(s). They have full control and complete authority of the event whilst on the water. You must follow all instructions issued by Ruamata at all times.
- 5.2. The Race Management Team have organised the required number of official support boats required.
- 5.3. An official support boat will be leading the course, and another boat will follow from the back of the race.
- 5.4. All official support boat officials also have absolute authority on the water, and any instructions issued by them should be followed immediately. You may be disqualified if you do not obey their instructions.
- 5.5. If you bring your own support boat, it must meet our safety and support boat requirements. The crew must be adequately experienced in support and safety procedures concerning Waka recovery. You must not create waves/wakes for your crews. It may cause a disqualification.
- 5.6. **RED FLAG** - All official support boats will carry a red flag. If signalled by the Race Management Team/Race Director, the red flag can be raised to signal an immediate stop to the race, i.e. If all other official support boats are occupied with assisting crews, and there are still signs of further danger for other crews, the Race Management Team/Race Director will stop the race immediately.
- 5.7. If a Red Flag signal is given, all crews must stop racing. They must paddle to the nearest sheltered bay. They may need to assist other crew, but not to take risks, in doing so.

6. ASSISTANCE:

- 6.1. If a Waka needs help during the race, the number 3 paddler must hold their paddle up, so that an official support boat or any

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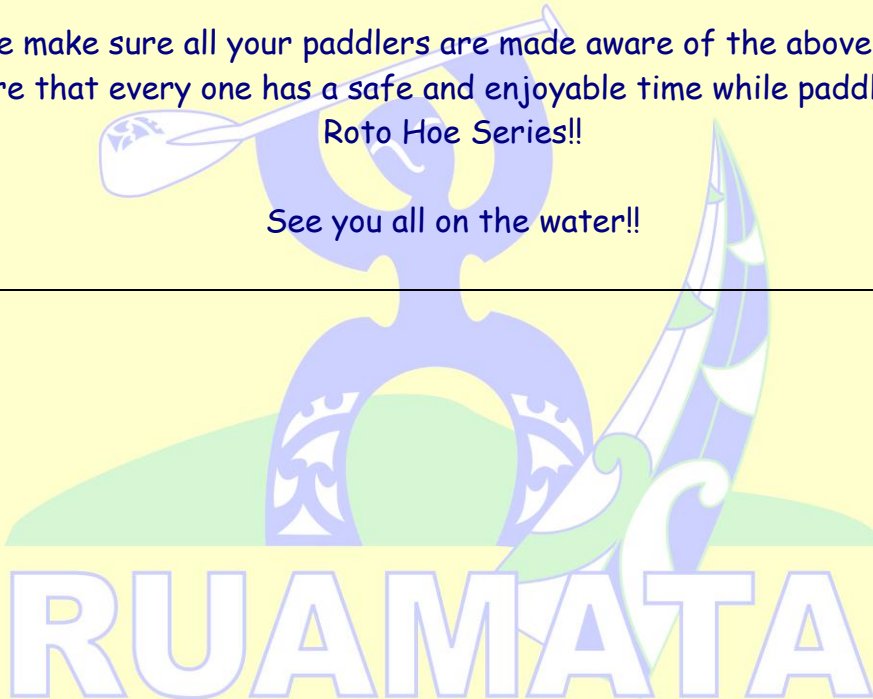
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passing Waka can give assistance. If you are first on the scene, and the Waka/Paddlers are in dire need, you must stay and offer as much help as you can, until the official support boat gets to you. Failure to comply with the conditions of entry and safety requirements as outlined above, or any act of behaviour which is likely to cause injury or damage will not be the responsibility of Ruamata Waka Ama Club, but that of the individual or club concerned.

Please make sure all your paddlers are made aware of the above to help ensure that every one has a safe and enjoyable time while paddling the Roto Hoe Series!!

See you all on the water!!



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