



Auckland Region Outrigger Canoe Association Regional Award Winners

National team of the year – J19 Tiare Maori

The Tiare Maori J19 Girls were stars of the 2017 National Sprints. They achieved gold medal performances in both the 500m and 1000m events, and a silver in the W12

Several team members then progressed on to the Worlds Elite team that won gold at the World Long Distance Championships in Tahiti.

The Tiare Maori J19s have been an outstanding group of ladies that are like minded, focused on their set goals and who have worked very hard to achieve their goals.

With great support from Coach, Manager and Parents this team has deservedly been an outstanding team, performing at the highest level in their age category.

International team of the year – Gunz 'n Rozes

This team has been around as a master mixed team for a number of years, paddling together on a more regular basis from early in 2016. After winning all of their races in 2016, including the Long Distance Nationals, the team decided to go more international in 2017.

Gunz 'n Rozes won at the Takapuna Beach Cup and a week later got a third placing at the Sydney Harbour Challenge. Then, with a slightly changed senior masters crew the team won a gold medal in the long distance race at the World Masters Games, with two silvers in the sprint events.

The team has gone on through 2017 to successfully defend their master mixed title at the AROCA series and got the silver medal at this year's Long Distance Nationals.

Coach of the year - Maori Tere

Maori Tere has developed into one of Aotearoa's top waka ama coaches. After a very successful time at Waitakere, coaching teams and W1` paddlers to many gold medals, Maori moved down south as coach of the Cook Island Outriggers Tiare Maori J19 Womens team, winning 2 Golds Medals and 1 Silver Medal at the 2017 Sprint Nationals.

Maori then put his name forward and was successful in being the Coach for the 2017 NZ Elites J19s Women which won Gold in Tahiti for the Worlds Long Distance Championships.

Maori is a passionate, hardworking person who takes time to not only Coach but to teach/talk/inspire and develop paddlers under his wing. His commitment and contribution to the Sport of Waka Ama has been huge.

National Paddler of the year – Daniel Calder

Daniel Calder has continued to strive for excellence and to work to be the best he can be. As a 16 year old Daniel won the J19 Aotearoa Aito winning himself entry to that Tahiti Aito. Daniel Represented NZ as part of the J19 Elite team in the W1 and W6 at the World Long distance champs. Daniel won the AROCA series for J19 Men, often completing both the short and long course races. Daniel represents the values of Waka Ama by training with and helping coach junior paddlers, he is always humble and a great role model on and off the water and demonstrates that effort can turn into results.

International Paddler of the year – Inamaru Tere

Ina Tere was a key member of the national J19 New Zealand Elite team that won gold at the World Long Distance Championships in Tahiti. This followed a fantastic performance in winning Gold in the Tahiti J19 Aito and J19 Heiva. Back at home Ina has also achieved great results nationally with bronze and silver at the Sprint nationals and a bronze at the Long Distance nationals and gold and silver medals in team events. She is truly one of the country's top paddlers.

Ina Tere is a humble person with a quiet determination and focus on what needs to be done whether it be on her V1 or as part of her W6 teams She is not afraid of the hard work to achieve her or her teams goals.

Even with her own goals, Ina will also help other paddlers on the water to reach their goals and take time out of her busy waka schedule to help out others with advice.

It is refreshing to have Ina, with her positive and happy outlook in the sport of Waka Ama and is one of our role models for the young upcoming paddlers.

Sportswoman of the year – Liz Tane

Liz Tane is a long-standing and loyal paddler in the Auckland Region who has achieved enormous success in waka ama, both on and off the water.

In 2017 Liz's competitive successes have been many. They include V1 golds at the Sprint Nationals, Aito and the World Master Games, 3 other golds in World Master team events, and many other medal winning and team and individual successes.

Off the water Liz excels as well. She is a mentor to all the young women at her Taniwha club, showing that with focus, determination, hard work and a dream are essential components for being successful.

Sportsman of the year – Anthony Cribb

Anthony, or Ants as he is known to many, and Tony to some, has so much learning that he shares openly with any who take the time to sit and have a chat with him and it does not matter if you are a member of WOCC or any other club.

Ants has years of experience and consistently returns high results whether he is paddling in a W1 or as part of a W6, in 2017 being member of the successful Gunz 'n Rozes mixed team.

But he is as well known for his support for others as his success on the water. When a young paddler from another club finished his first ever singles semi-final for J16's in the January sprint nationals, he asked 'How did you go?' and the paddler responded saying 'oh, I came last', to which Anthony replied, 'I saw that, but I wanted to know how you felt you paddled? What did you learn? What will you do differently?' which showed to the young paddler that it is not all about where you finish in a race on any given day.

That conversation was refreshing to witness and it is typical of the conversations Anthony has with anyone who is interested in learning or sharing knowledge about waka ama.

Administrator of the year – Sandra Staubb

Sandra has been involved in paddling and club administration since on and off since 2002, in a secretary, treasurer and now vice president role. She also committed much time to AROCA committee and board as both the treasurer and board member.

Sandra is strong minded, determined, meticulous and overall a very focused woman who has an incredible passion for sport administration and most importantly the love of paddling and coaching. She has undertaken a variety of tasks, an indication of her versatility and her desire to seek new challenges and implement well-structured initiatives to benefit the Waka Ama community.

Sandra has a natural ability where she has provided great oral and written communication, coaching, reliability and honesty with a professional manner to members and management throughout her duration within a club and regional environment.

Club of the year – Tu Tangi Ora

Tu Tangi Ora is a club that stands out in its support of the sport within the Auckland region. Their results in the AROCA series is testament to their support for that series and it is a success that has been well-deserved through their participation and support. The club continues to show that support and enthusiasm across a range of events, both on and off the water.

Tu Tangi Ora is also clearly a friendly club that provides great support to their own members. Still a relatively new club, it has grown and supported, and been supported by, its local community. Tu Tango Ora is already producing paddlers of international standard and this is not only a proud reflection on their own abilities, but also success that reflects on the region as a whole.

Premium Award – Maori Tere

Maori for his continued success and commitment as a coach in the AROCA region and on the world stage.

Maori has given himself another goal, another challenge, besides coaching the Tiare Maori J19Gs, he was again successful in his application for the Coach for the NZ Elites J19s Mens for the Worlds Elites Sprints Championships 2018

It will be a very, very busy schedule for Maori but with his commitment and passion for waka ama with his Club teams and Worlds teams, we are sure that besides the hard work, tears, emotional roller coaster and the fun times, Maori will strive for the best results for his crews