

2022 Zespri Aims Games- Canoe Sprint Information for Team Managers

When: Tuesday 6th November, 2022

Where: Pilot Bay Beach, Mt Maunganui.
Event base will be at Pilot Bay Beach/reserve area opposite Pacific Avenue, utilising the carpark area next to the public facilities.

Event Organiser: Canoe Racing New Zealand
Event Manager: Danika Mowlem (CRNZ Participation Lead)- 021 202 6154,
danika.mowlem@canoeracing.org.nz



Event Schedule:

8.45am Compulsory Managers Meeting including confirming of participant attendance.

9.00-10.00am Paddlers arrive - kayaks will be available for use by any paddlers as practice (on water safety will be present)

10.00am Competitor Briefing and Karakia

10.45am Individual Paddler X racing start (2-3x heat, 1 x final per division). Race schedule displayed at event registration and at the entrance to the course arena. Followed by team relay events.

Prizegiving will occur as soon as possible following the completion of racing. We anticipate event to finish by 3pm.

Event format:

Participants will be separated into age groups as follows:

- Year 7 girls
- Year 7 boys
- Year 8 girls
- Year 8 boys

All paddlers will compete in individual Paddler-X racing. Following the completion of this, there will be a team relay event for each division.

Paddler-X races

All paddlers will compete in 3-4 Paddler-X races, made up of two or three heats and a final. The course will be determined on the day, but competitors start in their boats in shallow water and race out and around 2 or more buoys and back into the beach to finish.

Races should take 2-4minutes, with a time limit of 5 minutes. Each race shall consist of no more than 6 paddlers.

Heats in each division are to be randomly drawn (up to 6 paddlers per race). Results will be determined by the aggregate total of the heats. The top 6 competitors in each division will progress to the A final, the next 6 to a B final etc.

Races will be run back-to-back following a tight schedule, which will be displayed at registration and at the race arena, and given to team managers. It is the responsibility of the paddlers to ensure they are at their race start.

There will be a short break after the heats to determine finals racing- in this time, there will be a Q&A with some of our Olympic athletes, so tell your paddlers to start thinking of some good questions!

To see more about this event format/style of racing, check out <https://www.paddler.nz/kahawai>

Team Relays

School Relay teams of 3 are gender and year specific.

Team members can be of mixed gender and mixed year groups; however, they compete in the boys' team race of the eldest team member.

Team managers are responsible for allocating teams for their school. *

*Canoe Racing NZ can put together mixed teams made up of different year groups, genders or schools, in order to include more paddlers, but these teams will not be eligible for school team prizes (there may be mixed team certificates).

Prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3^d in each division for individual Paddler-X racing and team relay races.

Equipment:

All boats, paddles and lifejackets will be provided by Canoe Racing NZ. One design craft will be used in each division, craft types will be as follows:

- Year 7 boys and girls – Nelo 510s
- Year 8 boys and girls- Star Kayaks

There will be enough of each type of boats so that as one race is occurring, the competitors of the next couple of races should be able to find a boat and get prepared.



All paddlers must wear a correctly fitted PFD (provided) when on the water.

Paddlers may wear their own PFD if they choose, but it must be checked and approved by event staff on the day.

As well as the practice session on Sunday, the boats will be available for use if any paddlers want to practice, prior to racing from 9am.

What to wear/bring:

- Paddlers must wear appropriate paddle-wear that is suitable for the cold, September conditions. Wetsuits recommended.
- The event format means paddlers will be waiting between their races. Please ensure paddlers have suitable warm/waterproof jackets/layers to wear before and after their races. Paddlers getting cold has been a serious issue at this event in the past.
- Lunch/snacks/water (there may be a coffee cart present – TBC from Aims Games organisers)
- Dry clothes (school uniform) for prizegiving

On-shore assistance on the day:

As equipment will be being shared between competitors, paddlers will need to adjust equipment (leg length) to suit them prior to their races. We will have volunteers/staff present but any team managers/parents who are able to assist students with this throughout the day will be appreciated, as this will ensure racing is not held up.

Another job that additional volunteers could help with is holding boats on the start line.

Parking/Traffic Management

- There is no specific event parking. Parking is available on the streets in the surrounding area.
- The Mall is a busy road. Road cones will be put out to indicate an event is taking place. Team managers are responsible for safety of their students around the road.

Event Postponement/cancellation

Extreme weather conditions that could jeopardise the safety of paddlers may lead to the postponement or cancellation of the event, if no alternative venue or format is feasible. The event organisers will endeavour to inform all team managers of this by email and/or phone/text and social media by noon the day before, at the very latest. If forecast conditions are not suitable for Pilot Bay Beach, the alternate venue at McLaren Falls may be used. A decision regarding this shifting to this venue will be made 2 days before and inform all team managers of this change in venue via email and social media.

Health and Safety

The safety of everyone involved is our biggest priority

- Qualified Lifeguards on boards will be present as on-water safety. Lifeguards will be able to assist paddlers if required and allow them to finish the race.
- There will be a medic onsite at all times, with first aid equipment.

If you wish to see our full H&S plan including risk management assessment, please contact Event Manager for a copy.



Earthquake or Tsunami Emergency procedures:

Nearest Tsunami Safe Zone: Mt Maunganui/Mauao (500m from event base)

In the event of an Earthquake or Tsunami Warning during the event, procedure would be as follows:

- Event activity would cease. On-water safety would act to get paddlers onto shore immediately.
- Once onshore, all paddlers to gather and report to their Team Manager and be placed under the supervision of their school/team manager.
- Event volunteers/staff will gather and report to Event Manager.
- When all paddlers, staff/volunteers are accounted for, Event Manager and Team managers will follow the BOP Civil Defense procedures and travel on foot in a calm, orderly fashion with their paddlers/staff/volunteers along The Mall and up onto Mt Maunganui into the Tsunami Safe Zone, as per image below.
- Everyone shall remain there until given the all clear by Civil Defense.

All team managers be provided with the Tsunami/Earthquake procedures and briefed on this at the Team Managers briefing on the morning of the event.

KIA KAHA I TE WAI BE STRONG IN THE WATER

The Aims Games Canoe Sprint event is focused on fun, developing young paddlers and fair, sportsman-like racing that everyone can enjoy. Please keep this at the forefront of your students, team managers and parents' minds at all times during the event to ensure this is an enjoyable and safe event for everyone involved.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Danika Mowlem (Event Manager)
danika.mowlem@canoeracing.org.nz 0212026154

