

Safety Plan and Regatta Information
Waikato River Race
17 October 2021

This race will be held in two rounds

Round 1

Crews will be invited to head down stream to muster at Ann Street with safety / umpire boats stationed at strategic and observable locations to be ready to assist with any issues that may arise on route. All safety / umpire boats will be in VHF radio and cell phone contact from the start line at Ann Street to the finish line at Hamilton Rowing Club south side, and the boat ramp at Roose Commerce Park, the safety officer and Chief Umpire.

These boats will be largely stationary with a small patrol area within their zoned location. They will be comprised of aluminium 12 -14 ft boats with two persons on each vessel

The racing skiffs will race back after a rolling start crossing the start line at full pace using the river to assist in their quest to achieve the fastest time and set off at 30 second intervals from first boat to last boat to race.

All racing skiffs will be time recorded from the start line to the finish line.

The finish line will be the southern end of the Hamilton Rowing Club building, all boats will be required to cross the finish line in the centre of the river then keep rowing until clear of the bridge and at either the Roose Commerce Park boat ramp or the beach at Waikato Rowing club.

The stationed safety / umpire boats will monitor the rowing skiffs racing back upstream to again assist with any instance that may occur. This will include a boat marshalling at the start muster area and another at the finish area.

No racing may take place on the bank side of any bridges, all crews are required to race between the centre pairs of bridge piers

Should both racing crews be on the same side of the river and passing is required, then passing must be made by the faster boat and must take place toward bank the bank side of the river of which racing is occurring, with the slower crew moving towards the centre of the river not hindering the passing crew.

Failure to yield to the passing crew will add 20 seconds to that crews time, safety boats / umpire boats will instruct the crew failing to yield to move and record the crew and boat number to the judges at the finish line.

This manoeuvre must take place once the bow of the challenging / faster boat enters a space alongside the stern of the slower boat ahead.

Once the passing has occurred the slower boat may return to its original position.

THIS MANOEUVRE IS NOT TO OCCUR WHEN TRANSITING BRIDGE PIERS

Rest Break and restart

The racing crews will maintain a rest period of two hours before being invited to again take to the water being observed by safety / umpire boats as they head back to the Ann Street location

Round 2

The racing skiffs will have been time trialled on the first round, then sorted by seeding with the slowest two crews racing first and the fastest crews being the last to race back. The fastest crew in each seeded race will choose their river starting side with the slower timed crew taking the opposite side.

Racing crews will then be lined at the start in Ann Street and set off with a hooter to race back to the finish line at Hamilton Rowing Club.

Safety / umpire boats stationed at strategic and observable locations to be ready to assist with any issues that may arise on route, all safety / umpire boats will be in VHF radio and cell phone contact from the start line at Ann Street to the finish line at Hamilton Rowing Club south side, and the boat ramp at Roose Commerce Park, the safety officer and Chief Umpire.

These boats will be largely stationary with a small patrol area within their zoned location. They will be comprised of aluminium 12 -14 ft boats with two persons on each vessel.

Both crews must cross the river at least once and, this must occur after the first turn past Ann Street and not before. Crews are permitted to make several crossings if so desired.

Should both racing crews be on the same side of the river and passing is required, then passing must be made by the faster boat and must take place toward bank the bank side of the river of which racing is occurring, with the slower crew moving towards the centre of the river not hindering the passing crew.

Failure to yield to the passing crew will add 20 seconds to that crew's time, safety boats / umpire boats will instruct the crew failing to yield to move and record the crew and boat number to the judges at the finish line

This manoeuvre must take place once the bow of the challenging / faster boat enters a space alongside the stern of the slower boat ahead.

Once passing has occurred the slower boat may return to its original position.

THIS MANOEUVRE IS NOT TO OCCUR WHEN TRANSITING BRIDGE PIERS

Should this occur the crew attempting to pass under a bridge will be disqualified.

All racing skiffs will be time recorded from the start line to the finish line.

The finish line will be the southern end of the Hamilton Rowing Club building, all boats will be required to cross the finish line in the centre of the river then keep rowing until clear of the bridge and at either the Roose Commerce Park boat ramp or the beach at Waikato Rowing club. The stationed safety / umpire boats will monitor the rowing skiffs racing back upstream to again assist with any instance that may occur. This will include a boat marshalling at the start muster area and another at the finish area.

Pre-Regatta

- All boats must comply to regatta standards to include, heel ties, centre quick shoe release, all compartment hatches securely closed, intact and functional bow ball.
- All Coxswains to wear approved life jackets and fit as per weight guide.
- Coxswain compartments must be suitable for the size of coxswain, contain an appropriate kick board in in any bow coxed boat and allow for easy exit should a boat tip over.
- Boats to display a coloured sticker to show it has been through a compliance check.

Safety whilst on the water

- Raise a hand should you need assistance at any time
- Stay with you boat should it tip over, count all members of your boat including the coxswain.
- Should you strike an obstacle, and your boat takes on water, stay with the boat and attempt to row to the nearest shoreline
- Avoid rowing shore side of all bridge piers, you must transit through the centre of these.
- Once racing crews reach the area between the river ferry landing and Hamilton Rowing Club crews must start to head to the centre of the Anzac Street bridge and continue to row through the bridge until reaching the beach area at Waikato Rowing club or the Roose Commerce Park boat ramp without stopping.
- Obey all instruction from Safety boats and officials.