

Karāpiro Rowing Newsletter

October 2021

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Memorial Regatta cancellation

After considerable discussion and in light of Government and local authority COVID-19 Guidelines and Rules, Karāpiro Rowing Inc have reluctantly made the decision to cancel the Memorial Regatta, scheduled to take place on 13-14 November 2021.

Last season, KRI had advised stakeholders it cannot conduct regattas during Alert Level 2. However, the Alert Level system and its restrictions and requirements have changed since then. So the decision to cancel came only after a thorough review.

Key criteria that the Board considered were:

1. Would the regatta fully meet and satisfy all Government, Ministry of Health, Sport NZ and Waipa District Council COVID-19 requirements?
2. Could we meet all KRI's regatta safety requirements and protocols?
3. Would we have sufficient experienced and competent volunteers available and willing to manage and run the Regatta?

For those who have been following the Alert Level system changes we advise the following. Recent changes, removing strict caps on the maximum number of people allowed to attend sporting events at an "event facility", provided hope that an Alert Level 2 regatta might now be possible at Lake Karāpiro. Unfortunately, the Mighty River Domain is a recreational reserve, and is not considered to be an "event facility" for the purposes of Alert Level 2 restrictions. As such, a regatta, or any other event at the Mighty River Domain must operate within the Private Social Gatherings framework, which has a 100 person maximum limit. This means the situation at Karāpiro has not significantly changed since last season.

It was on this criteria that we made the extremely difficult decision to cancel the Memorial Regatta. We considered the options of postponing the regatta, but regrettably there were no suitable dates. We recognize how disappointing this is for us all and want to assure you that the KRI Board and a wider working committee looked at all possible options.

As we are just four weeks out from Memorial Regatta, it was not appropriate to delay the decision-making process to "see what happens", in case circumstances change again. This would create uncertainty and possible confusion. We are also very aware that some schools/clubs already have accommodation and travel bookings. Providing certainty allows them to change those plans.

We thank all those who responded this week to our surveys. This information was another important factor that assisted us in the decision. It is so heartening to see from the survey results the great appetite to hold regattas. There was good interest from schools/clubs; particularly those outside the Alert Level 3 areas. And from our volunteers, who always do such a magnificent job. Many had their hands firmly raised to come and help out.

We recognise the cancellation of this regatta is disappointing. Our thoughts are with the competitors, who we know are training hard under some very challenging scenarios.

We encourage you all to get out there this weekend and get vaccinated on Super Saturday! The more of us who are fully vaccinated, the more protection we will have against COVID-19, and the more freedom this gives us. The prospect of vaccine passports being factored into future changes to the Alert Level system also creates a risk that unvaccinated may end up being excluded from regattas. We want as many people as possible to be able to be involved in future regattas.

In the meantime we are keeping a close watch on changes to the Alert Level system. And we will continue exploring every avenue to deliver the Club Regatta. We are keen to resume regattas at Lake Karāpiro as soon as possible. We will update you no later than the 5th of November as to whether the Club Regatta will proceed or not.



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

covid19.govt.nz/super-saturday

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 **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**
MANATŪ HAUORA

www.Karāpirorowing.com

1737, Need to talk? Free call or text 1737 to talk to a trained counsellor

Traffic Rotation Lake Karāpiro

Waikato Regional Council, Rowing New Zealand and Karāpiro Rowing Inc., have collaborated to make our rowing community safer. As defined under the Waikato Regional Council Navigation Safety Bylaw 2013 (revised edition 2020), all rowers and clubs are to abide and uphold New Zealand Maritime rules and Navigation Safety Bylaws that are issued by Regional Councils throughout New Zealand. In practice, this means that due to potential confusion when the rowing lanes are laid on the lake in zones 3-6, that it is unlawful to utilise the lanes in a downstream direction at any time unless the lake is reserved with a formal lake booking.

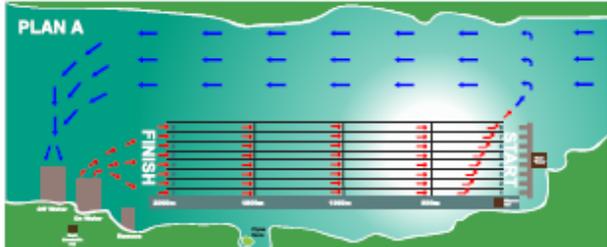
Summary of Safety Rules

- When Rowing on Lake Karāpiro – All rowers must row on the true right (with the bank on the bow side of the boat or to the starboard side of the coach boat) of the lake at all times. This rule is to apply at all times when rowing up or down the lake including when there are buoys in the lake to indicate the racing lanes of a rowing course regardless of the number of lines of buoys. (*Waikato Regional Council Navigation Safety Bylaw 2013 – Section 2.9.1.a*)
- All crews leaving from Rowing New Zealand or Waikato Rowing Club sheds at Flynn Cove must give way to any crews travelling up the lake.
- Crews returning to their respective rowing sheds or training bases shall proceed down the true right side of the lake (as detailed above) and when opposite their rowing shed or training base shall pause and check that their way is clear before crossing the lake at right angles to the traffic flow. When crossing the lake in this manner, the crew crossing the lake must give way to any crew proceeding up the lake. (*Maritime Rules Part 22 – Collision Prevention*)

On occasions when there are buoys marking the location of racing lanes of the rowing course, the traffic rotation pattern does not change unless the lake is closed. It is unlawful to utilise the lanes in a downstream direction at any time unless the lake is reserved for that purpose. Upstream vessels have right of way.

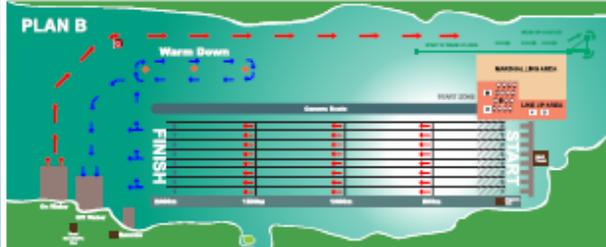
Temporary Event Application forms can be found at: <https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/services/regional-services/navigation-safety/events-on-waikato-region-waterways/>

NO LAKE CLOSURE WITH OR WITHOUT BUOYED LANES IN POSITION



- IT IS UNLAWFUL TO UTILISE THE LANES IN A DOWNSTREAM DIRECTION AT ANY TIME (E.G. HEADING FROM THE FINISH LINE TOWARDS THE START LINE)
- IMAGINE THERE IS AN IMAGINARY LINE DOWN THE CENTRE OF THE LAKE. ALL VESSELS MUST KEEP TO THE STARBOARD (RIGHT) SIDE OF THE LAKE.
- USE PLAN A WHEN TRAINING OUTSIDE A LAKE CLOSURE.

LAKE CLOSED FOR A ROWING REGATTA ON SPECIFIC DATES BUOYED LANES IN POSITION



- TO BE USED FOR ROWING REGATTAS WHEN THE LAKE IS CLOSED TO OTHER USERS

