



# Auckland Championships Safety Notice

## The Race Committee Takes Your Safety Very Seriously

Welcome to the Maraetai sailing club our surrounds are generally reasonably safe areas but care should be taken with the following:

- Please ensure you rig your boat in the designated areas.
- Ensure you park your vehicle legally - plenty of parking is available in the club vicinity.
- Do not leave valuables unattended in cars or lying around. Don't make it easy for thieves.
- Keep clear of all slipways and areas reserved for support boat and public launching, mainly the breakwater area.
- Be aware that tractors will be operating around the launching ramps and hardstand area in the club grounds.
- The ramps can be slippery use caution and appropriate footwear.
- The club is on Council land and has a thoroughfare and is a shared space used by joggers, dog-walkers, cyclists and walkers. Please be courteous to them as they also have a right to be there. (council rules state that dogs should be on a lead whilst in the reserve area please use caution when approaching dogs not on a lead)
- Please be aware pleasure craft not associated with the regatta may enter the club or water passages to and from the club - they may not anticipate our movements.
- Keep a look out for children playing in and around this public area.
- Maraetai is a popular swimming and recreational area open to the public. Once launched keep an eye out for other water users.
- **Medical Conditions** - Competitors must advise registration of any relevant medical conditions or medication being taken.
- **All competitors, support crews, and others taking to the water during this event must wear life jackets.**
- **RIB skippers** please remember to wear your safety kill switch lanyard.

The Race Committee will have rescue boats on the water at all times whilst boats are participating in the regatta - during racing and transitioning to and from the race areas. The race areas will not be patrolled outside these times.

**Flag "D", with a sound signal, means: The warning signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after Flag "D" is displayed. Boats shall not go afloat until this signal is made.**

- The first responsibility for getting yourself and your boat ashore safely is yours. There will be approximately one rescue boat per 10 competitors to assist in adverse circumstances. Support boats may be instructed by the Regatta Director or Shore Manager to become rescue boats to assist competitors in extreme circumstances. This may mean that boats may have to wait for assistance. If rescue is urgent, the crew is requested, if possible, to stand and raise and lower their arms in the International Distress signal. Rescue boats will then endeavour to leave their current task and make directly for the boat in danger.
- **Safety Boats should carry following equipment:**
  - Life jackets for each crew
  - Bungs (and spare)
  - Anchor chain and warp
  - Tow rope
  - Bailer (Bucket and lanyard)
  - Tools, shackle key on float and a sharp knife
  - First Aid Kit and sunscreen
  - Clipboard, pencil and list of competitors
  - VHF Radio – batteries to be fully charged each day
  - Fuel – checking refueling each day is skipper's responsibility
  - Food and drink
  - Fresh drinking water

If a boat is found on water with no crew in attendance, a search will be started. It is important that the boat be left in the water as a reference point as to the likely location of the crew. Competitors should always try to remain with their boat as this is the most logical place for rescue boats to start looking.

If the crew is removed from a boat by a rescue/ support, boat and the boat abandoned, it is essential the Regatta Director be informed and rescue tape fixed to the boat to prevent an unnecessary search. If for any reason a competitor comes ashore they must sign off.

**Competitors are required to sign On and Off prior to and immediately after each sailing**

Failure to sign On & Off will result in volunteers wasting time until everybody is accounted for. It cannot be stressed enough how important it is to sign On & Off promptly. Sailors should never leave the club area after racing without having signed off. Boat trolleys need to be clearly identified by their boats numbers - THIS COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

**Regatta Director    Sean McRae            027 343 3866**

**Shore Manager:    Jason Higgott            021 865 492**

**VHF Channel:        A & C course channel 17    B course Channel 77**

