



EVENT INFORMATION

CSW HOE TONGA REGIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL SPRINTS ONEPOTO DOMAIN – PORIRUA SATURDAY 7 MARCH 2026

Nau mai, hoki mai ki Onepoto!

It's time for the Lower North Island secondary schools to take to the water. This annual waka ama event for Intermediate, J16 & J19 paddlers is the official decider for our regional W1 & W6 champions. It's also an opportunity for teams to test their skills in 250m/500m races before heading off to Secondary School Nationals at Lake Tikitapu later this month.

CSW and Hoe Tonga are grateful that our sprints can be held in Porirua at such short notice with support from the Porirua City Council, Otaki Waka Hoe, Toa Waka Ama, Hawaikinui Tuarua, PCKC, and local water users. We also appreciate our volunteers, kura, kaiako, and whānau for the continued support of rangatahi and waka ama in your communities. Read, share and prepare using the information below so everyone has fun on/off the water!

Race Results & Safety Waivers

All race times, progressions and results are available on **Live Results** <https://www.liveresults.co.nz/competition/509>, these will appear following each race. This could take up to 20 minutes, please be patient and refresh your window for any updates.

Safety Waivers must be completed for all teams and kaihoe and handed in to the registration desk on arrival. For those that have submitted them via email, you will still need to check in with registration to confirm all of your teams and paddlers are present. Safety Waivers are on page 12 of the pānui, linked here <https://hoetonga.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/2026-race-information-regional-secondary-school-waka-ama-sprints.docx.pdf>. Inform registration of any race withdrawals asap as this will affect the flow of races and lanes.

Waka & Equipment

Hoe Tonga thanks Otaki Waka Hoe, Toa Waka Ama, Hawaikinui Tuarua and PCKC for making their W6 waka available for this event. We ask that teams look after the waka on the water. Use the tyres supplied at loading to rest them on and DO NOT paddle into the rocky area of the loading bay. Lifejackets must be worn at all times while on the water. Teams are responsible for supplying an appropriate fitting Personal Floatation Device (PFD) and hoe for kaihoe. W1 kaihoe are responsible for supplying their own waka and equipment. **Kaihoe must wear footwear at all times, no bare feet in the water or loading bay.**

Forecast & Tides

Weather conditions are looking favourable for paddling in Onepoto harbour: expect fine weather with some Northerlies easing off in the afternoon (as of Thursday 5 March)

High	01:01	1.8m	Low	06:52	0.5m
High	13:13	1.8m	Low	19:13	0.5m

Wharepaku, Rubbish & Recycling

Wharepaku are located in the coned off area of the carpark. Let us know if they need a top up of toilet paper/hand sanitiser, or extra maintenance. We will have extra bins for general waste, but recycling must be taken with you. Help us keep the area clean by picking up after yourself to avoid rubbish ending up in the harbour.

Event area

This is a hauora focused event. No smoking/vaping/alcohol or drugs are allowed in the event area, please respect this and refrain from these activities. Paddlers and supporters are to keep clear of the entrances to the rowing club and kayak club storage containers (*left of the registration desk*). Please note club members will be moving kayaks out of the storage containers from 7:00am to 7:45am.

Schools are encouraged to bring a gazebo for their paddlers as shelter from the elements. Ensure gazebos are in designated areas and kept clear of areas marked for official use. There will be three kai fundraisers so bring cash along to tautoko the sausage sizzle, bake sale and island food stall. You are welcome to bring your own refreshments and kai to the event as there won't be any food trucks on site. We will endeavour to have a coffee cart.



Parking & Traffic

Parking is available at the domain with limited off-street parks. Please consider vehicles transporting W1s, they will need room to unload their waka for an 8:30am race start. **Please keep the boat ramp clear for support boats and other water users.** Additional parking is available at Titahi Bay Intermediate. We ask that school vans drop gear/kaihoe off and park at the Intermediate. Take care when crossing as this is a main road.

Porirua City Council will highlight the event to oncoming traffic along the main road and cones will be placed in high traffic areas such as the carpark and finish line. Please avoid the finish line area at all times, they need to focus on races for infringements and final placings. Please be patient if dropping off/picking up kaihoe as the area will be very busy throughout the day, we encourage going further down the road towards Onepoto park if possible.

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Itinerary (timings are estimates and subject to change)

6:30am	Organisers arrive to set up
7:30am	Volunteers and teams arrive to set up
7:45am	Hoe Tonga set up complete
8:00am	Registration desk open <i>Teams check in/safety waivers</i>
8:15am	Race briefing
<p>W1 waka will NOT be weighed</p> <p>All W1 paddlers and W6 steerers are required to wear a hi-viz vest when racing to identify your lane</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Hi-viz vests will be provided in marshalling/loading bay</i> ○ <i>Do not remove your vest, this will be an instant DQ</i> 	
8:30am	W1 heats begin
9:18am	Novice finals
9:26am	W1 finals begin
10:02am	W1 races complete <i>W1 waka off water/pack up</i> W6 250m heats begin
10:55am	W6 250m finals begin
11:42am	W6 250m finals complete <i>Lunch break/move to 500m start line</i>
12:15pm	W6 500m heats begin
1:35pm	W6 500m finals begin
2:50pm	W6 500m finals complete <i>W6 waka off water/pack up</i>
3:30pm	Prizegiving

Let's have an awesome day whānau!

Send any pātai to hoetonga@gmail.com or ask at registration.