

# Surf Ski Race Calendar - 2009

## January 25 2009 – Hoe Toa OC1 & Surf Ski – Maraetai, Auckland

This is a new race, 20km starting at Maraetai, South Auckland. Registration from 10am, race start 11:00. Entry fee \$28.50 pre-entry or \$38 on the day. Contact Kingi at [admin@hoetoa.com](mailto:admin@hoetoa.com) for more details or to enter or go to their website [www.hoetoa.com](http://www.hoetoa.com)

## January 31 2009 – King of the Harbour - Auckland

Course confirmed around Rangitoto. Registration at Takapuna Boating Club from 8:45am, with race start between 10:30 and 11:00am. Prize giving dinner from 5pm at TBC. Entry fee is \$150 that includes prize giving meal and race shirt. All race details can be found at [www.kingoftheharbour.co.nz](http://www.kingoftheharbour.co.nz)

## February 6 2009 – Bhutty Moore Race – Mt Manganui

Distance will be around 30km, with two down wind course options – Waihi to Pilot Bay or Maketu to Pilot Bay. Registration at 8am, course decided, race start 11:15 for females and 11:30 for males. Entry fee \$60. Contact Jacqui St Julian on 027 442 7923 or [jacquist@hotmail.com](mailto:jacquist@hotmail.com) for more details or to enter.

## February 21 2009 – Bo Herbert Race – Tutukaka

Distance will be between 30-40km. Meeting point is Kowharewa Bay, Tutukaka with registration at 9am and race start at 12 when the sea breeze (hopefully) comes up. Entry fee \$65 for solo paddlers or \$45 per person for relay that includes prize giving meal and race shirt. Entry Form and prize information is coming online to [www.taipaddles.co.nz](http://www.taipaddles.co.nz) and [www.wakaama.co.nz](http://www.wakaama.co.nz). Contact Conan at [taidesigns@xtra.co.nz](mailto:taidesigns@xtra.co.nz) for more details.

## February 22 2009 – Takapuna Boating Club Championships

TBC club champs. Distance will be around 20km, with two course options being down wind. Race start at 2pm, with registration and course confirmed at 12 noon from TBC. Entry fee free for TBC members, \$15 for all others. Contact Tracy Wilson [tracy.wilson@clear.net.nz](mailto:tracy.wilson@clear.net.nz)

## March 21 2009 – CRNZ New Zealand Ocean Paddling Championships - Auckland

The venue for NZ Champs is from Pine Harbour 21st March. The course will be down wind between 25km- 30km based wind, competitors will be barged to designated starting points based on the wind direction. Registration from 9am at Pine Harbour, depart Pine Harbour 11am, race start 1pm. Course details and entry fee will be posted on [www.surfski.co.nz](http://www.surfski.co.nz) soon. For more details contact the race director Terry Newsome on [teran@ihug.co.nz](mailto:teran@ihug.co.nz).

## April 3 & 4 2009 - Waka Fest Ocean Challenge - Tauranga

The dates have been set for the 2009 Waka Fest Ocean Challenge. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April will be the 28km Surf Ski Ocean Race, with the 16km Harbour race on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

Website: [www.wakafest.com](http://www.wakafest.com)

## Captain Morgans Race at the Edge of the World – Race Report



Saturday January the 3rd, and the " Captain Morgan's Race at the Edge of the world", as part of the local ski series. But this time a long distance race of 20km, from Turihaua beach back to Waikanae beach in Gisborne.

Race director and event organiser Paul Lungmuss was hoping for preferable conditions, with North Easterly wind and small wave runners for the competitors, as is usual for this time of year. However the sun stayed in, and the wind was a little out, but the decision was made to run it the intended way anyway. It would mean slight winds pushing down to sponge bay, then a nasty little head wind from there back to Waikanae. This would take its toll on some in the latter stages of the race.

A great turn out of around 40 paddlers showed up to race in all their various craft. And success for the organisers of this inaugural long distance race to be held here in Gisborne each year. Quite a few paddlers from out of town, Auckland, Wellington and Bay of Plenty turned out.

The U/16 and Surf Canoe crew from Wainui, started from Northern Makorori, while the main bunch of paddlers from Turihaua. Both started at 12 Noon on the dot. The only rule to each paddler as explained at race briefing, was all had to come inside the Island at Sponge Bay; so it was up to the individual which route they chose. Some decided to go out to sea, and try to catch the larger runners, while others stuck to the coastline.

The U/16 boys had their own race, not being caught by the Open paddlers Chayde Pineaha of Midway, getting a welcome wave coming through the Island, and getting away from Matt Grant of Waikanae. That was how they finished, Chayde in a time of 1 hour 27 mins and 13 secs. 1 min and 10 secs behind him Matt Grant.



UNDER 16 WINNER – CHAYDE PINEAHA

The Open and U/19 race was split between those trying to get on the wash of the OC6 front crew, and those working together in a group just behind them. In the end Garren Cooper was the only one to hold onto that crew to the finish, and a wonderful win for him in the Fenn class, in a time of 1 hour 29 mins and 17 secs. Nearest to him was Gisbornes own Cory Hutchings, paddling in the Fenn class, with his foot in a cast, and covered in a plastic bag, 2nd, 3 mins behind Garren. A wonderful effort of pain and determination by Cory, as usual!

First OC 6 crew were Mareikura, in a time of 1 hour 29 mins, and 10 secs, just 7 secs in front of Garren.



OPEN FENN WINNER – GARREN COOPER

The U/19 boys on surf ski was won by Darryl Fitzgerald of Waikanae SLSC in a time of 1 hour 37 mins and 53 secs. His nearest competitor was Jack Gavin, Midway, finishing in 1 hour 43 mins and 29 secs.

The Open surf ski division was taken out by Philip Mills, with a great paddle from him in a time of 1 hour 31 mins and 22 secs. His nearest competitor was Sam Blyde from Wellington, just over 2 mins behind.

Open Mens OC1 saw Bay of Plenty athlete Troy Dolman stamping his paddling prowess over all others in the race. Troy finished in 1 hour 46 mins and 23 secs. Nearest rival the ever present Brian Wilson coming in 2nd in a time of 1 hour 50 and 50 secs.

The womens Open Fenn class was taken out by Aucklander Tracy Wilson in a time of 1 hour 42 mins and 47 secs. An awesome paddle from her, and great to see her come all the way to Gisborne for the " Captain Morgans Race at the edge of the World."



OPEN WOMEN FENN WINNER – TRACY WILSON

The only other division, OC1 Women, saw Denise Tapp finish in a time of 2 hours 7 mins and 43 secs, with Rapoia Brightwell in second, 4 mins behind her!

Race director Paul Lungmuss said, " all in all a very successful race, with great numbers and some outstanding performances. Weather could of been kinder, but you cant control that. A special thanks to all our IRB crews out there from both Wainui SLSC, and Waikanae SLSC, and special thanks to the coastguard boat and Tony Burke and his boat, keeping all our athletes safe".

**King of the Harbour 2009 – enter online at [www.kingoftheharbour.co.nz](http://www.kingoftheharbour.co.nz)**

King of the Harbour is pleased to announce the signing of our brand new Silver Level Sponsor THINK KAYAK whose generous sponsorship has enabled us to now guarantee the cash prize money for the Surfski World Series component of the race, which is the critical element to maintaining our 1 star Surfski World Series ranking.

THINK KAYAK is a Canadian based company currently producing three models of surf ski. King of the Harbour will be supporting THINK KAYAK towards securing a distributorship in New Zealand, making THINK KAYAK surf skis more accessible for New Zealand paddlers.

Only three weeks to go before the big day! So far we have 42 entries which is fantastic compared to the same time last year! We have a couple of top surf ski paddlers entered to date including Olympic flat-water kayaker Steven Ferguson and 2007/2008 World Series Women's Champion Katie Pocock. There are also a number of OC1 paddlers entered which is fantastic to see the growth in that category - keep it coming! Very exciting to see a couple of stand-up paddle boarders entered which is a first for the event and we hope to see this category increase as the sport becomes more popular in New Zealand.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage those who are still sitting on the fence to commit to racing and enter! Yes the entry fee is not cheap but we cannot organise this quality event on any less. Don't forget that it includes an event race vest and a really nice buffet dinner at the Takapuna Boating Club after the race so it's far more than just a couple of hours on the water! It's a tough market out there for sports event sponsorship and funding and things have been particularly hard this year with the current economic downturn. It has always been our ambition to see the entry fees come down and we hope that in time this will be the case once we manage to secure bigger and better sponsorship. In the meantime please keep supporting the race as your support will only help see the event grow in time. There is also around \$14K worth of sponsored product spot prizes which is fantastic for a race of this size!

Until then... enjoy the superb weather out on the water, paddle safe and don't forget to enter King of the Harbour 2009! Kirsty.

## What The ....

Oscar riding a big wave in Tahiti, you need to be a surf ski manufacturer to ride waves like these.



## North Shore Beach Series

It has been another good year and a popular series with 120 registered surf ski paddlers so far (100 blokes and 20 women).

There are seven races done and dusted and nine races left to go. Some of us have been training over the Christmas break, some drinking beer next to the BBQ?... the summer training preferences will tell in the results over the next three months.

### North Shore City Beach Series Points Update

Katie again looks to have hold on the women's overall series with 400 points and only one loss. Katie has 12 points on Tracy Wilson and Dene Simpson. A potential challenger would have to be the recently crowned owen chapman champion Erin Taylor. She may be out of the running however as she has only raced once this year (the first race), Erin would have to win all the remaining races and Katie have some no-shows in order to put some heat on Katie.

In the mens, Steven Ferguson has a solid lead in the overall standing with a maximum of 400 points (he has only had one loss in the first race). Ten points back are Travis Mitchell and Mike Walker who are in a close battle for second and third. Can they close the gap to Steven? ... a big ask but I bet they are praying for a change of conditions from the (dreaded) south westerlies.

Date	Event
Tuesday January 20, 2009	Race 8: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Tuesday January 27	Race 9: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Tuesday February 3	Race 10: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Tuesday February 10	Race 11: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Tuesday February 17	Race 12: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Tuesday February 24	Race 13: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Tuesday March 3	Race 14: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Tuesday March 10	Race 15: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Tuesday March 17	Race 16: Rego 5:00-6pm Start 6:15pm
Wednesday March 25	<b>Awards Night and Drinks - R'toto Beach Club</b>

**Bring on the Northerlies, north easterlies, easterlies, south easterlies ..... ANYTHING but a south westerly**