



2025
NZSUP
CHAMPS
28 - 30
TAKAPUNA MARCH

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF RACE for the NZSUP 2025 National Championships

New Zealand Stand Up Paddling Incorporated

Takapuna Beach Auckland 28-30 March 2025

Three SUP racing disciplines (sprints, technical racing and long distance racing) over three competition days.

Two tiers of competition - Championship fleet for NZ's very best paddlers, while the Challenger fleet is for everyone else, with racing on flat water and a range of distances to suit all levels from first time competitor to experienced club racer. You don't even need a raceboard to join in!

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1. Location

Event centred around Takapuna Beach. **The Event Hub will be Takapuna Boating Club.** Daily registrations and prize giving celebrations are at the Event Hub. The race venues will either be Takapuna Beach or Lake Pupuke, according to the conditions on the day.

2. Schedule of Events

- **Friday 28 March: Sprint Racing** National Championships. Registration check in at the event hub between 12pm and 1 pm on Friday 28 March. This may be earlier depending on entries.
- **Saturday 29 March: Technical Racing** National Championships registration check in between 8 am and 9 am. Venue to be advised.
- **Saturday 29 March: Evening social event** and prizegiving with buffet dinner at Takapuna Boating Club
- **Sunday 30 March: Distance Racing** National Championships (5km/10km) registration check in between 8 am and 9 am. Venue to be advised.
- **Sunday 30 March:** Final prize giving will conclude by 2 pm to allow for travel.

All paddlers must check in prior to the start of each day of competition. Competitors who do not check in on any day will not be eligible for a placing in that event.

Competition venues may be subject to change due to weather or availability at the race director's discretion.

3. Entry Fees

- Three event series: Adults \$85.00
- Under 19 (**U19**) and Over 65 (**O65**) \$75.00
- One event only (all ages) \$45.00
- Two events only (all ages) \$65.00
- Special concession for U19 entrants from outside of the Auckland area: \$25 entry fee for all 3 events.

All entrants will receive a race shirt, which must be worn when competing.

4. Competition Fleets

Racing will feature two divisions; the Championship fleet, and the Challenger fleet.

It is highly recommended that only the most experienced and accomplished paddlers enter the Championship division. The racing at the front of the Challenger fleet is very competitive - anyone of non-elite level will have more fun racing in that discipline than trailing at the back of the Championship fleet.

5. Eligibility and Categories

Entry is open to all stand up paddlers. To be eligible for the Overall NZ National Champion trophies, competitors must be a NZ citizen or NZ Resident.



Age categories are based on competitors' age as of 1 January 2025. Age categories within each discipline will be as follows:

Championship Fleet	Challenger Fleet
U19	U12 O19
Open	U14 O40
O40	U16 O50
O50	U19 O60
O60	O70

To be eligible for the National Sprint, Technical, Distance and Overall Titles adult (O19) competitors must compete in the **Championship Sprints**, **Championship Technical** and the 10 km **Championship Distance Race**.

To be eligible for the Youth National Sprint, Technical, Distance and Overall Titles:

- U 19 compete in Championship Sprints, Championship Technical and 10 km Championship Distance Race.
- U 16 compete in Championship Sprints, Championship Technical and Challenger 5 km Distance Race.
- U 12 and U14 compete in Challenger Sprints, Challenger Technical and Challenger 4 km Distance Race.

6. Entries

All entries must be made online using the official registration form at www.nzsup.org. Entries will close at **midnight on Wednesday 26th March 2024**. This is a requirement to ensure appropriate safety planning and heat seeding. There will be no entries accepted after this cut-off. The organisers reserve the right to reject or cancel any entry.

7. Board Classes

- **SUP 14' & Under Class**
Length – 14'0 maximum
Board Weight - No Weight Restriction. Board Design - No minimum dimensions. Single hull, stationary/non correctional fins and a fin box is allowed.
- **Cruiser Class**
Length - 12'6 maximum
Boards for this class must be no longer than 12'6 and not a raceboard. This category is for boards NOT designed specifically for racing. Boards may be checked and verified by a marshal to ensure eligibility. This class is only eligible for the Challenger fleet, and at least three entrants will be required for it to be scored separately.



8. Official Notice Board and Race Briefings

An official notice board will be located at the **EVENT HUB**, and also at the Official Tent next to the start/finish area at each race location. Event information including course maps, changes to the rules or events or schedule will be posted on the official notice board and via a WhatsApp Group. A link to join the group will be emailed to you after you have entered. The exact location of the Official Notice Board will be posted on NZSUP Social Media Accounts and at registration.

A verbal safety briefing will cover course layout/description, event rules, safety issues and paddler questions. All paddlers must attend their Race Briefing. Safety of the participants is the number one priority of the Race Director and the event staff. Exact times for each briefing will be announced the day prior to each event.

9. Rules of Racing

This event will be governed by the NZSUP standard rules of racing. A Race Instructions document will be published 3 weeks prior to the event commencement. That document explains in detail how the events will be run and the rules that will apply. In the event of conflicting information in this Notice of Race and the Racing Instruction, the Racing Instruction is the ruling document.

10. The Sprints: Friday 28 March

The sprints will take place either on Takapuna Beach or Lake Pupuke.

The order of heats will be displayed on a noticeboard at the event centre.

Elite Championship competitors will race either straight-line 200m sprints with a line start and finish, or out-and-back sprints with a beach start and finish. The race officer will make the call on the day, dependent on the conditions. Either option will operate in a knock-out format, with separate men's and women's divisions. Initial heats will be seeded by the race committee according to previous competition form. Athletes will race heats, semifinals and finals. A repechage round will be included after the first round of heats.

Challenger series competitors will race 150m straight-line sprints with an on-water line start and finish, in gender and age groups (so a 50-60 year old male will only be sprinting against other 50-60 year old males etc). Each age group will complete two sprints, and the aggregate results from these two sprints will determine the overall order of finishing in each age group. A final will be run for the top competitors from each age division, which will determine the top places overall.

11. The Technical Racing: Saturday 29 March

Technical Races will be raced over a tight course either at Takapuna Beach or on Lake Pupuke. The course will be set by the Race Director in consultation with the Course Committee and announced at the race briefing.

The 1-1.5km course will include a number of turns, as shown here. Any changes will be posted at the race briefing.

Competitors will race between 3 and 4 races depending on the number of competitors. Championship heats will be 1 lap and finals will be two laps.



12. The Distance Racing: Sunday 30 March

A 5km triangular/rectangular course will be set. (The exact distance may vary slightly, depending on the prevailing conditions.)

There will be two distance options for competitors.

Championship Fleet: U19 and adult competitors race a 2 lap (10 km) distance to race for National titles and the Overall title.

Challenger Fleet: All competitors complete one lap. The fleet will start in two waves; male competitors first (all ages) and then female competitors (all ages).

The course will be set close to shore, and in the most ideal water conditions available. In the event of any significant breeze the course will aim to maximise upwind/downwind paddling.

13. Disclaimer of liability

Paddlers participate in the event entirely at their own risk. The organisers accept no liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the event. It is the sole responsibility of the paddler to decide whether or not to race. Each entrant must acknowledge this indemnity declaration on the Entry Form before the event. If under 18, the parent or guardian must acknowledge the entry.

NZSUP reserves the right to change any aspect of this race notice including changing the race program or locations if weather conditions are unfavourable and/or pose a safety risk, or for any other good reason that may arise. NZSUP shall not be held liable for any inconvenience or loss that this may cause.