



BRIDGE TO BRIDGE WATER SKI CLASSIC RULES

Updated September 2025

The NZWSRA Racing Rules (available on the Racing Committee page of the NZWSRA website (www.skirace.co.nz) apply to the Bridge to Bridge except where those rules are inconsistent with these rules. Accordingly, where there is any conflict between these rules and the NZWSRA Racing Rules, these rules shall apply.

The Bridge to Bridge Committee shall be the final arbiter in relation to any issue arising from these rules.

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1. Running of the Race

1.1. Race Committee

There will be a Bridge to Bridge Committee (The Committee) set at the Management Meeting (as soon thereafter) preceding the event. This committee shall be responsible for all aspects of the Bridge to Bridge and may appoint a Chairperson if they deem this appropriate. This committee will be reportable to the NZWSRA Executive Committee.

1.2. Race Day Running

All aspects of race day running will be organised by the Committee. They will also appoint the following people to ensure race day runs appropriately (these may be the same people as the Committee if appropriate)

- **Race Controller**
Will be in control of all aspects of race day. Must be qualified and experienced enough to deal with all issues.
- **Safety Officer**
Will be responsible for the safe running of the race. Will consult with the Race Controller on safety issues. The Safety Officer may not necessarily be the same person over the whole weekend.
- **Ramp Marshall**
Will control all ramp and parking areas.
- **Starter**
Will control all starts, at the discretion of the Race Controller
- **Time Keeping Coordinator**
Will coordinate all time keeping and results.
- **Chief Judge** (must be a NZWSRA approved judge)
Will assist in judging of starts and penalties.
- **Chief Scrutineer**
Will ensure all craft are scrutineered.

The Committee may appoint other positions where appropriate.

2. Race Programme

Saturday

Masters, Novice, 80MPH Class, F5 1Up, 70MPH Class, Invincibles Sub Juniors.

Anything But a Ski & Tadpoles

Social, Parents & Partners, 60 MPH, Family Class

Time Trial

Sunday

Power Boat Sprints

Jetski, Thundercat & Clubman Sprints

Long Race

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3. Classes

3.1. Long Race

The following classes will be run:

- Open
- MOC
- Formula 2
- SMOC (Formula 4)
- Ladies
- Under 19
- Under 16
- Formula 5
- 1 Up

All classes as per NZWSRA rule book.

All those entered will be eligible for overall prizes, Except for 1 up class.

All those entered will be entered in Saturday's time trial

The time trial will be used to seed places for Sunday long race – see section 4.1.3 for seeding rules

Selected Formula 2,4 & 5 teams will make their boats available straight after the long race finish for engine inspection to ensure it complies with class rules within the NZWSRA rulebook, engines may be sealed for further inspection the following week.

Competitors in 1 Up class are only eligible to win this class. They cannot cross enter to other classes.

Competitors in 1 Up class will not be classified in outright positions or be able to win overall trophies. (You must tow 2 skiers in order to win or place in the outright positions)

1 Up is restricted to Single Rig Outboard boats only. Ie. No open class boats.

3.2. Novice, Masters, F5 1 Up, 80MPH, 70MPH, Invincibles, Sub Juniors, Anything But a Ski & Tadpoles

The following classes will be run:

- Novice Class – Eligibility per NZWSRA Racing Rules.
- Masters Class – Men must be 40, and women must be 35. Age determined per NZWSRA Racing Rules.
- F5 1 Up Class – Formula 5 Boats as per NZWSRA Racing Rules towing only 1 skier
- 80MPH Class – Any Boat, as per NZWSRA Racing Rules 80MPH Class Rules
- 70MPH Class – Any Boat, as per NZWSRA Racing Rules 70MPH Class Rules
- Invincibles – Any Boat, 1 or 2 Skiers, 80MPH Speed Capped as per NZWSRA Rules for speed restricted classes. 2nd leg of the race only (Taupiri to Hamilton) Must not of race skied for 10+ years or were skiing pre year 2000. (you may cross enter other classes in this race if you wish to do both legs)
- Sub Juniors Class – Eligibility per NZWSRA Racing Rules

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- Anything But a Ski – any boat, up to three persons being towed per towable, up to two towables, maximum rope length 75ft.
- Tadpoles – Skiers Under 10 years old at the time of the event and not on drag ski.

One joint class for men and women in all of the above classes (maybe reassessed if entries deem a separate women's class necessary)

Race organisers will have final discretion as to entries in Novice as to whether the skier is competing in the spirit of the class.

3.3. Family & Social

3.3.1. Family Class

- A Class – 200 HP and Over
- B Class – 141 HP – 199 HP
- C Class – 140 HP & Under
- Retro Class – Boat (Hull) must be manufactured Pre 1990
- Ladies – Skier only must be female
- Under 16 – Skier (male or female) must be Under 16 Years of Age at the Date of the race

Note: B & C Classes may be merged if number of entrants in either or both classes isn't enough.

3.3.2. Social Class

- Open – No restrictions
- Ladies – Skier only must be female
- Under 16 – Skier (male or female) must be Under 16 Years of Age at the Date of the race

3.3.3 Parents & Partners Class

- 80MPH Speed Capped as per NZWSRA Rules for speed restricted classes
- Must be 2Up
- Any Boat
- Skiers must have a "Parent" or "Partner" relationship with each other ie. a mother or father can ski with their son or daughter, husband and wife, boyfriend and girlfriend. Step parents can also ski with step children.
- Boat crew don't have to be related in anyway.
- Full Race Lifejackets and Helmets and Skiers Race equipment to be used.

3.4. Power Boat Sprints

The following classes will be run:

- Open class – no restrictions
- MOC – modified single outboard
- SMOC – single outboard badged as 250hp. Only modifications permitted are those which apply to NZWSRA Racing Rules.
- Formula 2 – per F2 Rules in NZWSRA Racing Rules
- Formula 5 – per SMOC but badged as 200hp.

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Note - for SMOC, F2, and F5 sealing is not required (but motors must otherwise comply with NZWSRA Racing Rules). Classes are based on the motor (not the hull).

4. Special Rules

4.1. Long Race

4.1.1. Rules

As per NZWSRA Racing Rules except as provided in these rules..

4.1.2. Distance

Time Trial will be from Hamilton to Ngaruawahia and return

Long Race will be from Cambridge to Taupiri, return to Hamilton

4.1.3. Starts

Time trials – 1 at a time, 1 minute apart (2 minutes apart for the Open Class boats, at the discretion of the Organising committee depending on the speed of the boat and/or skiers)

From Cambridge – 1 at a time, 1 minute apart

From Taupiri – 1 at a time, 30 seconds apart

Penalties for breaking starts:

Anytime a boat breaks the start (any part of the boat is in front of the start line at the time their allocated start flag drops) that boat shall receive a 10% penalty.

That boat shall also receive an additional penalty equal to the amount they broke the start by (the 10% penalty above will be applied before this penalty is added on).

NEW FOR 2024 - Teams that miss their start on Leg 1 of the Time Trial will be scratched from that leg. Once the start is missed the team is to retrieve their ropes and skier and idle to the beach. Once all the boats have started Leg 1 the scratched teams may follow the sweep boat to the other end of the course and compete in the leg 2 start sequence. You may restart after a missed start on leg 2 providing that you don't impede any of the teams that are starting.

4.1.4. Seeding

Seeding for the Time Trial will be based on a combination of previous performance and expected performance and will aim to eliminate the need to pass another competitor.

Seeding for the long race will be based on:

- (a) cumulative times from the time trial, then
- (b) those who only complete one leg of the time trial will be seeded behind the last boat in their class(es) which completed the time trial, based on their one way times.
- (c) those who do not complete either leg of the time trial will be placed behind the last boat in their class(es) which completed one leg, or if all other boats in their class(es) completed both legs, behind the last boat in their class(es) which completed the time trial.

Race organisers may enter a hold in the start order at any position for safety reasons.

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If seeding per the above results in a start order which, in the opinion of the Race Committee, unreasonably compromises the safety of competitors the Race Committee reserves the right to alter the start order. Competitors need to remember that the safety of themselves and others is more important than where they appear on the start order.

Competitors should also note that the Race Committee will only use objective data to determine potential safety issues, and if necessary, that same data will be used to alter the start order.

4.1.5 CPR Training

Either the Driver or the observer (or both) of Long Race teams must have completed a CPR/First Aid Training course and provide proof to the Safety Committee. This certificate/proof must be no more than 2 years old.

4.2. Novice, Masters, F5 1 Up, 80MPH, 70 MPH, Invincibles, Sub-Juniors, Anything But a Ski & Tadpoles

4.2.1. Rules

As per NZWSRA rule book (where appropriate)

80/70MPH Class Criteria

1. Rules as per the NZWSRA Racing Rules for 80/70MPH
2. Teams are to carry a NZWSRA GPS that is zeroed at the beginning of the race and remains on for the duration of the race.
3. Note: there is no rope length restriction on this class

4.2.2. Distance

Masters, Novice, F5 1 UP & 70MPH - from Grantham St to Taupiri and return
Invincibles & Sub-Juniors will be from Taupiri to Grantham St only
Anything But a Ski & Tadpoles – from Days Park to Grantham St

4.2.3. Starts

From Hamilton – 1 at a time, 1 minute apart
From Taupiri – 1 at a time, 30 seconds apart
Anything But a Ski & Wakeboard will be 2 at a time, 30 seconds apart.
(Or mass start if smaller numbers)

4.2.4. Seeding

Generally, Masters class will go first, followed by 80MPH, followed by Novice, followed F5 1 Up, followed by 70 MPH, followed by Invincibles followed by Sub Juniors.

Within classes seeding will be by boat speed stated, or at discretion of organisers based on knowledge of skiers and boats.

A time hold between classes may be introduced at the Race Organisers discretion. This will be communicated at Race Briefing.

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For Anything But a Ski & Wakeboard & Tadpoles, classes may be combined for seeding purposes.

4.3. Social, Parents & Partners, Family & 60MPH Class

4.3.1. Rules

Family Class Criteria

1. Boats must be scrutineered and considered safe to compete.
2. Helmets for those going over 40 mph (Skier & Crew)
3. Slalom or double skis (Social Race Ski is not permitted)
4. 75 foot rope limit
5. Classes - A, B, C, Retro, Ladies and Juniors
6. Ngaruawahia to Grantham St

Social Class Criteria

1. Boats must be scrutineered per NZWSRA Rules
2. All competitors must wear helmets
3. Skis must comply with NZWSRA Racing Rules definition of "Social Ski"
4. May ski outside the wash
5. 45 metre rope limit (measured from transom to end of handles - wrap handles allowed).
6. Classes – Open, Ladies, Juniors
7. Ngaruawahia to Grantham St
8. To start before Family class

60MPH Class Criteria

1. Rules as per the NZWSRA Racing Rules for 60MPH
2. Teams are to carry a NZWSRA GPS that is zeroed at the beginning of the race and remains on for the duration of the race.
3. Note: there is no rope length restriction on this class

4.3.2. Distance

Social, Parents & Partners, 60MPH and Family will be from Ngaruawahia to Hamilton

4.3.3. Starts

All starts will be 2 at a time 1 minute apart

4.3.4. Seeding

Social class will go first, followed by Parents & Partners, followed by 60MPH Class followed by Family.

By boat speed stated, or at discretion of organisers based on knowledge of skiers and boats.

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4.4. Power Boat Sprints

4.4.1. Rules

As per NZWSRA rule book (where appropriate) but classes based on motor(s), no hull limitations.

4.4.2. Distance

Hamilton to Ngaruawahia and return

4.4.3. Starts

All starts will be 2 at a time 30 seconds apart

4.4.4. Seeding

By boat speed stated, or at discretion of organisers based on knowledge of boats.

4.4.5. Seats

Boats may have their observer seat facing forwards or backwards.

4.4.6 Scutineering

Boats must be checked by scrutineers and considered safe to race.

5.0 Protests

5.1 Acceptance

Protests will only be accepted within 30 minutes from the time the last boat finishes the race.

5.2 Determination

Protests will be determined by the Committee. The Committee will determine the protest on the basis of what is considered to be in the best interests of the event. For example, a technical breach (such as wrong sized numbers) which is unlikely to have altered results is unlikely to succeed.