

INFORMATION ABOUT REGATTAS

Boat loading

Usually the afternoon before a regatta we meet at the club with the club captain and coaches to load the boats onto the transport trailer. The coaches will have decided which boats need to be taken and the rowers get them out of the boat shed and de-rig them (take all the riggings off) before loading them into the trailer according to the club captains instructions. This is a precise and careful process, no messing around is tolerated and everyone pitches in to make it happen as smoothly as possible. Boat loading times will be advised before each regatta. There will also be a roster which your manager will organise, that will divide your crew in half. Half of you will do loading and the other half unloading.

Boat Trailer Towing

We ask for volunteer Dads who have an ideal towing vehicle to tow the boat trailer to regattas. Utes are the best. The towing person is reimbursed their costs by the club. A portion of your fees is allocated to boat towing expenses.

Regatta Venue Details

Lake Pupuke – map attached – from Kitchener Road turn into Sylvan Park Rd. The regatta is based at Sylvan Park. The parking at the regatta is diabolical so either get there early or be prepared to walk. You are allowed to pull in and turn around at the park entrance and drop of kids and gear then go and find a carpark. Milford shops are handy but a good supply of food for sale at the regatta plus a coffee van. Mercer usually tries to locate our boat trailer near the park entrance but if they have been beaten to the spot you will have to go looking. Spectators set themselves up on the shores of the lake. We usually all try to be in the same vicinity but as it is so crowded this is sometimes impossible. Sitting together in crews will be the way to go. Pupuke has the reputation for being very changeable weather – literally one minute you are sunburnt and then next you have someone coming off the water with hypothermia. The start line is at the far end of the lake so spectators get to see the finish. It is a 900m sprint course.

Mercer - 1500m race upriver with the finish line at the club. All Mercer Club members help run the regatta with jobs like boat drivers, café food, BBQ, parking, boat numbers, runners, etc. your crew will be given a job to do and managers will organise a roster system. We have a lot of other clubs visit for this – it's a great atmosphere and our crews have a small advantage in that they know the river and how to race upstream.

Lake Karapiro – map attached. Easiest way is turn right off SH 1 and head into Leamington. Turn left into Browning St which carries on into Maungatautari Rd and follow it until you get to the lake. Beautiful venue with plenty of parking (usually pay \$5 per day to park). Some food and coffee to buy. 2000m course with lane markers and pedantic marshals. Some covered spectator areas, plenty of viewing seats at finish line. Nice trees to shelter from the sun.

Blue Lakes, Rotorua – look up on Google maps – from State Highway 30 take Tarawera Road, first lake you come to is the Blue Lake (Lake Tikitapu). Plenty of parking on domain (\$5 per day). Some food and drink to buy. No cell phone reception. Nice walking track around the lake. 1000m sprint race. Whole club attends and competes, plus stay together and have big club BBQ together on Sat night.

What to Bring

Clothing: Be prepared for all weather. Rain jacket, change of clothes, thermals, sun hat, beanie, warm socks, track-pants, sweatshirt.

Food: High energy snacks, recovery drinks, water, bananas, honey sandwiches, creamed rice, usual picnic food

Other: Sunblock, insect repellent, picnic rug, towel, blanket, folding chairs, umbrella, 10mm spanner

Regatta Schedule 2013-2014 Season

Takapuna Regatta	Lake Pupuke	Sat 26 October
Spring Regatta	Karapiro	Sat 16 th – Sun 17 th November
Bennett Shield	Lake Pupuke	Sat 23 th November
Karapiro Club Regatta	Karapiro	Sat 30 th November
Mercer Regatta	Mercer	Sat 7 th December
Xmas Regatta	Karapiro	Fri 13 th – Sun 15 th December
Blue Lakes Regatta	Rotorua	Sat 18 th - Sun 19 th January
Cambridge Town Cup	Karapiro	Fri 24 th – Sun 26 th January
NI Club Champs	Karapiro	Fri 7 th – Sun 9 th February
Head of Harbour	Lake Pupuke	Sat 15 th February
NZ Club Champs	Karapiro	Tues 18 th – Sun 23 rd February
Junior Regatta	Karapiro	Sat 1 st - Sun 2 nd March
NISS	Karapiro	Fri 7 th – Sun 9 th March
Maadi Cup (by selection)	Lake Ruataniwha	Mon 24 th – Sun 30 th March



= attended by all Mercer crews.

= attended by some Mercer crews.

= are sometimes attended.

= is a new one for Mercer this year as usually it clashes with our Mercer one.

Protocol for Regattas

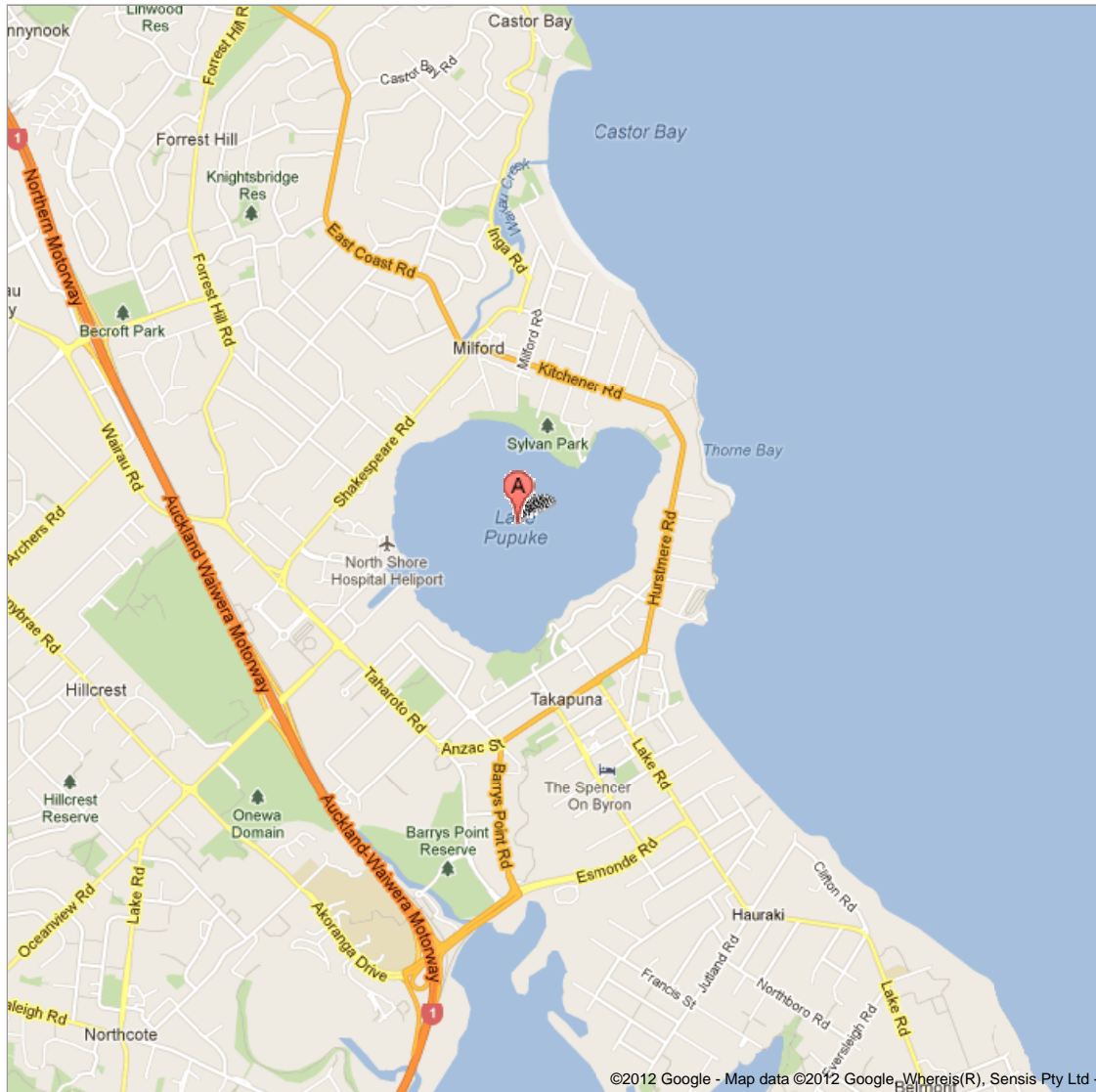
- Always turn up at the time the coach has told you to come – there are reasons you need to be there a while before your race, not least of all that your boat will need rigging up.
- Verbally support all Mercer Crews in the races.
- Always stay until the last Mercer crew has raced to cheer them on and also to de-rig boats and load the boat trailer. De-rigging and loading the trailer may be done by half the crew (as per the roster for loading and unloading) if your coach says that's OK.
- Parents are expected to: lend a hand with loading the boat trailer, listen to the club captain when handling boats, de-rigging, pick up rubbish and belongings, encourage crews, never demoralise, not interfere with the coach, shout until you are hoarse, bring loads of food and drink to regattas & teach your rower to pack their own bag of gear.

Boat Unloading

As per boat loading – half of each crew will return from the regatta directly to the clubhouse and will unload boats and equipment.



Address **Lake Pupuke**
Auckland





Address **601 Maungatautari Rd**
Maungatautari 3494

