



Date: 30 January 2022

To: Clubs & Volunteers participating in 2022 ERJC's

From: Sonia Keepa – Eastern Region Sport Manager

Subject: 2022 Eastern Region Junior Championships – CANCELLATION & Replacement event

As a result of the country moving to Red in the Covid Protection Framework (CPF) on Sunday January 23, Surf Life Saving New Zealand reviewed its ability to safely deliver large scale events where multiple Regions, Clubs and members are travelling to attend. This includes the 2022 Eastern Region Junior Championships (ERJC's) scheduled for 12th and 13th February 2022 at Waihi Beach.

The decision has been made to cancel the 2022 Eastern Region Junior Championships. This event has already attracted entries of over 200 from across the North Island, with close of entry still a few days away. Historically this event has attracted upwards of 450 junior competitors plus their families, event management, officials, safety crews and lifeguards.

We acknowledge that this is a difficult and upsetting message to receive but as an organisation primarily focused on the safety and wellbeing of our members and the public, we need to consider the wider public good, the communities in which our events are hosted along with the health of our own families, members, clubs and our wider communities.

With modification, control measures and robust risk assessment, SLSNZ can still deliver modified events within the restrictions of CPF Red. Competitions are limited to 100 participants in a defined space, when implementing proof of vaccination.

Implementation of event modification and council approval of the COVID safety plan we would like to offer an alternative event on **Saturday 12th February at Mount Maunganui Main Beach**. The delivery of this modified event will be based on Government Guidelines as community transmission rates are continually monitored and updated.

In order to deliver an alternative event within the Red CPF CVC there are a number of modifications that will be implemented;

- Full MVP event, as with all SLSNZ events, including QR scanning for event, MVP check station and registration for each designated area
- Restriction of entries to Eastern Region clubs only
- Restriction age groups to the following ages as per 2022 ERJC – U11, U12, U13 and U14
- Restrict event to 1 day only
- Modify program to allow delivery by reduction of type/number of events
- Implement a staggered start time for split gender/age groups
- All participants, competitors and workers, are identified by coloured wristband
- Defined arena's limited to 100 competitors plus necessary 'workers' (workers are those who are required to facilitate the event eg surf officials, water safety, event safety, lifeguards, work party/logistics)
- Split defined arena's based on age split/gender along beaches/locations as per council approval
- Mandatory mask wearing by everyone at all times except when competing
- Online Team Managers meetings/briefing's
- Designated COVID Coordinator
- No centralised Marshalling or club tents, pop up gazebo to provide shade and shelter for participants within the defined arena space, no walled tents
- No event catering (all 'workers' bring their own food for the day, water will be available for refilling water bottles)
- No spectators within defined event spaces

The enter now entry system will have the event **2022 ER Junior Day of Surf** open for entries from Midday Tuesday 1st February to 5pm Monday 7th February, Eastern Region Clubs will be able to enter junior athletes. Details will be posted on the SLSNZ website on the sport calendar. At the close of entries the program will be developed based on the number and gender split received.

Although disappointing that we are unable to deliver ERJC for the 2021-22 season, we hope it is understood that our intention is to safely deliver events as best we can at this current time.

Initial planning is also underway to provide an opportunity for U10's towards the end of the season.

Please do not hesitate to contact me in the first instance.

Nga mihi nui,



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