

Decision	19/059/2025
<u>IN THE MATTER</u>	the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
<u>AND</u> <u>IN THE MATTER</u>	of an application by Waitete Rugby Football Club Incorporated for a special licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act

DECISION OF THE DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. The application for a special licence is granted. The special licence may issue immediately.
2. Waitete Rugby Football Club Incorporated is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the premises situated at 55/57 Waitete Road, Te Kuiti to any person attending the Halloween Quiz Night on Friday 31 October 2025.
3. This licence is subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) A copy of this licence with all the conditions must be displayed in a prominent place so all persons can read it and all staff must be familiar with the conditions.
 - (b) Alcohol may be sold and supplied under the licence only on Friday 31 October 2025, from 6.30pm to 12midnight.
 - (c) Alcohol may be sold or supplied to people present participating in the event this licence is issued for.
 - (d) The area where alcohol is to be sold and consumed is described in the plan date stamped as received by the District Licensing Committee on 9 September 2025 and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (e) The holder of a manager's certificate or a properly notified manager shall be on duty and on the premises at all times alcohol is sold.
 - i. All staff will be trained in their responsibilities under the Act;
 - ii. Evidence of age documents will be requested from any person appearing to be under the age of 25.
 - iii. There must be no consumption of alcohol by staff or managers immediately before or during their shifts.

- (f) There must be no sale or supply of alcohol to minors or intoxicated persons. Appropriate signage outlining these restrictions must be clearly displayed at every point of sale.
- (g) Drinking water must be freely available from the bar and this must be clear to customers while the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
- (h) Food must be always available for consumption on the premises when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the menu submitted with the application for this licence: Grazing food platters on each table that are refreshed throughout the evening.
- (i) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be always available when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol.
- (j) A telephone must be readily available for customers to arrange transport, and staff must assist if required. Contact details for alternative transport options from the premises and the availability of a courtesy vehicle or sober driver services must be clearly displayed for customers.
- (k) The entire premises is undesignated.

REASONS

1. This is an application by Waitete Rugby Football Club Incorporated for a special licence to host a Halloween themed quiz night fundraiser at their premises on 31 October 2025. This application was received more than 20 working days prior to the event as required by section 137 of the Act.
2. The Liquor Licensing Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health have no objection to this application for a special licence (s 141). Accordingly, this application is decided on the papers (s 202).
3. The object of the Act is to ensure that the sale and supply of alcohol is undertaken safely and responsibly, and the harm caused by excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol is minimised (s 4). In deciding whether to grant a special licence, the District Licensing Committee must have regard to the criteria in s 142 of the Act. Therefore, this committee must consider the following questions within the framework of the purpose and object of the Act:
 - a) What is the nature of the event? Does the applicant propose to engage in the sale of goods or provision of services other than those directly relating to the sale of alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments and food?
 - b) Is the applicant suitable?
 - c) Will the amenity and good order of the locality be reduced to more than a minor extent by the effects of the issue of the licence?
 - d) Are the days and hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol reasonable?
 - e) Is the design and layout of the premises suitable? Are any areas of the premises designated restricted or supervised areas?
 - f) Does the applicant have appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law? What steps will the applicant take to ensure that alcohol is not sold to prohibited persons?
 - g) What proposals does the applicant have in relation to the sale and supply of non-alcoholic drinks and food, low-alcohol drinks and the provision of help with or information about alternative forms of transport from the premises?
 - h) Have the Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health raised any relevant considerations?
 - i) Does the application comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy?
4. Sections 146 – 149 of the Act outline the compulsory and discretionary conditions for a special licence.

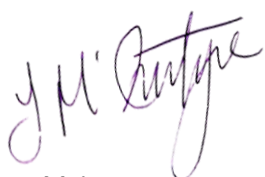
Should a special licence be granted?

5. The principal purpose of this event is the quiz and to fundraise for the club. Up to 100 people are expected to attend this ticketed event.
6. The licensing committee is satisfied that Waitete Rugby Football Club Incorporated is a suitable applicant to hold a special licence. The club currently holds a club licence, which is in the process of renewal and was considered at a hearing on 2 September 2025. It is acknowledged that there have been drink-driving (DIC) charges linked to the club within the past three-year period; however, the Committee is satisfied that remedial actions have since been taken to address those concerns, including strengthened host responsibility practices and clearer messaging around safe transport. A decision on the renewal has not yet been issued but, on this basis, the Committee considers the measures now in place to be sufficient for the management of this small-scale event. The issue of a special licence for these events will allow the applicant to sell alcohol to non-members of the club attending the event. A Duty Manager will be present on the premises for the duration of the proposed event to ensure compliance with the Act. The licensing committee is satisfied that the proposed hours are reasonable.
7. The Licensing Inspector reports that the application does comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy.
8. The licensing committee is satisfied that suitable measures will be taken to ensure that alcohol is sold and supplied responsibly, and that harm caused by inappropriate or excessive consumption of alcohol is minimised. Given the nature of the events and the venue it is not likely that the issue of the special licence will adversely affect neighbouring properties.
9. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The licensed area includes the interior of the clubrooms (bar, kitchen, office, and toilets), the enclosed deck on the left side of the building, and the covered outdoor beer garden. Clear signage is displayed to indicate the boundaries of the licensed area. Sufficient food, low-alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments as well as free water will be provided on each quiz table.
10. The licensing committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide information about alternative forms of transport from the premises, including a courtesy van and sober driver services and a free phone for customers to call those services.

Conclusion

11. The licensing committee is satisfied that the grant of the special licence with the appropriate conditions will ensure the safe and responsible supply of alcohol and the minimisation of harm caused by excessive or inappropriate use of alcohol.
12. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 13th day of October 2025



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee