

Decision	19-013-2026
<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 New Zealand Shearing Championships Inc 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. New Zealand Shearing Championships Inc is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the Les Munro Centre premises situated at 8 King Street East, Te Kuiti to any person attending the New Zealand Shearing and Wool Handling Championships 2026.
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 or supplied to people present participating in the event this licence is issued for.
 - (c) Alcohol may be sold under the licence only on the following days and during the following hours:
Thursday 9 April 2026, from 6.00pm to 11.00pm
Friday 10 April 2026, from 5.30pm to 11.00pm
Saturday 11 April 2026, from 6.30pm to 1.00am the following day (Bar to close at 12midnight).
 - (d) **A one-way door policy shall apply on Saturday 11 April 2026 from 10.00pm.** From this time, no patrons shall be admitted or readmitted to the premises.
 - (e) The area where alcohol is to be sold and consumed is described in the plan received via email by the Waitomo District Licensing Committee on **19 February 2026** and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (f) The licensee must comply with the Alcohol Management Plan supplied with the application and all staff must be trained in their responsibilities under the Act.
 - (g) A properly appointed certificated must be always on duty and on the premises when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol.
 - a. Evidence of age documents will be requested from any person appearing to be under the age of 25.

- b. There must be no consumption of alcohol by staff or managers immediately before or during their shifts.
- (h) A certificated duty manager is required for each point of sale when open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
- (i) 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.
- (j) Drinking water must be freely available from the bar, lobby, main hall and this must be clear to customers while the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
- (k) Food must be always available for consumption on the premises the premises is open for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the menu submitted with the application for this licence.
- (l) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be always available when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol.
- (m) A telephone must be freely available for customers to call for transport and staff must assist if required. Sober drivers must be made available to transport patrons from the premises and this assistance must be clearly displayed for patrons.
- (n) The entire premises is undesignated.
- (o) No BYO alcohol on the premises while alcohol is available for sale.

REASONS

1. This is an application by New Zealand Shearing Championships Inc is for the annual New Zealand Shearing and Wool Handling Championships to be held at the Les Munro Centre premises situated at 8 King Street East, Te Kuiti 9-11 April 2026. 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).
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?

Should the special licence be granted?

5. This is an annual event hosted by the New Zealand Sheering Championships Inc committee and is a recognised fixture dating back to 1985. Approximately 250 people are anticipated to attend on Thursday and approximately 500 people will attend Friday and Saturday's event. There will be a DJ during Saturday night between 10pm and 12pm. It will predominantly be adults present in this event however, children and teenagers may also be attending. The day events are entry by gold coin donation but evenings where alcohol will be available are ticketed (\$25 per person)
6. The application complies with the Waitomo Council Local Alcohol Policy. This year the proposed hours of the event have been pulled back to 1.00am the following day and now comply with the maximum hours permitted within Policy 4.b.(i).
7. New Zealand Sheering Championships Inc has consented to implement a one-way door policy from 10.00pm to 1.00am the following day for the Saturday night only. This policy will help reduce alcohol-related harm by limiting late-night entry and re-entry, when intoxication levels are typically higher. This helps prevent sideloading at the event and will help minimise loitering in the parking lot, the park opposite the venue and riverside lane. These one way door policy hours align with section 4(d) of the Waitomo District Council Local Alcohol Policy.
8. The licensing committee is satisfied that New Zealand Sheering Championships Inc is a suitable applicant to hold a special licence. New Zealand Sheering Championships Inc is entitled to hold an on-site special licence because the club holds a valid registration with Incorporated Societies register and has demonstrated compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. There are three certificated Duty Managers who are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act. It is a condition of this licence that a certified duty manager must be present at each bar when open for use. All staff receive training in the requirements of the Act. New Zealand Sheering Championships Inc have scheduled a pre-event meeting with all staff and volunteers to ensure everyone is aware of the Alcohol Management plan and the general conditions of the licence. In particular, all staff will be trained to implement the one-way door policy, including actively monitoring the entry and exit point to ensure that patrons who leave the premises are not permitted to re-enter.
9. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The premises is formed from bar, main hall, supper room, lobby, stage, deck, garden and competitors' room and includes an outdoor drinking area. There will be two bars open, one in the supper room and the other at the main hall. The Licensing Inspector reports that there is good visibility throughout the premises that allows staff to see what is happening. The entire premises is to be an undesignated area.
10. 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. An Alcohol Management Plan (AMP) has been prepared based on previous years and it includes measures such as a single point of entry manned by dedicated door staff who will be trained/de-briefed prior to the event, no ticket sales after 9pm for all events, bag searches at the

entry which will confiscate any alcohol being brought into the venue, and limiting the number of alcoholic drinks per person to two (2) alcoholic drink per purchase. In addition, there will be 7-8 bar staff checking ID and using wristbands for easy identification at bars, bag searches on entry and drinks are limited to 2 serves per person. There will also be six security guards from Armour Guard and Māori wardens patrolling inside and outside the venue. We are pleased to note that an incident book fwill be onsite for volunteers, committee members and staff to use.

11. Given the nature of the event and the venue it is not likely that the issue of the special licence will adversely affect neighbouring properties. The applicant has provided an undertaking to Police stating they will provide extra lighting in the grass reserve area opposite the Les Munro Centre, as well as make announcement that people are not to take alcohol with them from the event as they will be entering the liquor ban area.
12. 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

13. 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.
14. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 1st day of April 2026



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee