

Decision	19/004/2026
<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 Waitete Rugby Football Club Inc for a special licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act

DECISION OF THE WAITOMO DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. The application for a special licence is granted. The special licence may issue immediately.
2. Waitete Rugby Football Club Inc is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the premises situated at 57 Waitete Road, Te Kuiti to any person attending the annual Te Kuiti Rod and Custom Run, 6-8 March 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 under the licence only on the following days and during the following hours:
Friday 6 March 2026, from 5.00pm to 12midnight.
Saturday 7 March 2026, from 5.00pm to 12midnight
Sunday 8 March 2026, from 12noon to 5.00pm.
 - (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 **22 January 2026** 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 available for consumption on the premises at all times the premises is open for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the menu submitted with the application for this licence: cooked breakfast, rolls for lunch, bbq for dinner with accompaniments and sandwiches for supper. Sunday meat roast spit.
- (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.
- (l) No BYO alcohol is permitted on the premises while alcohol is available for sale.

REASONS

1. This is an application by Waitete Rugby Football Club Inc for a special licence for the annual Rod and Custom Run event to be held at their premises on the 6-8 March 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?

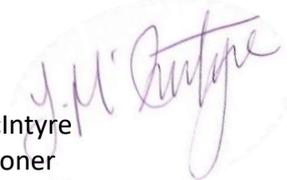
Should a special licence be granted?

5. The event is held annually, with the applicant expecting approximately 100 attendees. It spans three days, with most participants camping on-site. Saturday is the main day, featuring daytime games and competitions. Licensed hours will begin after the games conclude on both Saturday and Sunday.
6. The licensing committee is satisfied that Waitete Rugby Football Club Inc is a suitable applicant to hold a special licence. The club currently holds a club licence and has demonstrated compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. 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 proposed hours are reasonable.
7. The 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 alcohol is sold and supplied responsibly, and that harm resulting from inappropriate or excessive consumption is minimised. Waitete Rugby Football Club Inc and the Rod and Custom Club are reminded that no BYO alcohol is permitted on the premises while alcohol is available for sale. The club recently attended a hearing at which their systems and staff training were tested. They are further reminded of the updated licence conditions, including the requirement to maintain an incident book to record any alcohol-related harm, and of their ongoing commitment to identifying intoxication to reduce the risks associated with drinking and driving.
9. 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.
10. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The club house comprises of a bar and a kitchen. The outdoor shelter and decking area is included in the licensed area. The applicant will provide sufficient food, low-alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments. Free water will be provided.
11. The licensing committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide information about alternative forms of transport from the premises, including taxi services and Dial a Driver and a free phone for customers to call those services.

Conclusion

12. 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.
13. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 20th day of February 2026


Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee