

Decision	19-005-2025
<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 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 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 under the licence only on the following days and during the following hours:
Thursday 27 March 2025, from 6.00pm to 11.00pm
Friday 28 March 2025, from 5.30pm to 11.00pm
Saturday 29 March 2025, from 6.00pm to 1.00am the following day.
 - (c) A one-way door restriction applies on Saturday 29 March 2025 from 11:00pm until the end of the event. No one can enter or re-enter the event unless they are an exempt person.
 - (d) Alcohol may be sold or supplied to people present participating in the event this licence is issued for.
 - (e) The licensee must comply with the Alcohol Management Plan supplied with the application and all staff will be trained in their responsibilities under the Act.
 - (f) 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 31 January 2025 and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (g) A properly appointed certificated must be on duty and on the premises at all times when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol. If a duty manager is not present, then there must be no alcohol sales and a notice displayed advising the public of this fact.

- (h) A certificated duty manager is required for each bar when open for the sale of alcohol.
- (i) There must be no sale or supply of alcohol to minors or intoxicated persons and there must be displayed at every point-of-sale appropriate signs detailing these restrictions
- (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 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.
- (l) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be available at all times 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 displayed in a notice to patrons.
- (n) The entire premises is undesignated.
- (o) The entrances are to be monitored by COA security staff at all times and the outside areas to be monitored for pre-loading.
- (p) 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 on 27-29 March 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).
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?

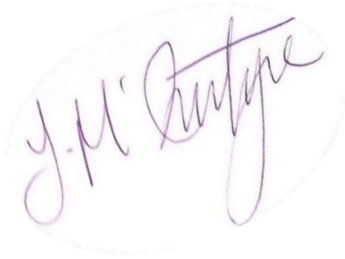
Should the special licence be granted?

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. It will predominantly be adults present in this event however, children and young adults will also be attending. The day events are free entry but evenings (when alcohol will be available) require a ticket for entry.
6. The licensing committee remains 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 5 certificated Duty Managers who are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act. 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 their condition of licence.
7. 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. Alcohol Management Plan includes a one-way door policy for Saturday night from 11.00pm, requiring ID for any patrons who look under 25 years and serve limits of two drinks per person per serve. There will be bar staff checking ID and conducting bag searches on entry and six security staff supported by Māori wardens patrolling inside and outside the venue. Additionally, there will be an incident book for volunteers, committee members and staff to use
8. The application complies with the Waitomo Council Local Alcohol Policy 2023, as this year's event has been scaled back to 1:00 AM, with the bar closing at midnight. This change was implemented in response to issues of disorderly behaviour on Saturday night at last year's event and to address Police concerns. A meeting was held between the New Zealand Sheering Championships Inc. committee, Police, and the licensing inspector to discuss these concerns. It was understood that the disorderly behaviour requiring Police attendance was not due to intoxication but rather a conflict between competitors. Nevertheless, closing the bar earlier will help reduce any potential alcohol-related harm.
9. 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 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. The Licensing Inspector reports that there is food 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 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 March 2025



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee