

Decision

19-040-2026

IN THE MATTER

the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND
IN THE MATTER

of an application by
**Tainui Wetere Domain Recreational Reserve
Society Inc** for a special licence
pursuant to section 138 of the Act

DECISION OF THE DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. This decision replaces the decision dated 27 July 2026 amending an event date in the series of events sought by the applicant in error. All other aspects of the decision remain the same. The application for a special licence is granted and the replacement decision may be issued immediately..
2. Tainui Wetere Domain Recreational Reserve Society Inc is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the premises situated at 5167 State Highway 3, Mokau to any person attending the Tainui Games being held between 8 August 2026 to 27 March 2027.
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 on the following days and during the following hours:

Rugby
Saturday 8th August 2026, from 12noon to 7:00pm
Saturday 5th September 2026, from 12noon to 7pm
Saturday 19th September 2026, from 12noon to 7:00pm
Saturday 3rd of October 2026, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm

Golf
Saturday 17th October 2026, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm
Saturday 14th November 2026, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm
Saturday 21 November 2026, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm
Saturday 5th December 2026, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm
Saturday 8th January 2027, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm
Saturday 6th March 2027, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm
Saturday 27th March 2027, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm
 - (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 received via email by the Waitomo District Licensing Committee on **23 June 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: a range of foodtrucks.
- (i) 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.
- (j) A telephone must be available for customers to arrange transport, and staff must assist if needed. Contact details for alternative transport options including a courtesy vehicle must be clearly displayed.
- (k) The entire premises is undesignated.

REASONS

1. This is an application by Tainui Wetere Domain Recreational Reserve Society Inc for a special licence for the Tainui Games to be held at the domain over several Saturdays from August to October 2026 (Rugby) and October 2026 to March 2027 (Golf). This application was received more than 20 working days prior to the event as required by s137 of the Act.
2. The Liquor Licensing Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health have no opposition 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?

Should the special licence be granted?

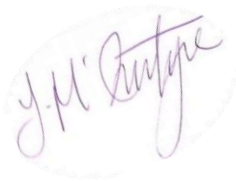
4. The Tainui Games comprise a series of sporting events held over several Saturdays, with the overall tournament intended to promote community sport, encourage use of the recreational reserve, and strengthen community connections. The event features two competitions: rugby and golf, with attendance at each event expected to be approximately 100–120 people across both sports. The rugby programme will feature men and womens teams playing off over the four Saturdays of the event period, with an Under-18 match curtain raiser where possible. The applicant has confirmed that if Under-18 games are held as standalone events, no alcohol will be sold or supplied. Alcohol will not be offered or discounted as prizes, with prizes expected to consist of vouchers, gifts, medals, or trophies. The land is owned by the Waitomo District Council, and permission to use the site has been granted. The Committee is satisfied that the proposed trading hours are reasonable.
5. The Licensing Inspector reports that the application does comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy.
6. The licensing committee is satisfied that Tainui Wetere Domain Recreational Reserve Society Inc is a suitable applicant to hold a special licence. Tainui Wetere Domain Recreational Reserve Society Inc is entitled to hold an on-site special licence because the organisation is incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and has demonstrated compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 in the past. There is 1 certificated Duty Manager who is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act. All staff receive training in the requirements of the Act. Staff assisting on the day will receive training during a working bee prior to the event to ensure they are aware of the requirements relating to the sale and supply of alcohol. Some staff have also completed the online Serve Wise course who will assist at the bar and with monitoring of the event.
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. There will be four reliable volunteers checking ID, and keeping watch on the event days.
8. 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 licensed area includes the clubrooms, kitchen, decking area, two marquees and the food truck area. The kitchen and changing rooms are not part of the licenced area. The Society has indicated the entire licensed area is to be undesignated. Signage is to be displayed that indicates where the licensed area ends with committee members monitoring this. The bar is centrally located.
9. The Licensing Committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide sufficient food, low alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments. Food will be available throughout the event and includes hot chips, pies, mini pizzas, and a variety of toasted sandwiches. A substantial evening meal comprising sausages, mutton chops, potatoes, bread, and salad will also be provided. Free water will be provided at the bar.

There will be free Wi-Fi for people to call for alternative transport, there will also be committee members who are able to drive people home.

Conclusion

10. 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.
11. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 19th day of August 2026



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee