

Decision 19-062-2025

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. The application for a special licence is granted. The special licence may issue 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 Mokau Polooza Community fundraiser on 31 January 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 Saturday 31 January 2026, from 3.00pm to 10.30pm.
 - (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 3 October 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 and there must be displayed at every point-of-sale appropriate signs detailing these restrictions

- (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 a community fundraising event to be held at the domain on 31 January 2026. 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 applicant proposes to hold a community fundraising event at the Tainui Wetere Domain, with an expected attendance of approximately 400 people of all ages. The event will feature live music, classic car displays, craft stalls, and games, and is intended to raise funds for the community. As the premises

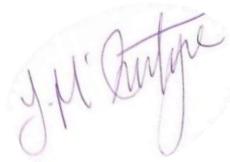
is not currently licensed, a special licence is required. Alcohol and food will be the only goods and services provided at the event. The land is owned by the Waitomo District Council, and permission to use the site was granted by email on 18 August 2025. The licensing committee is satisfied that the 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 reliable volunteers checking ID, the bar will be closed at a sensible time and there will be a number of volunteers who will be keeping watch on the day.
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 applicant 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. Free water will be provided at the bar. The use of a courtesy vehicle will be promoted as a safe option for transport home from the event.

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 17th day of December 2025



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee