START PROCEDURES

GENERAL START PROCEDURE FOR ALL CLASSES

IMPORTANT:

- Know the start procedure for each race you are competing in. Some races start two boats at a time, some start one at a time, some start 1 minute apart, some start 30 seconds apart.
- Know your starting grid position (You can record this on the sticker provided to you in your Competitors Pack at registration).
- You should start in the grid position you are given – no matter what. I.e. if there is a missing boat, this does not mean you move forward a position. Know your position, and stick with it!

TURN OFF your engine when you drop your skiers into and **ENSURE THEY ARE CLEAR BEFORE STARTING!**

If you miss your designated start time you may start after this time as long as you do not interfere with others who are in their correct positions. If you leave late - your time will be recorded from when you should have left not when you did leave. If you leave before your start time you will receive a penalty (per Bridge to Bridge rules), as well as your time being recorded from the time you did leave. If your boat is in front of the start boat when your flag drops, you will receive a penalty.

If your skier misses a start - please check behind you for other boats first, turn tightly, and travel down your rope to collect your skier. **DO NOT** make wide sweeping turns at any time!!

All start procedures will be gone over in detail at both Saturday and Sunday briefings. If you don't understand any of the start procedures, particularly the hold – make sure you speak with Brad Dutton about them. We are happy to help at any time.

Phone Brad 027 4102383 if you need help.

YAMAHA Rollos Marine

BRIDGE to BRIDGE

HOLD PROCEDURE - The hold procedure may be used in any class (except powerboats) should the starter deem a dangerous start zone is present.

DANGEROUS START ZONE - such as where a skier, skiers or boat are obstructing the clear path of a following/starting competitor, the start will be delayed by the starters for the following competitor.

A hold start means the starter will:

- Raise a yellow flag
- Lower the start flag (or keep it down if it already down)
- Announce via loud hailer that the start is delayed (if available)

The start will always be delayed to the minute.

Once it is safe to start, the starter will:

- Announce the restart is imminent by announcing " ready to start" (if available)
- Lower the yellow flag 60 seconds prior to the re-start
- Start to proceed as normal

Example:
For a race that starts at 12:00:00 pm the following timing would apply:

Time (hh:mm:ss)	Action
11:50:00	Airhorn sounded to signal 10 minutes to start
11:55:00	Two flags – Green and national to signal 5 minutes to start
11:59:30	Green flag lowered – indicating 30 seconds to start
12:00:00	National Flag lowered – skier enters water – first boat starts
12:00:50	National Flag raised, indicating 10 seconds to second boat starting
12:01:00	Second boat skier enters water, second boat starts

Then, at 12:01:40 the skier behind the second boat misses their start and it is not safe to start the third boat, so:

12:01:40	Yellow flag raised because course is not clear.
12:02:25	Course is now clear (second skier has either started, or is out of the way).
12:03:00	Yellow flag lowered (note that it is not lowered as soon as the course is clear – it is always to the minute.
12:03:50	National Flag raised, indicating 10 seconds to the third boat starting
12:04:00	Third boat skier enters water, third boat starts.

And so on.

If your start is delayed – your time will be recorded as the actual time that you left.

If you don't understand the hold procedure – make sure you speak with Brad Dutton

MASTERS, NOVICE, F5 1 UP & 80/70MPH /INVINCIBLES/ SUB JUNIORS

Masters, Novice,80MPH, F5 1UP & 70MPH

Hamilton to Taupiri and return
Race start: 9:00am

Starts: Hamilton 1 at a time, 1 minute apart
Taupiri 1 at a time, 30s apart

Starts will commence from just under the Bridge St Bridge, at Grantham Street Reserve. Ten minutes prior to the start an airhorn will be sounded, all boats will be required to come to the ramp side of the river, shut all engines off and line up in their start order. The observers will then be required to guide boat along the beach to the start. Pushers will be on hand on the beach and will allow the observers back into the boat before they push them off, just prior to their start.

No motors are to be started until clear of the pushers.

Five minutes prior to the first boat starting there will be two flags held up by the starter, these will be the National flag and a green flag and the number "1" will appear on the number board. Thirty seconds prior to the start the green flag will be dropped. On the drop of the national flag the first boat drops their skier into the water and starts. Your time starts as soon as the national flag drops.

The number "2" will then appear on the board, 10 seconds prior to the second boat's start, the National flag will be raised again (so at Grantham St end the green flag will be down for 50s, at the Taupiri end the flag will be down for 20s). When this flag drops again the second boat drops their skier in to the water and starts.

This system will continue until all boats have left. No skiers are to be out of the boat until the flag has dropped.

YAMAHA Rollos Marine

BRIDGE to BRIDGE

NOTE – There may be one empty slot, marked on the start sheet as "HOLD" between the Masters and Novice class. This will not affect anyone, it just means that no boat will start in this position.

The finish will be at Taupiri. **PLEASE DO NOT STOP AT NGARUAWAHIA**.

Return leg Starts from Taupiri to Grantham Street will conducted in the same manner, but with start being only 30s between each start. The Invincibles & Sub-juniors will also be included from this end.

5KM SPLASH & DASH / ANYTHING BUT A SKI / TADPOLES

Days Park to Grantham Street

Race start:	11:30 in between Finish of Masters/Novice and start of Family/Social
Starts:	Grids 1 min apart - Will be a grids of 4 (or per class)
Grid 1	Splash & Dash (if more than 4 then there will be additional grids before the 1st Anything but a ski competitor)
Grid 2	Anything But a Ski - Mass start
Grid 3	`Tadpoles

Once the last competitor in the Novice/Masters/F5 1 Up/80/70MPH/Invincibles/Sub Juniors race has returned to Grantham Street on their way back from Taupiri, competitors in the Splash & Dash/Anything But a Ski/Tadpoles race will leave Grantham Street and head for Days Park, and get ready to be started as soon as the starter arrives.

When you reach the finish line, please continue upstream by the Wellington Street beach before retrieving your skier or passenger and ski biscuit into your boat. Remember that other boats may be coming upstream. Keep to the boat ramp side of the river when heading back to the boat ramp. There will be buoys positioned by the boat ramp – when returning to the ramp you must stay between these buoys and the boat ramp.

YAMAHA Rollos Marine

BRIDGE to BRIDGE

SOCIAL, PARENTS & PARTNERS, 60MPH & FAMILY

Ngaruawahia to Hamilton
Race start: 12:00pm
Starts: 2 at a time, 1 minute apart

Ten minutes prior to the start an airhorn will be sounded. Five minutes prior to the first two boats being started there will be two flags held up by the start boat. These will be the National Flag and a Green flag. Mounted on the start boat will be a large number board. Boats should arrange themselves in their pairs in a grid position in order of start behind the start boat. You will be facing into the current and can therefore hold position.

Thirty seconds prior to the start the Green flag will be dropped and the number 2 will appear on the number board. This indicates to boats 1 and 2 that it is 30 seconds to start. On the drop of the National flag boat numbers 1 and 2 drop their skiers into the water and start. Your time starts as soon as the flag drops.

The number 4 will then appear on the board indicating to boats 3 and 4 that they are the next. 10 seconds prior to their start the National Flag will be raised again and when this flag drops they drop their skier into the water and go. This system will continue until all boats have left.

LONG RACE TIME TRIAL

Hamilton to Ngaruawahia and return
Race start: 2:00pm
Starts: 1 at a time, 2 minutes apart for Open Class, 1 minute apart for the rest at (both ends)

Starts will commence from just under the Bridge Street Bridge at Grantham Street Reserve. Ten minutes prior to the start there will be an airhorn sounded. All boats will be required to come to the ramp side of the river, shut all engines off and line up in their start order. The observers will then be required to guide boat along the beach to the start. Pushers will be on hand on the beach and will allow the observers back into the boat before they push them off, just prior to their start. No motors are to be started until clear of the pushers.

Five minutes prior to the first boat starting there will be two flags held up by the starter, these will be the National flag and a green flag and the number “1” will appear on the number board. Thirty seconds prior to the start the green flag will be dropped. On the drop of the national flag the first boat drops their skiers into the water, runs their ropes out and starts. Your time starts as soon as the flag drops.

The number "2" will then appear on the board, 10 seconds prior to the second boats start (i.e. 50 seconds after the first boat started) the National flag will be raised again. When this flag drops again the second boat drops their skiers into the water and starts.

This system will continue until all boats have left. No skiers are to be out of the boat until the flag has dropped.

Teams that miss their start on Leg 1 of the Time Trial will be scratched from that leg. Once the start is missed the team is to retrieve their ropes and skier and idle to the beach. Once all the boats have started Leg 1 the scratched teams may follow the sweep boat to the other end of the course and compete in the leg 2 start sequence. You may restart after a missed start on leg 2 providing that you don't impede any of the teams that are starting.

The finish will be at Ngaruawahia.

Return leg Starts from Ngaruawahia to Grantham Street will conducted in the same manner.

POWERBOAT SPRINTS

There may be alterations to this start procedure based on the entrants – changes will be notified at briefing.

08:55:00	5 minute hooter
08:58:00	TWO flags go (Green and National)
08:59:30	Green flag drops (do not start – this is just to let you know there is 30 seconds till 1st boat starts)
09:00:00	National flag drops and 1st 2 seeded boats go
09:00:20	National Flag will be raised to signal 10 seconds to start
09:00:30	National Flag will drop and next 2 boats will start
09:00:50	(ie 20 seconds later) later national flag is raised.
09:01:00	(ie 10 seconds after national flag is raised) national flag dropped) the next 2 boats go.

This sequence from this point is (2 at a time, 30 seconds apart) will continue until all powerboats have left.

Hamilton to Ngaruawahia and return
Race start: 9:00am
Starts: 2 at a time, 30s apart
The finish will be at Ngaruawahia.
Return leg Starts from Ngaruawahia to Grantham Street will conducted in the same manner.

JETSKI ,THUNDERCAT SPRINTS

Jetski Start
3 minutes following the last the Powerboat leaving the Jetskis will start this will be signalled by a national flag being raised 10 seconds before the (ie. 2:50 after the last powerboat
National flag drops and all jetskis go (Rolling start, behind start line)

Thundercat Start
50 seconds after national flag drops for Jetski start the national flag will be raised.
10 seconds after the national flag is raised it will be dropped and all boats go.

Ngaurawahia

As soon as the last craft reaches Ngaruawahia and we are sure the course is clear the hooter will sound signalling 5 minutes to the start and then the Green and National flags will be raised indicating 2 minutes to the start of the return leg per the above sequence.

RETRO RALLY - NOMINATED SPEED

Pukete Boat Ramp to Grantham Street – then return to Pukete Boat Ramp
Race start: 10:45am
Starts: Grids – Numbers will be determined at Sunday Briefing depending on Entry Numbers. 30 seconds apart
Race Start will be as soon as possible after the last Jetski/Thundercat comes through Pukete Boat Ramp.

LONG RACE

Cambridge to Taupiri – then return to Hamilton
Race start: 12:30pm
Starts: Cambridge 1 at a time, 1 minute apart
Taupiri 1 at a time, 30s apart

Start Procedure is the same as for the Saturdays Time Trials, however please note the shorter starting interval at Taupiri.