



**THE HALF MARATHON
23KM KAURI RUN / WALK – COMPETITOR BRIEFING NOTES
Saturday 5th May 2018**

THE EVENT

Welcome to the 14th Great Kauri Run

The Great Kauri run is an off road cross country run with a total distance of 23km. It starts at the White Star Station near Colville and finishes in the township of Coromandel. 200 years ago most of the Coromandel peninsula was covered in Kauri Forest. Today little remains of the original forest. We will plant a Kauri tree along the route for every competitor that takes part in the race and so that gradually over the years there will be an avenue of Kauri trees to run along. To date 3,110 trees have been planted a distance of 13km.

START

The start is at the White Star Station near Colville. The bus will take you to the start area. There will be a race briefing at 9.45am. You must sign in with the marshal at the tent near to the start – this is our safety control to inform us of who is starting the race. The race will start at 10.00am sharp.

FINISH

The finish line is in the Coromandel School playing fields. At the end of the Success Track you will come onto a sealed road. You follow this to the end and turn left onto the main road. Keep on the left-hand side of the road and follow it into town (there will be marshals). You will be directed left into Victoria Road and will have one final river crossing before being directed into the School Playing Fields. There will be a detailed map in your race packs.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Stage 1 – The White Star

The race starts from the White Star Station with the first 3km being relatively flat. You will then start on a 5km climb up to the telecom tower at a height of 441metres. This is where you will join the 32km course and is where the first aid station is located.

Stage 2 – The Central Divide

From the tower competitors have a 4km run to the Tokatea at the top of the Kennedy Bay Road. This is where the second aid station is located.

Stage 3 – The Kaipawa

This is the most technical part of the run starting with a short and steep ascent to the Kaipawa track. Competitors will make their way up carefully to the Kaipawa trig, a distance of 4km, which is the highest point on the course at 560 metres above sea level.

Stage 4 – The Success

From the trig is all downhill, a magnificent gradual 5 km descent along the old Success mining trail down into the township of Coromandel and the finishing line at the school fields.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- **Getting Lost**
The track is well defined and marked so please ensure that you keep to the track and follow the markings. In the unlikely situation of getting off the track retrace your steps to the previous marker.
- **Tree Roots and rocks**
Part of the track is very technical and some of the downhill descents can be slippery (particularly the Kaipawa Trig track). Be especially careful on these parts of the track (there will be warning signs)
- **Mine Shafts**
On some parts of the course, particularly the Kaipawa track and Success track there are hidden mine shafts located off the track. Under no circumstances should you deviate from the marked tracks.
- **Injury**
In the event of injury try and walk out or back to the nearest aid station. If you can't walk tell one of your fellow competitors that you are in difficulty and they will alert the nearest marshal. If you come across an injured competitor please help comfort them, stay with them if it is serious and ensure another competitor goes for help to the nearest aid station.
- **Hydration / Food**
Ensure you keep yourselves well hydrated and fueled during the event
- **Public Roads**
The course entails a number of public road crossings, at Waikawau Farm Park, Kennedy Bay Road Summit, Coromandel Hospital and Coromandel Town. Be sure to look out for traffic as you are crossing. These will be marshaled.

COMPULSORY EQUIPMENT / GEAR

The weather in Coromandel in May is generally settled but conditions can get very cold, wet and windy up on the Coromandel ranges at any time of the year. For this reason, you must carry or wear a windproof jacket and polyprop top and carry a survival blanket with you.

WATER AND FUEL STOPS

These will be provided at the following 2 points :

- The Junction at Ariel – 7km mark
- The Tokotea - 12km mark

There will be water and Leppin available along with some bananas, and jelly beans.

NUMBERS

Each competitor will be provided with a race number which must be visible at all times.

PRIZES

Prize Giving will be from 4.30pm by the finish area in the School Field. If it's raining we will move to the School Hall. The overall Men's and Women's winners will receive an Osprey Pack plus a free entry into next years race. There will also be a prize for the first man and women to reach the lookout. There will be prizes for the first three overall and prizes for the first two in each category.

RESULTS

These will be recorded on the web site after the race.

SAFETY / SECURITY

The race will be supported by comprehensive safety backup including land-based marshals and medical support on the course.

CONSIDERATION FOR THE LAND

To enable us to run this event we have sought permission from a number of private landowners, DOC and other interested parties. It is important that we treat the land that we pass through with respect. To this end it is a compulsory requirement that everyone carry out their own rubbish including personal waste.

KAURI DIEBACK

We ask you to clean all soil from footwear at home before checking in. Please also walk through the Kauri Dieback disinfection sponge mats that will be set up at the start.

BUS SERVICE

If you have opted to take the bus this will be leaving from outside the Registration at the School Hall at 8.30am on Saturday morning.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Bags will be available at registration to put in any personal property that you need taking back to Coromandel.