



**THE CLASSIC**  
**32KM KAURI RUN / WALK – COMPETITOR BRIEFING NOTES**  
**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 32km. It starts on the beach at Waikawau 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 Northern end of Waikawau Beach. The bus will take you close to the start area. There will be a race briefing at 10.00am before entry to the beach. You must sign in with the marshal at the gate – this is our safety control to inform us of who is starting the race. After the gate there is a walk along the path through the sand dunes to the start line on the beach. There are portaloos before the gate so please use these. The race will start at 10.30am sharp. You will also be required to clean your shoes prior to the start to prevent kauri dieback.

**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 – Waikawau**

The race starts on one of the most stunning beaches in NZ, Waikawau Beach. There is a 2km run along the beach before starting on the Waikawau Trail. This is where the kauri planting starts. The trail includes a number of stream crossings as it meanders its way gradually to the Waikawau lookout at the 8km mark and 350m above sea level.

**Stage 2 – The Central Divide**

From the look out competitors head across country up and onto the central divide. The central divide starts with a number of challenging ups and downs along the razor back ridge line until settling into a gentler gradient up to the high point at 520m. This is also the half way point of the race and is followed by a gradual downhill to the 23km point on the Tokotea at the top of the Kennedy Bay Road.

**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 which is the highest point on the course at 560 meters above sea level and 27km.

**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, either 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 3 points:

- Near the Top of the White Star Station – UFO landing site - 10km mark
- Junction at Ariel – 18km mark
- The Tokotea - 23km 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 a beautiful hand carved bowl made from kauri plus a free entry into next years race. 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. You will be directed to walk through the Kauri Dieback disinfection sponge mats that will be set up at the Waikawau Beach entrance.

## **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.