

MAITAHI STEERER SKILL LEVEL GUIDELINES

Feb 2014

Skill Levels	Skills Required	What to do to achieve this level	Where/When you can steer
<b>No Level</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No level has never steered or only steered at most a few times and has not yet got comfortable with controlling the Waka.</li> <li>Preparation of waka</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Email Safety Officer that you want to start steering training and he will give you an introduction to the foundations of steering</li> <li>Let level 2 or 3 steerers at your sessions know if you wish to try steering or get more practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Able to steer training sessions in any water at the discretion of a level 2 or 3 steerer in seat 5.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 1 – Entry Steerer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Able to have basic control of the waka, but has limited experience and exposure to different conditions/situations</li> <li>Knowledge of waterway rules &amp; by-laws, hazards in level 1 area, and club policies and procedures.</li> <li>Must be a competent paddler and have paddled and understand responsibilities of all seating positions</li> <li>Knowledge of rigging waka</li> <li>Able to read weather and tide conditions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain the following minimum experience with a level 2 or 3 steerer in seat 5 and have it noted in the steering log                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Steer a minimum of 10 sessions</li> <li>✓ Have participated in the righting of at least 3 overturned waka (one as a steerer observed by the Safety Officer).</li> <li>✓ Demonstrate that you are able to steer a relatively straight course; and have a basic understanding of waterway rules &amp; by-laws particularly in regard to right-of-way; hazards in level 1 area; and club policies and procedures.</li> <li>✓ Discuss responsibilities of all seating positions</li> <li>✓ Demonstrate checking and re-rigging the waka</li> <li>✓ Discuss weather and tide conditions</li> </ul> </li> <li>To be assessed, pls contact Safety Officer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Able to steer training sessions in any water at the discretion of a level 2 or 3 steerer in seat 5.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 2 – Proficient Steerer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All skills per level 1</li> <li>Proven ability to control the Waka and right a capsized Waka in moderate conditions level 2 areas.</li> <li>Proven ability to command the crew with clear firm instructions</li> <li>knowledge of waterway rules &amp; by-laws, hazards in level 2 areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain the following minimum experience with a level 3 steerer in seat 5 and have it noted in the steering log                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ At least 20 sessions in total</li> <li>✓ At least 5 sessions involving moderate winds, choppy conditions and strong tidal flow.</li> <li>✓ At least 4 sessions in the dark</li> <li>✓ At least 3 successful righting of over turned Waka (at least one with a skirt)</li> <li>✓ Consistent application of waterway rules and by-laws, club policies and procedures, and identification of hazards in level 2 area</li> <li>✓ Consistent clear communication to the crew</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to independently steer training sessions/races in level 2 areas under moderate conditions.</li> <li>Able to steer level 3 water training sessions/races, at the discretion of a level 3 steerer in +seat 5</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ One final session with Safety Officer where you will be required to demonstrate a general competence in all areas including the ability to avoid a collision by enlisting help of your crew</li> <li>• To be assessed, pls contact Safety Officer.</li> </ul>	
<b>Level 3 – Advanced Steerers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All skills as per level 2</li> <li>• Proven ability to control the Waka/crew and right capsized Waka in rough open water conditions</li> <li>• knowledge of waterway rules &amp; by-laws, hazards in level 3 areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain the following minimum experience with designated level 3 steerers in seat 5 and have noted in the steering log</li> <li>✓ At least 20 open water sessions in total</li> <li>✓ At least 5 sessions involving strong winds/choppy conditions in open water</li> <li>✓ At least 3 successful righting of over turned Waka in rough water (with skirts and safety boat)</li> <li>✓ Consistent application of waterway rules &amp; by-laws, policies and procedures and identification of hazards</li> <li>✓ Consistent clear communication to the crew</li> <li>✓ Ability to steer in surf</li> <li>✓ Ability to use VHF radios</li> <li>✓ One final session with the Safety Officer where you will be required to demonstrate a general competence in all areas including the ability to read conditions and understand the impact on the Waka</li> <li>• To be assessed, pls contact Safety Officer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to independently steer training sessions/races in all conditions with a competent crew</li> </ul>
<p><b>Annual huli</b> Every steerer to complete one huli per year at their level</p> <p><b>Reassessment</b> If you do not steer at your level for the season, then you will need to be reassessed to retain your level.</p> <p><b>Club policies and procedures</b> are set out in the Maitahi Club Guidelines</p> <p><b>Moderate water</b> refers to level 1 and 2 areas when wind is under 20 kms (11 Knots)/hr (white caps/rattling rigging in stored yachts)</p> <p><b>Rough open water</b> refers to level 3 areas in surf and windy conditions</p> <p>These levels aim to reflect who can competently handle a waka/crew in various conditions</p> <p>To complete the requirements, ask more experienced steerers to supervise you as you get the experience required to move between the levels</p> <p>Please complete the steering log after each session. This is your evidence to prove you reach the requirements</p>			

We ask all steerers to model and encourage good paddling technique, club rules and values.

Where possible, keep up to date with local and national water authorities, their guidelines and certification processes.

If you have a near miss or identify a hazard, please report the incident to the Safety Officer so that all steerers can benefit from the increased knowledge.

## DEFINITION OF LEVELS

<b>Level 1</b>	No longer applicable
<b>Level 2</b>	Inside the Nelson haven and harbour excluding the restricted areas specified by the NCC Bylaw 218 Navigation Safety 2012, outside the cut within 300m of land bounded in the north east by the Lighthouse, by the red Approach Beacon outside the cut, by the east side of the back bar and south west to Tahunanui Beach.
<b>Level 3</b>	Open water