

January 2023

Blokart News



New Zealand Blokart Association Inc (BAI)

Main points

- North Island Open
- Modified weight bands
- Manawatu Open
- 90 Mile Beach trip
- Photo Competition
- NZBAI Survey results



Upcoming Events

4, 5 February
Manawatu Open
Sanson

2 –5 March
90 Mile Beach trip
ABC

25, 26 March
North Island Open,
Napier

5 - 7 May
BBC Ohope Beach trip -
Ohope Beach

19, 20 August
ABC Club Champs
Auckland

7, 8 October
South Island Open
Westport Beaches

12-15 October
New Zealand Open
Wigram

23-26 November
90 mile beach trip

2023 North Island Open (NIO) in Napier on 25th and 26th March

After the 2022 being cancelled last November, the 2023 North Island Open (NIO) will now be held in Napier on 25th and 26th March.

Come and enjoy the friendly hospitality of the Blokart Hawkes Bay team and they'll hopefully provide some great sea breezes. The Notice of Race can be viewed on www.BAI.nz and the Entry Form is [here](#)



Modified weight bands for NIO

The Modified Flexible Weight Band format will be used for the NIO in Napier in March and the SIO in Canterbury in October. It is not simply splitting all weight divisions equally - it is an attempt at more efficient and fairer NZBAI events. More details are in the NIO Notice of Race [here](#) (The NZ Open will still use IBRA divisions)



Manawatu Open 2023
4th & 5th February 2023
Sanson Domain



Three weeks to go.
Complete your registration
on the club website
manawatublokartclub.nz

Entrance fees (for details see NoR)
Adult \$50 per (includes Saturday BBQ)
Youth \$30 (includes Saturday BBQ)
Production
Performance
Cruiser

Register at www.manawatublokartclub.nz

ABC 90 Mile Beach Trip: 2-5 March 2023



The Auckland Blokart twice yearly 90 Mile Beach trip is a social event that brings together Blokart sailors of all abilities from around the country and beyond. The location allows for great beach sailing under various wind conditions, with the west and east coast only 20km apart. The event includes handicapped and fun races, as well as one serious race, the Orca Memorial race, which is held in memory of Dave "Orca" Bush, who started these trips to 90 Mile Beach many years ago. The event officially runs from Thursday to Saturday, with people driving home on Sunday morning, but some people choose to arrive earlier in the week.

Contact Mark Stuhlman at ABC by the end of January if you are interested: markkirsty@xtra.co.nz

Photo Competition



Who is this man? Why was he on 2 wheels instead of 3 at the Blokart Worlds?

Provide the best photo caption that answers these 2 questions and you will have the first draw in the lucky prize competition at the North Island Open in Napier on 25th, 26th March. Send your entry to:

tonyun62@gmail.com

NZBAI survey results

Only 45 respondents (from 279 members)

A summary of some of the responses:

- 72% of respondents are over 60yrs old, Only 10% are younger than 50yrs old
- 98% know the basic rules, 72% are confident with rules
- Only 2 respondents had not attended an NZBAI event in the last year
- NZBAI newsletter and club newsletter were the main ways people found out about events
- 87% thought event entry fees were fair value for money
- The majority (59%) would prefer events to be held over a long / holiday weekend
- Timing for dinner was almost evenly split between the Sat and Sun nights
- Only 10% want divisions to be evenly split, the majority prefer using the IBRA weight divisions
- The most preferred type of start was an upwind start with dial up direction nominated. Cross wind starts were also popular.
- 77% wanted technical courses set with upwind and downwind sections
- 70% now hire a transponder with 43% of those due to expire in the next 12months
- 67% intend to make at least an overnight trip for blokart events in the next 12 months. 13% intend to travel overseas.
- The favourite NZBAI event is the NZO, followed by the NIO. Teams racing is the least popular
- Ohakea is by far the favourite venue, followed by Sanson track.
- Only 8% disagreed that Blokart was their main sporting activity
- Most respondents want to see increased days for club racing

Other comments and general feedback can be seen in the individual responses. In general comments mentioned were...

- Events are generally well run by NZBAI
- Early notification of the years events important for yearly planning
- Lack of knowledge of rules is an issue for some