



ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Application	018-0615
<u>IN THE MATTER</u>	the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
<u>AND</u> <u>IN THE MATTER</u>	of an application by Ōtorohanga Sports Club Incorporated for a special licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act

DECISION OF THE DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. The application for a special licence is granted. The special licence may issue immediately.
2. Ōtorohanga Sports Club Incorporated is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the premises situated at Orahiri Terrace, Ōtorohanga to any person attending the Polocrosse NZ Carnival on 27-28 March 2026.
3. This licence is subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) A copy of this licence with all the conditions must be displayed in a prominent place so all persons can read it and all staff must be familiar with the conditions.
 - (b) Alcohol may be sold under the licence only on the following days and during the following hours:
Friday 27 March 2026, from 6.00pm to 10.30pm
Saturday 28 March 2026, from 6.00pm to 11.30pm
 - (c) Alcohol may be sold or supplied to people present participating in the event this licence is issued for.
 - (d) The area where alcohol is to be sold and consumed is described in the plan date stamped as received by the District Licensing Committee on **26 February 2026** and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (e) The holder of a Manager's Certificate or a properly notified manager shall be on duty and on the premises at all times alcohol is sold.
 - (f) There must be no sale or supply of alcohol to minors or intoxicated persons. Appropriate signage outlining these restrictions must be clearly displayed at every point of sale.

- (g) Drinking water must be freely available from the bar and this must be clear to customers while the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
- (h) Food must be available for consumption on the premises at all times the premises is open for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the menu submitted with the application for this licence: Main meal including hot and cold meat meals, bread buns and salads.
- (i) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be always available when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol.
- (j) A telephone must be freely available for customers to call for transport and staff must assist if required. Telephone numbers for alternative forms of transport, including sober driver services and the availability of a courtesy vehicle, must be displayed and promoted.
- (k) The entire premises is undesignated.

REASONS

1. This is an application by Ōtorohanga Sports Club Incorporated for a special licence for a sports event hosted by the Polocrosse Waikato Association to be held at their premises on the 27-28 March 2026. The application was filed more than 20 working days prior to the event as required by s 137 of the Act.
2. The Liquor Licensing Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health have no objection to this application for a special licence (s 141). Accordingly, this application is decided on the papers (s 202).
3. The object of the Act is to ensure that the sale and supply of alcohol is undertaken safely and responsibly, and the harm caused by excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol is minimised (s 4). In deciding whether to grant a special licence the District Licensing Committee must have regard to the criteria in s 142 of the Act. Therefore, this committee must consider the following questions within the framework of the purpose and object of the Act:
 - a) What is the nature of the event? Does the applicant propose to engage in the sale of goods or provision of services other than those directly relating to the sale of alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments and food?
 - b) Is the applicant suitable?
 - c) Will the amenity and good order of the locality be reduced to more than a minor extent by the effects of the issue of the licence?
 - d) Are the days and hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol reasonable?
 - e) Is the design and layout of the premises suitable? Are any areas of the premises designated restricted or supervised areas?
 - f) Does the applicant have appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law? What steps will the applicant take to ensure that alcohol is not sold to prohibited persons?
 - g) What proposals does the applicant have in relation to the sale and supply of non-alcoholic drinks and food, low-alcohol drinks and the provision of help with or information about alternative forms of transport from the premises?
 - h) Have the Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health raised any relevant considerations?
 - i) Does the application comply with the Ōtorohanga District Local Alcohol Policy?

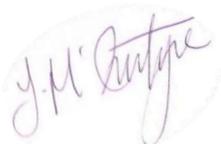
Should a special licence be granted?

4. The sporting event will be held over three days, but Polocrosse Waikato has requested use of the Ōtorohanga Sports Club clubrooms and bar for two evenings: Friday 27 March and Saturday 28 March 2026. Up to 90 people of all ages are anticipated to attend each evening. As this is a sporting event, club members and supporters are expected to participate in activities during the day, followed by meals and socialising in the evenings. Alcohol consumption is not the primary purpose of the event, and unaccompanied minors may be present therefore the event is undesignated.
5. The licensing committee is satisfied that Ōtorohanga Sports Club Incorporated is a suitable applicant to hold a special licence. The club currently holds a club licence and has demonstrated compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. The issue of a special licence for this event will allow the applicant to sell alcohol to non-members of the club attending the event. A Duty Manager will be present on the premises for the duration of the proposed event to ensure compliance with the Act. The licensing committee is satisfied that proposed hours are reasonable.
6. The Licensing Inspector reports that the application does comply with the Ōtorohanga District Local Alcohol Policy.
7. The licensing committee is satisfied that suitable measures will be taken to ensure that alcohol is sold and supplied responsibly, and that harm caused by inappropriate or excessive consumption of alcohol is minimised. The function is not being advertised on social media and security has been discussed.
8. Given the nature of the events and the venue it is not likely that the issue of the special licence will adversely affect neighbouring properties.
9. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The clubrooms are on the first floor and are accessed via a stairway from the car park (the ground floor encompasses changing rooms and two squash courts). The premises are open plan and staff can observe patrons as they move around the premises. The bar is positioned so persons in the clubrooms, including the deck, can be monitored by staff. The licensed area includes the outdoor deck area. The applicant will provide sufficient food, low-alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments.
10. The licensing committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide information about alternative forms of transport from the premises, including sober driver services and a courtesy van and a free phone for customers to call those services.

Conclusion

11. The licensing committee is satisfied that the grant of the special licence with the appropriate conditions will ensure the safe and responsible supply of alcohol and the minimisation of harm caused by excessive or inappropriate use of alcohol. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 24th day of March 2026



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Ōtorohanga District Licensing Committee