



## 2016 RACE REPORT

Another wet start to the Cambridge to Hamilton paddle race, but it did not deter the keen paddlers with a record number attending and large increases in the Corporate/family double section, sup and multisport which is very encouraging for the sport. The river was flowing high and there was very little wind, without the rain it would have been perfect conditions.

It was a record breaking year for the Sup's with JP Toblin smashing the race record in sup with a time of 1.45.17, followed just behind by young Marcus Hansen's impressive time of 1.45.36.

First Women Penelope Armstrong also set a new women's record of 1.57.36. Great performances by these competitors, setting some high standards for the future years.

The numbers for the Surf ski division were slightly down but there was still a very competitive field. Mike Walker and Andrew Mowlem battled it out the front finishing with a dead heat running across the finish line together in a time of 1.28.48.

First women Surf ski paddler was Hannah Wells in a time of 1.46.26

The multisport class was dominated by juniors, Whakatane paddler Oliver Thompson in a time of 1.40.49, took the men's section and St Peters student Clare Milne took out the women's race.

The corporate/ family section who paddle in Barracuda AR duo's, saw close racing, LIC team of Richard Spellman and Thomas Johnson crossed the line first, with a mix Regional Council team of Lyndell McGregor and Vaughn Payne coming in second.

This year really showed some great racing in other division's as well, all times and placings are on our website.

Overall it was a great day for anyone wanting to paddle this beautiful section of the Waikato River. We can only see this race growing in years to come and are excited to continue bringing this race to the mighty Waikato.

Race Director,

Richard Clark