

COMPETITION RULES AND INFORMATION 2026

HUNTING starts Friday 26th June at 9:00 am till Sunday 28th June 9:00 am. The hunting can take place in any location, during the cull dates. As per usual hunting protocol, permission must be obtained if accessing any private land. Firearms safety is paramount at all times.

WEIGH IN TIMES

10.00 am Sunday 28th June Count up / Weigh in opens and begins (follow the signs around to the field at the back of the school)

11.30 am all animals must be at Kaharoa School for Counting Up and Weighing in. Any animals arriving after 11:30 am will not be included in prize categories but participants can still be eligible for spot prizes.

1.00 pm Prizegiving (or sooner if animals have all been weighed in and judging is complete)

WEIGH IN INFORMATION:

When you arrive you will drive into the school carpark and around to the back of the school fields. These stations open at 10am (no earlier sorry).

Stop #1 – Count up and weigh station for possums, rabbits and hares. A judge will record the number of animals you have in each category and the weight of your selected animals.

Stop #2 – Count up and weigh station for Maggie's and wallabies. A judge will record the number of animals you have in each category and the weight of your selected animals

Stop #3 - Count up and weigh station for big kills and the open class. A judge will record the number of animals you have in each category and the weight of your selected animals

Stop #4 – Best Dressed Carcass Station. After your animal has been counted, weighed (if it needs to be weighed) and if you plan to enter this category, ask for your animal to be returned and you can dress it up and take it to the Best Dressed table and area. (It must not be dressed up while being weighed but we'd love to see your dressed up animals after weighing in).

Best Team Name – picked by an anonymous person on the day of weigh in.

FULL DISCLOSURE: The "Kaharoa Cull" is being organised by a small group of volunteers from the Kaharoa School PTA. Many of these volunteers have families keen on hunting and are participating as paid entrants in this competition. These entrants also have the right to compete for prizes. Independent judges are weighing animals and compiling results.

NO FIREARMS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS – stow your firearms safely before coming up to Kaharoa School for the weigh in/count up and prize giving.

As this is a Pest Hunt, the main prize is for the category of "Team with Most Animals Culled".

Other prize categories are based on average weight, not overall heaviest animal.
Average weight = total weight divided by number of entries.

POSSUMS

Possums are being sold in their entirety to a purchaser for fur, but are graded as whole animals. The better the condition of the possum, the more money the PTA will get for the animal. All possums are to be as clean and dry as possible. Following are the buyers specifications, if possumble (you see what we did there??) the buyer recommends the following:

- Ideally, possums should be spread out to cool down, but need to be kept out of the moon and sun.
- Hanging possums somewhere dry is a good way to cool and keep them clean and away from cats and dogs.
- Plastic bags, drums, buckets, sacks etc are no good to keep or transport possums in. PLEASE DO NOT USE ANY OF THE ABOVE.
- Preferably possums to be headshot were possible.
- Shotguns make a mess of the possum so .22 or similar is the preferred choice.
- No frozen or rotten possums will be accepted.
- All JOEYS are to be REMOVED and HUMANELY disposed of before coming to school grounds.

And remember the cleaner and drier the possum, the more Kaharoa School benefits.

RULES FOR PIGS & DEER CONTESTANTS:

All pigs/deer must be wild. No domestic types are eligible.

Where 2 pigs/deer are the same weight or measurement, the first animal weighed takes the prize.

All pigs/deer must be in edible condition.

All pigs/deer must be taken within the advertised times of the competition.

No frozen pigs/deer.

All offal and anus must be removed.

Pigs/deer must be weighed in one piece with the head attached.

Pigs/deer must be weighed in by the entrant who caught the animal.

Pigs minimum weight 50lb

The judges/scrutineers decision is final.

RULES FOR OPEN SECTION CONTESTANTS:

Open section is open to any legal pest animal species not already included in another competition category (no cats will be accepted).

All entries must be wild and taken within the advertised competition dates.

Animals must be presented in a clean and respectful condition.

No rotten, heavily decomposed, or frozen entries will be accepted.

Entries must be brought in by the entrant or their nominated team member.

Judges/scrutineers reserve the right to inspect and refuse any entry.

In the event of a tie, judges' decision is final.

All hunting and firearms laws must be followed at all times.

Please respect landowners, stock, waterways, and the environment while participating.

This section is intended to encourage safe, responsible pest control and community involvement.

Good luck, Shoot Straight, See you Sunday 28th June

Thanks so much for taking part, helping our environment and getting out with your mates and families.