

Lake Karapiro is one of the world's leading rowing courses and has hosted World Rowing Championships in 1978 and 2010.

When deciding to award the 2010 event to Lake Karapiro, the International Rowing Federation said the lake provided one of the fairest courses in the sport and was one of the most picturesque lakes in the world.

Rowing New Zealand's National High Performance Training Centre is located at the Mighty River Domain, beside the lake and only 7km from Cambridge, and has produced local world champion rowers such as Rob Waddell, Mahe Drysdale, the Evers-Swindell twins, Georgina and Caroline, and 2012 Olympic gold medalists Hamish Bond and Eric Murray.

Karapiro Rowing hosts at least eight regattas a year between September and April (the rowing season). These range from school events to national, regional and North Island club championships.

One of the biggest annual regattas is the New Zealand (Maadi Cup) Secondary School championships, held every second year and usually in March, attracting up and coming rowers from the entire country.

The large regattas mean hundreds of competitors and supporters are often requiring accommodation but Cambridge is well used to coping with the influx of visitors. As well as motels and B&B accommodation, there are a number of camps and venues capable of hosting large numbers. For information, contact the Cambridge i-SITE Information Centre beside the Town Hall.