



2018 New Zealand Canoe Polo National League Championships

Official Format C & D Grade

Updated – September 2018

NATIONAL LEAGUE FORMAT C & D Grade

The National League Championships C & D Grade will be a series of two (2) ranking tournaments in each island culminating in separate Finals competitions where teams will be entered in ranked pools (i.e. 2 even numbered pools, ranked top half and bottom half) based on the previous ranking tournaments results.

- The ranking tournaments shall be held:
 - North Island :16/17 March (mid north island), 13/14 April (upper north island)
 - South Island: 16/17 March (upper south island), 4/5 May (Dunedin - Moana Pool)
- Grand Finals: 1-3 June (Wellington – Naenae Pool)
 - Exact venues (except those stated) to be confirmed once club applications to host have closed.
- South island teams wish to play C grade but do not wish to attend finals in Wellington they will be allowed to enter C grade and indicate upon entry that they will not be attending finals. There will be a reduced entry fee for teams who indicate upon entry they will not be attending finals (south island teams only).
- To encourage team and club participation in South Island C grade, both south island rounds of SI C grade will be opened to any “social” teams of the appropriate level to compete and support the SI C grade teams. “Social” teams will not be eligible for National League points and the exact nature of the format of the competition and entry fee for social teams will be organised with SI clubs once C grade entries have closed.
- Entries will be capped for Open and Women
 - Open D grade will only go ahead if entries are sufficient, otherwise all teams will be accommodated by Open C grade.
 - Any team who wishes to play in a particular grade is encouraged to enter, places in these grades will be based on the previous seasons results and at the discretion of the competitions council.
 - Teams who miss out on places in their preferred grade will be encouraged to play in the grade below.
 - The intention of capping grades is to have better consistency of games for all teams and less disparity between top and bottom teams within a grade and that the teams best suited to a particular grade will be the ones which qualify. The process and decision for teams to qualify is to be done within the spirit of the rules intention.
- All C-grade teams are required to supply one **District referee unique to their team**. The nominated referee must at least have qualified in theory prior to the first competition. That referee must achieve a practical qualification prior to the end of the Grand finals. Failure to comply will result in a \$50 per tournament fine.
- Games shall be played under the 2017 ICF rules, unless exceptions are made by the organising committee.
- Shot-clock is not in operation for C grade.
- Player's may only compete for one club.
- Teams are club based, all members of a team must belong to the club they are playing for.
- If any club wishes to enter two or more teams in the same grade they must provide distinct team lists that will apply for the duration of National League. Players may not move between two teams in the same grade at any time.
- If a club enters teams in more than one grade, i.e., A grade and B grade, players may not move between these teams. The exception to this rule is for women who may play for a women's team in A grade or B grade and simultaneously represent the same club in an Open team in a different grade. Players may not play in two different grades for Open or Womens (eg. no player may play Open A and Open B in the same season).
- Any player red carded in a game automatically receives a 1 game ban for the next game that player is due to play for that team during National League.

Regional / Island based tournaments: C grade

- The draw for the C grade tournaments should be available at least two (2) weeks before each tournament and will be determined by the Competitions Council in partnership with team managers.
- The draw format will be flexible to meet the requirements of teams in each island.
- All games shall be played on a court that meets the requirements of the NZ Canoe Polo Rules and have timing and scoring systems clearly visible to players and the public viewing areas.
- NZ Canoe Polo shall be responsible for booking and meeting the expenses of venues, providing competition quality balls; organising referees, scorers and timekeepers.
- Draw formats for all 3 tournaments will be circulated after entries have closed.

Finals Tournament:

- The Competitions Council shall determine the tournament draws.
- NZ Canoe Polo shall be responsible for booking and meeting the expenses of venues, providing competition quality balls; organising referees, scorers and timekeepers.
- The Final Tournament will run on 30-minute turnarounds. I.e. 10 min halves and a 3 min half time. Some discretion will be allowed in consultation with team leaders.

Points and placing:

Points shall be awarded from the ranking tournaments for final placings only and as follows:

- 1st 20 points
- 2nd 16 points
- 3rd 14 points
- 4th 12 points
- 5th 10 points
- 6th 9 points
- 7th 8 points
- 8th 7 points
- 9th 6 points
- 10th 5 points
- 11th 4 points
- 12th 3 points
- 13th 2 point
- 14th and below 1 point

If a team defaults an entire round (eg. they do not attend) they will receive 0 points for that round.

Rankings at the tournaments and placings at the end of round robin pool play shall be determined according to the 2017 ICF rules which state:

Three points are awarded for a win, one point for a draw, and zero points for a loss or if a team misses a game.

Where two or more teams have gained the same number of points, they shall be ranked in order according to the following procedures: (a) Goal difference from non play-off groups that included both teams; (b) Total number of goals scored in non play-off groups that included both teams; (c) Results of all games between the two teams; (d) Play Off, if possible, (e) The most recent result.

Elimination games and games to determine final ranking places shall comprise of:

- Two periods of 10 minutes with a 3 minute half time
- If the scores are equal at the end of play, a 1 minute break followed by periods of 3 minutes of sudden death play shall commence (1 minute between periods).
- If the scores are equal at the end of play in **Grand final matches**, a 1 minute break followed by periods of 5 minutes of sudden death play shall commence (1 minute between periods).

Entries:

- All entries close on Sunday January 20th 2019. Strictly no late entries will be accepted. Entry forms to be completed online. Any correspondence to Competition Director: Jed Graham nzcpacompetitions@gmail.com
- Entries are to be completed online via the National League entry form
- Full team lists must be supplied via online form by Sunday February 24th 2019. Team lists can be updated during the season in writing to the Competitions Director.
- National League entry fee is **\$800** per C grade team. Full payment must be made to New Zealand Canoe Polo no later than Sunday April 28th 2019. Teams that haven't paid by this date won't be eligible to play in the finals tournament.

Disputes:

Any formal disputes during a tournament will be handled according to clause 6.0 of the Association Disputes Policy and section 79 of the International Canoe Federation Canoe Polo Competition Rules. If the competition has been concluded the case will be referred to the Board.