



Major Inline Hockey Events

Event Notice for New Zealand National Club Championships

The National Club Championships is the culmination of the regional club championship which has occurred during the 2014 season.

Organizing Authority

- The organising authority for the National Club Championships is the New Zealand Inline Hockey Association.
- The Tournament Director is appointed by the New Zealand Inline Hockey Association Executive.

Venue and Dates

Dates:- School Holidays Sept 27 – Oct 5, 2014

Venue:- **New Plymouth Arena**

Rules

- The National Club Championships will be conducted under the NZIHA Constitution, NZIHA Policy, NZIHA Official Rule Book and this Event Notice.
- Where the NZIHA Rule Book and the Event Notice conflict the Event Notice will take priority.

Sportsmanship

- All participants involved in NZIHA sanctioned events will be expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner, promoting a positive environment and comply with the provisions of the relevant NZIHA Codes of Conduct and Event Notice Rules.
- All parties are expected to observe the following, on and off the rink;
 1. Treat each player with respect.
 2. Observe appropriate standards for developing our youth.
 3. Provide a safe playing environment for all participants.
 4. Show proper respect for referees, coaches and all other officials.
 5. Refrain from using inappropriate language.
 6. Show respect for facilities provided for inline hockey.

Eligibility

1. All players must hold current NZIHA registration for the club they are playing for prior to competing.
2. **For 2014 Only**
 - a. **Male players:** Male players can play for only one team at National Club Championships with the exception of players playing in their club U19 grade team at 2014 National Championships. These players may play in one other team from the same club providing age and membership criteria are met.
 - b. **Female players:** Female players may play for a mixed team (abiding by age grade eligibility rules) and also for a Senior Women's team but only for the same club holding the individual's registration. Female players may also play Under 19 where their club fields an Under 19 team at National Championships provided they are eligible to play in an Under 19 team.
3. *To preserve team integrity, the following criteria must be observed;*
 - a. When players have played in a regional club championship within the current season and thereafter transfer to another club they are ineligible to continue playing in the regional club championship or at the national club championship unless a transfer and dispensation have been granted. NZIHA will not consider transfers after September 1st of the current season.
 - b. *Players shall be entered as playing for one team;*

- i. with the exception of players eligible to play in the Under 19 grade where a specific dispensation has been approved as detailed in Eligibility Clause 2 (a&b) for 2014 only.
- c. When players have played for other teams of any higher age grade or division on more than three occasions they are ineligible to play down.
- d. When goalkeepers have played in goal for other teams of any higher age grade or division on more than six occasions they are ineligible to play down.
- e. When a club has two teams in the same division, players and goalies may play for only one team in the regional club championships.

Special Eligibility & Dispensation in 2014

The NZIHA Board advise that the following two initiatives will apply in 2014.

1. Under 18 Grade Will Become Under 19 Grade

The initiative trialled in 2013 related to the U18 grade will be extended to 2014, but the grade will be Under 19 grade. Herewith, included in the Regional League Notice. The Under 19 grade will be included in the teams offered competition at nationals noting the following

1. Extended to the 2014 season and;
2. Is subject to more than three teams from different clubs advising entry to National Championships on or prior to July 31st, 2014.
3. No concession to game scheduling will be made.

Using the following rules:

- a. All players must only play for ONE club, be registered for that club and be registered prior to July 31st, 2014. (The "Players of other nationalities" clause below still applies)
- b. A club Under 19 team roster shall only include players eligible to play in an Under 19 grade team.
- c. Male players in an Under 19 grade team may play in an Under 19 team and also in one other club team subject to registration and age eligibility.
- d. Female players playing in a club mixed team and a women's team may play in an Under 19 team subject to registration and age eligibility.
- e. For the 2014 National Championships a player participating at nationals in a club U19 team is exempt from the play up/ down/ across rules currently observed in the regional event notices. Age eligibility rules still apply.

2. Age Grade Team Viability

To build the game and provide a viable opportunity for Clubs to field age grade teams rather than being unable to field a team in that grade, NZIHA will allow players to play across grades under certain conditions. The expectation of NZIHA is that this exemption is to assist club's grow their membership in age grade teams. This is not about 'fielding the best team' this is about 'the ability to field a team'.

- The intent is to 'build the game", this exception will be trialed in 2014 and will be subject to review.
- **Method of Application:**
 - a. Application is on a case by case basis, and must be submitted for consideration prior to April 20th, 2014
 - b. The Club needs to prove that they are unable to field a viable team without an exemption (for example supplying the register of dates of birth for players in all grades affected by the exemption application.).

- c. If the exemption is approved the club representative (President or Secretary) acknowledge responsibility to ensure the exemption is applied correctly and that players can only play in their age grade and one grade above.
 - d. Acknowledge that no player may play "down" ie under their age grade.
 - e. The threshold for a viable team is 8 skaters and a goalie
 - f. Applications to be made to Regional Chair and NZIHA Operations.
4. Players of Other Nationalities: Players of other nationalities may play in major New Zealand Competitions with NZ Club Teams, however they must have resided in NZ for at least 28 days, or have the prior approval from the NZIHA Executive. *This will be waived if the player has arrived in New Zealand and is registered with a club and NZIHA prior the final date of registrations.* In any one team there shall be no more than three (3) players who are not primarily living in New Zealand and are not of NZ nationality. If in doubt the club should seek clarification and a ruling from NZIHA on individual cases.

Grades

- In 2014, the grades for National Club Championships are: *Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, Under 19, Senior Women, and Open.*
- **NOTE: Competition will not be offered for any grade where there is less than a minimum of three (3) teams entered in that grade.**

All grades except Open

- The ideal number of teams in each grade competition is 8.
- There will be a minimum of one team per grade per region where a regional championship competition has taken place and a maximum of two teams per region per grade where the number of teams in the regional championship in that grade numbers three or more.
- If this results in less than eight teams per grade to compete at National Club Championships, wildcard entries may be offered through the regional committees.

Open Grade

- There will be two distinct grades in the Open Championship; Premier and Senior
- Clubs and Regional Committees are free to determine how their teams are classified and ranked (either Premier or Senior) and this should be clearly established in detail in each region's event notice which must be published and approved by NZIHA prior to the commencement of the Regional Club Championships.
 - **SENIOR GRADE**
 - The ideal number of team entries is between 8-10 teams in the Senior championship.
 - Allocation for Senior Teams at New Zealand National Club Championships
 - Top 3 teams from Northern and Lower North Regions
 - Top 2 teams from Central and Southern Regions
 - **PREMIER GRADE**
 - The ideal number of team entries is between 8-10 teams in the Premier grade championship.
 - Allocation for Premier Teams at New Zealand National Club Championships
 - Top 3 teams from Northern and Lower North Regions
 - Top 2 teams from Central and Southern Regions
- Where a region cannot fulfill their allocation in either the Premier Grade or Senior Grade, wildcard entries may be offered.
- Premier and Senior grade players and goalies may not play in more than one team subject to the Under 19 dispensation for 2014.
- **Regions must declare number of available teams for National Championships in all grades by August 15, 2014**



- NZIHA Executive retain the right to determine the number of teams accepted in any grade once regions declare their eligible team numbers.

Format

- The format of the championship in each grade will either be pool play or round robin. NZIHA will endeavor to provide 4 – 5 games per team subject to the number of team entries and available time.

Entries

- Entry must be made on the official entry form and be received by the NZIHA, via email by **5pm on 10th September, 2014**.
- **The entry fee is \$690 (GST inc)** payable by **10th September, 2014**. The team entry fee covers referee costs, medals, banners, venue hire, program and charts etc.
- Payments must be made by direct credit to NZIHA account held at the ASB bank, New Plymouth. Account Number: 12-3152-0082141-00 and clearly state which club has made the deposit. NZIHA will endeavor to seek funding to off-set venue hire and consumable costs. Funding cannot be guaranteed.
- The team roster is to be supplied electronically (by email) with the official entry. The Player Roster may not be added to after the start of the team's first game in the championships.
- If an entry is not received by the NZIHA by 10th September 2014, NZIHA may allocate the place to the team which was placed next in the Regional Club Championships or offer the place as a wildcard entry.
- Entries are subject to the attending club agreeing that each entered team will fulfill its rostered duties (e.g. goal judging and/or scorekeeping as required).
- In the event that a team withdraws after official entry (i.e. after 10th September 2014), the team will forfeit the entry fee and the club may have a \$500 withdrawal penalty fee imposed, subject to NZIHA discretion.

Draw

- The event game schedule will be published 7 days following the close off of entries on www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz and distributed to clubs and members via email or bulletin.
- The Tournament Organiser reserves the right to alter the schedule of games or make whatever operational changes are deemed necessary in case of unforeseen circumstances. Any changes will be notified on the Tournament Notice Board.

Score Sheets

- It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to check that the team roster is correctly recorded on the Official Score Sheet and to initial the Score Sheet before each game.
- Tournament Organisers will not be held responsible for omissions or errors in team rosters on score sheets.

Ties

- In the event that there is a tie at the end of pool play or a round robin, the NZIHA policy "Final Standings" will apply.

Game Time

- Games will be 4 x 10 minute periods. There will be no overtime period for tied pool games or round robin games.
- Stop time will be played as per the NZIHA Official Rule Book.
- Teams must be ready to play 30 minutes before their scheduled start time. The Tournament Organisers reserve the right to start games up to 15 minutes prior to their scheduled start time.
- Warm up time will be restricted to the small arena and shared between the two teams next scheduled to play on the main arena. There will be no warm up time scheduled on the main arena.

Results

- The score as shown on the electronic scoreboard is subject to final confirmation upon completion of the Official Score Sheet.
- Copies of completed Score Sheets will be available to Team Managers in the Tournament Office 60 minutes after each game.
- A Results Chart and Standings Chart will be displayed on the Tournament Notice Board.

Protests

- **Protests must be notified to the game referee verbally by the Captain of the protesting team immediately after the game and in writing to the Tournament Office no later than 30 minutes after the completion of the game.** Any protest received outside this time frame will not be considered.
- All protests must be accompanied by a fee of \$100 which is refundable if the protest is upheld.

National Club Championships Disciplinary Panel

- The National Club Championships Disciplinary Panel will deal with all disciplinary matters. The members of this panel shall be NZIHA members.
- The Tournament Director will organise the discipline panel as required ensuring members include an experienced referee, and two senior club members. Where possible no members should have affiliation with the clubs of the accused persons involved in the discipline matter.
- The National Club Championships Disciplinary Panel is empowered to discipline players, teams, team officials, and clubs for their conduct both on and off the rink before, during, and after a game including any alleged involvement in acts of vandalism, violent, abusive, dishonest, offensive or any other such behaviours that may bring the sport into disrepute.
- The Disciplinary Panel may impose disqualification, suspension, fine and/or other measures as deemed appropriate by the Panel.
- Hearings will be conducted at a time notified to the parties involved by the Tournament Director, and as far as is practical, during the Tournament.
- Penalties imposed in this Tournament will, if applicable, carry over to further NZIHA sanctioned games and to NZIHA trials.

Uniform and Protective Equipment

- All players are to be uniformly dressed (i.e. jerseys and player pants). Players failing to comply will be ruled from the playing surface and not permitted to play until uniformly dressed. Referees will strictly enforce as per the playing rules.
- All teams must have an alternate jersey. In the event that the Tournament Director declares a clash of colours between two competing teams, it is the Home Team that must change its jersey.
- It is the personal responsibility of all players to wear protective equipment approved for the game of inline hockey as stipulated in the NZIHA Official Rulebook

First Aid

- NZIHA recommend that each team appoints their own team official who is familiar with first aid and who will carry a supply of first aid consumables. NZIHA will also have first aid consumables on hand in the office. The venue provider will ensure an "ice" supply rink side for use of players and officials.
- The host venue must ensure measures are in place to ensure the safety of spectators (i.e. netting and/ or perspex erected around playing surface).

Puck

- NZIHA in consultation with the Referee Chairperson and/or the Chief Referee will determine the game puck and colour and advise prior to the event taking place.
- In 2014, the game puck will be IDS Black.

Referees

- The Referees Roster is compiled by the Referee Chairperson and/or the Chief Referee. In each pool game or round robin game there shall be a minimum of three referees (two on floor and

one in the Penalty Box); in each semi-final or final there shall be five referees (two on floor, one penalty box, two goal judges (TBC)).

- A list of Referees available for duties at National Championships **MUST** be provided to the NZIHA Executive **two weeks prior** to the event commencement date.
- Opportunity for junior referees to be mentored and work with experienced referees should be encouraged during the championships.
- Senior Level One referees should be encouraged to make themselves available with a view to seeking Level Two promotion.
- An electronic copy of the referee game schedule shall be provided to the Tournament Director within three days of the event with daily updates throughout the tournament.

Score Bench

- The Score Bench roster is compiled by the Tournament Director or his/ her nominee.
- Clubs are asked to supply to the NZIHA Executive Officer the names and email addresses of experienced score bench officials who are willing to volunteer to assist on the scorebench and provide these names with their team entries.
- In the event of insufficient volunteers, teams may be required to provide a scorebench official for this purpose.

Default

- In the unlikely event that a team defaults a game, NZIHA shall pursue disciplinary action which may include a penalty fee of up to \$1000.

Prize Giving

Team Prizes:-

- 1st in Grade - Trophy, banner, and plaque.
- 2nd in Grade - banner and plaque
- 3rd in Grade - banner and plaque

Medals will be awarded to the players and officials in the teams placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at the conclusion of the championship. Prize Giving will take place immediately after the final game in each grade. Banners and plaques become the property of the club. Silver Trophies are the property of NZIHA and are to be handed back to the Tournament Office for engraving and safe-keeping, however clubs may request to hold trophies abiding by the following note.

Special Note: Clubs winning grade trophies may request permission to hold trophies provided they are able to guarantee their security, engrave them with the correct winner information and follow previous engraving font, size and style already in place. Further, silver trophies must be polished and then safely and securely packaged and couriered back to NZIHA one month prior to the championships (in 2014 to be received by August 31st, 2014). Any repair or replacement required will be charged back to the club concerned.

Drug Free Policy and Testing

New Zealand Inline Hockey Association

- Condemns the use of Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods in sport;
- Seeks to protect the health and welfare of Athletes by removing the use of potentially dangerous Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods from sport;
- Seeks to ensure that Athletes are able to compete in fair and equitable sporting events; and
- Recognises that Doping is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport.

NZIHA advises all players at National Club Championships that drug testing may be carried out.

NEW ZEALAND INLINE HOCKEY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, SEPT 27 – OCT 5



Declaration: I _____ **(print name), authorised representative**
Of the _____ **(name of club), certify that I:**

- ☐ have read and understood the National Championships 2014 Event Notice
- ☐ have gained qualification or the National Championships
- ☐ make formal entry
- ☐ All players are NZIHA registered in 2014 with the club they are playing for.
- ☐ All players have registered with NZIHA by September 1st, 2014.
- ☐ I understand that all teams entering NZ National Championships are required to have light & dark alternate jerseys.

- The base colour for this club's jerseys is:

☐ Light: _____ ☐ Dark: _____

If a club has difficulty declaring an alternate jersey, contact NZIHA Operations Manager for advice.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ Mobile: _____
Email: _____

Team Rosters for each club team entered must be provided by email on the spreadsheet supplied for this purpose and sent to krys.beardman@xtra.co.nz by September 10, 2014. This document will be sent to clubs by end of August.

I confirm the following teams will enter 2014 New Zealand National Championships and will email team rosters and officials names on the official spreadsheet: Team Entry Fee \$600 (plus GST) per team

TEAM GRADE	Under 10	Under 12	Under 14	Under 16	Under 19	Open Senior	Open Premier	Senior Women
Indicate →								

Note: There must be a minimum of three teams entered for a grade to be contested.

Entries Close: September 10, 2014

Please make payment direct into NZIHA account clearly indicating Club name and notify deposit by email.

ENTRIES WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED WITH PAYMENT

Account Number: ASB BANK 12 3152 0082141 00

Account Name: New Zealand Inline Hockey Association

It is a condition of entry that teams will be required to provide their own first aid kit along with a person responsible for their own team first aid requirements. NZIHA will endeavor to have volunteers to cover the Scorebench, any shortages will need to be covered by attending clubs.

Krys Beardman, Operations Manager
New Zealand Inline Hockey Association