



Inline Hockey New Zealand (IHNZ)  
2016 National Events Notice

National, Regional and Inter-regional championships  
Inline Hockey New Zealand Events Notice Policy –  
Information, Rules and Guidelines 2016

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## 1 National Events and Organising Authorities

1.1.1 Inline Hockey New Zealand (IHNZ) organises or oversees four major domestic inline hockey competition events during the season. Mandatory and eligibility rules are prepared by IHNZ on an annual basis with reviews as necessary.

### 1.2 National Events covered by this Event Notice

- 1.2.1 New Zealand National Club Championships
- 1.2.2 New Zealand Inter-Regional Championships
- 1.2.3 New Zealand Regional Championships
- 1.2.4 New Zealand Open League

### 1.3 Changes to this Event Notice

- 1.3.1 This event notice and changes to it will be approved by the IHNZ Board prior to it, or any changes to it, coming into effect.
- 1.3.2 Changes will be notified on the IHNZ website [www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz](http://www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz) as well as emailed to Regional Committee and Club contacts.

### 1.4 New Zealand National Club Championships

- 1.4.1 The organising authority is Inline Hockey New Zealand Association (IHNZ).
- 1.4.2 The Tournament Director is appointed by IHNZ and notified on the IHNZ website [www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz](http://www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz) as well as emailed to Regional Committee and Club contacts.
- 1.4.3 The venue is Hamilton Inline Hockey Rink.
- 1.4.4 To be held September 24 to October 2, 2016; Changes may occur due to game schedule and team entries.

### 1.5 New Zealand Inter-Regional Championships

- 1.5.1 The organising authority is Inline Hockey New Zealand, in association with the Regional Committee of the hosting region.
- 1.5.2 For 2016 the host region will be Lower North; The venue is the Jubilee Stadium in Wanganui.
- 1.5.3 The Tournament Director is appointed by IHNZ and will be notified on the IHNZ website [www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz](http://www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz) as well as emailed to Regional Committee and Club contacts.
- 1.5.4 The Inter-Regional Championships will be held 21-24<sup>th</sup> of October over Labour Weekend as a concurrent event with the New Zealand Open League. Start time approximately midday on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

### 1.6 Regional Club Championships

- 1.6.1 The organising authorities are the Regional Committees of each region.
- 1.6.2 Except for the mandatory rules for Regional Club Championships as set by IHNZ, Regional Committees are free to organize their Regional Club Championships to suit the special conditions of each region as long as all conditions are set down in their regional Event Notice, approved by IHNZ, and published prior to the commencement of the Regional Club Championships.
- 1.6.3 The Regional Club Championship season shall finish no later than September 4<sup>th</sup>.

## 1.7 New Zealand Open League

- 1.7.1 The organising authority for the New Zealand Open League is the Inline Hockey New Zealand Association (IHNZ) in association with the NZ Coaching Panel.
- 1.7.2 The Tournament Director is appointed by IHNZ and will be notified on the IHNZ website [www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz](http://www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz) as well as emailed to Regional Committee and Club contacts.
- 1.7.3 Venue is the same as Inter-Regionals (see 1.5.2).
- 1.7.4 The Open league will be held 21-24<sup>th</sup> of October over Labour Weekend as a concurrent event with the NZ Inter-Regionals.

## 2 Operating Rules and Guidelines

### 2.1 Sportsmanship

- 2.1.1 All participants involved in IHNZ sanctioned events will be expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner, promoting a positive environment and comply with the provisions of the relevant IHNZ Codes of Conduct and Event Notice Rules, and will:
  - i. Treat each player with respect.
  - ii. Observe appropriate standards for developing our youth.
  - iii. Provide a safe playing environment for all participants (players, volunteers and spectators).
  - iv. Show proper respect for referees, coaches and all other officials.
  - v. Refrain from using inappropriate language.
  - vi. Show respect for facilities provided for inline hockey.

### 2.2 Mandatory Rules

- 2.2.1 IHNZ Championships will be conducted under the IHNZ Constitution, IHNZ Policy, IHNZ Official Rule Book and this Event Notice.
- 2.2.2 Where the IHNZ Rule Book and the Event Notice conflict the Event Notice will take priority.
- 2.2.3 Rinks must be fit-for-purpose and safe, with the Tournament Director, or notified delegate, present at all time to deal with matters arising in a timely manner.

### 2.3 Eligibility

- 2.3.1 Clubs must hold current Incorporate Society status, in accordance with IHNZ Constitution, in order to compete at the IHNZ Regional and National Championships.
- 2.3.2 All players must hold current Inline Hockey New Zealand membership for the club they are playing for and be listed on the IHNZ National Database prior to competing.
- 2.3.3 All players must be IHNZ members before July 31st, 2016 to be eligible to compete in events covered by this National Events Notice.
- 2.3.4 For clarity “IHNZ membership” means that the member has registered with IHNZ online and the member is a financial member of the club they are registering themselves against with IHNZ.
- 2.3.5 Players deemed by IHNZ to be ineligible to compete due to non-payment may be removed from the team roster by IHNZ until fees are paid.
- 2.3.6 IHNZ Club affiliation fees must be paid by the club prior to participation of club members in any IHNZ National Events. Failure to do so will mean all players from the club are ineligible to participate.
- 2.3.7 Playing an ineligible player will result in forfeiting the game in which the player participates.
- 2.3.8 Players may play for a maximum of two teams within the same club at National Club Championships and two teams within the same region at Inter-Regionals provided that membership criteria are observed.
- 2.3.9 In the event of two grades being played at National Club Championships, one of these grades must be the players age grade where the age grade is available within the player’s club and the club has chosen to compete in that age grade in the relevant championship.
- 2.3.10 In the event of two grades being played at Inter-Regional Championships, one of these grades must be the players age grade where the age grade is available.
- 2.3.11 In the event of selection for Open League, players must make themselves available for the Inter Regional team that they are eligible for.
- 2.3.12 In all cases players must abide by age grade criteria with the exception of female players who may play down one calendar year.

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**Cut-off date for player registration and transfer is **July 31st, 2016****

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## 2.4 Registrations after July 31<sup>st</sup> 2016

- 2.4.1 IHNZ Membership may be accepted for registration after July 31<sup>st</sup> 2016, but in the case of a player registration, dispensation must be applied for if the intent is to participate at any event covered by this Events Notice Policy.
- 2.4.2 Applications must explain the reason for late registration to allow consideration and decision by the General Manager, IHNZ, by email from the Club President or Secretary.

## 2.5 Preserving Team Integrity

- 2.5.1 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.
- 2.5.2 Transfer requests must be submitted before 5pm on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July to the General Manager, IHNZ, for consideration and a decision.

## 2.6 Playing Up Rules

- 2.6.1 It is at the discretion of the player's club (not the player) whether a player may play up into a higher grade. Other rules under s2.3 (Eligibility) must still apply in the event that a club allows a player to play in a higher grade.

## 2.7 Players of Other Nationalities

- 2.7.1 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 IHNZ.
- 2.7.2 This will be waived if the player has arrived in New Zealand and is registered with a club and IHNZ prior the final date of registrations.
- 2.7.3 In any one team there will be no more than three (3) players who are not primarily living in New Zealand and are not of NZ nationality.
- 2.7.4 If in doubt the club may seek clarification and a ruling from IHNZ on individual cases.

## 2.8 Officials

- 2.8.1 Club and Regional Committee officials, and their team officials, must be registered with IHNZ in order to formally represent their teams, clubs and/or regions (as applicable) at the competition events covered by this National Events Notice.

## 2.9 Player Registration and Refunds

- 2.9.1 In the case of a player registration being entered into the IHNZ national database and the player subsequently withdraws without any participation, the player is the person responsible for contacting IHNZ and applying for a refund.
- 2.9.2 Full details including reasons for withdrawal must be provided to allow a decision, by IHNZ, on whether a refund is warranted or not.

## 2.10 Age Classifications played in New Zealand Competition

- 2.10.1 Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, Under 18, Under 20, Senior, Premier, Junior Women (Under 16), Senior Women, Masters 30+ and Veterans 40+
- 2.10.2 Ages are determined as at January 1<sup>st</sup> in the competition year.
- 2.10.3 The age grade titles to be competed for at IHNZ Championships will be specified in the event notice once registration data is analysed.

## 3 Administrative Guidelines

### 3.1 Draw and Event Operations

- 3.1.1 The final draw shall be published on [www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz](http://www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz) and will be distributed to Regional Secretaries and Club Contacts once all team entries are confirmed.
- 3.1.2 There will be no consideration given when scheduling games for players playing in more than one grade.
- 3.1.3 The Tournament Organisers reserve the right to alter the schedule of games or make whatever operational changes are deemed necessary in case of unforeseen circumstances.
- 3.1.4 Any changes during the Tournament will be notified on the Tournament Notice Board and via email to Club Contacts, with as much advance notice as possible.

### 3.2 Score Sheets

- 3.2.1 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.
- 3.2.2 Tournament Organisers will not be held responsible for omissions or errors in team rosters on score sheets.
- 3.2.3 Scorers must ensure that all players on the rink are ticked off on the score sheet and any player that is not on the score sheets roster is noted on the scoresheet and brought to the attention of the referee, who will determine whether the game has been defaulted by the offending team.
- 3.2.4 Refer to s3.6 for awarding placings in the event of a tied game in round robin or pool play.

### 3.3 Game Time

- 3.3.1 Games will be a maximum of 2 x 20 minute periods running time with a 2-minute half time.
- 3.3.2 There will be no overtime period for tied pool games or round robin games.
- 3.3.3 For National Championships, Inter-Regionals and Open League stop time will be played as per the IHNZ Official Rule Book.
- 3.3.4 Regions may choose to use stop time or not for Regional Championship games.
- 3.3.5 Teams must be ready to play 30 minutes before their scheduled start time.
- 3.3.6 The Tournament Organisers reserve the right to start games up to 15 minutes prior to their scheduled start time.
- 3.3.7 Warm up time will be restricted to 5 minutes or less.
- 3.3.8 The Tournament Director reserves the right to reduce warm-up time, review stop time application and shorten the overall game length.

### 3.4 Time Out



- 3.4.1 Each team shall be permitted to take one time-out of a one-minute duration per game which must be taken during a stoppage of play.
- 3.4.2 If running time is played, the clock will be stopped during a time out.
- 3.4.3 The clock will be restarted upon the conducting of the ensuing face-off.
- 3.4.4 During a time-out all players on the playing surface may proceed to their respective players' bench.
- 3.4.5 Any penalised player must remain in the penalty bench during a time-out.
- 3.4.6 A time-out may not be used to warm-up a goalkeeper.

### 3.5 Results

- 3.5.1 The score as shown on the electronic scoreboard is subject to final confirmation upon completion of the Official Score Sheet.
- 3.5.2 Copies of completed Score Sheets will be available to Team Managers in the Tournament Office 60 minutes after each game or in the case of Regional League from the scorebench following the game.
- 3.5.3 For National Club Championships and Inter-Regional Championships, a Results Chart and Standings Chart will be displayed on the Tournament Notice Board.

### 3.6 IHNZ Final Placings

- 3.6.1 In the event of a tied game in round robin or pool play extra time will not be played and the game result will be determined using the procedures in s3.6.2.
- 3.6.2 If the addition of points brings two or more teams to an equal amount of points at the end of the round robin and/or pool play and they are in a placement or move-up position, the team position will be determined as follows:

- A. The victor of the head-to-head within the competition round shall be awarded placement position, e.g.:

**Team A 10 goals defeated Team B 6 goals.  
Team A will be declared the winner.**

- B. If a tie still results from A) above, then the next highest total of goals for, minus goals against, for the entire round shall be used to determine position for tied teams, e.g.:

	Goals For	Goals Against	Differential
<b>Team A</b>	21	16	5
<b>Team B</b>	31	15	16
<b>Team B will be awarded the placement position because they have the greater differential.</b>			

- C. If any teams are still tied after A) and B) above, then goal average will be determined to place the teams. This is achieved by goals for divided by goals against, e.g.:

	Goals For	Goals Against	Goals Differential	Goal Average
<b>Team A</b>	15	10	+5	1.5
<b>Team B</b>	23	18	+5	1.27
Team A goal average is $15/10 = 1.5$			Team B goal average is $23/18 = 1.27$	
<b>Team A will be declared the winner with the higher goal average.</b>				

- D. If the teams are still tied after A, B or C then the team with the least penalty minutes for the entire round robin shall be used to place the teams.
- E. If the teams are still tied after A, B, C or D then the move up position and/ or winner shall be determined by the toss of a coin.

## 3.7 Protests

- 3.7.1 Protests must be notified to the game referee verbally by the Captain of the protesting team (for Senior and Premier grades), or by the team manager or other club official for age grade teams, immediately after the game and in writing to the Tournament Office no later than 60 minutes after the completion of the game.
- 3.7.2 Any protest received outside this time frame will not be considered.
- 3.7.3 All protests must be accompanied by a fee of \$100 which is only refundable if the protest is upheld, or if the Tournament Director declines to hear the protest.

## 4 Disciplinary Panels

### 4.1 National Club Championships, Inter-Regionals and Open League Disciplinary Panels

- 4.1.1 Disciplinary Panels will be convened to administer with all disciplinary matters.
- 4.1.2 Disciplinary Panels will be selected by the Tournament Director prior to the commencement of the competition event and briefed accordingly.
- 4.1.3 The members of the Disciplinary Panel must be IHNZ members.
- 4.1.4 The panel must consist of a minimum of three members, one of which must be an IHNZ qualified referee and two must be senior club members. The Disciplinary Panel must follow the IHNZ Disciplinary Guideline Manual.
- 4.1.5 The Tournament Director will organise the Discipline Panel as required ensuring members include an experienced referee, and two senior club members.
- 4.1.6 Members of the discipline panel will remain consistent in make-up for all hearings at a particular event.
- 4.1.7 A change of a Discipline Panel member will only occur in the event of the reported person being a direct family member of a panel member or in a close personal relationship with a panel member.
- 4.1.8 The 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, or violent, abusive, dishonest, offensive behavior, or any other such behaviours that may bring the sport into disrepute.
- 4.1.9 The Disciplinary Panel may impose disqualification, suspension, fine and/or other measures as deemed appropriate by the Panel.
- 4.1.10 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.
- 4.1.11 Penalties imposed in this Tournament will, if applicable, carry over to further IHNZ sanctioned games and to IHNZ trials.
- 4.1.12 All Disciplinary Panel outcomes must be notified to the accused individuals, their club and/or Regional Committee representatives (as relevant) and the IHNZ General Manager.

## 4.2 Regional Championships Disciplinary Panels

- 4.2.1 Each region will appoint a Disciplinary Chairperson at the beginning of the season.
- 4.2.2 The Regional Disciplinary Chair will organise the Discipline Panel as necessary ensuring the panel consists of senior club members who are also IHNZ members and represent a cross section of clubs.
- 4.2.3 In addition, a qualified referee should sit on the panel.
- 4.2.4 The Discipline Panel must follow the IHNZ Discipline Guideline Manual.
- 4.2.5 The Disciplinary Panel may impose disqualification, suspension, fine and/or other measures as deemed appropriate by the Panel.
- 4.2.6 Hearings may be conducted at a time notified to the parties involved by the Discipline Chairperson and may be held by telephone conference, email or face to face meeting.
- 4.2.7 Regions may also impose a cost/fine to recover operating costs.
- 4.2.8 All hearing outcomes shall be notified to the accused player, IHNZ General Manager, the Chair and/ or Secretary of the player's club by the most direct means (usually email).

## 4.3 Scheduling regional events

- 4.3.1 In 2016 Regional League should finish no later than 4th September.
- 4.3.2 When scheduling club and regional events, consideration must be given to player availability, when those proposed events coincide with training camps or overseas trips set out in Appendix 1 of this document.

# 5 Player Safety and Uniform Policy Guidelines

## 5.1 Drug Free Policy and Testing

- 5.1.1 IHNZ is committed to the advancement of clean sport that rejects cheating through the use of performance enhancing drugs and methods.
- 5.1.2 IHNZ works in partnership with the national anti-doping organisation, Drug Free Sport New Zealand to:
  - Promote a culture of clean sport.
  - Deliver anti-doping education.
  - Organise testing programmes.
  - Report doping and suspicious activity.
  - Support athletes to compete drug free.
- 5.1.3 For more information about anti-doping and to request anti-doping education contact Drug Free Sport NZ [here](#).
- 5.1.4 Drug free Sport NZ may organise athlete testing at any IHNZ sanctioned event.

## 5.2 Uniform and Protective Equipment

- 5.2.1 All players on a team are to be uniformly dressed in the same jersey design.
- 5.2.2 The primary colour of pants worn should be the same for all players on a team (e.g. Black or White).
- 5.2.3 Players failing to comply may be ruled from the playing surface by the Tournament Director and not permitted to play until uniformly dressed.
- 5.2.4 Referees will strictly enforce as per the playing rules.
- 5.2.5 All teams must have an alternate jersey.
- 5.2.6 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.
- 5.2.7 It is the personal responsibility of all players to wear protective equipment approved for the game of inline hockey as stipulated in the IHNZ Official Rulebook.
- 5.2.8 Team Officials are responsible for ensuring all players younger than 18yrs old are wearing all required safety equipment.

### 5.3 First Aid & Safety

- 5.3.1 It is a condition of entry to IHNZ sanctioned events that each team carries their own supply of first aid consumables and it is recommended that all teams appoint a team official who is familiar with first aid.
- 5.3.2 IHNZ will also have first aid consumables on hand in the tournament office.
- 5.3.3 The venue provider will ensure an “ice” supply rink side for use of players and officials.
- 5.3.4 The venue provider must ensure measures are in place to ensure the safety of spectators (i.e. signage, netting and/ or perspex erected around playing surface) and appropriate signage related to spectator entry.
- 5.3.5 Regular checks must be performed by the Tournament Director, or their delegate, during the event to ensure that minimum safety requirements continue to be met throughout the course of the competition event.
- 5.3.6 Document Templates available from IHNZ:
  - First Aid Register
  - Sample Hazard Register
  - Accident Investigation Form

More information can be found on the IHNZ website under the “Documents” heading.

## 6 Game Officiating

### 6.1 Referees for National Club Championships, Inter-Regionals and Open League

- 6.1.1 A Referees Roster will be compiled by the Referee Chairperson and/or the Chief Referee.
- 6.1.2 In each pool game or round robin game there will be a minimum of three referees (two on floor and one in the Penalty Box).
- 6.1.3 In the event of goal judges being required, goal judges must be over 16 years and the preference is for a referee qualification.

- 6.1.4 A list of Referees available for duties at National Championships MUST be provided to IHNZ two weeks prior to the event commencement date.
- 6.1.5 Opportunity for junior referees to be mentored and work with experienced referees will be encouraged during the championships.
- 6.1.6 Senior Level One referees should be encouraged to make themselves available with a view to seeking Level Two promotion.
- 6.1.7 An electronic copy of the referee game schedule will be provided to the Tournament Director by the Chief Referee within three days of the event with daily updates throughout the tournament.
- 6.1.8 On completion of the event, full details of all referees and the number of games officiated shall be supplied to the IHNZ General Manager.

## 6.2 Referees for Regional Leagues

- 6.2.1 For regional league games, each host venue is responsible for organising referee duties at their venue.
- 6.2.2 It is recommended that a club referee is appointed to organise rosters as required.
- 6.2.3 Wherever possible referees should be assigned to games based on their appropriate skill level.
- 6.2.4 Visiting clubs are expected to assist with duties as required.
- 6.2.5 Visiting clubs are expected to assist with duties as requested by the host club.

## 6.3 Game Puck

- 6.3.1 The game puck will be IDS Black.

## 6.4 Scorebench

- 6.4.1 The Scorebench roster is compiled by the Tournament Director or his/ her nominee.
- 6.4.2 For National Championship events, clubs are required to supply to the IHNZ General Manager 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.
- 6.4.3 In the event of insufficient volunteers, teams will be required to provide a scorebench official for this purpose.
- 6.4.4 For Regional Championships all clubs are expected to assist with scorebench duties as required by the host club.
- 6.4.5 Clubs are encouraged to seek volunteers to gain experience from others within their membership willing to share their knowledge.

# 7 New Zealand National Club Championships 2016 Event Notice

## 7.1 Grades

- 7.1.1 The expected grades for National Club Championships are: Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, Under 16 Junior Women, Under 19, Senior Women, Senior and Premier.
- 7.1.2 Final grade determination will be advised by July 31st on [www.inliinehockey.org.nz](http://www.inliinehockey.org.nz) and emailed to Club Contacts and is conditional on confirmation from each region of sufficient team numbers in a grade.
- 7.1.3 Regional Committees nominate teams presenting from their region at the National Championship. Regions may nominate up to three (3) teams in each grade, one team per club.
- 7.1.4 Regional Committees may follow their own process for determining which teams may attend; for example, a Regional Championship ranking where one exists.
- 7.1.5 IHNZ reserves the right to nominate wildcards in a grade to ensure a viable competition, including additional teams from clubs with an entry already in the grade.
- 7.1.6 Regions wanting a team to be considered for wildcard entry must notify IHNZ of the team and reasons by July 31<sup>st</sup>.
- 7.1.7 IHNZ reserves the right to make changes to grades, and to the format of the competition, to ensure a viable event is achieved with a preference for an even number of teams in each grade from each region where available.
- 7.1.8 Competition will not be offered for any grade where there is less than a minimum of three (3) teams entered, each from a different club in that grade.
- 7.1.9 A team which fields an ineligible player is deemed to have forfeited the game with a loss recorded and a score of 5 - 0 or the actual score whichever is most advantageous for the non-offending team.
- 7.1.10 The Mercy Rule will not apply for grades competing at New Zealand National Club Championships.

## 7.2 Players in Multiple Teams

- 7.2.1 Refer to the criteria in s 2.3 "Eligibility" Players may play for a maximum of two teams.

## 7.3 Senior and Premier

- 7.3.1 Senior and Premier are two distinct grades
- 7.3.2 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, where it exists.
- 7.3.3 Senior and Premier teams can only enter one grade at National Championships.
- 7.3.4 Senior and Premier grade players and goalies may not play in both grades in the same season at NZ National Championships.

## 7.4 Declaration of Team Numbers

- 7.4.1 Clubs must declare number of available teams for National Championships in all grades by July 31st, 2016.
- 7.4.2 This date coincides with the close of player's IHNZ membership registrations.
- 7.4.3 IHNZ retains the right to determine the number of teams accepted in any grade once regions declare their eligible team numbers.

## 7.5 Draw, Format and Game Time

- 7.5.1 The format of the championship in each grade will either be pool play or round robin.
- 7.5.2 IHNZ will endeavour to provide 4 – 5 games per team subject to the number of team entries and available time.
- 7.5.3 IHNZ reserves the right to adjust game timing (including length of game, warm up time, half time, time outs and use of stop time) as required.

## 7.6 Entries

- 7.6.1 Each cub shall enter their eligible team(s) using the official entry form (to be made available online) and be received by the IHNZ, via email by 5pm on 6th September, 2016.
- 7.6.2 The entry fee is \$690 (GST inclusive) payable by 6th September, 2016
- 7.6.3 The team entry fee covers venue hire, official's costs, medals, banners, draw/ or program and charts etc.
- 7.6.4 Payments must be made by direct credit or deposit to IHNZ account held at the ASB bank, New Plymouth, Account Number: 12-3152-0082141-00 and clearly state which club has made the deposit. Alternatively, payments can be made to IHNZ via the ASB in the club's location clearly stating which club has made the deposit.
- 7.6.5 All team rosters must be supplied electronically (by email) to the General Manager, IHNZ, for each team by 6<sup>th</sup> of September, 2016 and must be submitted using the IHNZ template listed with the official entry form on the IHNZ website. The Player Roster may not be added to after the start of the team's first game in the championships.
- 7.6.6 If an entry is not received by the IHNZ by 6th September 2016, IHNZ may offer the place as a wildcard entry per s7.11.
- 7.6.7 Entries are subject to the attending club agreeing that each entered team will fulfil its rostered duties (e.g. goal judging and/or scorekeeping as required).
- 7.6.8 In the event that a team withdraws after official entry (i.e. after 6th September 2016), the team will forfeit the entry fee and the club may have a \$500 withdrawal penalty fee imposed, subject to discretion of the IHNZ Board.

## 7.7 Default

- 7.7.1 In the unlikely event that a team defaults a game while participating at NZ National Championships, IHNZ will pursue disciplinary action which may include a penalty fee of up to \$1000.

## 7.8 Prize Giving

- 7.8.1 A prize giving ceremony will be held either individually or in combination with other grades, details will be provided prior to commencement of the event.

## 7.9 Team Prizes

- 7.9.1 1st in Grade: Trophy, banner, and plaque.
- 7.9.2 2nd in Grade: Banner and plaque
- 7.9.3 3rd in Grade: Banner and plaque
- 7.9.4 Medals (maximum 16) will be awarded to the players and team officials named on game sheet as having played and placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at the conclusion of the championship.
- 7.9.5 Banners and plaques become the property of the club awarded them.
- 7.9.6 Grade trophies remain the property of IHNZ.
- 7.9.7 Grade trophies must be immediately handed back to the Tournament Office after the award ceremony for engraving and safe-keeping unless s7.10 applies.

## 7.10 Clubs Holding Grade Trophies

- 7.10.1 Clubs winning grade trophies may request permission from IHNZ to hold trophies provided they are able to guarantee their security, engrave them with the correct winner information (at the club's cost) and follow previous engraving font, size and style already in place.
- 7.10.2 Silver trophies must be polished and then safely and securely packaged and couriered back to IHNZ one month prior to the championships (in 2016 to be received by August 31st, 2016).
- 7.10.3 Any repair or replacement required will be charged back to the club concerned.
- 7.10.4 Any grade trophy requiring repair work must be either returned to IHNZ to allow work to be done by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 or the club must obtain approval from IHNZ, accompanied by a quotation, for repair work to be commenced.
- 7.10.5 Under no circumstances can repair work be contracted out without prior authority of IHNZ.

## 7.11 Wild Card Entries



- 7.11.1 The IHNZ reserves the right to set minimum or maximum number of club teams to be accepted for entry for NZ National Club Championships.
- 7.11.2 Wildcard entries may be available to ensure a viable number of entries to compete in all grades offered.
- 7.11.3 To assist in the process of determining the possible wildcard entries, each Regional Committee is required to confirm to the IHNZ, the number of teams and their grades available for National Championships from their own region by July 31st, 2016.
- 7.11.4 Regions should also advise teams interested in a wildcard entry at the same time.
- 7.11.5 The number of entries will then be reviewed and in the event of wildcard entries being available, IHNZ will call for applicants through the Regional Chairs.
- 7.11.6 Notification of available Wildcard entries available (if any) will be advised to all clubs by first week of August.
- 7.11.7 Teams gaining wildcard entry will be advised as soon as possible.
- 7.11.8 IHNZ reserve the right, based on the standard of teams, not to fill all positions with wildcard applications. The successful wildcard applications will be determined by the performance of the team in the grade in the relevant Regional Club Championships.

## 8 New Zealand Regional League Championships Event Notice

### 8.1 Regional League Administration

- 8.1.1 Regional Committees are responsible for conducting a Regional Club Championship.
- 8.1.2 The Regional Committee must publish a Regional Club Championship Event Notice abiding by:
  - IHNZ Operating Rules and Guidelines
  - IHNZ Administrative Guidelines
  - IHNZ Disciplinary Process and Panels
  - IHNZ Game Officiating and Player Safety Policy Guidelines.
- 8.1.3 The Regional Club Championship shall finish no later than September 4th, 2016.
- 8.1.4 Except for the mandatory rules for Regional Club Championships as set by IHNZ, Regional Committees are free to organize their Regional Club Championships to suit the special conditions of each region as long as all conditions are set down in their regional Event Notice, approved by IHNZ, and published prior to the commencement of the Regional Club Championships.
- 8.1.5 Entry close dates, entry fees & rink fees must be notified.
- 8.1.6 It is recommended that each region or each venue appoints a Referee Coordinator to oversee the allocation of game officials.
- 8.1.7 The points system must be notified in the Regional Event Notice. IHNZ Approval
- 8.1.8 The event must be named the Regional Club Championship and the term Regional Champion conferred on the winning team in each grade.
- 8.1.9 All clubs must be affiliated to IHNZ by March 31st in the year of competition or prior to any of their teams participating in the Regional Club Championships.
- 8.1.10 The Regional Event Notice should be forwarded to the General Manager, IHNZ, by email for approval by IHNZ Operations Committee prior to publication.
- 8.1.11 IHNZ reserve the right to make administrative changes to clauses within this document, in the event of circumstances affecting the league operation.

## 8.2 Grades

- 8.2.1 The grades for Regional Club Championships are expected to be Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, U16 Junior Women, Under 19, Senior Women, Senior, Premier and Social.
- 8.2.2 Regions are encouraged to develop a Junior Women's grade where numbers are sufficient to field teams.
- 8.2.3 Grades to be contested at NZ National Championships will be confirmed once regions confirm availability of competition grades.
- 8.2.4 A team which fields an ineligible player is deemed to have forfeited the game with a loss recorded and a score of 5 - 0 or the actual score whichever is most advantageous for the non-offending team.
- 8.2.5 The Mercy Rule may be applied at the discretion of each regional committee and be included in their "events notice" at the beginning of the season. The event notice shall detail how this is applied if applicable.
- 8.2.6 The Regional Committee will decide how the national qualifiers shall be determined at the commencement of the Regional Club Championships.
- 8.2.7 If eligibility for entry to the National Club Championships is to be determined by way of a Playoff (hereinafter referred to as "Nationals Qualifier"), Regional Committees must publish a Nationals Qualifier Event Notice in conjunction with their Regional Club Championships Event Notice.

## 8.3 Players in Multiple Teams

- 8.3.1 Refer to the criteria in s2.3 "Eligibility" Players may play for a maximum of two teams.
- 8.3.2 Premier and Senior grade players and goalies may not play in both grades in the same season, however for the purpose of creating a regional competition, regions may allow premier and senior teams to play each other without penalty.

# 9 Interregional Championships 2016 Event Notice

## 9.1 Grades

- 9.1.1 IHNZ will determine grades based on eligible player numbers across regions.
- 9.1.2 Expected grades are: U10, U12, U14, U16 Junior Women, U17, U21, Senior Women, Senior (21+), Masters (30+) and Veterans (40+).
- 9.1.3 Confirmation of grades will be made on July 31<sup>st</sup>.
- 9.1.4 Each Region may enter one team in each grade subject to there being a minimum of two teams in the grade being contested.

## 9.2 Teams

- 9.2.1 Regions are encouraged to select teams in each grade wherever possible.
- 9.2.2 Selection should be by open trial where sufficient player numbers are available.
- 9.2.3 Each Regional Committee is responsible for organizing selection of teams, appointing coaches and officials for regional representative teams and ordering team playing uniforms.
- 9.2.4 Regional team trials should be hosted on or before August 13-14, 2016.
- 9.2.5 Teams should be confirmed to the IHNZ General Manager by August 31st.

### 9.3 Player and Team Official Eligibility

- 9.3.1 Refer to the criteria in s2.3 “Eligibility” Players may play for a maximum of two teams.
- 9.3.2 New Zealand Open League teams are considered to be part of this event and count towards the maximum of two teams.
- 9.3.3 One of these teams must be their age grade.
- 9.3.4 Where a players age grade is not offered the Regional Committee may apply for dispensation to the IHNZ General Manager for the player to play in another grade.
- 9.3.5 Regional Committees should select players to play in their own age grade as a first choice, wherever possible.
- 9.3.6 Eligible players registered with a Southern Region club have automatic right of consideration for Lower North teams, and for other regions at the discretion of IHNZ.

### 9.4 Entries

- 9.4.1 Entry forms will be available online and must be emailed to the IHNZ General Manager by August 31<sup>st</sup> 2016.
- 9.4.2 Player rosters must be notified to IHNZ General Manager via email by August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- 9.4.3 The entry fee per team is \$460 (including GST) payable by 4th October.
- 9.4.4 Payments must be made by direct credit or deposit to IHNZ account held at the ASB bank, New Plymouth, Account Number: 12-3152-0082141-00 and clearly state which region has made the deposit.
- 9.4.5 Player rosters may not be added to after the start of the team’s first game in the tournament.

### 9.5 Draw and Format

- 9.5.1 Where possible there will be a double round robin for each grade.
- 9.5.2 There will be no overtime for tied games unless a game result is required in the event of a “final”. There will be a maximum of three minute warm up time before each game.

9.5.3 IHNZ reserves the right to adjust game timing (including length of game, warm up time, half time, time outs and use of stop time) as required.

## 9.6 Game Points

9.6.1 In each game the points awarded shall be:

- 2 points for a win
- 1 point for a draw
- Zero points for a loss.

## 9.7 Grade Points

9.7.1 In each grade the points awarded shall be

- First in grade 2 points
- Second in grade 1 points
- Third in grade 0 point

## 9.8 Interregional Trophy and Prizes

9.8.1 The Interregional Trophy is awarded to the winning region – that is, the region with the most grade points.

9.8.2 If, after grade points are accounted for, two or more regions are tied, the following steps shall be taken to resolve the tie:

- The placing shall be determined by a head-to-head calculation comparing the tied regions
- In the event that a tie still exists, the placing shall be awarded to the region winning the most first places comparing the tied regions

9.8.3 Players and team officials will be awarded medals:

- first placed team in each grade - gold medal
- second placed team in each grade – silver medal
- third placed team in each grade – bronze medal

## 9.9 Uniform

9.9.1 All players in a team must be in matching jerseys but may wear their club playing pants.

# 10 Open League Series 2016 Event Notice

## 10.1 Format

- 10.1.1 The intention is to have four (4) Men's teams and two (2) Women's teams.
- 10.1.2 Maximum of 12 players and two goalies in each team per game.
- 10.1.3 Teams will be selected by way of a coach draft after interested players complete an expression of interest form online.
- 10.1.4 Selection will be completed and team rosters supplied by email to the General Manager, IHNZ, by August 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 for each team and must be submitted using the IHNZ template listed with the official entry form on the IHNZ website.
- 10.1.5 Four (4) team double round robin with a grand final (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place only).
- 10.1.6 Three (3) game series for Women's Open League.

## 10.2 Selection

- 10.2.1 Coaches may pick players regardless of age, however, IHNZ reserves the right to veto selections on safety grounds. IHNZ decision is final.
- 10.2.2 Players drafted for Open League are required to make themselves available for their eligible Inter Regional age group team. Failure to do so will make a player ineligible for Open League participation.
- 10.2.3 Team Players and officials must hold current IHNZ registration.

## 10.3 Coaches

- 10.3.1 Coaches will be selected after application by the IHNZ Coaching Panel in association with IHNZ.

## 10.4 Uniform

- 10.4.1 Jerseys will be provided by league authority and remain the property IHNZ.
- 10.4.2 There is a \$100 cost to any player that does not return their jersey.

## 10.5 Draw and Format

- 10.5.1 The draw format will be in accordance with s3.3 "Game Time".

## 10.6 Game Points

- 10.6.1 In each game the points awarded shall be:
  - 3 points for a win
  - 2 points for an overtime win
  - 1 point to each team if score is tie after regulation and zero points for a loss after regulation.

## 10.7 Tied Games

- 10.7.1 In the event of a tie at the end of regulation time, games will be decided by way of a 3 player shootout – followed by a sudden death shoot out if required.
- 10.7.2 The rules of the shootout will follow those outlined in the IHNZ Official Rulebook.

## 10.8 Player Fee

- 10.8.1 Fee is \$100 per player, payable by the player direct to IHNZ once player has been selected for an Open League team.
- 10.8.2 Payments must be made by direct credit or deposit to IHNZ account held at the ASB bank, New Plymouth, Account Number: 12-3152-0082141-00 and clearly state which player has made the deposit.
- 10.8.3 Payment must be made before October 6th 2016 after which any unpaid selected player will move to the end of the reserve players list and the next reserve player will be offered the player position.
- 10.8.4 Confirmation and payment after October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016, must be made within three business days of the offer being made, otherwise the next reserve player will be selected, and so on.

## 10.9 Results and Presentation

- 10.9.1 A Results Chart and Standings Chart will be displayed on the Tournament Notice Board.
- 10.9.2 For the winner of the Open League Men's and Women's leagues the winning team will be presented with a winner's trophy and each player on the winning team in each grade will receive a winners ring.
- 10.9.3 In addition, each player from a winning team will have their \$100 entry fee refunded.

## 11 Appendix 1: Important Dates

- 11.1.1 The following tables set out key dates on the 2016 calendar.

Panthers	Easter March 25-28
Term 1 / 2 School Holidays	April 16-May 1
IIHF Qualifier	April 20-25
NZ SSC (Nelson Whalers)	May 7-8 (priority over league start)
Regional League Start	May 7-8
FIRS World Championships	May 30 – June 6 (Veterans)
Ravens Senior	Queen's Birthday June 4-6
Devils Junior	Queen's Birthday June 4-6
FIRS World Championships	Italy June 11-24 (Senior Women)
AAU Inline Hockey Hawaii	July 3 – July 20
Ravens Junior Tournament	July 21-23
August All Regions IR Trials	August 6-7th or 13-14th
National Championships	Sept 24-Oct 2th
Inter-Regional Championships	Oct 21-24 (midday start)
Open League Men and Women	Oct 21-24 (with IR's)
Mixed Club Weekend	May 28-29
Mixed Club Weekend	Aug 6-7 (Capital Penguins/Panthers/Whalers)

Mixed Club Weekend	Aug 13-14
Mixed Club Weekend	Sept 10-11

### **Training Camp Dates**

NZ Training Camps Senior Men/ Women	March 19-20 (M&W) April 16 – 18 (Men)
NZ Training Camp Women	May 21-22
NZ AAU Camps	June 18-19 (6 teams) & June 25-26 (18U Girls)