

# UNDER 19 SEEDING TOURNAMENT



## PART A – TOURNAMENT FORMAT

### 1. The Annual Tournament

- a. As of 1 January 2017, the Annual Tournament (the Tournament) is played in a Round-Robin format between four teams: Hawkes Bay; Manawatu; Wellington and the Heartland U20 Central Region Shield team<sup>1</sup>. The Tournament may be reviewed, subject to the direction of New Zealand Rugby and following Executive Board approval.
- b. The Tournament is played over three consecutive weekends, with each team playing all other teams once.

### 2. Draw

- a. For the 2019 Tournament, the draw is per the table below:

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| Round 1 : Saturday, 17/08/19  |
| Manawatu (H) v Wellington (A) – 1.00pm                                |
| Hurricanes Heartland U20 (H) v Hawkes Bay (A) – 1.00pm                |
| Round 2 : Saturday, 24/08/19  |
| Wellington (H) v Hurricanes Heartland U20 (A) – 1.00pm                |
| Hawkes Bay (H) v Manawatu (A) – 1.00pm                                |
| Round 3 : Saturday, 31/08/19  |
| Wellington v Hawkes Bay – 1.00pm – (Venue TBC)                        |
| Hurricanes Heartland Under 20 v Manawatu– 1.00pm – (Palmerston North) |

- b. In Round 3 of the Tournament, Home Advantage is given to the team with the higher Tournament Points (calculated using New Zealand Rugby Tournament Rules, as detailed in 3. a. below), following the first two rounds.
- c. If teams drawn to play each other in Round 3 are on equal Tournament Points after the first two rounds, Home Advantage will be given to the team with the higher for-and-against points differential after the first two rounds.
- d. The draw will be based on the final ranking of each team at the prior year's Seeding Tournament, per the table below.

<sup>1</sup> Comprising players from the region's Heartland Provincial Unions.

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| Round 1  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Ranked (H) v 1 <sup>st</sup> Ranked (A) – 1.00pm       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ranked (H) v 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranked (A) – 1.00pm       |
| Round 2  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Ranked (H) v 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ranked (A) – 1.00pm       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranked (H) v 4 <sup>th</sup> Ranked (A) – 1.00pm       |
| Round 3  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Ranked v 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranked – 1.00pm – (Venue TBC) |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ranked v 4 <sup>th</sup> Ranked – 1.00pm – (Venue TBC) |

### 3. Tournament Points

- a. Teams will gain the following amount of Tournament Points in each fixture:
  - 4 points for a win;
  - 2 points for a draw;
  - 1 point for a loss by 7 or less; and
  - 1 point for scoring 4 or more tries.
- b. The Tournament Winner is the team with the most Tournament Points; the Runner-Up is the team with the second highest amount of Tournament Points; the third placed team is the team with the third highest amount of Tournament Points; the fourth placed team is the team with the least amount of Tournament Points.
- c. The Tournament Winner and Runner-Up will go into the top eight of the National U19 Tournament draw and the third placed team into the bottom eight of the National U19 Draw<sup>2</sup>.
- d. If at the end of the Tournament teams are tied, placings are to be determined using the following criteria (subject to New Zealand Rugby approval):
  - the Tournament Winner is the team that beat the other team when they played their Round-Robin fixture; or
  - if they drew, then the Tournament Winner is the team with the highest points differential in the Tournament (i.e. the team with greatest positive difference between for-and-against points); or
  - if still tied, the Tournament Winner is the team that scored the most tries in the Tournament; or
  - if still tied, then the Tournament Winner is to be decided by a coin toss.

<sup>2</sup> The Heartland U20 Central Region Shield team is not eligible to play in the National U19 Tournament.

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The above criteria also apply for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placings, if necessary.

## 4. Player Eligibility

- a. Please refer to the 2019 National Under 19 Tournament Handbook.

## 5. Squad Size/Player Numbers

- a. For each match, team sizes will be 23 players with three specialist front rowers on the bench. (This also applies for the National U19 Tournament.)

## 6. Replacement of Players

- a. As this is a Round-Robin Tournament, different players can play in each of the Tournament rounds. But the players must come from the squad of 23 players designated by each Provincial Union for the Tournament.

## 7. Playing Time

- a. All games will be played in two halves of 35 minutes each excluding injury time.
- b. There will be no extra time for draws.

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## PART B – TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION

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### 1. Tournament Administrator

- a. In order to ensure all the administration associated with the Tournament is completed in a timely and thorough manner, the Council will appoint a Tournament Administrator from the Council's Operations Committee.
- b. Specifically, the Tournament Administrator is responsible for:
  - (1) promulgation of the Tournament Draw by 10 April each year;
  - (2) maintaining the Tournament Results Table;
  - (3) completing a check that all players listed on Team Sheets are also listed on the all Provincial Union Schedules confirming that their players are eligible to participate in the Tournament;
  - (4) promulgating Tournament results to all participating Provincial Union Offices within two working days of a fixture;

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- (5) producing Administration Instructions for the Tournament as needed;
- (6) collating all Tournament Referee Reports (i.e. any sin bin (yellow card) or sending off (red card) and Provincial Union Disciplinary Committee findings;
- (7) distributing all Referee Reports and Provincial Union Disciplinary Committee findings to applicable Unions;
- (8) advising all Unions of any breach of Tournament Eligibility Rules and reporting same to the National Tournament Organisers; and
- (9) on receipt of a protest from a Tournament Team, forwarding all relevant documentation to the National Tournament Organisers.

## 2. Judicial Procedures

- a. The following rules are to be followed in relation to Judicial Proceedings associated with Tournament matches.

- (1) All games are to be played under the judicial rules of the Host Provincial Union. That is, should an offence be committed which requires a judicial hearing, it will be convened and heard by the Host Union's Disciplinary Committee.
- (2) It is the responsibility of the Host Union to notify the Team Manager of the visiting team, prior to the game, of local judicial procedures.
- (3) If a player is sent off (i.e. receives a red card), then (unless otherwise directed by the National Tournament Organisers) that player cannot play any other Tournament match until he has served the mandatory stand down period as prescribed in the Host Union's judicial procedures or has come before the Host Union's Disciplinary Committee.
- (4) The Tournament Administrator will liaise with Provincial Union Disciplinary/Judicial bodies so that any offences that require to be referred to the Disciplinary Committee can be dealt with quickly.

## 3. Proof of Age/Eligibility

- a. Please refer to the 2019 National Under 19 Tournament Handbook.

## 4. Team and Results Sheet

- a. A NZR Seeding Match Report must be submitted to the Referee at least 15 minutes prior to the commencement of each game.

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A duplicate copy is to be kept by the Team Manager, who at the end of the game is to fill in all the required details, get the Referee's signature and comments, then forward to the Tournament Administrator.

- b. The Team Sheet must be received by the Tournament Administrator within 48 hours of the finish of all Tournament matches.

## 5. Costs

- a. All costs associated with each team such as transport, clothing, medical support, training venue hireage, playing equipment, training equipment, meals, after-match hosting expenses and alike, are the responsibility of each teams Provincial Union. The Hurricanes YRC will meet the following costs associated with the Competition.

(1) A travel subsidy (agreed annually) will be paid to all Tournament Teams.

(2) A hosting subsidy (agreed annually) will be paid to all Hosting Teams.

## 6. Balls

- a. The Council is responsible for providing three Match Balls (that conform to the requirements of the Rules of the Game) for any fixture.

## 7. Presentations

- a. The Central Region Shield is presented to the Winner of the Tournament.
- b. Medals are to be presented to all members of the Winning Team (max. 28).

## 8. Protests/Appeals

- a. Should any Provincial Union wish to lodge a protest, then written details of the protest are to be forwarded to the Council Administrator or as required will forward onward to the National Tournament Organiser.

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ENDS