

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



PART A – TOURNAMENT FORMAT

1. The Annual Tournament

- a. As of 1 January 2021, the Annual Tournament (the Tournament) is played in a Round-Robin format between four teams: Hawkes Bay; Manawatu; Wellington and the Heartland Under 20 team¹. 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 2021 Tournament, the draw is per the table below:

Round 1 : Saturday, 21/08/21
Hurricanes Heartland U20 (H) v Wellington (A) – 1.00pm
Hawkes Bay (H) v Manawatu (A) – 1.00pm
Round 2 : Saturday, 28/08/21
Wellington (H) v Hawkes Bay (A) – 1.00pm
Manawatu (H) v Hurricanes Heartland U20 (A) – 1.00pm
Round 3 : Saturday, 04/09/21
Wellington v Manawatu – 1.00pm – (Palmerston North)
Hawkes Bay v Hurricanes Heartland U20– 1.00pm – (Venue TBC)

- 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.

¹ Comprising players from the region's Heartland Provincial Unions.

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



Round 1
4 th Ranked (H) v 1 st Ranked (A) – 1.00pm
3 rd Ranked (H) v 2 nd Ranked (A) – 1.00pm
Round 2
1 st Ranked (H) v 3 rd Ranked (A) – 1.00pm
2 nd Ranked (H) v 4 th Ranked (A) – 1.00pm
Round 3
1 st Ranked v 2 nd Ranked – 1.00pm – (Venue TBC)
3 rd Ranked v 4 th 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. 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

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



- if still tied, then the Tournament Winner is to be decided by a coin toss.

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

4. Player Eligibility

- a. In order to play in the Tournament, players must be under 19 (or under 20 in the case of the Hurricanes Heartland team) as at 1 January of the year of the Competition; and be a registered player in the Union the player was selected for, or a bona fide resident of the Union selected for.
- b. In all other respects, the player eligibility regulations as communicated by New Zealand Rugby on 24 May 2019 for the 2019 Jock Hobbs Memorial Tournament will apply.

5. Squad Size/Player Numbers

- a. For each match, team sizes will be 23 players with three specialist front rowers on the bench.

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.

PART B – TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION

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;

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



- (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;
- (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. Statement On Conditions Of Entry

- a. Provincial Unions will undertake that all participating players in the Competition (or their parents) receive the following Conditions of Entry.

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



The Hurricanes YRC acknowledges that the playing of Rugby Union carries with it some risks of injury. Some of those are inherent in the nature of rugby as a contact sport. There are some risk management actions that the Hurricanes YRC can manage such as the quality of refereeing, the standard of coaching, the education of players around correct technique, the standard of the grounds and information to players about physical preparation before taking the field. There are others that we do not control such as the laws of the game and the personal approach of players towards playing the game. Our vision is to oversee a game that everyone can play safely and to do everything we can to allow those who participate in our competitions and tournaments to be safe. For your part, we understand that your Provincial Union has discussed these factors with you, and you agree to participate on this basis.

4. Proof of Age/Eligibility

- a. The following procedures are to be adhered to.
 - (1) The PU or Team Manager are to submit no later than ten (10) days before the first competition game an 'initial or draft' Hurricanes YRC Competition Declaration of Age Schedule detailing the full names, birth date and NZRU Player ID number to the Series Administrator. The 'final' version of this should be provided to the Series Administrator no later than three (3) days before the first match for final checking.
 - (2) Any player who is added to the game day team sheet who has not been verified on the 'final' Age Declaration Schedule by the Series Administrator will not be checked for eligibility until after the fixture has been played thus putting any points gained in jeopardy if they are found to be ineligible.
 - (3) The Schedule is signed by the Team Manager and a Provincial Union Official.
 - (4) Team Managers are to retain copies of the source document and be prepared to submit them to the Competition Administrator on request. Suitable evidence of eligibility would be a Birth Certificate, Driver's License, or Passport.
 - (5) Should players not on the original schedule subsequently join a team, then the Team Manager is to forward an additional schedule detailing the full name of the player, birth date and the NZRU Player ID number to the Competition Administrator before the player plays a Competition match. This Schedule is to be signed by the Team Manager and a Provincial Union Official, or a representative authorised to take statutory declarations.
 - (6) Team Managers are to give a copy of the schedule confirming the age of their players to the opposing Team Manager prior to the commencement of their match.

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



- (7) Penalty for Breaches. Any team that does not submit the required Schedules within the stated timeframes or plays an Ineligible Player will have all points deducted for matches in which they failed to produce a Schedule or played an ineligible player. In such cases the opposition are to be awarded five Competition Points.

5. Team and Results Sheet

- a. A Hurricane YRC Team and Results Sheet must be submitted to the Referee at least 15 minutes prior to the commencement of each game. 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.

6. 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 subsidy (agreed annually) will be paid to all Tournament Teams.

7. 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.

8. 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).

9. 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.

ENDS
