

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



PART A – COMPETITION FORMAT

1. The Annual Competition

- a. As of 1 January 2023, the Annual Competition (the Competition) is played in a Round-Robin format between four teams: Hawkes Bay; Manawatu; Wellington and the Heartland Under 20 team¹. The Competition may be reviewed, subject to consultation with New Zealand Rugby and with Executive Board approval.
- b. The Competition is played over three consecutive weekends, with each team playing the other teams in the Competition once.

2. Draw

- a. For the 2023 Competition, the draw is per the table below:

Round 1 : Saturday, 26/08/23
Hawkes Bay (H) v Manawatu (A) – 1.00pm
Hurricanes Heartland U20 (H) v Wellington (A) – 1.00pm
Round 2 : Saturday, 02/09/23
Manawatu (H) v Hurricanes Heartland U20 (A) – 1.00pm
Wellington (H) v Hawkes Bay (A) – 1.00pm
Round 3 : Saturday, 09/09/23
Manawatu (H) v Wellington (A) – 1.00pm
Hawkes Bay (H) v Hurricanes Heartland U20 (A) – 1.00pm

3. Competition Points

- a. Teams will gain the following amount of Competition 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 Competition Winner is the team with the most Competition Points.

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

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



- c. If at the end of the Competition teams are tied, placings are to be determined using the following criteria:
- the Competition Winner is the team that beat the other team when they played their Round-Robin fixture; or
 - if they drew, then the Competition Winner is the team with the highest points differential in the Competition (i.e., the team with greatest positive difference between for-and-against points); or
 - if still tied, the Competition Winner is the team that scored the most tries in the Competition; or
 - if still tied, then the Competition 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 Competition, 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 Competition will continue to apply².

5. Squad Size/Player Numbers

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

6. Replacement of Players

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

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.

² Or until otherwise advised by the New Zealand Rugby Union

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



PART B – COMPETITION ADMINISTRATION

1. Competition Administrator

- a. In order to ensure all the administration associated with the Competition is completed in a timely and thorough manner, the Council will appoint a Competition Administrator from the Council's Operations Committee.
- b. Specifically, the Competition Administrator is responsible for:
 - i. promulgation of the Competition Draw by 10 April each year³;
 - ii. maintaining the Competition Results Table;
 - iii. 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 Competition;
 - iv. promulgating Competition results to all participating Provincial Union Offices within two working days of a fixture;
 - v. producing Administration Instructions for the Competition as needed;
 - vi. collating all Competition Referee Reports (i.e. any yellow card or red card and Provincial Union Disciplinary Committee findings);
 - vii. distributing all Referee Reports and Provincial Union Disciplinary Committee findings to applicable Unions;
 - viii. advising all Unions of any breach of Competition Eligibility Rules and reporting same to the Operations Committee; and
 - ix. on receipt of a protest from a Competition Team, forwarding all relevant documentation to the Operations Committee.

2. Judicial Procedures

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

³ Or such other date as otherwise confirmed by the Operations Committee.

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



- ii. 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.
- iii. If a player is sent off (i.e., receives a red card), then (unless otherwise directed by the Operations Committee) that player cannot play any other Competition 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.
- iv. The Competition 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.

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 competitions 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. COVID & Community Rugby

- a. This Competition is a "Community Rugby event" as defined by New Zealand Rugby. The Council adopts New Zealand Rugby's guidelines for this event as may be determined from time to time.
- b. In all other respects, participants will be required to comply with any other COVID or public health regulations (if in force) or other policies which may be determined by the Council as applicable for the duration of this event.

5. Proof of Age/Eligibility

- a. The following procedures are to be adhered to.

This document is copyright of the Hurricanes Youth Rugby Council Incorporated (1897791). It may not be copied or reproduced without written permission of the Council Secretary.

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



- i. The PU or Team Manager are to submit no later than ten (10) days before the first competition game an initial or interim Hurricanes YRC Competition Declaration of Age Schedule detailing the full names, birth date and NZRU Player ID number to the Competition Administrator. The final version of this should be provided to the Competition Administrator no later than three (3) days before the first match for final checking.
- ii. Any player who is added to the game day team sheet who has not been verified on the final Age Declaration Schedule by the Competition 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.
- iii. The Schedule is signed by the Team Manager and a Provincial Union Official.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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.
- vi. This Schedule is to be signed by the Team Manager and a Provincial Union Official, or a representative authorised to take statutory declarations.
- vii. 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.
- viii. 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.

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

This document is copyright of the Hurricanes Youth Rugby Council Incorporated (1897791). It may not be copied or reproduced without written permission of the Council Secretary.

UNDER 19 PROVINCIAL RUGBY

Central Region Shield



7. 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.
- b. A subsidy (agreed annually) will be paid to all Competition Teams.

8. Balls

- a. Each team is asked to supply balls which conform to the Rules of the Game.

9. Presentations

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

10. 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
