



2010 National League Championships  
**Official Format for A Grade**  
December 2009

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- The 2010 National League Championships will be a series of three ranking tournaments culminating in a grand final play-off on the final day of the third tournament.
- The three tournaments shall be as follows: 24 & 25 April (Christchurch), 22 & 23 May (Hamilton), and 12 & 13 June (Naenae).
- Player's may only compete for one club.
- Teams are club based. All members of a team must be a member of the club they are playing for.
- New teams to the grade are required to gain permission from the competitions council.
- If any club wishes to enter two teams in the same grade they must provide distinct team lists that will apply for the duration of National League. Players may not move between two teams in the same grade at any time.
- If a club enters teams in more than one grade, i.e., A grade and B grade, players may not move between these teams. The exception to this rule is for women who may play for a women's team in A grade or B grade and simultaneously represent the same club in an open team in a different grade.
- All A Grade teams are required to supply one regional referee unique to that team. Failure to comply will result in a \$100 / tournament fine. The nominated referee must have a minimum qualification of regional theory prior to the first competition. That referee must achieve a practical qualification prior to the end of the Grand finals. Failure to comply will result in a \$100/ tournament fine.
- Any player red carded in a game automatically receives a one game ban for the next game that player is due to play for that team during National League.
- All games should be played on a court that meets the requirements of the International Canoe Federation Canoe Polo Competition Rules and have timing and scoring systems clearly visible to players and the public viewing areas.
- New Zealand Canoe Polo shall be responsible for: booking and meeting the costs of venues; providing competition quality balls; and organising referees, scorers, and timekeepers via the referees and duty team draws.
- All games shall be controlled by a minimum of one regionally qualified referee. Play off and medal games should be controlled by two regionally qualified referees.
- All games shall be played according to the International Canoe Federation Canoe Polo Competition Rules.

**A grade ranking tournaments:**

- The Competitions Director shall determine the draw for the tournaments. The draw should be available two weeks prior to each tournament.
- The draw format for the ranking tournaments is two ranked pools (top half and bottom half) playing full round robins. Initial rankings will be based on 2009 results. New teams will be ranked lowest. Play-offs shall then take place to ensure all teams finish each tournament with a ranking; this will include a play-off

for top of the lower pool against bottom of the top pool. Subsequent pool groupings will be based on previous tournaments results.

#### **A grade grand-finals:**

- At the end of the three tournaments the ranking from each tournament will be compiled to determine a final ranking. Final championship results shall be determined with play-off games: 1<sup>st</sup> vs.2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> vs. 4<sup>th</sup> and so forth.....
- In the event of two teams being tied for points, placings will be awarded based on the following criteria: aggregate of head to head results, goal difference over all three competitions, toss of a coin.
- Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded.

#### **Points and placings:**

Points shall be awarded from the ranking tournaments for final placings only and as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> 20 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 16 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 14 points
- 4<sup>th</sup> 12 points
- 5<sup>th</sup> 10 points
- 6<sup>th</sup> 9 points
- 7<sup>th</sup> 8 points
- 8<sup>th</sup> 7 points
- 9<sup>th</sup> 6 points
- 10<sup>th</sup> 5 points
- 11<sup>th</sup> 4 points
- 12<sup>th</sup> 3 points
- 13<sup>th</sup> 2 point
- 14<sup>th</sup> 1 points

Rankings at the tournaments and placings at the end of round robin pool play shall be determined by the following mechanisms (in descending order of importance):

- Total points
- Goal difference
- Winner of games between tied teams
- Toss of a coin

Elimination games and games to determine final ranking places shall comprise of:

- Two periods of 10 minutes with a three minute half time.
- If the scores are equal at the end of play and a result is required there will be a one minute break followed by periods of five minutes of sudden death play (one minute between periods).

#### **Entries:**

- All entries close on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2010. Completed entry forms should be emailed to the Competition Director: James Mitchell [james@missionkayaking.com](mailto:james@missionkayaking.com)
- Full squad lists must be supplied by Friday 9th April 2010. Team lists can be updated during the season in writing to the Competitions Director.
- National League entry fee is \$1000 per A grade team and \$600 per B and C grade team. Full payment must be posted to New Zealand Canoe Polo at the address below no later than Monday 30th April 2010.

**Disputes:**

Any formal disputes during a tournament will be handled according to clause 6.0 of the Association Disputes Policy and section 79 of the International Canoe Federation Canoe Polo Competition Rules. If the competition has been concluded the case will be referred to the Board.