



Club Circular

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NUMBER: 006/10

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ATTENTION: Senior Club Delegates, Club Chairman, Club Managers/Secretaries,
Club Captains

SUBJECT(S): Senior Grade Playoffs Information

Please find below important information regarding the upcoming playoff and semi final weeks for the Senior Grades

1. Competition Playoff Formats
2. Finals Squad Sheets
3. Tied Team Formula

Attachments:

1. Finals Squad Sheet
2. Application to Return to Registered or Eligible Grade

1. COMPETITION PLAYOFF FORMATS

Please note: All playoff and semi-final games will be played at the home of the highest qualifying team

SENIOR FIRST

1. A three week finals format is played on completion of the 17th July round.
2. On 24th July the Senior 1st grade play-offs will take place to establish semi-finalists. Teams will be ranked 1 to 10 from the finishing positions after the first 14 weeks.

Teams 1 & 2 have a bye with direct entry to the semi finals;

Team 3 plays Team 6 in Qualifying Match 1,

Team 4 plays Team 5 in Qualifying Match 2.

Team 7 plays Team 10 (*team withdrawn during season, see below*) in Qualifying Match 3.

Team 8 plays Team 9 in Qualifying Match 4.

3. On 31st July the Senior 1st grade semi finals will take place to establish finalists in the Championship and Plate sections. *No Bowl final as team 10 have withdrawn.*

The top 4 teams play in the **Championship** semi-finals.

Team 1 plays the lowest ranked winner of Qualifying Match 1 & 2 in Semi Final 1.

Team 2 plays the highest ranked winner of Qualifying Match 1 & 2 in Semi Final 2.

The middle teams play in the **Plate** semi-finals.

The highest ranked loser of Qualifying Match 1 & 2 plays the lowest ranked winner of Qualifying Match 3 & 4 in Semi Final 3.

The lowest ranked loser of Qualifying Match 1 & 2 plays the highest ranked winner of Qualifying Match 3 & 4 (*Team 7, as Team 10 has defaulted*) in Semi Final 4.

4. On 7th August the semi final winners play in the Championship and Plate Senior 1st finals.

Trophies

- Stuart Cup is awarded to the winner of the Championship Final
- Trophies are awarded for the Plate winner (Middle 4) and the Bowl winner (Bottom 2)

UNDER 21's

1. Semi Finals commence 31st July 1 v 4, 2 v 3 (Championship) & 5 v 8, 6 v 7 (Plate), 9 v BYE (End of Season)
2. On the 7th August semi final winners play in the Championship & Plate Finals.

Trophies

- Wynyard Cup is awarded to the winner of the Championship Final
- A Trophy is awarded for the Plate Final

UNDER 19's

1. Semi Finals commence 31st July 1 v 4, 2 v 3 for Championship. 5 v 8, 6 v 7 for Plate.
2. On the 7th August semi final winners play in the Championship & Plate Finals.

Trophies

- U19 Championship Cup is awarded to the winner of the Championship Final.
- A trophy is awarded for the Plate winner.

UNDER 85kg

1. Semi Finals commence 31st July 1 v 4, 2 v 3 (Championship) & 5 v 8, 6 v 7 (Plate).
2. On the 7th August semi final winners play in the Championship & Plate Finals.

Trophies

- Restricted Championship Cup is awarded to the winner of the Championship Final
- A trophy is awarded for the Plate winner.

SENIOR SECONDS

1. Semi Finals commence 31st July 1 v 4, 2 v 3 (Championship) & 5 v Bye, 6 v 7 (Plate).
2. On the 7th August semi final winners play in the Championship & Plate Finals. Plate Final (5 v winner of 6 v 7).

Trophies

- The Ted Wilson Cup is awarded to the winner of the Championship Final
- A trophy is awarded for the Plate winner

2. FINALS SQUAD SHEETS

As in past years, it will be necessary for all Senior Grade players to be listed to a particular squad, prior to the commencement of the playoffs.

1. A finals squad sheet is attached. You will require one sheet for each of your Premier, Senior 1st Under 21, Under 19, Under 85kg & Senior 2nd teams.
2. **All players** on the finals squad sheet **must have completed an NZRU registration form and be registered on the NZRU Player Management System.**
3. These sheets are to be returned to the Union Offices, **by 9am Friday,**
 - 9th July for Premiers
 - **23rd July for Senior 1st, U19, U85kg, Senior 2nd**
 - **30th July for U21**
4. Each Club must decide which players will be allocated to a particular squad. **A player can only be listed on one Finals Squad Sheet.**
5. A minimum number of 15 players are required on each squad sheet. There is no maximum.
6. If a player is not listed on a squad sheet, that player is not eligible to take part in the playoffs, semis or finals.
7. A player is always eligible to play in a higher grade than that for which he is listed, but in doing so becomes subject to Rule 8 below:
8. Any player listed on a finals squad sheet, or a player who has taken the field in a higher grade, cannot subsequently play in any lower grade without an application (see Rule 9 below). However, if a player plays in a grade for which he is listed and then subsequently takes the field in a higher grade for a blood bin or injury only, then that player is permitted to return to his listed grade.
9. Where a player has played in the finals rounds of a higher grade (e.g. U21 listed player has played for Premiers) and wishes to return to his registered or eligible grade, application must be made to the NHRFU in writing by 5pm of the Monday prior to playing on the following Saturday. An application form is provided. All applications for a player to return to registered or eligible grade will be provisionally investigated and approved, or otherwise, by NHRFU Rugby Operations staff and ratified at the next COC meeting.
10. A standard team sheet will be used for playoffs, semi-finals and finals. The team manager is to complete the team sheet for substitutions and replacements where sub controllers are not provided.
11. All finals squad sheets and team sheets will be audited to ensure all players are registered and for compliance with the above instructions.

3. TIED TEAM FORMULA

POINTS TABLE – END OF ROUND ROBIN OR SPLIT ROUND

If any teams finish on equal points then the position will be determined in the following order:

1. Who beat who in the current season
(note: if teams that have met twice during the season have won one game each, 2. points differential will apply)
2. Points differential in that round of competition.
3. Team scoring the most tries in that round of competition.

QUARTER OR SEMI FINALS

In the event that teams are tied at the end of a quarter or semi-final, the winner shall be determined by the following criteria, and applied in order of sequence until a result is determined:

1. A further ten (10) minutes each way will be played. The first team to score is the winner (golden point) and the match finishes at that time. A toss of the coin will determine kick off and the toss/call is the reverse of the start of match toss. The players that finish the game must start the extra time period and normal rules of substitution continue throughout the extra time period.
2. The team scoring the most tries in the match.
3. The winner of the last game between the two teams.
4. By the toss of a coin.

FINALS

In any finals match, a draw at full time will mean a shared trophy – in other words **no** extra time is played.



Application to Return to Registered or Eligible Grade

Players Name:		Application Date:	
Club:		Date of Birth:	
Registered Grade:		Higher Grade Played in:	
Number of Games Played in Registered Grade:		Number of Games Played in Higher Grade:	
Intended or Eligible Grade:		Playing Position:	

Reasons for seeking a Return to Registered or Eligible Grade:

Examples:

1. Player registered for Under 21 at the beginning of the season and played the majority of games in the U21 grade however was on the bench for the Premiers for last five games replacing an injured player (John Smith) . Premier team was knocked out in the semi-finals and the player now wishes to return to the U21 team to play out the season. (NHRFU will check registration details, serious injury report and relevant team sheets)
2. Player is Under 21 as at 1 January but registered as a Premier player at the beginning of the season and was the reserve halfback . The player never started a game and only went on 6 times in 16 games for cameo appearances. The Under 21 where the incumbent halfback (Fred Bloggs) has an serious injury preventing him from completing the season. The player is surplus to the Premier teams requirements for the remainder of the season and wishes to play out the season with his friends in the U21 team. (NHRFU will check registration details, serious injury report and relevant team sheets)

Players Signature:		Club Officials Signature: (Chairman/Secretary/Delegate)	
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