



National Graded Championships Policy

Purpose: To clarify the intent of the National Graded Championships event as it relates to Northland squash, particularly for representation to the National finals. (formerly called Champion of Champions)

Background:

The Northland Graded Champs has been a successful Northland squash event for a long period of time and has traditionally been a standalone event. The purpose of this event is to find the local champions in each grade, from A Grade to J Grade.

With the introduction of a SNZ National Graded Championships Finals event in 2012, there is now a need to provide some clarity on some representation rules following on from our Northland event. At the 2012 AGM, it was decided that a policy be drawn up to accommodate this change and clarify rules about Northland representation to the National Graded Championships Finals.

Recommendations:

1. Northland Graded Champs is open to any full financial member of any affiliated Northland club.
Appearance on that club's grading list is not a prerequisite.
2. The grade entered must be according to the SNZ grading list on the date that complies with the SNZ National Graded Championships Rules.
3. To be eligible to be acknowledged as the grade champion for that year, full entry cost must be paid to the host club (even if a junior player, or if there is only one entry).
4. For the National Finals, the regional winners in each grade (except J Grade) are entitled to enter. In any grade, if the winner is unable to participate in the National Finals their place shall be offered to the runner-up and then the third placing player (and so on). These selection rules are in accordance to Squash New Zealand's rules and regulations and may be subject to change that should all efforts to include winner, runner-up or subsequent entrants in the Northland Graded Champs as Northlands representative at the National Graded Champs be exhausted, other Northland squash players, in order of grading list ranking, (until the list is exhausted, or time constraints prevent further invitations) be invited to take part.
5. F/J Grades are combined for the National Finals. For Northland the F Grade competitors will have priority to attend the National Finals. If there are no F Graders playing in the Northland Graded Champs (or able to attend the Nationals), then the J Grade winner (and so on as above) will be invited to attend.
6. To be eligible for the National Finals, players must have entered, paid and played (unless only one entry) in the regional event.
7. Any juniors (Under 18) who qualify for the National Finals, must be accompanied by a parent, or guardian pre-approved by Squash Northland prior to the tournament and at their own cost.
8. Players committing to the National Finals must be available for all three days of the tournament. All entrants are responsible for their own travel arrangements to and from the event and their own accommodation arrangements whilst participating.
9. On all matters, rules and regulations as laid down by SNZ will apply.
10. Squash Northland will endeavour to support Northland Representatives to the National Finals in the following ways:
 - Payment of Entry Fees to National Event,
 - Provision of Squash Northland playing gear (to return).
 - Some assistance with travel and accommodation arrangements, where possible
 - Application for funding to help meet costs of travel and accommodation.

Note: If SN's funding applications are unsuccessful, then the responsibility for travel and accommodation costs will lie with the individual players. Players may be able to obtain some financial assistance from their own club.

Approved at Regional Meeting dated: 19 September 2017 Review Date: AGM 2025
Reviewed: 25.2.2020, 23.2.2021, 29.3.2022, 26.3.2024 (name change)

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