

INTER-ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

UPDATED DECEMBER 2024

1. ENTRY

- (a) Entry into the competition shall be made by member Associations only.
 - i) Badminton New Zealand may approve the entry of a combined or regional team in any competition, excluding New Zealand Seniors Division 1 & 2 (Wisden and Slazenger Cup).
 - ii) Badminton New Zealand may approve the entry of team from an Oceania member association excluding Australia, in the following competitions: Under 19, Under 17, Under 15, Under 13; where it is satisfied that the team entry meets a development purpose and does not unfairly impact New Zealand teams.
- (b) An association is responsible for the financial and ByLaw requirements of any team they enter.
- (c) Badminton New Zealand has sole discretion to allow or disallow any entry of players and/or teams to the competition as it sees fit.
- (d) Badminton New Zealand may debar an association or teams from participation in the forthcoming year's Inter-Association competitions for:
 - i) Non-payment of Inter Association fees by the deadline set in Bylaw 2(f).
 - ii) Non-payment of any penalties incurred in the previous season by 31 January of the current year.
- (e) An Association that has not complied with all of Badminton New Zealand requirements under the Rules of The New Zealand Badminton Federation (Inc.) may have all their teams debarred from the current year's competition unless satisfactory arrangements are made with the Board.

2. CATEGORIES

- (a) There are eight categories of player types – Seniors, Masters, Veterans, Super-Veterans, and Junior: Under 19, Under 17, Under 15, Under 13. Each category shall be split into divisions – depending on numbers of entries. Division 1 is the highest ranked in each category.

- (b) The number of teams in New Zealand Seniors Division 1 & 2, North Island Seniors Division 3 & 4, North Island Masters Division 1 to 4 and North Island Veterans Divisions 1 to 3 and North Island Super Veterans Division 1, shall be permanently fixed and entry shall only be by promotion-relegation.
- (c) Category formats are:
 - i) New Zealand Senior Division 1 & 2 – 12 teams total, no association shall have more than two teams across both divisions.
 - ii) All other Divisions listed in Bylaw 2.b. – 7 teams per Division.
 - iii) Northern and Central Seniors and all Mainland categories shall operate based on a division size as proposed annually by each region and approved by Badminton New Zealand.
 - iv) New Zealand Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 – an Association may enter as many teams as they wish. The format is dependent upon the number of teams, number of days, number of courts. Badminton New Zealand to determine the format.
- (d) Each year Badminton New Zealand will call for entries for the forthcoming year as follows:
 - i) New Zealand Senior Division 1 & 2 teams.
 - ii) New Zealand - Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13.
 - iii) North Island, Northern Region and Central Region Senior, Masters, Veterans and Super-Vets teams.
 - iv) Mainland – Seniors, Masters, Veterans and Super-Vets.
- (e) Entries shall close on the following dates each year:
 - i) 31 January - New Zealand, North Island, Northern and Central divisions .
 - ii) As notified by Mainland - Mainland Seniors, Masters, Veterans and Super Veterans.
 - iii) 30 April - New Zealand Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13.
- (f) Team entry fees as listed in Appendix A are payable to Badminton New Zealand one month after the closing date(s) as per Bylaw 2(e).
- (g) Late entries to these divisions will be accepted only if they can be accommodated in the draw and upon payment of the entry fee. Badminton New Zealand is under no obligation to accept late entries.

3. ZONING

- (a) Badminton New Zealand shall have the right to subdivide the Competition into zones.

4. DRAW

- (a) Badminton New Zealand shall arrange the draw for each Category according to zones and shall set dates and venues for all ties. Mainland Seniors, Masters, Veterans and Super-Veterans draws shall be arranged by the Mainland Regional Committee and approved by Badminton New Zealand.

- (b) Any Association entering Senior (excluding New Zealand Division 1 & 2), Masters, Veterans, and/or Super-Veterans team(s) is expected to be able to provide a minimum of four courts for a day per team entered for the hosting of ties.
- (c) Badminton New Zealand shall, at the same time, set dates for all inter-zone Ties and promotion / relegation ties.
- (d) All ties must be played by the date set and be played in the order of the published draw as communicated by Badminton New Zealand. Any changes are to be agreed at least 6 weeks prior by Badminton New Zealand and all teams involved.
- (e) New Zealand Senior Division 1 and 2 teams shall be seeded based on the final finishing positions of teams in the previous season. The team that wins Division 2 shall be ranked below the lowest placed team in Division 1. If multiple teams are promoted to the competition in a single season, Badminton New Zealand selectors will determine the seed of these teams, noting that they will each be seeded below all existing teams.
- (f) Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 teams shall be seeded based on an average of all team members' National Ranking Points across all disciplines from the relevant age group at the time of receiving the ranking lists. In the case of overseas players, the New Zealand selectors to determine arbitrary points based on the known strength of the players for the purpose of the calculation.
- (g) The seeding of teams for (per 4f) may be recalculated and the draw changed accordingly up until 72 hours prior to the commencement of the first tie upon submission of a revised ranking list from any team; if the revised ranking list changes the seeding and draw significantly – the Referee shall make the final decision.
- (h) For Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13, where possible two teams from the same Association should not meet in stage 1 of the draw. Badminton New Zealand may amend the draw to achieve this providing no other team is disadvantaged.
- (i) The schedule of ties for a given weekend in North Island, Northern and Central divisions shall be made by the hosting association and communicated to all participating teams:
- i) Ties must be played in rounds as per the schedule published by Badminton New Zealand – refer Bylaw 4(d).
 - ii) The earliest permissible start time for each round of ties is as follows:
 - (1) Two rounds of ties: Round 1 – 10:00am, Round 2 – 1:00pm.
 - (2) Three rounds of ties: Round 1 – 8:30am, Round 2 – 11:00am, Round 3 – 2:00pm.
- (j) Any Association shall have the right of appeal to Badminton New Zealand. Such an appeal shall be made in writing within 14 days of notification of the draw and be supported by a statement of case.

5. DEFAULTS

- (a) Any Association that withdraws a team(s) shall be liable for the full amount of the default fee as set by Badminton New Zealand (as per Appendix B), if the withdrawal occurs:
 - i) After the draw has been made official for Seniors, Masters and Veterans and Super-Veterans; or
 - ii) After the entry closing date for all other events.
- (b) This may be waived or reduced by the Board in exceptional circumstances.
- (c) Teams that default or withdraw during the competition will additionally be liable for any justified actual expenses incurred by other teams in their division.
- (d) If an Association is not able to fill all its fixed teams for the current season, as per Rule 2 (b), then it must field the higher ranked teams first as per Rule 7(a). If an Association is to withdraw a team from New Zealand Senior Division 1 or 2 after 1 May then it must be the lowest ranked of these teams. The withdrawn team will automatically be the team relegated at the end of the season.

6. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- (a) A player must be in good standing with Badminton New Zealand and the Association they are representing.
- (b) A New Zealand player is defined as a person who holds any of the following:
 - i) A New Zealand Passport
 - ii) New Zealand Citizenship
 - iii) New Zealand Residency
 - iv) A player holding a New Zealand BWF number
- (c) In the case of Residency a player must have resided continuously in New Zealand for a minimum of one year. This status must be held at the time when the ranking list is submitted. Associations must provide proof of this status, if requested by Badminton New Zealand.

Clarification - the one year period may have occurred at any time – i.e. it does not necessarily apply to current status. In the case of Australian Citizens, they are deemed to hold New Zealand Residency and will be eligible to compete after one year of continuously residing in New Zealand.
- (d) All other players who do not meet the requirements of 6(b) and 6(c) are classified as overseas players. The number of overseas players permitted is as follows:
 - i) New Zealand Seniors division 1 and 2 – no overseas players.
 - ii) Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 – up to three players from Oceania Member Countries excluding Australia.
 - iii) All other teams - a maximum of two overseas players.
 - iv) Where an Oceania team is entered under the provisions of 1(a)(ii), the limits of 6(d)(ii) do not apply, however all players must be from the same country.

- (e) Associations may apply to Badminton New Zealand for overseas students to be included in a Junior team upon proof of the student's enrolment and continuous residency in New Zealand for a minimum of 12 weeks prior to the due date of the team ranking list. Badminton New Zealand may grant or decline entry eligibility of a player at their discretion.
- (f) In each season a player may play for different Associations in each of the following categories of competition:
- i) Juniors (Under 19, Under 17, Under 15, Under 13)
 - ii) New Zealand, North Island, Northern and Central Seniors
 - iii) Mainland Seniors
 - iv) North Island Masters
 - v) Mainland Masters
 - vi) North Island Veterans
 - vii) Mainland Veterans
 - viii) North Island Super Veterans
 - ix) Mainland Super-Veterans
- Clarification – A junior player cannot represent different associations at different age groups within the junior category.*
- (g) A player playing in New Zealand Seniors Division 1 or 2 must not have played in a lower Division in that season for that Association unless the written permission of Badminton New Zealand has been granted due to special circumstances.
- (h) New Zealand Seniors Division 1 and 2 teams may include one player that plays in North Island Seniors Division 3 or Regional Senior Divisions for an Association that does not have a team in Seniors Division 1 or 2.
- (i) In the categories of Seniors (excluding New Zealand Seniors Division 1 & 2), Masters, Veterans and Super-Veterans, an Association that is suddenly unable to field a full team for a particular weekend of ties, due to special circumstances (e.g., injury or travel difficulties), must obtain the written permission of Badminton New Zealand to include "emergency reserves" from alternative associations. Failure to do this will result in the matches involving such player(s) being defaulted.
- (j) A player must not play in more than one team in the same division for that season unless the written permission of Badminton New Zealand has been granted.
- (k) For Juniors only, on-loan players are players from another Association where-by their Association has not entered a team in the competition or where the player was available for selection but was not selected for their Association team. An Association must apply to Badminton New Zealand for permission to use an on-loan player no later than one week (7 days) prior to the due date of the team ranking list. Badminton New Zealand must approve all on-loan players. In exceptional circumstances on-loan players may be approved outside of this time-frame (i.e. as injury or illness replacement).
- Clarification – The purpose of "on-loan" players is to enable an Association to field a*

- team and should not be at the expense of using local players. When granting approval or otherwise, Badminton New Zealand will ensure that this by-law is not exploited for the purpose of Association's forming "super-teams."
- (l) On-loan players are permitted in Junior teams as follows:
 - i) Under 17 & Under 15 teams may have a maximum of three (3) on-loan players.
 - ii) Under 19 & Under 13 teams may have a maximum of one (1) on-loan player.
 - (m) A player cannot be named and/or play in both a New Zealand Seniors Division 1 team and a New Zealand Seniors Division 2 team in the same year. However, where prior to the ties commencing a named player is forced to retire from a New Zealand Seniors Division 1 team, a player who was named in a New Zealand Seniors Division 2 team may be promoted to take that player's place in the New Zealand Seniors Division 1 team, provided that he or she ceases to be named in the New Zealand Seniors Division 2 team.
 - (n) Age restricted categories are restricted as follows:
 - i) Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 – players who shall remain under the stated age group as at 31 December for the calendar year that the event is held. Badminton New Zealand, at its discretion, may implement a minimum age requirement, in accordance with the principles of "Balance is Better."
 - ii) Seniors - players who are at least fifteen (15) years of age as at 31 December in the year of competition.
 - iii) Masters - players who are at least thirty-five (35) years of age as at 31 December in the year of competition.
 - iv) Veterans – players who are at least fifty (50) years of age as at 31 December in the year of competition.
 - v) Super-Veterans – players who are at least sixty (60) years of age as at 31 December in the year of competition.
 - (o) Age restricted players may, provided they meet the age requirements of each age group, play in any of the age groups. They may also compete in Seniors Divisions under the same conditions as the non-age group players.
 - (p) Players who have previously competed in New Zealand Seniors Division 1 and Division 2 must complete a player transfer form signed by both the existing and new association if they are to compete for another association in New Zealand Seniors Division 1 and Division 2. This form is required to be submitted to Badminton New Zealand 8 weeks prior to the start of the Seniors Competition in which they are competing. If a player transfer is disputed, Badminton New Zealand will mediate and determine the final decision on player eligibility.
 - (q) Teams that use a player not qualified under Rule 6 will have all that player's matches disqualified in Ties played that season. Matches played in lower position order than those played by the disqualified player may also be disqualified.

7. GRADING

- (a) Multiple teams from the same Association in the same competition (e.g., Seniors, Masters, Veterans, Super-Veterans,) are to have the strongest team in the higher ranked Division, with the next strongest team in the following Division. However, if there are two or more teams from an Association in the same Division of a category of competition those teams may be of equal ranking.
- (b) A player who plays more than the set number of ties in a higher division must not play again in a lower division in that season. The number of ties is:
 - i) New Zealand Seniors Division 1 and 2 and other categories that have all ties scheduled on consecutive days: Two (2) ties.
 - ii) All other categories: One weekend series of ties.
Clarification - A player is no longer permitted to play up in a higher Division for their first weekend and return down to their team without prior permission if a team list has not been received as per 7(c).
- (c) Team Lists are due for submission for Seniors (excluding New Zealand Division 1-2), Masters, Veterans and Super-Veterans two weeks prior to the first scheduled tie for any of these competitions. Players cannot play down a Division in subsequent weekends unless written permission has been granted prior to the relevant weekend.
- (d) Teams in inter-regional Play-offs cannot use players that have not played previously for that team in the current season without gaining prior permission from Badminton New Zealand.
- (e) Seniors players can only play in one team lower than the previous time they represented that association unless written permission is granted by Badminton New Zealand prior to playing.
- (f) Teams that use a player not qualified under Rule 7 will have all that player's matches disqualified in ties played that season. Matches played in lower position order than those played by the disqualified player may also be disqualified.

8. COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

- (a) The team membership must be the same if the ties played are on the same day or consecutive days. Each team shall consist of the following number of players:
 - i) A Veterans and Super-Veterans team shall consist of a minimum of three men and three women, up to a maximum of five men and five women.
 - ii) An Under 19 and Under 13 team shall consist of a minimum of two men and two women up to a maximum of four men and four women.
 - iii) All other teams shall consist of a minimum of four men and four women and a maximum of six men and six women.
- (b) Teams that use a player not qualified under 8(a) will have all that player's matches disqualified in Ties played that season. Matches played in lower position order than those played by the disqualified player may also be disqualified.

- (c) New Zealand Seniors Division 1 and 2 teams are to register their intended teams with Badminton New Zealand two weeks prior to the start of the Seniors Division season, on the forms provided by Badminton New Zealand.

Interpretation - Players, who are named in the provisional lists at the beginning of the season, may be replaced (due to injury or unavailability). An independent verification is required e.g., Doctor's certificate or business letter. If the provisional lists do not name all six men and six women, then any 'gaps' will not be allowed to be filled by a lower division player.

- (d) Team ranking lists:

- i) For New Zealand Seniors Division 1 & 2, Under 19, 17, 15, 13 a team ranking list on the form provided, detailing all the team members' names must be submitted in order of merit for singles plus all the doubles combinations intended to be used in order of merit to Badminton New Zealand, at least 21 days prior to the start of the first tie. The team lists in the Junior events to include the player's date of birth. (Teams failing to submit this ranking list by this date will incur a penalty as per Appendix B unless prior approval by Badminton New Zealand has been granted.)

Interpretation - Order of Merit should follow the Badminton New Zealand National Rankings, if not then deviations are to be justified at the time of submitting the Team Ranking List.

- ii) Badminton New Zealand will circulate the ranking lists submitted in 8(d)(i) to all teams in the relevant competition. Associations may protest the ranking order of other teams, which must be supported by a statement of case. Any alterations considered necessary by Badminton New Zealand (resulting from any protest received, or for any other reason) or following a decision of the Selectors, shall be notified to Associations at least five (5) days prior to the first Tie. The New Zealand Selectors' (or any other person delegated this role by Badminton New Zealand) decision will be final.

- iii) Where a player is unable to take his or her place in a team prior to the commencement of the first Tie because of injury, illness, the operation of Rule 6(m) or for any other reason, the Association has the right to name a replacement player and as soon as practicable the Association must submit a revised ranking list in Order of Merit. As per rule 4 (f) the seeding and draw may be recalculated and revised after submission of the revised ranking list at the discretion of the Referee.

- (e) All teams competing in Junior Inter Association ties; Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 are to have a non-playing adult Manager. This person must attend the respective tournament and be appointed by and responsible to the Association to which that team belongs.

9. PLAYING OF TIES

- (a) Tie format for each competition is as follows:

- i) A Tie for Seniors shall play two men's singles, two women's singles, two men's doubles, two women's doubles and four mixed doubles - a total of 12 matches. Each player may only play a maximum of one match in each discipline.
 - ii) A Tie for Masters shall play four men's doubles, four women's doubles and four mixed doubles – a total of 12 matches. The doubles matches can be played by any combinations of players provided that:
 - (1) each pairing only plays one match per tie.
 - (2) each player can only play a maximum of two men's/women's doubles matches and one mixed doubles match per tie.
 - iii) A Tie for Veterans and North Island Super-Veterans shall play three men's doubles, three women's doubles and three mixed doubles – a total of 9 matches. The three men's and three women's doubles matches can be played by any combinations of up to five players provided that:
 - (1) each pairing only plays one match per tie.
 - (2) each player can only play a maximum of two men's/women's doubles matches and one mixed doubles match per tie.
 - iv) A tie format for Mainland Super-Veterans shall be proposed annually by Mainland and approved by Badminton New Zealand.
 - v) A Tie for Under 17 and Under 15 shall play four men's singles, four women's singles, two men's doubles, two women's doubles and four mixed doubles – a total of 16 matches. Each player may only play a maximum of one match in each discipline.
 - vi) A Tie for Under 19 and Under 13 shall play two men's singles, two women's singles, one men's doubles, one women's doubles and two mixed doubles – a total of 8 matches. Each player may only play a maximum of one match in each discipline.
- (b) The current BWF scoring system shall be used for all matches. Badminton New Zealand may choose to use alternative formats in exceptional circumstances; all teams involved will be given at least 14 days prior notice.
- (c) Before the start of play:
- i) In all Seniors (excluding New Zealand 1-2), Masters, Veterans and Super-Veterans ties, Team Captains or Managers must submit a ranking list to the Referee, at least 30 minutes before the start of play. For all other categories, the Referee or Event Organiser to set the time, and advise the teams at least 48 hours prior, as to the required time for submission of the team list. Each list must show all players in order of merit for singles (except Masters, Veterans and Super-Veterans) plus all the doubles combinations to be used in order of merit and this must be the merit order for the playing of the Tie(s) including Ties played on consecutive days. No alterations shall be made to this ranking list thereafter, except to substitute under Rule 9(e)(iv), or where an objection under Rule 9(c)(ii) and/or (iii) is able to be resolved.

- ii) If a team objects to the declared order of merit of any other team the Captain or Manager must make such objection known to both the opposing Captain or Manager and the Referee before the start of play. If an agreed order of merit cannot be arrived at the Tie(s) shall be played in the declared order of merit. The objecting Association shall then, if it wishes, lodge a written objection with Badminton New Zealand within seven (7) days of the completion of the Tie(s).
 - iii) If a paid member of the Badminton New Zealand events staff is present and has no competitive interest in the matter, then the matter shall be referred to that Badminton New Zealand representative and their decision shall be final and binding on all parties.
 - iv) In New Zealand Seniors Divisions 1 and 2, Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 – the appointed Referee shall set the conditions of play at the Managers Meeting. It is mandatory in these events, for a representative from each team to attend the Managers Meeting. Non-attendance may result in a penalty from Badminton New Zealand, as per Appendix B.
- (d) Before the start of a tie:
- i) The Referee is to check the order of the players/combinations on the Team List with that of the Ranking List and ensure that any errors are corrected.
 - ii) When both Team lists have been handed in and checked by the Referee, then the opposing captains or managers can view the opposition team's list.
 - iii) A Team must have all the named players available to take the court and be capable of playing the match with honest endeavour.
 - iv) Immediately prior to the start of a Tie, all players not courtside are to be identified to the opposing Captain/Manager and Referee.
 - v) Where a Team List is required to be submitted some time prior to the immediate start of a Tie and, subsequently, a player is unable to take their place on the court then a new Team List must be submitted as soon as practical.
 - vi) If a team list is submitted ahead of the due time and the team lists of the teams have not been released; a team may submit an updated team list with the permission of the Referee.
 - vii) If a player becomes unavailable to play due to illness, injury or some other unforeseen circumstance and must be replaced before the tie has commenced, a new team list is to be submitted which must only reflect the changes necessary due to the unavailable player. This must be done with the prior approval of the Referee.
- (e) During a tie:
- i) If it is discovered that matches are playing 'out of order' they shall be stopped immediately and replayed in the 'corrected order.' Any finished matches shall also be replayed in the 'corrected order'.
 - ii) If, after the last match in the Tie has been completed, it is discovered that matches have been played 'out of order,' the results stand as they are with no replays. No defaults can be claimed or awarded.

- iii) If a player is incapacitated and is unable to continue, the match in progress shall be forfeited. If team consists of only the minimum number of players all remaining matches in which the incapacitated player is unable to play shall be forfeited.
- iv) If a team consists of more than the minimum number of players (refer Rule 8(a)) then a substitute must play for the incapacitated player, in that player's position, in the remaining matches of that Tie provided that the substitute complies with Rule 9(a). Teams with more than the minimum number of players on the team's ranking list regardless of whether Reserves are listed or not on the Tie Sheet, must put a player on the court otherwise Rule 9(f)(i) applies.
The other players for that match play as written down. The ranking list order is ignored for this match.
Clarification: A second substitute can play in the incapacitated player's place for a second match – it does not have to be the same substitute who plays in both matches.
- v) If a player is incapacitated then that team's Captain or Manager must confer with the opposing Captain or Manager regarding both the incapacitated and substitute players. If there is no agreement the Referee shall be the sole judge and his/her decision is final.
- vi) The incapacitated side shall retain their points scored while the other side shall take the extra points needed to win the match.
- vii) If the incapacitated player is unable to start the next match when that is due to be played, then they are not permitted to play any further matches in that tie. They can, however, play in a later tie that day, although they may be asked to produce a medical certificate, if the Referee is concerned about the injury.
- (f) All ties:
 - i) Any match(es) defaulted in a Tie other than for injury or illness will also be automatically defaulted by that team for all remaining ties for that season, unless overruled by Badminton New Zealand. Badminton New Zealand shall issue fines as per Appendix B for matches defaulted for reasons other than for injury or illness.
 - ii) If a team has Rule 9(f)(i) invoked then subsequent Team Lists must include defaulted match(es) as if the match(es) are still to be played.
Clarification - If the top doubles position has been defaulted, then the top doubles pair must still be named in the top doubles position, they cannot play as the 2nd pair.
 - iii) When a team has less than the minimum number of players available to take the court at the start of a Tie then the highest position order matches in each event must be filled first with the descending order positions following next.
 - iv) Any transgression of Rules 9(d), (e), (f) shall have the affected match(es) disqualified and any match(es) played in a lower position order than the disqualified match(es) shall also be disqualified.

- v) The winner of a Tie shall be the team winning the greater number of matches. If matches won are even, then the winner shall be the team winning the greater number of games, then points, in that order. If all these are even, then the result shall be a draw.
- (g) Round Robin Ranking:
 - i) Those parts of the competition played on a Round Robin basis will have the placings decided by the greatest number of group points. Group points shall be awarded on the following basis:
 - (1) Win – 2 group points
 - (2) Draw – 1 group point
 - (3) Loss – 0 group points
 - ii) Should more than one team be equal on points, then that equality shall be decided by:
 - (1) If two teams have won the same number of ties, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.
 - (2) If three or more teams have won the same number of ties, ranking order will be established by the difference between total ties won and total ties lost, with greater difference ranked higher.
 - (3) If this still leaves two teams equal, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.
 - (4) If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and are equal in the difference between total ties won and total ties lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total matches won and total matches lost, with greater difference ranked higher.
 - (5) If this still leaves two teams equal, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.
 - (6) If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and are equal and are equal in the difference between total ties won and total ties lost and are also equal in the difference between total matches won and total matches lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total games won and total games lost, with greater difference ranked higher.
 - (7) If this still leaves two teams equal, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.
 - (8) If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and are equal in the difference between total ties won and total ties lost and are equal in the difference between total matches won and total matches lost and are equal in the difference between total games won and total games lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total points won and total points lost, with greater difference ranked higher.
 - (9) If this still leaves two teams equal, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.

- (10) If three or more teams are still equal, then ranking will be established by drawing lots.
- (11) Teams that have a drawn tie in a Round Robin shall not toss to break that equality.
- (h) A match conceded due to illness, injury, or other unavoidable hindrance shall count as if completed without the conceding side scoring another point.
- (i) If a team is unable to complete all their ties in a pool, all the results of that team shall be deleted from the pool ranking i.e. They will be automatically relegated.
- (j) Defaults - refer Clause 5.
- (k) All matches in New Zealand Seniors Divisions 1 and 2, Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 shall be umpired.
- (l) Wherever possible all other matches are to be umpired.
- (m) Coaching:
 - i) In all Junior categories (Under 13, Under 15, Under 17 and Under 19), any person coaching players must meet the requirements of the Badminton New Zealand Accredited Coaches policy.
 - ii) An Association that fields a non-accredited coach may incur a fine as per Appendix B.

10. ORDER OF PLAY

- (a) The preferred order of play is:
 - i) First, Singles in ascending order (lowest to highest) of merit alternating men and women;
 - ii) Second, Doubles in ascending order of merit alternating men and women;
 - iii) Third, Mixed Doubles in ascending order of merit.
- (b) Any singles players still unavailable for play five (5) minutes after the conclusion of the last singles match shall have that match(es) defaulted (and Rule 9(f) (i) applies). The same sequence shall be used for the doubles and for the mixed doubles.
- (c) If the two teams and the Referee agree on an order of play, different from that set out in Rule 10(a), then that shall be the order of play for that tie.
- (d) If there is disagreement as to the order of play in any tie, the order of play shall be that as set out in Rule 10(a).
- (e) All Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 ties are to play in the following order, where possible:
 - i) First, Doubles in ascending order of merit alternating genders;
 - ii) Second, Singles in ascending order of merit alternating genders;
 - iii) Third, Mixed Doubles in ascending order of merit.
- (f) In Senior Division 1 & 2, any player participating in two matches is entitled to a minimum interval of 30 minutes between them.

11. RESULTS

- (a) Badminton New Zealand shall supply all associations with a template of the Inter-Association Tie Sheets and Referee Report Form. It is the responsibility of the host association to ensure that sufficient copies of each form are available to the competing teams.
- (b) The host association will, within three (3) days of the completion of the Tie(s) forward one (1) copy of the detailed results and a copy of the Referee's Report to Badminton New Zealand. Failure to do this may render the host team liable to the forfeiture of the points for their Tie(s).

12. LAWS OF BADMINTON

- (a) The Laws of the Game applying to all ties shall be those laid down by the Badminton World Federation. All ties shall be played under Alternate Service Law 9.1.6, unless otherwise specified by Badminton New Zealand.
- (b) The standard of dress worn on the court during a match shall be as per the Badminton New Zealand Clothing Code as published on the Badminton New Zealand website. Failure of a player to comply with the clothing code may be subject to a fine as per Appendix B. This fine will be issued per player, per tie, to a maximum of four players per tie.
- (c) The Referee has overall charge of the playing of Ties at that venue and has the authority to enforce the Laws of Badminton, The Clothing Code and the By Laws for Inter Association Competition. Where no Referee has been appointed, a person who is familiar with the Inter-association by-laws to be nominated the responsibility of carrying out the duties of the Referee. This nominated person must not be included in the team ranking list of any team playing in the ties at that venue for that weekend.

13. SHUTTLES

- (a) Badminton New Zealand will approve a brand of shuttle for New Zealand Senior Division 1 and 2, Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13. This shuttle must be used by all teams.
- (b) For all other Categories refer to the Guide to Shuttle Usage for Inter Association Competition.

14. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- (a) Badminton New Zealand will offer associations the option to either purchase shuttles from Badminton New Zealand or self-supply the required shuttle type for Seniors Division 1 and 2, Under 19, Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13.
- (b) Host Associations may charge hall hire costs for play offs where indicated in the published draw (Seniors and Masters are capped at \$100+GST per team per tie. Veterans and Super Veterans are capped at \$70+GST per team per tie).

Clarification - If all teams in a Division participate in the playoff weekend, then hall costs will not be permitted to be charged.

- (c) For Mainland Senior, Masters and Veterans hall hire costs shall be no more than \$80+GST per team per tie.

15. INTER ZONE FINALS

- (a) Divisions of more than one zone will play inter zone finals. The top two teams of each zone will play in the cup section for the division title. Inter-zone ties will be arranged amongst the remaining teams.
- (b) Cup Section
 - i) The winner of each zone shall play the runner-up of the other zone in the semi-final. The winners of the semi-final shall then play for the Division title. The losers of the semi-final shall play for third place.
 - ii) If the two finalists are even after a count back of games and points they shall be declared joint winners of the respective trophy.
 - iii) Defaults - If a team defaults the draw shall stand and the losing semi-finalist will be placed third.
- (c) If a team defaults it shall be placed last in the Division and relegated.

16. PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

- (a) The team that finishes last in New Zealand Seniors Division 2 will play in a round robin with the highest placed North Island and South Island Division 3 teams who are eligible for promotion. The team who wins this round robin will compete in Seniors Division 1 and 2 the following year. The second and third-placed teams from this playoff shall compete in the relevant North Island or South Island Division 3 the following year.
- (b) The first-place team in the Northern and Central Seniors highest divisions shall both be promoted into the North Island Division 4 competition.
- (c) In all regional competitions, the first-place team shall be promoted to the next highest division.
- (d) The lowest-placed teams in each division shall be relegated as necessary to maintain the size of all fixed divisions, as per 2(b) and 2(c).
- (e) For any non-fixed divisions, the lowest-placed team shall be relegated.
- (f) Where there is a vacancy in any division, that vacancy will be offered to all teams, with the following order of preference to apply if multiple requests are received:
 - i) Team promoted from the next-lowest division.
 - ii) Runner-up from the next-lowest division.
 - iii) Relegated teams from said division, in descending order based on their finishing position.

- iv) All remaining teams in lower divisions in descending order based on their finishing position.
- (g) If two teams are equal after count-back provisions have been applied, then a coin shall be tossed to determine promotion/relegation.
- (h) Badminton New Zealand holds the right to make overriding decisions on promotion and relegation on a case-by-case basis.

17. PROTESTS

- (a) The term Protest as used in these bylaws refers to the procedure by which a formal objection to a player, team or Association's adherence to the Badminton New Zealand Bylaws is made and subsequently resolved.
- (b) There will be no field-of-play protests. The decision of the Referee on all interpretations of the Laws of Badminton shall be final.
- (c) All protests must be made by an Association representative, in writing and emailed to the Badminton New Zealand CEO within 7 days of the alleged offence or cause for complaint.
- (d) A deposit of \$250.00 to the Badminton New Zealand bank account must accompany all protests and must be made before the protest is reviewed.
- (e) The deposit shall be returnable if the protest is successful and results in subsequent action by Badminton New Zealand. If the protest is not successful, the deposit shall be forfeited to the funds of Badminton New Zealand.
- (f) The Badminton New Zealand Events Manager shall determine all protests and disputes in relation to the Badminton New Zealand Bylaws, and shall determine whether protests are successful or not successful.
- (g) The Badminton New Zealand Events Manager may consult with any person or organisation, including the Inter-Association Committee, to assist in determining a protest as per 17(f).
- (h) The Chief Executive of Badminton New Zealand will select and determine the Badminton New Zealand Inter-Association Committee, to be appointed on a two-year term.

APPENDIX A – ENTRY FEES

EVENT	FEE
Wisden/Slazenger Cup	\$1000 + GST
NI Senior/Masters	\$390 + GST
NI Veterans/Super-Vets	\$330 + GST
SI Senior	\$300 + GST
SI Masters/Veterans	\$300 + GST
SI Super-Vets	\$250 + GST
U13/U19	\$TBC + GST
U15/U17	\$TBC + GST

APPENDIX B – OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

OFFENCE	INCIDENCE OF PENALTY	AMOUNT
Late entry into New Zealand U19, U17, U15 & U13 competitions – refer 2(g)	For every incidence	\$250 + GST
Withdrawal of team in Inter-Association competition – refer 5(a)	For every incidence	\$500 + GST
Late submission of Team Ranking List – refer 8(d)(i)	For every incidence	\$150 + GST
Non-representation at Team Managers' Meeting – refer 9(c)(iv)	For every incidence	\$150 + GST

OFFENCE	INCIDENCE OF PENALTY	AMOUNT
Matches defaulted other than for injury or illness – refer 9(f)(i)	For every incidence In Wisden and Slazenger Cup In all other divisions	\$150 + GST \$50 + GST
Tie defaulted – refer 5 (c)	For every incidence	Justified actual expenses incurred by other teams, as determined by BNZ
Association fields a non-accredited coach in Junior competition – refer 9(m)	For every incidence	\$100+GST
Failure to comply with the Clothing Code – refer 12(b)	For every player – per tie	\$50+GST (Max. \$200+GST)
A Yellow card in any Badminton New Zealand sanctioned tournament in a calendar year	For third yellow card Every subsequent yellow card	\$150+GST \$200+GST
A Red card in any Badminton New Zealand sanctioned tournament	For red card	\$200+GST

INTERPRETATIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

The number system used is as per the Bylaws for Inter-Association Competition.

6 (G) NEW ZEALAND DIVISION 1 AND 2 PLAYERS MUST NOT HAVE PLAYED IN A LOWER DIVISION

Players who are named in the provisional lists at the beginning of the season, may be replaced (due to injury or unavailability). An independent verification is required e.g., Doctor's certificate or business letter.

If the provisional lists do not name all six men and six women, then any 'gaps' will not be allowed to be filled by a lower division player.

9 (E) (III) INCAPACITATED PLAYER

If a player is injured during a match and cannot continue, then that match is stopped and the score is written up showing full points to the other side.

If the incapacitated player is unable to start the next match when that is due to be played, then they are not permitted to play any further matches in that tie.

They can, however, play in a later tie that day, provided that the referee is satisfied that the player is fit to play.

9 (E) (IV) SUBSTITUTION FOR INJURY

On the Tie sheet, the incapacitated player is crossed out and the substitute's name is written in. The other players for that match play as written down. The ranking list order is ignored for this match.

A second substitute can play in the incapacitated player's place for a second match – it does not have to be the same substitute who plays in both matches.