



Waikato U15 Open

2nd and 3rd May 2026

Badminton New Zealand Tier 12 Event

Address: Eastlink Badminton Stadium, 60 Old Farm Road, Hamilton East, Hamilton.

Online Entry only, via: www.badminton.org.nz or at www.waikatobadminton.co.nz

Entries close: Wednesday 22nd April 11.59pm

Draw Published: Wednesday 29th April

Entry fees: One event - \$60

Two events - \$90

Three events - \$120

Tournament Organiser:

Miha Brown ITournament and Events Manager

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Referee:

Recommended Accommodations:

Ulster Lodge Motel

211 Ulster Street, Whitiara, Hamilton 3200

<http://ulsterlodge.co.nz/>

Alcamo Hotel

290 Ulster Street, Whitiara, Hamilton 3200

<https://www.alcamohotel.co.nz/>

Events:

- Saturday:
 - 9am - Main events include Round of 64, Round of 32, Round of 16, and Quarterfinals.

- Sunday:
 - 9am - Semi-Finals and Finals in main events
- Plate Events
 - Will be played on both days.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

General

1. It is expected that players will have read and are familiar with the 'Conditions of Entry and Play' prior to submitting an entry.
2. Players entering must be a member of, and in good standing, with an Association affiliated to Badminton New Zealand or the Badminton World Federation.
3. The rules of play shall be those of the Badminton World Federation unless otherwise stated.
4. The BWF scoring system will be used.
5. All players will be entitled to a minimum of 15 minutes break between main draw matches.
6. This event will be held using Alternative Service Law 9.1.6. a) the whole shuttle shall be below the server's waist at the instant of being hit by the server's racket. The waist shall be an imaginary line round the body, level with the lowest part of the server's bottom rib; b) the shaft and the racket head of the server's racket at the instant of hitting the shuttle shall be pointing in a downward direction.
7. All questions as to rules shall be resolved by the appointed Tournament Organiser.
8. All disciplines will be played in a knockout format using BWF scoring with plate events. **Plate events will be played with one game to 31 points.**
9. Coaching is not permitted between points, but coaching is permitted at intervals (e.g. at 11 points and between games). Any person coaching must meet the requirements of the Badminton New Zealand Accredited Coaches policy. Any person coaching during a match who refuses the request of the referee or tournament director to stop coaching may be referred to the Badminton New Zealand disciplinary panel.
10. **Code Alpha L08 shuttles will be used.**
11. The tournament will be seeded using the most recent national rankings available (in the U15 Age category) as at the closing date **Wednesday 22nd April 2026.**
12. The draw and schedule will be published by 11.59pm **Wednesday 29th April 2026** on the Badminton New Zealand and Waikato Badminton websites.
13. The Tournament Committee and/or Referee reserve the right to:
 - Cancel any event due to Covid-19 related restrictions, insufficient entries, or if time does not permit a full competition to be held.
 - Change competition format if entries demand.
 - Change the scoring of plate events if time constraints are required.
 - Default a player who is not available to play at the scheduled time.

Player Requirements

14. Players entering the Under 15 age group in 2026 will be born between 2012 and 2015, i.e., **under 15 at 31/12/2026.**
15. Players may default if they are not on court ready to play within 5 minutes of being called.
Note: Players may be called upon up to 10 minutes ahead of the scheduled time.



16. **All players must act as umpires or line judges when requested. Failure to do so may result in the player being defaulted.** *Local players will be sourced for early round matches, in the event this cannot be obtained, players outside of local region will be asked to fill those gaps.*
17. Players compete at their own risk. No responsibility will be accepted for any injury received during the tournament.
18. Following one warning for misconduct, the appointed Tournament Organiser shall have the authority to disqualify a player from further play if there is a repeat of misconduct.

Entry Details

Entry can only be made online and must be received no later than 11.59pm on **Wednesday 22nd April 2026**. Online entry is available via: www.badminton.org.nz and www.waikatobadminton.co.nz

1. Entries for Doubles and Mixed Doubles will not be accepted unless entries, with full payment, are received from both partners by the closing time/date. This excludes 'Partner required' entries. It is not the responsibility of Waikato Badminton to follow up entries from nominated, but un-entered partners.
2. Players withdrawing after entries have closed will not be eligible for a refund unless a medical certificate is submitted at the time of withdrawal.
3. Players may withdraw from individual events without being required to withdraw from all events.
4. There will be no replacements in Singles events.
5. Substitution is only allowed in the doubles events from players already entered in the tournament and with the approval of the Referee.
6. Only one Player in each pair in the draw can be substituted.
7. If two Players from two different pairs in the same event are put together, the placement of the new pair shall be at the position of the pair seeded in the highest seeding group. If none of the pairs are seeded, or seeded in the same seeding group, the position shall be drawn by lot between positions of the two original pairs.
8. There shall be at least ONE Plate event for each discipline.
9. Plate entry is automatic for the losers of their first match. Players wishing to withdraw must advise the Tournament Official immediately after their first match loss. If a player defaults, withdraws, or retires (does not complete) their first match, they are not eligible for the plate.
10. **A \$20 administration fee will be deducted from all refunds.**
11. A compulsory BNZ player levy of \$17 is payable by all players.

Entry Fees

12. Entry fees are as follows:
 - One Event: \$60 (Including BNZ player levy)
 - Two Events: \$90
 - Three Events: \$120

Entry fees are to be paid via PayPal as part of your online entry. Entries will not be accepted into the draws until payment is made and received.

Prize Pools

13. Singles winners will receive vouchers valued at \$120.00.
14. Doubles winners will receive vouchers valued at \$60.00 each.
15. Singles runner ups will receive vouchers valued at \$60.00.



16. Doubles runner ups will receive vouchers valued at \$30.00 each.
17. Plate winners will receive vouchers valued at \$20.00.

Seeding Clause-

1. Seeding will be completed using the latest Badminton New Zealand National Rankings available on the date of entries closing.

Withdrawal Clause-

1. The following withdrawal criteria are applicable in all sanctioned event draws with eight (8) or more entries:
 - a. During the round robin stage and/or prior to the quarter-final stage, a player may withdraw or retire from an individual event without being required to withdraw from any other event.
 - b. Once a player has qualified for the knockout stage of any event, or from the quarter-final stage (whichever occurs first), any retirement or withdrawal from one event shall require the player to be withdrawn from all other events in which the player is entered, including events still in group play.
 - c. ***Exception:** If a player withdraws or retires from an event with less than eight (8) entries, they are not required to withdraw from any other event in which they are entered.

COVID-19

18. Waikato Badminton Association will follow the COVID-19 requirements as advised by the New Zealand Government, Ministry of Health, and Sport New Zealand throughout this tournament. Such requirements may include, but are not limited to contact tracing, physical distancing, face coverings and personal hygiene.
19. Waikato Badminton Association reserves the rights to suspend, postpone or cancel the tournament in line with these requirements.
20. Waikato Badminton will provide players with a full refund of their entry fee if the tournament is suspended or cancelled, however will not consider financial reimbursement of any other costs related to the tournament.
21. If the event is postponed Waikato Badminton will automatically transfer each participants entry and entry fee to the new date. If a player wants to withdraw their entry, they may do so following standard withdrawal processes online before the new closing date.



22. Waikato Badminton reserves the rights to disqualify any player from the tournament who are deemed to have disregarded any reasonable instruction related to the Waikato Badminton COVID-19 response. This includes but is not limited to wearing of masks, contact tracing and social distancing. Further guidance is at: <https://waikatobadminton.co.nz/about/covid19/>

By entering this event, the player hereby agrees and acknowledges that any person, shall have the right to: Photograph and or record on video all and any games or practice conducted during the course of the event, retain such photographs or video recordings for their own use of whatsoever nature, distribute such photographs or video recordings to any other party, display such photographs or video recordings during the event or any time thereafter, in any form whatsoever (including but not limiting to promotional displays of the organisers and/or the sponsors of the event or any similar event, social network internet sites, the website(s) of the organisers and/or sponsors of the event and of Badminton New Zealand) PROVIDED THAT no such photographs or video recordings shall be used or retained for any illegal immoral or unseemly user or purpose.

