



SOFTBALL NEW ZEALAND

NATIONAL NORTH & SOUTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

Information Sheet & Entry Form

You are invited to enter a boy's and/or a girl's team into the competitions being conducted by Softball New Zealand (SNZ). In an effort to provide opportunity for an increased number of teams that can play in the tournaments, the competition has been divided into two divisions.

DIVISION 1 This is an elite competition and schools from the provinces listed can enter teams of each gender to play in the regional qualifying tournaments. Schools must win the regional qualifying event to be eligible to play in Division 1. The information and contacts for qualifying tournaments is on the next page. There is a Liaison Officer from your region who will be able to assist you at any time. Alternatively contact Aimee Russell at Softball NZ on 021 824 608 or arussell@softball.org.nz

The NZ Secondary School Division 1 Softball Tournament is to be held at Fraser Park, Lower Hutt from Tuesday 25th – Friday 28th March 2025.

DIVISION 2 *This will be split into two tournaments* – one in the North Island and one in the South Island. The Division 2 is open entry. There is no qualifying process required, however entry numbers may be capped dependant on the capability of the host association.

The North Island Secondary School Open Division 2 Tournament is to be held at Fraser Park, Lower Hutt from Tuesday 25 – Friday 28 March 2025.

The South Island Secondary School Open Division 2 Tournament is to be held at Sir Basil Arthur Park, Washdyke from Tuesday 25th – Friday 28th March 2025.

2025 KEY DATES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- Entries are due by **Friday 28th February 2025** for both the D1 and D2 tournaments.
- Entry Fee & Team Rosters are due to Softball New Zealand by **Friday 7th March 2025**.



Secondary School Regional Qualifying Zones 2025

To qualify for **DIVISION ONE** entry to National Tournament.

The following liaison officers will be able to assist you at any time with any queries and the dates of the regional qualifying zone tournaments. All qualifying games for Division 1 must be completed by 28 February 2025, unless otherwise arranged with Softball New Zealand.

ZONE	ASSOCIATIONS	QUALIFYING VENUE	LIAISON OFFICER	CONTACT DETAILS
1	Auckland & North Harbour (2 entries)	TBC	Aimee Russell	arusell@softball.org.nz 021 824 608
2	Counties & Manukau (1 Entry)	TBC	Aimee Russell	arusell@softball.org.nz 021 824 608
3	Waikato (1 Entry)	Resthills Park Hamilton	Aimee Russell	arusell@softball.org.nz 021 824 608
4	Hawkes Bay (1 Entry)	Akina Park Hastings	Rose Cooper	softballhb@xtra.co.nz
5	Wanganui & Manawatu (1 Entry)	Colquhoun Park Manawatu	Jenine Scoon	jenine.scoon69@gmail.com 022 453 0558
6	Hutt Valley & Wellington (3 Entries - <i>Top 3 from region</i>)	Fraser Park Lower Hutt	Loren Parker	huttvalleysoftball@xtra.co.nz 021 022 49190
7	Canterbury (1 Entry)	Dynasty Ballpark Christchurch	Moira Annandale	admin@csa.org.nz 027 289 3801
8	SI Seddon Districts Top (1 Entry)	TBC	Aimee Russell	arusell@softball.org.nz 021 824 608
9	SI Southern Districts Bottom (1 Entry)	TBC	Aimee Russell	arusell@softball.org.nz 021 824 608



Softball NZ – Secondary School National Tournament



RULES OF THE COMPETITION

The competition will be played in two divisions under the Rules of Softball New Zealand Inc.

1.1 Division One

Associations named on the attached sheet will have schools which qualify for this division. They will be responsible for organising a competition, best suited to their Association or area, which provides a winning team(s) by the 6 Mar 2025. The winning team(s) will compete in the national tournament. Where there are more than 2 associations in a zone, finals will be held to find the qualifying team(s) for that region.

1.2 Regional/Zone Qualifying Tournament for Division One:

An Association in each region will be appointed to host the Regional Qualifying Tournament which is to be completed by the specified date as set by Softball New Zealand. *(See list of regions and region co-ordinators attached)*

1.3 Division One National Final:

The qualifying teams will compete at the National Final to be held in North Harbour. Softball New Zealand will support the tournament with attendance of a SNZ Tournament Representative, Tournament Organiser (Hosting Association), Chief Umpire, Chief Scorer, Tournament Selector, Umpires and Scorers for all games.

1.4 Division Two North Island & South Island Final:

Will consist of two tournaments – North Island (North Harbour) and South Island (Christchurch). Division 2 is open entry. There is no qualifying process required; however, entry numbers may be capped dependant on the capability of the host association.

Under School Sport New Zealand guidelines, composite teams are acceptable for both divisions, only if: *Composite School Ruling*

- a) All other eligibility rules regarding age and attendance are met
- b) The principals of the schools that the students attend agree
- c) One principal accepts responsibility for the composite team
- d) The team will be called by a name indicating that more than one school has contributed players
- e) In the premier level of any sport, the team will be permitted only through the preliminary round and will not be eligible for placing or competition trophies (but may be eligible for awards such as Fair Play and individual trophies.)
- f) Where appropriate and with the agreement of the event organiser and School Sport NZ, Composite teams may compete for medal places in competitions below the premier level of that NZSSSC sanctioned event. Where events are either a qualifying event for or incorporate promotion to a higher-level School SportNZ sanctioned event, Composite teams may not progress or be promoted to the higher-level event ahead of a team from a single school.
- g) Composite teams should not be able to enter tournaments at the premier level of a sport when single school teams are on a waiting list.

Softball NZ will support the tournament with attendance of a SNZ Tournament Representative, Tournament Organiser (Hosting Association), Chief Umpire, Assistant Chief Umpire, and a Chief Scorer who will all assist attending teams and the hosting association with the tournament.



2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 **To participate in this competition a player must be under 19 years of age at the 1st of January 2024 in the year of the competition and will be bona fide full-time students at the school, participating in all the normal college study programmes while taking part at any level of the competition as per NZSSSC eligibility criteria for secondary schools.**
- 2.2 No player can play for more than one college during any part of this tournament (from local playoffs through to National Finals).
- 2.3 The principal is required to sign the team entry & registration forms of any teams entered in the Division 1 and Division 2 Qualifying and/or National Tournaments as verification that the players listed are bona fide full-time students of the school and they meet NZSSSC eligibility criteria for sec schools.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 Once a team entry is accepted the team must take part in all aspects of the competition as required by the organiser
- 3.2 All schools are to attend the managers' meeting. The manager's meeting is usually held at the tournament venue at 8.00pm on the evening prior to the start of the tournament.
- 3.3 Safety equipment such as a full set of catching gear and a sufficient number of batting helmets must be bought to the tournament by the school as part of team equipment.
- 3.4 All schools competing should attend the Awards Ceremony at the conclusion of the tournament.

Please complete the attached entry form for entry to SNZ National Tournaments and send it to arussell@softball.org.nz

ENTRY FORM is due by FRIDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2025.

Upon receipt of your entry form, you will be issued with the TOURNAMENT HANDBOOK which will outline procedures for the Secondary School Tournaments at all levels.

There is no fee required with this initial entry form.

Once qualifying tournaments for Division 1 (if required) have been completed, successful teams are contacted and issued a GST invoice for the tournament entry fee. Successful Division 2 entries will be notified as soon as possible

Division 1 - \$410 GST inclusive tournament entry fee

Division 2 - \$250 GST inclusive tournament entry fee

The entry fee and return schedule must be returned to the SNZ office by 7 March 2025 The return schedule can be found at the back of the tournament handbook Tournament Entry Fees will not be refunded if schools withdraw prior to the start of tournament.

