
Examinations Process

A Rationale

Softball New Zealand Scorers Association has a qualification system that requires theoretical and practical examinations.

Theoretical examinations will be one of the following;

- The first theory examination a learner scorer undertakes
- The refresher theory examination sat undertaken a qualified Badge Holder Scorer

The practical examinations will be one of the following

- The first qualifying practical examination undertaken by a theory holder
- The second practical examination undertaken by a scorer having successfully passed the qualifying practical examination
- A bar examination for Badge Holder Scorers that is undertaken while officiating at a SNZ National Tournament
- A bar examination for Badge Holder Scorers that may be completed as a team scorer at a SNZ National Tournament
- An electronic scoring examination that is undertaken by a Badge Holder scorer wishing to be accredited as an Electronic Scorer

B Procedure

1. Theoretical Examination – First Theory

- 1.1. The first theory examination should provide the candidate the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in Game Scoring, Analysis and knowledge of scoring rules and guidelines set out in the SNZ Scorers Manual and Appendix Four of the SNZ Rules of Softball.
- 1.2. The pass mark shall be 70%.
- 1.3. A first theory pass shall remain current until a practical qualifying examination is passed or for three years.

2. Theoretical Examination – Refresher

- 2.1. The Refresher examination should provide the candidate the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in Game Scoring, Analysis and knowledge of scoring rules and guidelines set out in the SNZ Scorers Manual and Appendix Four of the SNZ Rules of Softball. Additionally Grade 6 and 7 Badge Holder Scorers shall be required to demonstrate advanced knowledge of scoring and/or statistics that is required of a Tournament Chief Scorer or Tournament Statistician.
- 2.2. Badge Holder Scorers shall be required to sit a theoretical Refresher Examination every three years to maintain their grading.
- 2.3. Newly qualified Badge Holder Scorers will be required to sit their first Refresher Examination three years after attaining the SNZ Scorers Badge.
- 2.4. Grade 4 and Grade 5 Scorers shall be required to pass the Refresher Examination with a pass mark of 70%.
- 2.5. Grade 6 and Grade 7 Scorers shall be required to pass the Refresher Examination with a pass mark of 80%.
- 2.6. By nature of the fact that the Qualifications Co-ordinator is setting and marking the examination each year as well as sending it to a Panel member for proof checking, the Qualifications Co-ordinator is demonstrating proficiency required to maintain the Grade 6/7 standard and shall be deemed as having met the Refresher requirements. Should

the Panel member undertaking the proof checking consider that there are sufficient errors in the examination, the Softball New Zealand Chief Scorer will initiate a separate process to assess the proficiency of the Co-ordinator.

- 2.7. A scorer who fails to meet the Refresher Standard should be encouraged to resit in the following year.
3. Practical Examinations – Qualifying and Badge
 - 3.1. There shall be two practical examinations required to be passed to attain the Softball New Zealand Scorers Badge qualification.
 - 3.2. The first practical examination to attain the Softball New Zealand Scorers Badge shall be known as the Qualifying examination. Scorers undertaking this examination should complete their required examination games with 70% of them correct.
 - 3.3. The Qualifying Examination shall be sat by Scorers who have passed the first theory examination within the past three years.
 - 3.4. The second practical examination to attain the Softball New Zealand Scorers Badge shall be known as the Badge examination. Scorers undertaking this examination should complete their required examination games with 90% of them correct.
 - 3.5. The Badge Examination shall be sat by Scorers who have passed the Qualifying examination within the past three years.
 - 3.6. In sitting the practical examinations scorers will be required to score one game a day at a National Tournament as an exam game. This includes practically scoring the game and immediately analysing the game.
 - 3.7. Scorers undertaking examinations will also be required to score and analyse at least one other game per day and be available for the entire duration of the tournament.
 - 3.8. Qualifying and Badge Examinations can be undertaken at any National Tournament EXCEPT for the National Fastpitch Championships.
4. Badge Holder Bar Examinations
 - 4.1. Each year Badge Holders may be awarded a bar for practically demonstrating ongoing scoring proficiency to Badge Holder level.
 - 4.2. Bars will be awarded to scorers appointed to National tournaments who score at least one game as an examination game and demonstrate throughout the tournament that their game scoring and analysis is of Badge Holder level.
 - 4.3. A scorer may apply to sit a Bar examination as a Team Scorer. The application should be made before 1 December each year. Team Scorers will be required to provide a copy of one of their team games analysed each day AND sit an independent examination game during the tournament. They must be assessed by the Tournament Chief Scorer as being of Badge Holder level. Team scorers may only undertake this method of obtaining a bar examination on two successive years. On the third year the scorer will be required to attain a bar through officiating at a National Tournament.
 - 4.4. Where possible the Tournament Statistician will sit a bar game. If this is not possible, both the Tournament Statistician should be assessed for a bar game at a separate fixture approved by the relevant Deputy Chief Scorer. The Tournament Chief Scorer should be assessed for a bar game in the same way.
 - 4.5. Where a scorer is officiating at two tournaments, notification will be made to the scorer of which tournament they will be sitting their bar at. This may or may not be their first tournament depending on the number of scorers undertaking practical examinations. This is to share the load of examining amongst Tournament Chief Scorers and not placing the burden of having to examine every scorer on the Tournament Chief Scorers of the first tournaments of the season.
5. Re-examination of Inactive Scorers
 - 5.1. Badge Holder Scorers who have not actively scored in New Zealand for over five years shall be required to demonstrate their proficiency firstly by passing the theory examination.
 - 5.2. Upon passing the theory examination they will be required to undertake the practical examination process at a National Tournament as set out in Section 3 above.

- 5.3. If the scorer concerned meets the 90% standard required of a Badge candidate, the Active Scorers Badge Holder status will be reinstated. If the scorer only meets the 70% Qualifying standard, there will be the required to sit the Badge Holder examination in a successive season.
6. Practical Examinations – Electronic Scoring
 - 6.1. Electronic Scoring Accreditation by Badge Holder Scorers requires scorers to have demonstrated prior experience in electronic scoring as set out in the Electronic Scoring Accreditation Guidelines prior to being practically assessed.
 - 6.2. The practical assessment of Electronic Scoring shall be undertaken by an approved and accredited Electronic Scorer and shall involve assessment of the scorer through the following methods;
 - 6.2.1. Sitting in on games and making practical observations
 - 6.2.2. Paper scoring the game alongside the electronic scorer
 - 6.2.3. Assessing the play by play summary with the official scoresheet
 - 6.3. Assessment will be undertaken on at least three games

C Related Documents:

- Softball New Zealand Scorers Manual
- Softball New Zealand Rule Book
- Softball New Zealand Qualification Process (in development)
- Softball New Zealand Electronic Scorer Accreditation Process

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