



MEMO TO: Associations, Clubs, Players, Umpires, Scorers and other interested parties
FROM: Softball NZ
DATE: 19 June, 2020
SUBJECT: NFC, Open Clubs, & SNZ Sec School tournaments for 2020/21 Season

This memo has been prepared to confirm key dates and venues for the National Fastpitch Championship (NFC), Men's & Women's Open Clubs, and the Softball NZ Secondary School tournaments for the upcoming 2020/21 season.

National Fastpitch Championship 2020/21

The NFC will be held at Rosedale Park, North Harbour (NH) from Thurs 11 Feb through to Sunday 14th Feb 2021. Key points behind the decision;

- With the economic challenges facing Softball NZ, associations, clubs, and players, it was decided to move the NFC from Hamilton to North Harbour for this upcoming season. With the Men's & Women's Open Clubs being held in March in Lower Hutt and Christchurch respectively, it was only fair to still have the third SNZ senior tournament to be held in the Northern region. Senior players in the main centres will have to travel at some point in the season to a senior SNZ tournament.
- Availability of flights and accommodation for booking is still plentiful and cost effective for teams, especially with NH being on the main trunk line.

Men's & Women's Open Clubs 2020/21

The Men's Open Clubs will be held at Fraser Park, Lower Hutt from 10-14 March, 2021. The Women's Open Clubs will be held in Christchurch at Mizuno Ballpark from 11-14 March, 2021.

With Easter being much earlier in 2021 (end of March), and the late possible start to senior association competitions this season, there was thought to hold the Open Clubs later in March, or even after Easter. Unfortunately, grounds are not available at the host associations after Easter, and with the Sec School tournaments (almost 60 teams competing) having to be run in late March there was no other later dates to hold Open Clubs, so it will be the usual time of the 2nd week of March.

Softball NZ Secondary School Tournaments 2020/21

The dates and venues for the Secondary School tournaments in March 2021 are the same as the official notice that came out earlier this year (see Table 1.0 highlighting the venues and dates for the Sec School tournaments). Secondary School Sport NZ only allow one certain week to hold all Secondary School tournaments in Summer, so it needs to be held on the week of 22-26 March 2021.

Table 1.0: Dates & Venues of Softball NZ tournaments for 2020/21

NFC	11-14 Feb, 2021	North Harbour	Rosedale Park
Men's Clubs	10-14 March, 2021	Lower Hutt	Fraser Park
Women's Clubs	11-14 March, 2021	Christchurch	Mizuno Ballpark
Div 1 Sec School	22-26 March, 2021	Papakura	Prince Edward Park
Div 2 Nth Island	23-26 March, 2021	Palmerston North	Colquhoun Park
Div 1 Sth Island	23-26 March, 2021	Alexandra	Molyneux Park

As a reminder for this upcoming season, the U18's and U15's will be a new and exciting delivery opportunity to be reworked this season to align within a regional delivery model. More participant engagement will be the cornerstone of this delivery model. Association hubs, along with national pathway leadership, undertook significant dialogue resulting in this exciting venture for the upcoming season.

Softball NZ