



# **EVENT MANUAL**

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## WELCOME

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It is with great pleasure we welcome you to the 2025 NZAFF Club Flag Football National Championships.

This year's event once again has multiple divisions - Men's, Women's, Youth and Legends. So incredible to see our sport reaching across the whole community.

Over the three days there will be over 180 games held, an increase from last year's 130, and with your energy and support we will conduct a highly successful and exciting event for you and all the football fans in attendance.

We need to acknowledge our sponsors and supporters:

- The Four Winds Foundation providing ongoing support for this event for the 6th time
- Manukau Counties Community Facilities Charitable Trust
- TAB for providing ongoing, year after year support, for the whole sport in our communities across the country.

Also, a special thanks to those that have put their hand up to referee. Without Officials we cannot run these events and, as the sport grows, we need more! They will be working hard during the weekend with very little rest, so please be polite and courteous. We hope you all have an enjoyable time.

**Steph Murray**

**Chair**

**NZAFF Board**



***Four Winds***  
F O U N D A T I O N

## TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

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**Tournament Organisers** Russell McConnochie  
Shernice Henry

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**Tournament Managers** Steph Murray

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**Tournament Head Referees** Paul Brownd  
Donald McMillan

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**Neutral Referees**

James Lissaman	Wesley Talaimanu
Lani Ekepati	Max Wallace
Anthony Baker	Errah Erueti
Jayne Tuigamala	Hope Selo. Maliko
Nathan Wakefield	Cherish-May Latatuli.Maliko
Bill Wydeven	Tayla Makoare
Greg Evers	

### Club Referees

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Rob Goodman	Ladamir Taulagi	Sifa Tukutau	Joe Kerr
Briddy Carrington	Jonathan Fonua	Jeremy Ewe	Scott Jones
Amanda Salele	Jake Hogg	Joshua Pouesi	Jorja Mouat
Murray Orr	Lonell Lakatani	Brent Law	Nathalie Hayward
Jared Scoles	Fano Tarapi	Tasha Shahwe	Josh Strong
Gareth Hughes	Freedom Setu	Vicky Kerapa	Nathan Cope
Eneliko Petaia	Pau Maliko	Tevita Lotoaatu	DJ Crichton-Hurcombe
			Marcos Pellacani

## TROPHIES & MEDALS

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The trophies and medals being awarded at the Championship are:

Division	Trophy	Medals
Men	Men's Championship Trophy	Gold Silver Bronze
Women	Women's Championship Trophy	Gold Silver Bronze
Youth	Youth Championship Trophy	Gold Silver Bronze
Legends Men	Legends Trophy	Gold Silver Bronze
Legends Women	Legends Trophy	

## MANAGERS/TEAM CAPTAINS CHECK LIST

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1. Ensure the team list is correct and confirm any changes with the Tournament Organiser or one of the Tournament Managers prior to your first game.
2. Ensure that the team knows what time their games is and to be ready prior to the start time.
3. Make a roster for duty (see the duty requirements section) for each game your team is to do duty for and have them ready 5 minutes prior and identified to the Referee for the game.
4. Ensure that all Technical information is read, understood and if necessary, carried out.
5. Make sure you have a rubbish bag and that your area and surrounding areas are kept clean. Take your rubbish to the bins at the grounds. Do not leave any rubbish behind.
6. Make sure uniform requirements are met – see the rules section – for each team member.

7. Make sure your team, or your club, has available:

- A first aid kit
- Ice
- Sunscreen
- Water
- Gazebo/Marquee for Shelter

8. Ensure priority of player health & wellness. Prepare to report any player safety issues/injuries through the Game Day Player Safety reporting form on the NZAFF [website](#).

## BRUCE PULMAN REGULATIONS

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Bruce Pulman Park has some special contractual requirements for park users and visitors.

Please make your team aware of these.

- **No parking on any grass anywhere in the park.**
- **No dogs allowed in the park.**
- **No drones to be flown. Air traffic requirement because of Ardmore aerodrome next to the park.**
- **No Smoking or vaping in the park.**
- **No alcohol to be consumed in the park.**

There will be Park Security in attendance ensuring that everyone - visitors, players and spectators - follow these requirements.

## DUTY TEAMS

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**All teams will be required to do Duty.**

The game duty requirement will be to supply one person to manage the scoreboard.

**BE READY AT LEAST 5 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE GAME STARTING**

That means:

- Get the team signs for the score board.
- Tell the Referee who you are and be ready for any further instructions.
- Return signs immediately after use.

## SITE MAP

Bruce Pulman Park, 90 Walter Rd, Takanini 2112



### PLEASE NOTE:

- Please ensure all team tents are set-up away from the playing fields. They should be set-up between the park fence & walking path.
- Pulman Park is a smokefree, alcohol free venue.
- Dogs and Drones are also strictly prohibited.
- Please park in designated parking areas - please do not park on the grass anywhere.
- There will be security policing this throughout the day.

### SECURITY:

- Security will operate during the day and overnight.
- You are welcome to leave your tents up over the weekend, at your own risk - tents should be secured & all valuables removed.

## **PORT-A-LOO'S:**

- There will be portaloos (depicted on the map).
- There are toilet available at the centre - this is a minutes' walk from the competition site.

## **LOCAL AMENITIES:**

For those of you not familiar with Takanini, Auckland.

Please see a list of local amenities that may be of interest to you.

- [Takanini Town Centre](#) - 30 Walters Road, Takanini, Auckland.  
Pharmacy, Eateries, Library, The Warehouse.
- [South Gate Shopping Centre](#) - 230 Great South Road, Takanini, Auckland.  
Fast Food, Fruit Shop, Butcher, Laundromat, Mitre 10.
- [Pak'nSAVE Papakura](#) - 331 Great South Road, Takanini, Auckland  
Supermarket.

## **FOOD VENDORS ON-SITE**

We will have food vendors on-site, setup in the designated food area.

- Addicted to Coffee - Coffee - from 8am daily.
- Food Truck - Hot Chips/Hot Dogs - from 10am daily.
- Aloha Eats - BBQ/Hawaiian Fusion - from 11am daily.
- Iceyy Acai - ACAI bowls - from 12pm daily.

There are two more vendors to confirm, and we expect they will be set-up on Saturday & Sunday. All vendors accept cash & eftpos.

## **PLAYER SAFETY**

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### **REPORTING:**

Clubs will be required to complete Player Safety reporting for all games played by club teams.

The Club Grant allocation for successfully completing the reporting by the end of the Championship will be \$100 per team entered and completing their allocated game schedule.

There will be no grant eligibility for any team that withdraws at any stage of the championship.



## PLAYER SAFETY SERVICES:

The following on-site player safety services are available as first response to injuries/ incidents that occur at this event, as priority, they are not in attendance to treat pre-existing injuries/issues. These services are available from the first game till the last game daily. 9am-5pm.



**PRO+MED (NZ) are our on-site medics for this event.**

They have been engaged to provide, if necessary, immediate first aid and basic life support.

**For incidents at the event resulting in blood, breaks/fractures, concussion or unconsciousness - please approach the medic, at the ops tent.**



**PHYSIO MOVEMENT is our on-site physio for this event.**

Their purpose as event physio's is to provide immediate care for injuries, prevent potential problems, and ensure athletes' well-being and safe return to play through assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation.

**For incidents at the event resulting in pain, sprains or strains - please approach the physio, at the ops tent.**

Our event physio's priority is the immediate care for injuries sustained **at the event**.

They are not permitted to treat any existing injuries.

If time permits, and they are not attending to priority cases, they may be able to assist with strapping. Strapping cost is \$5 per problem area, cash only. Please approach the ops tent for further information.

## A&E and X-RAY:

- **Counties Medical - Papakura - 8am - 8pm**
  - **Counties Medical - Takanini - 8am - 8pm**
- After hours consultation fees apply.**

# COMPETITION POOLS

## MEN

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
Metro Lions	Tridents White	Otago	Lightning
Panthers A	Spartans	Heat	Wolves Gold
Wolves Black	Honey Badgers	Giants Alpha	Wildcats
Giants Bravo	Kraken	Rewa Eagles	Pride
Pirates	Bandits	Pride Dev	Tridents Blue

## WOMEN

Pool E	Pool F
Metro Lioness	Raiders
Wildcats	Tridents
Spartans	Taimana
Lightning Storm	He Piko He Taniwha
Latin Fusion	Bandits
Bandits Cangaceiro	Royal Eagles
	Panthers

The Men's competition is 4 pools of 5 teams. The top 2 from each pool will advance to the top 8 knock-out series. The next 2 from each pool will advance to the bottom 8 knock-out series. The last placed from each pool, will complete a 4-team round robin to determine place.

The Women's competition is 2 pools – one of 6 teams and one of 7 teams. The top 2 from each pool cross over. Then 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> in each pool cross over. The pool E - 6<sup>th</sup> and the pool F - 7<sup>th</sup> will play a knockout. The winner will enter the pool with the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> from each pool.

## U18 YOUTH

Pool G	Pool H
Panthers	Tridents
Hawks	Metro Black
Lightning	Wildcats
Raiders	Kraken
Metro White	Bandits
	Eagles Yth

The U18 competition is 2 pools – one of 5 teams and one of 6 teams. The top 2 from each pool cross over. Then 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> in each pool cross over. The pool G - 6<sup>th</sup> and the pool H - 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> will play a round robin for final placings.

## LEGENDS MEN

Pool I
Tridents Legends
Bald Eagles
Canterbury Legends
Kraken Masters
Lightning Legends
Bandits Legends
Golden Hawks

The Legends Men play a full round robin. Final rankings after the round robin will determine final rounds where 1v2 play for gold, 3v4 for bronze, 5v6 for fifth and 7<sup>th</sup> ranked is knocked out.

## LEGENDS WOMEN

Pool J
Lightning Storm Legends
Bandits
He Piko He Taniwha

The Legends Women will play two round robins. Best overall ranked team after double round robin, will be the winner.

## MEN'S PLAYING SCHEDULE

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
<b>Friday 28th</b>								
Pool D	10:00	7	15	Papatoetoe Wildcats	V		Wolves Gold	Manurewa Eagles Womens
Pool A	11:00	1	16	Metro Lions	V		Giants Bravo	Hawks Youth 18U Youth Men
Pool A	11:00	2	17	Wolves Black	V		Peninsula Pirates A	Manurewa Eagles 18U Youth Men
Pool B	11:00	3	18	Nelson Honey Badgers	V		Waitakere Bandits	Giants Bravo Mens
Pool B	11:00	4	19	Tauranga City Tridents White	V		Taranaki Kraken A	Wildcats 18U Youth Men
Pool C	11:00	5	20	Pride Development	V		Manurewa Eagles	Tamaki Lightning Legends Men
Pool C	11:00	6	21	American Football Otago	V		Giants Alpha	Canterbury Legends Men
Pool D	11:00	8	23	Tauranga City Tridents Blue	V		North Harbour Pride	Papatoetoe Wildcats Mens
Pool C	13:00	6	37	Pride Development	V		American Football Otago	Metro Lions White 18U Youth
Pool D	13:00	7	38	Tamaki Lightning	V		Wolves Gold	Tridents Legends Men
Pool D	13:00	8	39	Papatoetoe Wildcats	V		Tauranga City Tridents Blue	Panthers 18U Youth Men
Pool A	14:00	1	40	Canterbury Panthers	V		Giants Bravo	Tridents 18U Youth Men
Pool A	14:00	2	41	Metro Lions	V		Wolves Black	Metro Lions Black 18U Youth
Pool B	14:00	3	42	Hutt Valley Spartans	V		Waitakere Bandits	Papatoetoe Wildcats 18U Youth
Pool B	14:00	4	43	Nelson Honey Badgers	V		Tauranga City Tridents White	Waitakere Bandits 18U Youth
Pool C	14:00	5	44	Hawkes Bay Heat	V		Manurewa Eagles	Tamaki Lightning Legends Men
Pool D	15:00	6	53	Tamaki Lightning	V		North Harbour Pride	Manurewa Eagles Mens
Pool C	16:00	5	60	Hawkes Bay Heat	V		Giants Alpha	Golden Hawks Legends Men
Pool C	16:00	7	62	Manurewa Eagles	V		American Football Otago	Tamaki Lightning Mens
Pool A	17:00	1	64	Canterbury Panthers	V		Peninsula Pirates A	Taranaki Kraken 18U Youth Men
Pool A	17:00	2	65	Giants Bravo	V		Wolves Black	Manurewa Eagles Womens
Pool B	17:00	3	66	Hutt Valley Spartans	V		Taranaki Kraken A	Bandits Cangaceiro Womens

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
Pool B	17:00	4	67	Waitakere Bandits	V		Tauranga City Tridents White	Raiders Women
Pool D	17:00	5	68	Wolves Gold	V		Tauranga City Tridents Blue	North Harbour Pride Mens
<b>Saturday 29th</b>								
Pool A	10:00	1	77	Canterbury Panthers	V		Wolves Black	Papatoetoe Wildcats 18U Youth
Pool A	10:00	2	78	Peninsula Pirates A	V		Metro Lions	Waitakere Bandits 18U Youth
Pool B	10:00	3	79	Hutt Valley Spartans	V		Tauranga City Tridents White	Taranaki Kraken 18U Youth
Pool B	10:00	4	80	Taranaki Kraken A	V		Nelson Honey Badgers	Bald Eagles Legends Men
Pool C	10:00	5	81	Hawkes Bay Heat	V		American Football Otago	Golden Hawks Legends Men
Pool C	10:00	6	82	Giants Alpha	V		Pride Development	Canterbury Legends Men
Pool D	10:00	7	83	Tamaki Lightning	V		Tauranga City Tridents Blue	Bandits Legends Women
Pool D	10:00	8	84	North Harbour Pride	V		Papatoetoe Wildcats	Bandits Womens
Pool A	13:00	1	100	Canterbury Panthers	V		Metro Lions	Bandits 18U Youth Men
Pool A	13:00	2	101	Peninsula Pirates A	V		Giants Bravo	Taranaki Kraken 18U Youth
Pool B	13:00	3	102	Hutt Valley Spartans	V		Nelson Honey Badgers	Tauranga City Tridents 18U Youth
Pool B	13:00	4	103	Taranaki Kraken A	V		Waitakere Bandits	Tauranga City Tridents Legends
Pool C	13:00	5	104	Hawkes Bay Heat	V		Pride Development	Canterbury Legends Men
Pool C	13:00	6	105	Giants Alpha	V		Manurewa Eagles	Tamaki Lightning Legends Men
Pool D	13:00	7	106	Tamaki Lightning	V		Papatoetoe Wildcats	Bandits Legends Women
Pool D	13:00	8	107	North Harbour Pride	V		Wolves Gold	He Piko He Taniwha Legends
Quarter Finals	15:00	2	117	A1	V		D2	Officials
Quarter Finals	15:00	3	118	B1	V		C2	Officials

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
Quarter Finals	15:00	4	119	C1	V		B2	Officials
Quarter Finals	15:00	5	120	D1	V		A2	Officials
Quarter Finals	15:00	6	121	A3	V		D4	Officials
Quarter Finals	15:00	7	122	B3	V		C4	Officials
Quarter Finals	15:00	8	123	C3	V		B4	Officials
Quarter Finals	15:00	9	124	D3	V		A4	Officials
Placing 16th-20th	16:10	5	129	A5	V		D5	Officials
Placing 16th-20th	16:10	6	130	B5	V		C5	Officials
<b>Sunday 30th</b>								
Semi Finals	09:00	7	141	LQF 5	V		LQF 6	Officials
Semi Finals	09:00	8	142	LQF 7	V		LQF 8	Officials
Semi Finals	11:20	2	154	WQF 1	V		WQF 2	Officials
Semi Finals	11:20	3	155	WQF 3	V		WQF 4	Officials
Semi Finals	11:20	4	156	LQF 1	V		LQF 2	Officials
Semi Finals	11:20	5	157	LQF 3	V		LQF 4	Officials
Semi Finals	11:20	6	158	WQF 5	V		WQF 6	Officials

<b>Section</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Field</b>	<b>G #</b>	<b>Team A</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Team B</b>	<b>Duty</b>
Semi Finals	11:20	7	159	WQF 7	V		WQF 8	Officials
Placing 9th-11th	11:20	8	160	A5	V		C5	Officials
Placing 9th-11th	11:20	9	161	D5	V		B5	
Finals	12:30	4	166	LSF 7	V		LSF 8	Officials
Placing 9th-11th	13:40	6	175	A5	V		B5	Officials
Placing 9th-11th	13:40	7	176	C5	V		D5	Officials
Finals	14:50	1	178	WSF 3	V		WSF 4	Officials
Finals	14:50	2	179	WSF 5	V		WSF 6	Officials
Finals	14:50	3	180	WSF 7	V		WSF 8	Officials
Finals	14:50	4	181	LSF 1	V		LSF 2	Officials
Finals	14:50	5	182	LSF 3	V		LSF 4	Officials
Finals	14:50	6	183	LSF 5	V		LSF 6	Officials
Finals	16:00	GF	185	WSF 1	V		WSF 2	Officials

## WOMEN'S PLAYING SCHEDULE

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
<b>Friday 28th</b>								
Pool E	09:00	3	3	Lightning Storm	V		Latin Fusion	Nelson Honey Badgers Mens
Pool E	09:00	4	4	Metro Lioness	V		Papatoetoe Wildcats	City Tridents White Mens
Pool E	09:00	5	5	Hutt Valley Spartans	V		Waitakere Bandits Cangaceiro	Pride Development Mens
Pool F	09:00	6	6	He Piko He Taniwha	V		Hawks Taimana	Otago Mens
Pool F	09:00	7	7	Waitakere Bandits	V		Manurewa Eagles	Tridents Blue Mens
Pool F	09:00	8	8	Raiders Women	V		Canterbury Panthers	Peninsula Pirates A Mens
Pool F	11:00	7	22	He Piko He Taniwha	V		Canterbury Panthers	Wolves Gold Mens
Pool E	12:00	3	26	Lightning Storm	V		Papatoetoe Wildcats	Taranaki Kraken A Mens
Pool E	12:00	4	27	Latin Fusion	V		Waitakere Bandits Cangaceiro	Hawkes Bay Heat Mens
Pool E	12:00	5	28	Metro Lioness	V		Hutt Valley Spartans	Giants Alpha Mens
Pool F	12:00	6	29	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Hawks Taimana	Metro Lions Mens
Pool F	12:00	8	31	Waitakere Bandits	V		Raiders Women	Waitakere Bandits Womens
Pool F	14:00	6	45	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Manurewa Eagles	Peninsula Pirates A Mens
Pool F	14:00	7	46	Hawks Taimana	V		Canterbury Panthers	Wolves Gold Mens
Pool F	14:00	8	47	He Piko He Taniwha	V		Waitakere Bandits	Tridents Blue Mens
Pool E	15:00	3	50	Lightning Storm	V		Waitakere Bandits Cangaceiro	Hutt Valley Spartans Mens
Pool E	15:00	4	51	Papatoetoe Wildcats	V		Hutt Valley Spartans	Nelson Honey Badgers Mens
Pool E	15:00	5	52	Latin Fusion	V		Metro Lioness	Tauranga City Tridents Womens
Pool F	16:00	6	61	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Canterbury Panthers	Bald Eagles Legends Men
Pool F	16:00	8	63	Manurewa Eagles	V		Raiders Women	Taranaki Kraken Legends Men

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
<b>Saturday 29th</b>								
Pool F	09:00	8	76	Hawks Taimana	V		Waitakere Bandits	Manurewa Eagles Womens
Pool E	11:00	3	87	Lightning Storm	V		Hutt Valley Spartans	Tridents White Mens
Pool E	11:00	4	88	Waitakere Bandits Cangaceiro	V		Metro Lioness	Nelson Honey Badgers Mens
Pool E	11:00	5	89	Papatoetoe Wildcats	V		Latin Fusion	Otago Mens
Pool F	11:00	6	90	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Raiders Women	Pride Development Mens
Pool F	11:00	7	91	Canterbury Panthers	V		Waitakere Bandits	Tridents Blue Mens
Pool F	11:00	8	92	Manurewa Eagles	V		He Piko He Taniwha	Papatoetoe Wildcats Mens
Pool E	14:00	3	110	Lightning Storm	V		Metro Lioness	Hutt Valley Spartans Mens
Pool E	14:00	4	111	Hutt Valley Spartans	V		Latin Fusion	Waitakere Bandits Mens
Pool E	14:00	5	112	Waitakere Bandits Cangaceiro	V		Papatoetoe Wildcats	Pride Development Mens
Pool F	14:00	6	113	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Waitakere Bandits	Manurewa Eagles Mens
Pool F	14:00	7	114	Raiders Women	V		He Piko He Taniwha	Papatoetoe Wildcats Mens
Pool F	14:00	8	115	Manurewa Eagles	V		Hawks Taimana	Wolves Gold Mens
Pool F	16:10	6	131	Tauranga City Tridents	V		He Piko He Taniwha	Officials
Pool F	16:10	7	132	Raiders Women	V		Hawks Taimana	Officials
Pool F	16:10	8	133	Canterbury Panthers	V		Manurewa Eagles	Officials
<b>Sunday 30th</b>								
Semi Finals	09:00	9	143	A6	V		B7	Officials
Semi Finals	10:10	4	147	A1	V		B2	Officials
Semi Finals	10:10	5	148	B1	V		A2	Officials



<b>Section</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Field</b>	<b>G #</b>	<b>Team A</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Team B</b>	<b>Duty</b>
Semi Finals	10:10	6	149	A3	V		B4	Officials
Semi Finals	10:10	7	150	B3	V		A4	Officials
Semi Finals	10:10	8	151	A5	V		B6	Officials
Semi Finals	10:10	9	152	B5	V		Win G 143	Officials
Finals	13:40	1	170	LSF 1	V		LSF 2	Officials
Finals	13:40	2	171	WSF 3	V		WSF 4	Officials
Finals	13:40	3	172	WSF 5	V		WSF 6	Officials
Finals	13:40	4	173	LSF 3	V		LSF 4	Officials
Finals	13:40	5	174	LSF 5	V		LSF 6	Officials
Finals	14:50	GF	184	WSF 1	V		WSF 2	Officials

## YOUTH PLAYING SCHEDULE

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
<b>Friday 28th</b>								
Pool G	09:00	1	1	Lightning Youth	V		Raiders Youth	Metro Lions Mens
Pool G	09:00	2	2	Metro Lions White	V		Canterbury Panthers	Wolves Black Mens
Pool H	10:00	1	9	Manurewa Eagles	V		Taranaki Kraken	Lightning Youth 18U Youth
Pool H	10:00	2	10	Waitakere Bandits	V		Tauranga City Tridents	Metro Lioness Womens
Pool H	10:00	3	11	Papatoetoe Wildcats	V		Metro Lions Black	Lightning Storm Womens
Pool G	12:00	1	24	Hawks Youth	V		Raiders Youth	North Harbour Pride Mens
Pool G	12:00	2	25	Lightning Youth	V		Metro Lions White	Waitakere Bandits Mens
Pool H	13:00	1	32	Manurewa Eagles	V		Tauranga City Tridents	Raiders Youth 18U Youth Men
Pool H	13:00	2	33	Taranaki Kraken	V		Metro Lions Black	Giants Alpha Mens
Pool H	13:00	3	34	Waitakere Bandits	V		Papatoetoe Wildcats	Papatoetoe Wildcats Womens
Pool G	15:00	1	48	Hawks Youth	V		Canterbury Panthers	Canterbury Panthers Mens
Pool G	15:00	2	49	Raiders Youth	V		Metro Lions White	Waitakere Bandits Mens
Pool H	16:00	1	56	Manurewa Eagles	V		Metro Lions Black	Bandits Cangaceiro Womens
Pool H	16:00	2	57	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Papatoetoe Wildcats	Tridents Legends Men
Pool H	16:00	3	58	Taranaki Kraken	V		Waitakere Bandits	Bandits Legends Men
<b>Saturday 29th</b>								
Pool H	09:00	1	69	Manurewa Eagles	V		Papatoetoe Wildcats	Hawks Youth 18U Youth
Pool H	09:00	2	70	Metro Lions Black	V		Waitakere Bandits	Panthers 18U Youth Men
Pool H	09:00	3	71	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Taranaki Kraken	Lightning Storm Womens
Pool G	11:00	1	85	Hawks Youth	V		Metro Lions White	Wolves Black Mens
Pool G	11:00	2	86	Canterbury Panthers	V		Lightning Youth	Peninsula Pirates A Mens
Pool H	12:00	1	93	Manurewa Eagles	V		Waitakere Bandits	Metro Lions White 18U Youth

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
Pool H	12:00	2	94	Papatoetoe Wildcats	V		Taranaki Kraken	Panthers 18U Youth Men
Pool H	12:00	3	95	Metro Lions Black	V		Tauranga City Tridents	Lightning Storm Womens
Pool G	14:00	1	108	Hawks Youth	V		Lightning Youth	Metro Lions Mens
Pool G	14:00	2	109	Canterbury Panthers	V		Raiders Youth	Giants Bravo Mens
Placing 7th-	16:10	4	128	A5	V		B6	Officials
<b>Sunday 30th</b>								
Placing 9th-11th	09:00	2	136	B5	V		B6	Officials
Semi Finals	09:00	3	137	A1	V		B2	Officials
Semi Finals	09:00	4	138	B1	V		A2	Officials
Semi Finals	09:00	5	139	A3	V		B4	Officials
Semi Finals	09:00	6	140	B3	V		A4	Officials
Placing 9th-11th	11:20	1	153	B5	V		A5	Officials
Finals	12:30	1	163	WSF 3	V		WSF 4	Officials
Finals	12:30	2	164	LSF 1	V		LSF 2	Officials
Finals	12:30	3	165	LSF 3	V		LSF 4	Officials
Finals	13:40	GF	177	WSF 1	V		WSF 2	Officials

## LEGENDS MEN PLAYING SCHEDULE

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
<b>Friday 28th</b>								
Pool I	10:00	4	12	Tamaki Lightning	V		Waitakere Bandits	Hawks Taimana Womens
Pool I	10:00	5	13	Canterbury Legends	V		Golden Hawks	Hutt Valley Spartans Womens
Pool I	10:00	6	14	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Bald Eagles	Latin Fusion Womens
Pool I	12:00	7	30	Canterbury Legends	V		Tauranga City Tridents	Raiders Women
Pool I	13:00	4	35	Taranaki Kraken	V		Waitakere Bandits	Hawks Youth 18U Youth Men
Pool I	13:00	5	36	Tamaki Lightning	V		Bald Eagles	Hutt Valley Spartans Womens
Pool I	15:00	7	54	Taranaki Kraken	V		Golden Hawks	Hawks Taimana Womens
Pool I	15:00	8	55	Waitakere Bandits	V		Bald Eagles	He Piko He Taniwha Womens
Pool I	16:00	4	59	Tamaki Lightning	V		Canterbury Legends	Latin Fusion Womens
<b>Saturday 29th</b>								
Pool I	09:00	4	72	Taranaki Kraken	V		Bald Eagles	Bandits Cangaceiro Womens
Pool I	09:00	5	73	Golden Hawks	V		Tauranga City Tridents	Papatoetoe Wildcats Womens
Pool I	09:00	6	74	Waitakere Bandits	V		Canterbury Legends	Tridents Womens
Pool I	12:00	4	96	Taranaki Kraken	V		Tauranga City Tridents	Metro Lioness Womens
Pool I	12:00	5	97	Bald Eagles	V		Canterbury Legends	Papatoetoe Wildcats Womens
Pool I	12:00	6	98	Golden Hawks	V		Tamaki Lightning	Tauranga City Tridents Womens
Pool I	16:10	1	125	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Tamaki Lightning	Officials
Pool I	16:10	2	126	Golden Hawks	V		Waitakere Bandits	Officials
Pool I	16:10	3	127	Taranaki Kraken	V		Canterbury Legends	Officials
<b>Sunday 30th</b>								
Pool I	10:10	1	144	Taranaki Kraken	V		Tamaki Lightning	Officials

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
Pool I	10:10	2	145	Tauranga City Tridents	V		Waitakere Bandits	Officials
Pool I	10:10	3	146	Bald Eagles	V		Golden Hawks	Officials
Finals	12:30	5	167	A3	V		A4	Officials
Finals	12:30	6	168	A5	V		A6	Officials
Finals	12:30	GF	169	A1	V		A2	Officials

## LEGENDS WOMEN PLAYING SCHEDULE

Section	Time	Field	G #	Team A	Result	Result	Team B	Duty
Saturday 29th								
Pool J	09:00	7	75	Lightning Storm Legends	V		He Piko He Taniwha	Metro Lions White 18U Youth Men
Pool J	12:00	7	99	Waitakere Bandits	V		He Piko He Taniwha	Canterbury Panthers Womens
Pool J	15:00	1	116	Waitakere Bandits	V		Lightning Storm Legends	Officials
Pool J	17:10	1	134	Lightning Storm Legends	V		He Piko He Taniwha	Officials
Sunday 30th								
Pool J	09:00	1	135	Waitakere Bandits	V		He Piko He Taniwha	Officials
Pool J	11:20	GF	162	Waitakere Bandits	V		Lightning Storm Legends	

## APPENDIX 1 – RULES OF THE TOURNAMENT

The rules for this competition run by NZAFF will be those specified by the IFAF unless otherwise noted below and by any further communications. Link to the 2023 IFAF Flag Rules [here](#).

**Please make sure you read the Game Rule Variations document**

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<b>Team roster</b>	<p>The team roster limit for the 2025 event is <u>12 players maximum</u>, per team. (<i>Please note this was communicated last year</i>).</p> <p>The Team Roster must be presented by the 13th March 2025.</p> <p>Team Lists should be built in Sporty, titled “team name” and exported as an excel spreadsheet and sent to <a href="mailto:admin@nzaff.co.nz">admin@nzaff.co.nz</a>.</p> <p>Alterations to the team roster can be made prior to the teams first game of the tournament.</p> <p>Players must be registered with their club through the Sporty registration system.</p> <p>Players must be of good standing with the Club and with NZAFF.</p>
<b>Playing strip</b>	<p>Teams must play in team uniforms and must be neat and tidy.</p> <p>Each player must wear a numbered team uniform jersey for play. Please no duplicate numbering.</p> <p>Uniform is the shirt, visibly numbered, and shorts.</p> <p><b>Shorts must have NO POCKETS.</b></p>
<b>Criteria</b>	<p>Teams can only be entered by fully affiliated NZAFF Clubs.</p> <p>The Championships divisions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open Men &amp; Women Open means any age player can participate. It is over to the clubs to ensure that the skill level is appropriate to play in any division.</li><li>• Youth - Men &amp; Women 18 and Under. The 18 and under division will be any athlete up to 18 years old on 31st July in the year of competition. E.g. for this season, 1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025, if a player turns 19 between those dates they are in the Open division.</li><li>• Legends Players that are aged 35 years or older as at the 1st of August 2024. There will be no exceptions to this rule.</li></ul>
<b>Multiple teams in grades</b>	<p>If a club has multiple teams in one division:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Players must only play for one of those teams.</li><li>• Playing strip must be different for each team.</li><li>• Clubs cannot exchange players between teams participating in the same division. Penalty for exchanging players is disqualification for both teams.</li></ul>
<b>Playing across grades</b>	<p>Players can play across the grades but be aware that the playing schedule will be intense and there will be clashes. Games will start on time and will not wait for players. Nor will the game schedule be altered to accommodate these players.</p> <p>Players who play across grades must be on the team sheet at the start of the tournament. They must also have played at least twice in the preliminary pool play for any team they are registered in. They cannot only play in the rounds after the preliminaries. The reason being – the player cannot choose to only start participating for a team in the final rounds in the division that has, perhaps, the best chance of a placing.</p>

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<b>Eligible players</b>	<p>Players must be registered with the club through the Sporty registration system.</p> <p>Players must be of good standing with the Club and with NZAFF</p> <p>Players owing money to NZAFF and not having a payment arrangement in place are not eligible to participate.</p>
<b>Loan players</b>	<p>Clubs can use players from other clubs however the following rules will be applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The player must co-ordinate the process by using process provided by NZAFF.</li> <li>• The player must be released to play by their club so that their status of good standing is confirmed.</li> <li>• The club wanting to receive the player must agree to accept the player.</li> <li>• There is a limit of 3 players that can be loan players in a team before the team will need to change status to a “Combined” team.</li> </ul> <p>Any questions regarding this process – contact NZAFF.</p>
<b>Player Safety Reporting</b>	<p>Clubs will be required to complete Player Safety reporting for all games played by club teams.</p> <p>The Club Grant allocation for successfully completing the reporting by the end of the Championship will be \$100 per team entered and completing their allocated game schedule.</p> <p>There will be no grant eligibility for any team that withdraws at any stage of the championship.</p> <p>Successful reporting means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All games are reported before on the end of the weekend. <b>We strongly recommend Team Managers complete reporting at the end of each game.</b></li> <li>• All reports are accurate.</li> <li>• Follow-up reporting is updated by the Saturday following the championship - 30th March 2024.</li> </ul>
<b>Club officials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Club nominated officials must be available for the 3 complete days of competition.</li> <li>• If a nominated official does not attend at all the team that they represent will be withdrawn from the tournament.</li> <li>• If a nominated official fails to attend part of the tournament then the results of the team they represent will zeroed and their ranking adjusted accordingly.</li> <li>• Club officials need to be 18 years or older unless registered and trained by AFOA throughout the season.</li> </ul>
<b>Team Duty</b>	<p>Each team will be rostered onto game duty for the pool rounds and will supply one person who will maintain the scoreboard. The duty person must be ready with scoreboard equipment prior to the start of the game.</p> <p><b>Failure to supply a Duty team will result in an automatic fine of \$100 for the first instance and \$200 for each subsequent instance.</b></p>
<b>Withdrawals</b>	<p>Clubs that withdraw a team from an Event after entries close shall remain liable for and shall forfeit their Event entry fee.</p>
<b>Forfeiture</b>	<p>A team forfeiting any game may be excluded from any medal (or equivalent) round. A team arriving over five (5) minutes beyond the scheduled start time of any game may be deemed to have forfeited that game.</p>
<b>Other circumstances</b>	<p>In the Event of other circumstances beyond the control of a team to start a game on time at the scheduled venue NZAFF will liaise with teams to find a suitable alternative.</p>

<b>No alcohol</b>	No alcohol at the competition venue including on the side lines. This applies to supporters as well as teams. Repercussions will be on the team that is playing or being supported. Failure to comply may result in forfeiture of the game.
<b>No smoking</b>	The Bruce Pulman environment is a non-smoking and non-vaping environment. Participants and spectators are asked to respect this rule and remove themselves from the park if they need to smoke or vape.
<b>Protests &amp; Complaints</b>	<p>Any issues that require disciplinary actions will be dealt with using the NZAFF Protests and Complaints Policy in Tournament. The Policy can be found on the NZAFF website and anyone contemplating a protest or a complaint should make themselves aware of the process.</p> <p>Note that protest must be lodged within 30 minutes of the game ending and Complaints lodged within 45 minutes of the game ending.</p> <p>Any complaint or protest must be accompanied by \$100 or proof that the \$100 has been transferred to NZAFF's account before the process can be addressed.</p> <p>Note: On field decisions by the officials cannot be the subject of a protest or complaint.</p>
<b>Appeals</b>	Appeals to any protest or complaints must be notified to NZAFF staff within 30 minutes of the decision being made.



## APPENDIX 2 – GAME RULE VARIATIONS

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<b>Officials' decisions</b>	<p>All decisions by the officials are final.</p> <p>For all playoffs semi-finals and finals challenges are allowed but only on enforcement decisions. All White Hats will have rule enforcements in their pockets on back of scorecard. Only the Head coach can talk to sideline official ask if they can challenge the enforcement of the penalty. This is required before the next play is blown in for ready. The WH will check the enforcement if officials are correct, you will not get another challenge that game and if timeouts are available, you will loose a timeout.</p> <p>No challenges are allowed on judgement calls.</p> <p>Repeated illegal challenges will result in USC's.</p> <p>There can be no challenges after the game has finished.</p>
<b>Code of Conduct</b>	<p>A reminder that the codes of conduct for everyone includes respect for others. If officials hear, observe, or suspect a player(s), coach or manager of trash talk or aggravating behavior that person will be penalized.</p>
<b>USC's</b>	<p>If a player, coach or manager receives multiple USC's in a game then that person will not be able to participate in the next game.</p> <p>USC penalties on a person over several games (i.e. a USC in consecutive games) will result in a one game suspension.</p> <p>More than two USC's during the tournament on a player, coach or manager will result in suspension from the tournament.</p> <p>Suspensions cannot be challenged as all decisions by the officials are final.</p>
<b>Rules</b>	<p>The rules for this competition run by NZAFF will be those specified by the IFAF unless otherwise noted below and by any further communications.</p> <p><b>Link to the 2023 IFAF Flag Rules <a href="#">here</a>.</b></p>
<b>Schedule</b>	<p>All games are scheduled to start every 50 minutes, this applies to all games except for Finals which are scheduled to start every 1 hours and 10 minutes.</p>
<b>Game Duration</b>	<p>The games will be made up of two 20-minute halves with 2 mins in between halves.</p>
<b>Clock</b>	<p>The clock will be running off of a Hooter in pool play and playoffs. Hooter will sound 5 mins before game, at start of play, halftime, start back from halftime and full time.</p> <p>If the ball is in play and the half-time or full-time hooter sounds, the play will complete. If the ball is not in play the game will stop. The referee's decision to stop will be final.</p> <p><b>Full game clock IFAF Timing for Finals.</b></p> <p><b>Please see <a href="#">2023 Flag Rules</a>  </b></p> <p><b>When Clock Stops- pg 20 Section 2 Article 5</b></p>

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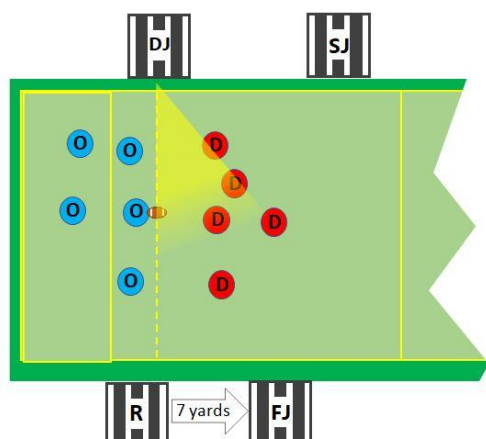
<b>2 Minute</b>	<p>During Semi &amp; Final games only, standard 2-minute rules will apply.  <b>Please see <a href="#">2023 Flag Rules</a>  </b>  <b>When Clock Stops- pg 20 Section 2 Article 5</b>  In Semi and Finals, Within the last 2 minutes of each half the clock shall stop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To award a first down or change of possession.</li> <li>• Penalty enforcement</li> <li>• Ball or runner goes out of bounds.</li> <li>• Pass or fumble touches the ground.</li> <li>• Teammate of the fumbler touches the ball.</li> <li>• Touchdown is scored and for the following Try</li> <li>• Timeout.</li> </ul>
<b>Timeouts</b>	Semi-finals, and finals will have two timeouts per half.
<b>Ranking during pool rounds</b>	<p>Points ties after pool rounds will be broken by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the head-to-head result,</li> <li>2. the team with the highest overall points differential total (points for minus points against) across their pool.</li> <li>3. the team with the highest point scored in their pool.</li> <li>4. a coin toss.</li> </ol>
<b>Overtime</b>	<p>For any games where a result is necessary there will be an overtime.  This applies to playoffs, semi-finals and finals only.  <b>Please see <a href="#">2023 Flag Rules</a>  </b>  <b>Rule 3: Periods and Timing.</b>  <b>Overtime- pg. 19 Section 1 Article 3</b></p>
<b>Equipment</b>	<p>Bucket hats/floppy hats are permitted. No caps, backward hats or anything that covers the face.  If in doubt, ask the referee before the start of play. Players will be sent off until equipment violation and appropriate penalty may be enforced. Officials have the final say.  <b>Please see <a href="#">2023 Flag Rules</a>  </b>  <b>Equipment-pg. 11 Rule 1 Section 3 Articles 1,2,3</b></p>
<b>Flag Belts</b>	<p>Only NZAFF supplied Flag Belts can be worn during competition. If you do not have this type of Flag Belt, they can be borrowed from the operations tent.  Shruumz/NFL/ Other brand Flag Belts are not permitted.</p>
<b>Mouth guards</b>	Mouth guards are recommended and not compulsory.

## APPENDIX 3 – ROLES OF OFFICIALS

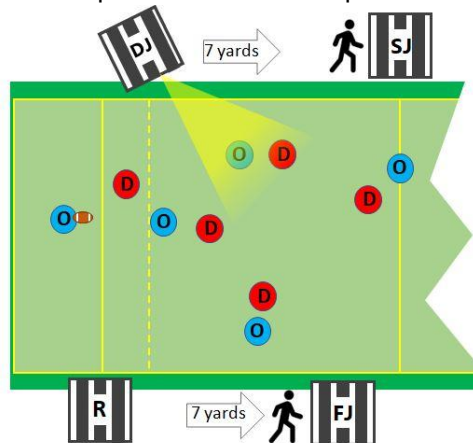
### Down Judge (DJ)

<b>Position</b>	The initial position of the Down Judge is on the line of scrimmage at the side line with the down indicator <b>if used</b> .
<b>Basic Responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Down Judge is responsible for the operation of the down indicator <b>if used</b>.</li> <li>• The Down Judge shall keep count of the downs.</li> <li>• The Down Judge has jurisdiction (see diagram) over the scrimmage line and their side line to 7 yards down the field.</li> <li>• Watches for offside or encroachment - false starts.</li> <li>• Makes out of bounds calls on his/her sideline.</li> <li>• Must be able to return to the mark if the down is replayed (marks this with a bean bag).</li> </ul>
<b>After snap</b>	<p>The Down Judge stays at the line of scrimmage until a runner has crossed the line or a pass thrown. They then move down the field 7 yards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once the ball has been snapped, the Down Judge shall be responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ QB crossing the LOS.</li> <li>○ Shielding, contact flag, guarding, jumping other fouls</li> <li>○ Where the play finishes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• If there is a foul on the play they walk off the penalty yards indicated by the Referee.</li> <li>• Shall "spot the ball" - indicate where the ball should be placed for the next play.</li> </ul>
<b>3 Man crew</b>	<p>Description R, DJ &amp; FJ but no SJ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is no Side Judge, then the Down Judge shall cover the receivers on their side of the field.</li> </ul>
<b>4 Man crew</b>	<p>Description R, DJ, FJ &amp; SJ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave the deep run passes beyond halfway to the SJ.</li> <li>• Once the ball has crossed the scrimmage line, the Down Judge shall be responsible for ruling on the play around the ball and forward progress on their side of the field.</li> <li>• Leave the deep run passes beyond halfway to the FJ.</li> </ul>

DJ position prior to the snap.



DJ position after the snap



## Field Judge (FJ)

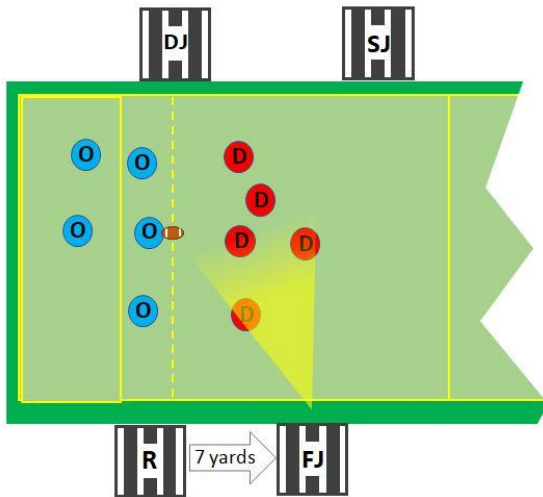
**Position** The initial position of the Field Judge is 7 yards deep at the sideline opposite to the down indicator.

- Basic Responsibilities**
- Responsible for running the game clock.
  - The Field Judge has jurisdiction over their side line:
    - Watch for the Blitz (also called a Pass Rusher) crossing the 7-yard line prior to the snap - Illegal Blitz.
    - Makes out of bounds calls on his/her sideline.
  - Marks the 7 yard Blitz point.

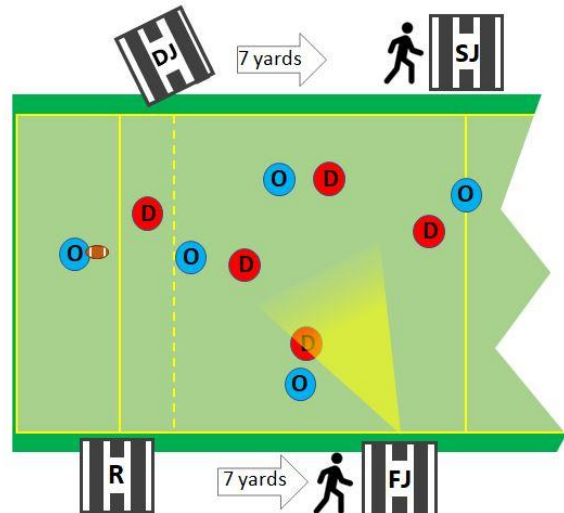
**After snap** After the snap the FJ will move to mid field while watching the area from 7 yards to down the field to cover deep passes. Once the ball has crossed the line of scrimmage, the Field Judge shall be responsible for ruling on the play around the ball and forward progress on their side of the field.

**3 Man crew** Responsible for observing run passes beyond half way.

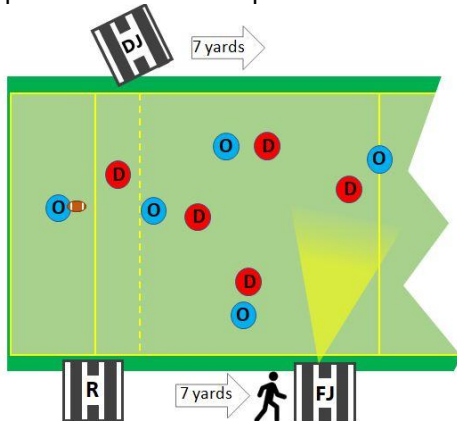
FJ position prior to the snap.



FJ position after the snap



FJ position after the snap in a 3 Man crew



## Side Judge (SJ)

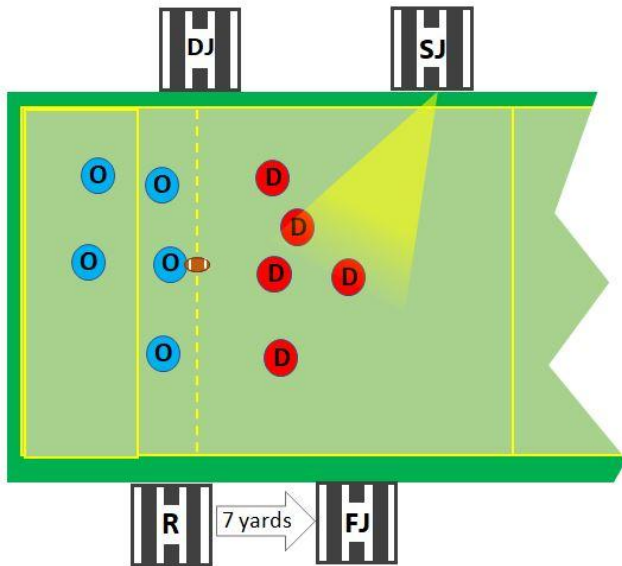
**Position** The initial position of the Side Judge is 20 or more yards deep on the same side as the DJ.

**Basic Responsibilities**

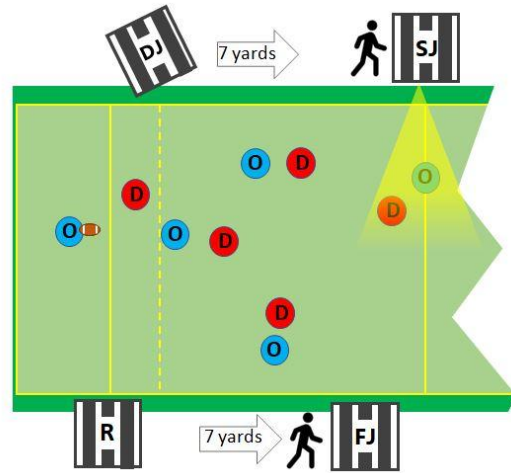
- The Side Judge shall be responsible for observing receivers on deep routes for ruling on long passes and the status of the ball and forward progress in their area.
- May be responsible for the 25 sec play clock.
- Makes calls for any touchdowns ensuring players are in bounds.
- Watches the receivers and defenders for fouls:
  - Shielding,
  - Contact,
  - Flag Guarding,
  - Jumping and diving
  - Pass interference

**After snap** Responsible for observing the receivers on deep routes, ruling on long pass plays, forward progress in their area.

SJ position prior to the snap.

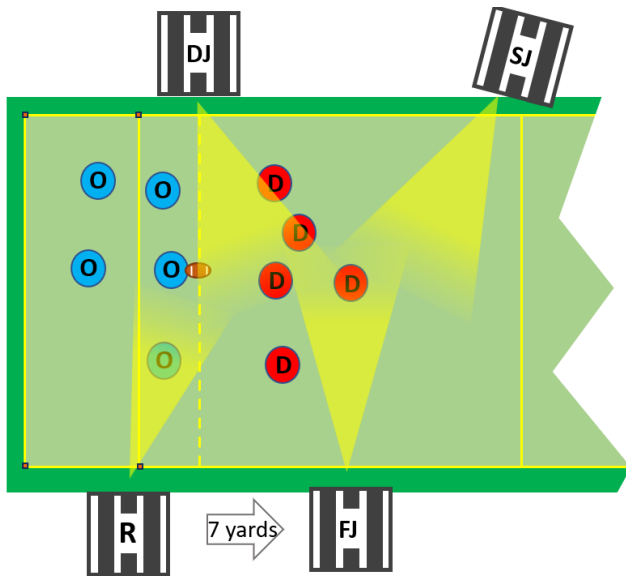


SJ position after the snap

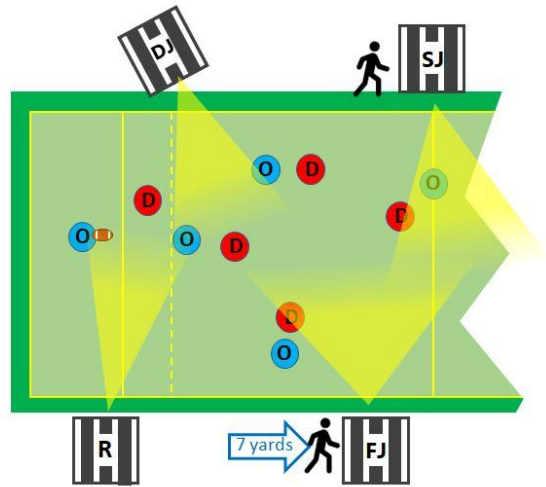


# Positions Master Diagrams

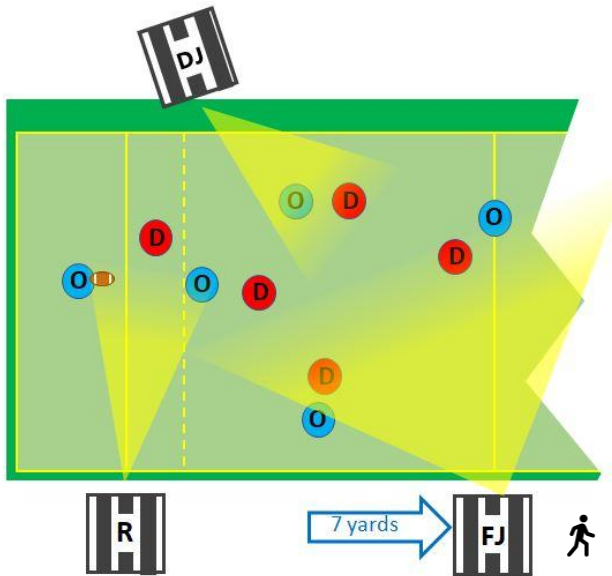
All Officials positions prior to snap.



All Officials positions after the snap



All Officials positions after the snap for a 3 Man crew



## All Officials

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- Watch for**
- Look towards Ref for all penalty signals and instructions,
  - Watch for flag guarding,
  - Watch for Right-of-place and Contact,
  - Watch for flag guarding and jumping or diving,
- 

- Equipment** Each Official should have:
- Referee shirt
  - Whistle
  - Flag
-

## APPENDIX 4 - PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS POLICY IN TOURNAMENT

For use in NZAFF controlled Tournaments where a decision is required in sufficient time to be applied to any following game containing any of the affected parties.

If a team/person wants to register a Protest or a Complaint first read this document then see the competition organisers.

### Protests

- 
1. A protest may be lodged on the basis that:
    - The Tournament rules, the rules variations or the IFAF rules that cover the conduct of the Tournament are not being observed; and
    - The conditions of the Tournament endanger participants in the Tournament.
- 

3. No protest can be lodged or considered in relation to any decision by a referee or other official concerning the conduct of a game which is in the nature of a "field of play" decision.
- 

5. A Protest can only be made within 30 minutes of the game finishing.
- 

7. The Protest or Complaint can only be presented by the coach or the manager as noted on the team sheets at the beginning of the tournament who will be deemed to represent the team.
- 

9. For incidents that fall outside the above parameters refer to the Event Manager or GM of NZAFF as the case may be.
- 

10. The Protest, Complaint, or Appeal must be accompanied by \$100 (cash or bank transfer with a confirmation receipt) which is returned only if the Protest or Complaint is upheld. There will be no action regarding a Protest or a Complaint (or an Appeal) until the receipt of the \$100, by the Event Manager. Upon receipt of the \$100 the Protest, Complaint, or Appeal will be considered formally lodged.

NZAFF account details - 123083 0540849 00

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11. The onus is on the Complainant to identify how their Protest or Complaint clashes with the Rules, regulations etc, that justify the reason for the Protest or Complaint. The Event manager (or other duly authorised person), will need to confirm that the Protest or Complaint (or the Appeal) is valid before the Protest or Complaint is progressed to the next step.
- 

12. The Event manager (or other duly authorised person) will:
    - then notify the member, Association or Region ("Respondent"), which is subject of the Protest or Complaint, of the nature of the complaint.
    - form a Hearing Panel to hear the Protest or Complaint.
    - nominate one of the members of the Hearing Panel as chairperson of the Panel.
- 

### Complaints

- 
2. Complaints cover anything else that can't be protested. Examples include:
    - Conduct which is generally unbecoming of the sport or contravenes the sport's codes of conduct.
    - Misconduct, abuse by or of:
      - an official,
      - another competitor
- 

4. If the Complaint is related to an incident during a game then it must be notified to the Event Manager within 30 to 45 minutes of the end of the game where the incident took place. Where there is no Event Manager, the GM of NZAFF.
- 

6. If the complaint is related to conduct outside of a game, then the complaint must be presented within 30 to 45 minutes of the incident that is the subject of the complaint.
- 

8. The Protest or Complaint can only be lodged by registered members of NZAFF and can only be directed at members of NZAFF.
-



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13. The Hearing Panel will be made up of 3 persons, to serve as members, drawn from:

- the NZAFF Board,
- the Chairpersons or presidents of affiliated Regions or Clubs,
- Senior game Officials.

In forming the Panel due consideration will be given to any possible conflict and, to the extent possible, the elimination of such conflict. This may result in different panel composition depending on the team(s) involved.

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14. The Hearing Panel will convene within an hour (60 minutes) of the Protest or Complaint being confirmed unless there are extenuating circumstances.

The Hearing Panel will:

- be entitled to consider such evidence as it sees fit including witnesses if either party chooses to have them available at the time of the hearing.
  - adopt procedures which it considers are appropriate in the circumstances of the particular Protest or Complaint.
- 

15. Generally, the following procedure will be adopted:

- The Hearing Panel will hear from the complainant and consider any evidence given in support of the complaint. The Respondent (or any representative) will be entitled to ask questions of the complainant and any witness called by the complainant.
- The Hearing Panel will then hear any evidence from the Respondent and the Complainant (or any representative of the complainant) may ask questions of the Respondent and any witnesses called by the Respondent.

In the case of a Protest the Hearing Panel will not consider video evidence unless specifically stated in the Tournament rules as being allowed.

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16. All hearings will be private and confidential and only the parties and persons involved as witnesses or representatives of the parties shall be entitled to attend hearings. The exception to this is covered in point 17.

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17. If the outcome of the Protest has the potential to impact another team that team's representative (Coach or Manager speaking on behalf of their team or club) should be included in the hearing, as a party, but their comments should be the final comments, including responses from other parties, requested and considered by the Hearing Panel.

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18. Individuals appearing before the Hearing Panel are entitled to have a support person attend. Individuals under 18 years old will be required to have an adult support person attend. A Protest or Complaint cannot be heard from an individual under 18, unless a support person is present. The support person must be over 18 years old.

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19. Where the Hearing Panel upholds the Complainant's Protest or Complaint on the balance of probabilities (more likely than not), it has the power to impose any of the following penalties (either individually, or in combination):

- A suspension
  - Fine
  - Such other sanction, or outcome, as it sees fit.
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20. After hearing the evidence, the Hearing Panel may retire to consider its decision in private. After its deliberations, it may announce its decision to the parties verbally or in writing.

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## Appeals

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21. Except for appeals to the Sports Tribunal, appeals can only be made by a Member against a decision by the Hearing Panel and must be lodged within 30 minutes of the decision being announced.

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22. The basis of the Appeal can only be on:

- The process leading to the decision not following the guidelines laid out in this document.
  - The decision contravenes the rules and regulations for the conduct of the Tournament.
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23. The onus is on the Member making the appeal to prove that the Appeal meets the above conditions.

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24. The process will then follow the same process as above starting at point 11 above. The process will involve the formation of an Appeal Hearing Panel.

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25. The Appeal Hearing Panel will consist of different Members to that of the Hearing Panel with the same process for selection as noted in point 13 above.

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26. There will be no opportunity to appeal the decision of the Appeal Hearing Panel. The decision on the appeal will be considered final.

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### **Complaints subsequent to the Tournament**

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27. If a Member wishes to lodge a Complaint regarding any aspect of the Tournament subsequent to the Tournament finishing it must be filed in writing with the Federation within 48 hours from midnight on the last day of the Tournament.

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28. Complaints subsequent to the Tournament cannot address any decision made by the Appeal Hearing Panel.

If the Complaint is regarding a decision of the Hearing Panel, it can only be on the basis that the process leading to the Hearing Panel Decision did not follow the guidelines laid out in this document, or that it contravenes the rules and regulations for the conduct of the competition.

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29. Depending on the nature of the complaint, the process may be dealt with through mediation or any other means considered appropriate.

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### **Appeal to the Sports Tribunal**

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30. A decision of the Appeal Hearing Panel may be the subject of an appeal to the Sports Tribunal by any party to the decision. In order to exercise this right of appeal, a written notice of appeal must be received by the Federation and an appeal filed with the Sports Tribunal within 72 hours of the provision of the written decision of the Appeal Hearing Panel.

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### **Further Notes**

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31. This Policy does not affect or limit the general powers of the Federation and its Board under the Constitution, [the Incorporated Societies Act 2022](#), and regulations made under the Constitution which may be exercised where any matter is not considered under this Policy.

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32. No appeal under this Policy can operate to suspend or stay the operation of any sanction imposed. An application for a sanction to be suspended in its effect pending the hearing of any appeal may be made to either the Appeal Hearing Panel (in the case of an appeal from a decision of the Hearing Panel) or the Sports Tribunal (in the case of an appeal from a decision of the Appeal Hearing Panel). An application may be made orally and at the same time the appeal is heard. In considering an application the relevant tribunal will decide whether, in the circumstances of the particular appeal, it is in the interests of justice that the sanction imposed should be suspended pending the hearing of the appeal. A decision on an application may be given orally. There shall be no appeal from any decision in relation to an application under this clause.

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## Interpretation

The following words shall have the following meanings within the text of this document.

**Federation** means the New Zealand American Football Federation Incorporated (NZAFF)

**Member** Includes Regional bodies, Clubs or Associations and individual members that are a member of the Federation as defined in the Constitution.

**Board** means the Board of the Federation.

**Chairperson** means the Chairperson of the Federation

**Constitution** means the Constitution of the Federation

**Tournament** means an event that has a schedule of games over several days generally up to 2 to 4 days, but no more than 7 days.

**Competition** means a regular series of games played regularly with gaps of approximately a week between games, over several weeks or months.

**Hearing Panel** is a three-member panel formed to hear a Protest or a Complaint.

**Appeal Hearing Panel** is a three-member panel formed to hear an appeal against a ruling by a Hearing Panel.

**Event Manager** is the person primarily responsible for the delivery and running of a Tournament.

**Sports Tribunal** means the Sports Tribunal of New Zealand who is the tribunal established by Sport New Zealand under the Sport and Recreation New Zealand Act 2002 to hear and determine sports related disputes, including appeals.

**Complainant** – the Member bringing the Protest or Complaint.

**Respondent** – the Member who is the subject of the Complaint or Protest.

**Field of play decision** - a decision made by any official on the outcome of a play including any penalty incurred as a result of the play between the first whistle and final whistle of that game.



# *Four Winds*

FOUNDATION

