

General Principles of Player Eligibility

To be entitled to participate in BBNZ competitions, a player must be a member of BBNZ, by virtue of being a member of an affiliated Association, and must observe the Constitution and Regulations of BBNZ.

A player can play basketball wherever they choose – in terms of club, league, social level basketball. However representative basketball is ‘representative’ and this regulation defines that eligibility.

Standard Player Eligibility Rules

To be eligible to enter and participate in a BBNZ competition (excluding BBNZ School and Tertiary competition, the WBC or the NBL), a player must:

- a. be a New Zealand citizen, except that a player whose nationality is not New Zealand (a foreign player), may participate in BBNZ competitions provided that the player has been a resident in New Zealand 90 days before the commencement of the relevant competition;
- b. be living in New Zealand, except that where a player who is a New Zealand citizen and is otherwise eligible in all respects has recently returned from overseas, the player must have been in New Zealand for a minimum of 28 days before the commencement of the relevant competition. Such players are only eligible to play for the affiliated Association they were registered with prior to departing overseas. If the player intends to transfer to another Association upon returning from overseas, the 90 day rule will apply.

Exemption to the 28 day rule: Any player who meets the criteria for being a ‘full time’ student at an overseas tertiary institution will be exempt from the 28 day rule and is only eligible to play for the Affiliated Association they were registered with prior to departing overseas.

For all representative basketball, players may only represent the Association of his/her usual residence. If a player is a bona fide, full time student at a school or tertiary institution situated outside of the area of the affiliated Association, the player may choose to represent one of either:

- a. the affiliated Association in the area in which the school or tertiary institution is situated; or
- b. the affiliated Association in the area of his/her usual residence.

For the purposes of this clause, a player is a “full time” student at a tertiary institution, if he/she is enrolled in a minimum of four papers/courses for the year or attending classes at least four days per week, 26 weeks of the calendar year. Any player returning from overseas tertiary education will be exempt from the 28 day rule.

For the sake of clarity it is acceptable for Associations within a zone to enter a cooperative arrangement whereby they agree to enter a combined team or teams. In those instances the players can be drawn from the combined Association ‘areas’ and therefore no loan arrangement is necessary, but this does not change the Association the player is part of should the Associations choose, at a later date, to act alone.

Transition Clause

Any player who, at the time these regulations came into force (1 January 2015) is legitimately qualified to be eligible for an Association outside their ‘usual residence’ or where their ‘school is situated’, may continue to play for that Association until such time that they complete a transfer to another Association.

For information relating to the Association Representative Player Transfer and Special Initiation Loan Player refer to the BBNZ web link <http://www.basketball.org.nz/Competitions/Resources>.

Age Eligibility

BBNZ Under 13 Regional Championships - players must be aged either 10, 11 or 12 years by 31 December of the year in which the competition is held.

BBNZ Under 15 National Championships - players must be aged either 12, 13 or 14 years by 31 December of the year in which the competition is held.

BBNZ Under 17 National Championships - players must be aged either 14, 15 or 16 years by 31 December of the year in which the competition is held.

BBNZ Under 19 National Championships - players must be aged at least 15 years on the first day of the competition but must not turn more than 18 years by 31 December in the year the competition is held.

BBNZ Under 23 National Championships - players must be aged at least 15 years on the first day of the competition but must not turn more than 22 years by 31 December in the year the competition is held.

BBNZ National Basketball Championships, Women's Basketball Championship and National Basketball League - players must be aged at least 15 years on the first day of the competition.

Variation to Eligibility for Certain Competitions

BBNZ may modify the eligibility and age criteria for competitions from time to time. However in the absence of any explicit variation these rules shall apply.

Limitation on Multiple Championship Participation

Players may play in only one of the following competitions in any one calendar year; the under 13's or the under 15's* or the under 17's* or the under 19's.

Each participant Association is responsible for the eligibility of its players at all times and will bear the consequences of any infractions of the Regulations governing Eligibility and Age of Players.

National Championship Zone Allocation Spots

For the Under 15 National Championships based on 20 teams per gender, the six zones will be allocated as follows:

- Northern Zone – 5 teams
- Mid North Zone – 4 teams
- Central Zone – 3.5 teams*
- Capital Zone – 2.5 teams*
- Mainland Zone – 3 teams
- Southern Zone – 2 teams

*4th placed Central team will play-off against the 3rd placed Capital team for the final qualifying spot.

For the Under 17 National Championships based on 20 teams per gender, the six zones will be allocated as follows:

- Northern Zone – 6 teams
- Mid North Zone – 4 teams
- Central Zone – 3 teams
- Capital Zone – 2 teams
- Mainland Zone – 3 teams
- Southern Zone – 2 teams

For the Under 19* and Under 23 National Championships based on 12 teams per gender, the six zones will be allocated as follows:

- Northern Zone – 3 teams
- Mid North Zone – 2 teams
- Central Zone – 2 teams
- Capital Zone – 2 teams
- Mainland Zone – 2 teams
- Southern Zone – 1 teams
- Additional teams - 4 teams (allocated each year by BBNZ)*

*As a goal, BBNZ will work with Zones to ideally have 16 teams per gender competing.

*Allocation of four additional men's spots for U19s - If more than four applications are received for the additional four men's spots for U19s then BBNZ will only consider teams from zones that have filled their allocated female spots for that tournament.

For 'A' Secondary Schools National Championships based on 12 teams per gender, the two zones will be allocated as follows:

- North Island Zone - 7 teams
- South Island Zone - 5 teams

For 'AA' Secondary Schools National Championships based on 24 teams per gender, the four zones will be allocated as follows, for **Boys**:

- Zone 1 - 7 teams
- Zone 2 - 5 teams
- Zone 3 - 6 teams
- Zone 4 - 6 teams

For **Girls**:

- Zone 1 - 6 teams
- Zone 2 - 6 teams
- Zone 3 - 6 teams
- Zone 4 - 6 teams

If the allocation of a spot is not filled due to a team withdrawal, BBNZ will fill the spot at their discretion.

The Under 13 Regional Championships do not require an allocation.

Team Roster

For All BBNZ competitions, only the playing roster submitted at the technical meeting for that Team can be added to the score sheet for the first game may participate in the remainder of that competition as players.

Where a technical meeting is not held, BBNZ will advise when the playing roster must be submitted to the BBNZ representative.

If you require any assistance with these regulations contact your local association or email
tournaments@nz.basketball