

2024 TUPU League RULES AND REGULATIONS

TUPU League

As this is a new League run by Basketball New Zealand, we will be seeking feedback from all associations at the completion of each National Finals event.

Feedback will be gathered about how qualifiers worked, whether referees were at the right level, the running of National Finals, and the awards presented.

As with all Rules and Regulations, these will be reviewed annually, and any necessary changes will be made, with the exception of the Commercial Rights section. Additional Commercial Rights required of Teams may be added at any time prior to an annual deadline date and such communication will be provided to all Teams competing in the TUPU League.

Below are the Rules and Regulations which will stand for the 2024 season.

Reminders of the purpose of this league:

- The TUPU League is not about elite or HP competition (that is for NBL and Taihi).
- The TUPU League is there to provide a competitive option for those who miss out on those leagues and bridges a gap that is currently seeing basketballers hang up their boots.
- The TUPU League is in place to encourage participation in the gap between U20 or age group reps, and NBL or Taihi basketball.
- TUPU League is about participation and providing a safe place for those with a competitive edge to continue playing.
- All associations are eligible to enter, whether they have senior teams or not.

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Preface

A regionally focused basketball league, with national finals, to encourage representative players to continue playing association-based basketball after they finish school/university.

This league provides a platform of competitive basketball to bridge the gap between U20 Nationals, and the NBL/Tauihi leagues, but is not necessarily a feeder to the NBL/Tauihi for all players.

Objectives

1. Retain representative players after the U20 Age Group Nationals.
2. Create a unified competition for associations within the same zone and for Basketball NZ to provide a National Final.

Team Entries

1. Only Teams from Affiliated Associations that are up-to-date in the payment of their membership fees and/or other fees and charges to BBNZ, including the calendar year in which the competition takes place, may host or take part in the TUPU League
2. Associations are permitted to enter a maximum of two teams, per gender into competition qualifiers, and may qualify up to 2 teams per gender to the national finals.

Controls

The TUPU League shall be under the control and jurisdiction of the zones in conjunction with Basketball New Zealand (BBNZ).

Entry Fee

Each team who qualifies for the TUPU League Finals will need to pay the tournament entry fee of \$1,450+GST to BBNZ. There are 12 teams competing in each of the Men's and Women's finals of the TUPU League.

Tournament Dates, Venue

1. TUPU League (Women's Finals) – June 21-23 – Queen Elizabeth Youth Centre, Tauranga
2. TUPU League (Men's Finals) – November 14-16 – Edgar Centre, Dunedin

Games

The playing rules of the TUPU League shall consist of the rules of FIBA, BBNZ's Internal Regulations, and Drug Free Sport New Zealand (DFSNZ) Policies, unless specifically changed in the rules of this document.

Judiciary

Refer to BBNZ Internal Regulations.

Competition Structure – Qualifiers

Zones are to organise and associations financially cover qualifying games and travelling logistics. The criteria for hosting home games may change and is not limited to the following:

1. TUPU League (Women's) must play their games between 22 April and 31 May 2024
2. TUPU League (Men's) must play their games between 16 September and 25 October 2024
3. A minimum of number of games must be played by each team to get final placings of all teams (Round Robin, Playoff Finals)
 - a. 2 Teams must play a minimum of 3 Games.
 - b. 3 Teams must play a minimum of 4 Games.
 - c. 4 Teams + must play a minimum of 6 Games.
4. Games can be played over a 6-week period or can be played in a single tournament format. This is at the discretion of all associations within the zone.
5. All associations must have a final placing within the zone.
6. Final score sheets must be submitted to BBNZ within 24 hours of the game/s being completed.
7. The host must provide a competent score bench for the games.
8. The BBNZ National Officials Developer will work with the host association to source approved referees for the games. Payments for referees are up to discretion of each zone.
9. The following teams will qualify for National Finals:
 - a. Northern (Zone 1) = 3 Men's/3 Women's Teams
 - b. Mid-Northern (Zone 2) = 2 Men's/2 Women's Teams
 - c. Central (Zone 3) = 2 Men's/2 Women's Teams
 - d. Capital (Zone 4) = 2 Men's/2 Women's Teams
 - e. Mainland (Zone 5) = 2 Men's/2 Women's Teams
 - f. Southern (Zone 6) = 1 Men's/1 Women's Team

If all spots are not filled by a zone, BBNZ may fill spots at their discretion.

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Competition Structure – National Finals [below is based on 12 teams]

1. Teams will be seeded randomly, at the full discretion of Basketball New Zealand, for the 2024 National Finals as this is the first year of the competition. From 2025 onwards, the seedings will be done as per our BBNZ Regulations for Qualification, Seeding and Draw Arrangements (Book 3, Point 2.13, D, iii).
2. There will be 4 pools of 3 teams.
3. Round Robin games will be played followed by:
 - a. Top 8 – Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, and Finals
 - b. Bottom 4 – Bottom 4 Round Robin

Points System

1. 2 points for win, 1 point for a loss and default, 0 for a forfeit.
2. If teams are tied, please refer to the FIBA Official Basketball Rules, 'Classification of Teams'.

Players

1. All athletes:
 - a. shall abide by the BBNZ match fixing policy and specifically shall not directly or indirectly bet on any match or series of matches conducted by the team or BBNZ or to offer or receive any bribe or inducement to cause a match in which the team is involved to be determined other than on its own merits;
 - b. must be aware that BBNZ will take photographs, video clips, or of the likeness, to be used for the purpose of promotion of the game of basketball.
 - c. must be fully amateur. No player payments or compensations will be permitted.
 - d. must have registered on GameDay before playing in any qualifying games.
2. Each team can submit up to 15 players in total on your roster:
 - a. Each player must have played in 2 games within the league to be eligible to play in the National Finals.
3. Players must be aged at least 15 years on the first day of the competition to be eligible to participate in the competition; refer to BBNZ age eligibility.
4. A team can use any of the players from their roster at any of the qualifying games. A final roster of 12 must be submitted prior to the technical meeting of the National Finals.
 - a. No players are to be added to any team once the rosters are submitted prior to the qualifier windows.
5. NBL/Tauihi development players, or players that have averaged less than 10minutes per game across the season, are eligible to play in TUPU League.
 - a. Rapid League Minutes per game does not count towards this total.
6. To be eligible to enter and participate in a BBNZ Competition (other than BBNZ School, Wheelchair and Tertiary Competitions, the NBL and Tauihi), a player must:
 - a. be a member of BBNZ, by virtue of being a current financial member of an Affiliated Association; and
 - b. 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.
 - c. 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, within two years of the tournament, prior to departing overseas.
 - d. Players who are exempt to the 28-day rule:
 - i. Any player who meets the criteria for being a 'full time' student at an overseas high school or tertiary institution.
 - ii. Any player who has lived overseas to play in a foreign National Basketball League within two years of the tournament.
 - e. Any player who has been granted an exemption from the 28-day rule is eligible to play for any Affiliated Association.
7. The player pool is open nationally and you can participate for an association at an age group tournament and still play for a TUPU League team from another area.
8. Players can play for any association, but as with the D-League in previous years, associations will need to put through a loan for any players outside of their association. The only way associations can dispute a loan is if the player in question has outstanding fees owing to their current association.
9. The 12 players listed on your first score sheet for the first game at the National Finals will be the only players allowed to take the court.
10. All international transfers must be in accordance with the Internal Regulations of FIBA.
 - a. A League shall comply with the FIBA Internal Regulations governing the International Transfer of Players, including the special provisions affecting young players as contained in those Regulations. A player who has been registered elsewhere in the world may not play in a New Zealand-based League unless and until all FIBA international transfer obligations and any requirements of the Immigration Department of New Zealand have been satisfied.
11. Once a player takes the court for a team within the TUPU League, they cannot change to another team within that year. Special circumstances can be applied where a legitimate relocation of a player happens and is approved by BBNZ.
12. Players owing money to BBNZ or an Association may not be eligible to play. Please make contact with BBNZ.

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Referees

The BBNZ National Officials Developer will work with the host association to source approved referees for qualifying games. Referees for the National Finals will be selected in conjunction with the BBNZ National Officials Developer and BBNZ.

Uniforms

Refer to FIBA rules [here](#) (page 12).

Commercial Rights

BBNZ owns the Commercial Rights relating to the TUPU League, including but not limited to broadcast, production, sponsorship, intellectual property, licensing, awards, apparel, digital and any other commercial assets.

Should Basketball NZ request it, all competing Teams must provide a minimum level of commercial inventory and servicing for the purposes of marketing the League or as entitlements for League partners. That inventory could include but is not limited to:

- Signage - courtside and/or on-court;
- Signage – uniforms;
- Signage – backboards;
- Game tickets;
- Hospitality;
- Game announcements;
- Game promotions;
- Player appearances or access;
- Promotional materials including printed materials, website, and advertising in print, television, web, 3G or radio format; and
- Other benefits as determined by Basketball NZ

For the purpose of making the TUPU League financially sustainable, Basketball NZ may set exclusive commercial categories where Teams that compete in the League cannot sign, promote, or advertise any competing category partner.

Additional Commercial Rights required of Teams may be added at any time prior to an annual deadline date and such communication will be provided to all Teams competing in the TUPU League.

Please do not make assumptions relating to Commercial Rights. If there is any ambiguity or uncertainty, please contact Basketball NZ's Commercial Lead, Dave Everitt (dave.everitt@nz.basketball).

Times

- Warm Up - Minimum of 10 minutes
- Playing Time - 4 x 10 minute stop clock quarters
- Half Time – 10 minutes
- Quarter Time Intervals – 2 minutes
- Extra Periods – 5 minutes
- Extra Period Intervals – 2 minutes

Awards

The following awards will be awarded at the conclusion of each National Final tournament:

- National Champion Cup
- National Champion Medals
- Runner Up Cup
- Runner Up Medals
- Third Place Medals
- Final Officials Medals
- All Star Five Medals
- Most Valuable Player Trophy

National Final All Star 5 Nominations

The aim is to recognise outstanding performers in the TUPU League National Final who contribute to their teams' success within the parameters of fair play and the spirit of the league. The overarching selection criteria are the level and consistency of an athlete's contribution to their team's success of the league.

Coaches are to nominate players from the opposing team whom you feel has contributed to their team's success, at games at the National Final's only. The Coach is to complete a form after each game; listing three players with 3 votes being the highest and 1 vote being the lowest.