

# CNZ Player and Manager Feedback

Dear all,

The CNZ Tournament Committee has decided to continue last year's policy of sharing the feedback received after each CNZ event and to comment on what changes, if any, they plan to review for events held in following seasons.

**Event:** 2020/21 NZ Open Championships

**Venue:** United Croquet Club

**Manager:** Tony O'Donnell

The table below shows the feedback scores for each question together with how this compares to the average for all CNZ events last season.

NZ Open									
	Str Dis	Dis	OK	Agree	Str Ag	Total	Weighted Avg	CNZ Avg 2019/20	NZ Open 19/20
Format	0	0	0	8	3	11	4.27	4.38	4.18
Number of Games	0	0	0	7	4	11	4.36	4.37	4.47
Manager	0	0	0	4	7	11	4.64	4.50	4.71
Lawns	0	0	3	5	3	11	4.00	3.98	4.65
Likely to attend this tournament again?	0	2	3	1	5	11	3.82	4.09	4.19
Likely to attend tournament in this location again?	0	1	1	3	5	10	4.20	4.02	4.50
<b>Total</b>	0	3	7	28	27	65	4.22	4.22	4.45

## Response to feedback

### Format - the following feedback was received

- I like Round-Robin
- I like round robin draws.
- Format was great but didn't like player choice knockout as there were only two blocks
- at my level we got to play most players
- I feel that the 'players choice' method is only useful for a top 16 or higher KO draw. 8 or less just doesn't work out

### CNZ TC Response

The TC agrees that, based on the lower number of entries received this year (and consequently only 2 blocks) that Player Choice for deciding the knockout was not optimal. As per the yearbook, Appendix 2 (p. 326-328), it is stated that Player Choice can be used with only 2 blocks (as was done here) but is better suited to many blocks.

**Action:** clarify the preferred format of NZ Open based on entries in tournament advert / appendix

### Number of games per day - the following feedback was received

- We played three games without time limits per day which worked out to about a 10 hour day.
- 3 games with timer if reqd was fine

### CNZ TC Response

N/A

### Lawns – the following feedback was received

- The lawns were very fast as usual at United.
- a couple of lawns had some massive puddles but you can't do much about that
- hard and fast
- They matched the ability of the players (easier conditions due to significantly weaker entry than usual).
- Tony responded well and didn't water the lawns at the right times. Regardless of the flooding overnight, the best approach was taken simply by asking the players for their thoughts. The lawn mowing was excellent.
- The lawns were ok, and presented as best as could have been. The variance between lawns and conditions was a shame.

### CNZ TC Response

Thanks once again to United for providing consistently high quality lawns.

### Manager - the following feedback was received.

- Tony did all that was required. (And more, with setting up lawns before play each day.)

- The only thing I didn't understand was double banking on 3 and 4, when 1 and 2 was free on the last day
- we were kept well informed as it unfolded
- Tony was great stepping at the last minute.
- Yes, Tony did a fantastic job. Whenever he needed help, he asked for it and it ran without a hitch
- The manager was very accommodating to the needs and wants of the players. It was well run and with help from senior players was a success. It was a shame so few entries were received and more senior players did not attend.

### **CNZ TC Response**

Many thanks for Tony stepping in again at very short notice due to a withdrawal. It's great that the tournament was able to go ahead without any hiccups given the circumstances.

### **Other feedback**

- If the timing of the event stays in the same time period, I'll unlikely be able to play due to it being the first week back at school for teachers. Especially if travel to the NI is required.
- Love playing at United. Always will come back
- I don't think I will travel outside of Christchurch or Ashburton to compete in AC tournaments.
- Lawns were unfavorable and the lack of interest from top players this year was a shame. No one from CNZ showed up to encourage the sport, nor was there any advertising or banners around promoting the tournament. Given it was in Hagley Park a CNZ banner on the fence would have been logical.
- More churchgoers needed to "put in a word" for the weather
- Good tournament
- all players were polite and showed generosity of spirit toward lesser ranked players. overall a great tournament
- Such a shame about the continued declining state of AC. This was the 'worst vibe' at an Open I have ever played in. I hope our elite players can be participating in 2022.
- Overall the tournament was run well. The manager did his best being dropped in it at last minute. A larger event with more numbers and he would have struggled. A lot of work needs to be done by CNZ for the next event. Unlikely to attend again at this venue....

### **CNZ TC Response**

It is obvious that, unfortunately, the number of entrants this year was down, and in particular from the top players. There are no doubt many factors behind this - COVID, subsequent short-notice cancellation of events, absence of overseas players, WCF event postponement impacting selection dates etc. The TC is aware of concerns in this area and will be discussing ways to make the tournament more attractive to more entrants.

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If you would like to provide further feedback in order to help future events, please email [croquet@croquet.org.nz](mailto:croquet@croquet.org.nz)

CNZ Tournament Committee