

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: 2021/22 CNZ Top 8 Invitation

Venue: Rose Gardens Croquet Club

Manager: Michael Hardman

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

Top 8									
	Str Dis	Dis	OK	Agree	Str Ag	Total	Weighted Avg	CNZ Avg 20/21	Top 8 20/21
Format	0	0	1	1	1	3	4.00	4.19	NA
Number of Games	0	1	1	0	1	3	3.33	4.22	NA
Manager	0	0	0	1	2	3	4.67	4.56	NA
Lawns	0	0	0	1	2	3	4.67	4.01	NA
Likely to attend this tournament again?	0	0	0	1	2	3	4.67	4.04	NA
Likely to attend tournament in this location again?	0	0	0	1	2	3	4.67	4.08	NA
Total	0	1	2	5	10	18	4.33	4.18	NA

Response to feedback

Format - the following feedback was received

- The format was changed during the tournament as it was becoming clear to everyone that it would not be completed.
- Insufficient time to complete the advertised format. Necessarily changed midway to achieve a result. TC needs to reconsider the duration to maintain the preferred format for this event.
- Double round robin is a tried and tested format, no problems with that. Due to (excellent) lawn conditions, it became obvious after day 1 that the tournament would not finish. The players agreed as a group that the only feasible way of finishing the tournament was to change the format. The best of several bad options was seeded knockout after first round robin. It was a bad format, but it is what we all agreed to in order to obtain a satisfactory result, and as such I have no problems with it. I had more of a problem with the decision not to backfill the tournament with a player from the Edwina Thompson after a late withdrawal in the Top 8 caused a 7-player event. The yearbook states that players WILL be promoted from the ET if required. As a result, there was a bye in every round.

CNZ TC Response

There was a decision made not to promote players from lower invites into this one as it would have left one of the other events with 5 players.

TC is reconsidering the duration of invitation events, to enable more time for them to reach a conclusion.

Number of games per day - the following feedback was received

- All good until the required format change. Sat out the final day with no meaningful match or opponent to play.
- The intended number of games per day was 4, this wasn't possible in reality given the quick lawns. I have no problem with that, as when a player was playing a game, they got more than enough play! The main issue was that no promotion was done from the ET, causing a bye in every round, and meaning players often had a 4 or 5 hour wait for a game.

CNZ TC Response

N/A

Lawns – the following feedback was received

- Yes, but were challenging.
- Lawns were good. Two-paced but challenging as they should be for this event.
- Fantastic lawns, big thanks to Rose Gardens for this. More AC events should be held at this club, it is an asset to the tournament hosting calendar.

CNZ TC Response

Many thanks to Rose Gardens for providing fast and challenging lawns for this event.

Manager - the following feedback was received.

- The manager did a fantastic job running this tournament. Clearly one of the best in NZL at present.
- Allocated lawns and recorded scores.
- Manager was great, and very flexible. Kept players informed of issues arising, and consulted players at all times when the change of format was becoming inevitable.

CNZ TC Response

Many thanks to Michael for continuing excellent feedback, particularly in managing an event that required a change of format midway through

Other Feedback

- I played in the Top 8, but it was plainly obvious to everyone concerned that I did not belong there. Perhaps more consideration can be given to placing participants in the correct Invitation.
- Selection Committee is not proactive enough to promote Invitation events, or to exercise Tournament Condition 8 to ensure full fields. Poor effort. Despite numerous requests, I'm not sure if the provision of the latest version of Dawson balls were confirmed for the sake of MacRobertson Shield preparations. Still not sure if these were used or not.
- Please consider following the event regulations and promoting players to higher invitations when required instead of giving byes. If there's a withdrawal from the top invite, then it should backfill from the second invite. And the vacancy created should be backfilled from the 3rd invite. And so on. We hold the invitations in the same region for this very reason.

CNZ TC Response

The role of the selection committee is to select the best available players in order to fill the invitation events. Obviously this cannot ensure that all the players in a given event are evenly matched, and nor should it. We would hope that players who find themselves as the lowest ranked player in a given event would see it as a good opportunity to compete against better players and improve their own play.

If you would like to provide further feedback in order to help future events, please email croquet@croquet.org.nz

CNZ Tournament Committee