



NEW ZEALAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS ROAD RELAY FESTIVAL

Thursday 28th and Friday 29th August 2025

NEWSLETTER ONE



To All New Zealand Secondary Schools,

WELCOME

Nau mai, haere mai, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the NZ Secondary Schools Road Relay Festival to be held at Pakuranga Sailing Club, Bramley Drive, Farm Cove, Pakuranga, Auckland, 2012

KEY DATES

- **Wednesday 23 July** – Event entries open for Individual School Teams and Interprovincial Teams
- **Thursday 21 August** – Entries close for Individual School Teams
- **Monday 25 August** - Entries close for Initial Interprovincial Regional Teams
- **Thursday 28th August**
 - 11.30am – Course inspection and Team pack collection
 - 12.30pm - Team managers briefing at start hub
 - 1.00pm - First Race Starts
 - 2.30pm Interprovincial team packs available from TIC for Day 2 interprovincial event
 - 7.00pm - Interprovincial team final declarations online
 - Evening TBC time **Athletes Welcome Dinner & Forum** hosted by NZ Sports Collective & Auckland Unlimited at , free event and will be a first in first served – Details [here](#)
- **Friday 29th August**
 - 9.00am - Interprovincial team final late Changes
 - 10.00am - Interprovincial Relay first event start
 - 12 noon – Event concludes with prizegiving and race packs returned

EVENT INFORMATION & RULES

The following information outlines the competition rules for the NZSSAA ROAD RELAYS FESTIVAL

- **Day 1: INTER-SCHOOLS ROAD RELAYS EVENT – Thursday 28th August**
- **Day 2: INTERPROVINCIAL REGIONAL ROAD RELAYS EVENT – Friday 29th August**

The following are the rules and procedures for both events

AGES and DIVISIONS

All grades are the same for both the Individual Inter Schools Relays and the Interprovincial Relays.

The grade divisions will be Year 9, Junior and Senior. Each age division there will be a Mixed, Girls and Boys teams' competition. Separate Para events will be held for all above grades too.

Mixed teams must include at least two girls in the four team members.

In the inaugural year for Mixed relay there is no set running order required other than one boy must run a long leg and one girl run a long leg. [i.e. Leg 1 & 3]

Age divisions eligibility are;

Year 9 Only: Have turned 13 and U15 years as at 31 December in the year of the event.

Juniors/Para: Have turned 13 and U16 years as at 31 December in the year of the event.

Seniors/Para: U20 years as at 31 December in the year of the event. (ORS funded Para Athletes Under 22

Any athlete can run 'up' a grade

e.g. A Y9 girl could compete in a junior or senior relay team be it in the girls or mixed grades.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Thursday 28th August

11:30am – 12:30pm

- Course open for inspection and a light jog. Schools are asked to not arrive before 11:00am please.
- Managers Packs will be available in the TIC Hub, located near the Changeover Zone.
- Packs will only be issued to team managers and not individual athletes.
- As there is no Manager's meeting, any technical questions should be asked at the TIC Hub.





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Race starts will be determined by the Race Director after entries are received and there may be progressive start times within each division

1.00pm Boy's Race Starts – Final start times to be determined

Provisional Start Times: 1.00 pm Senior Boys 1.01pm Junior Boys 1.02 pm Year 9 Boys

1.35 pm Mixed Race Starts

Depending on entry numbers race start times will be 1 minute intervals like Boys or integrated with Girl's event.

Running Order : Each gender must run a short and a long leg (*Para Mixed teams will race at this time as appropriate*)

2.10pm Girls Race Starts

Depending on entry numbers race start times will be like Boys at 1 minute apart

All Para teams will race at advised times depending on entry numbers as appropriate

Thursday Evening 6.00pm - 8.00pm 28th August – Tournament Week Welcome Dinner

Hosted at NZMA Sylvia Park - The New Zealand Sport Collective, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited and NZMA kindly invite you to a Welcome dinner for all rangatahi in sports teams competing in Tamaki Makaurau during Winter Tournament week to come together and listen to a panel of sporting legends and share some kai. The function will include a free meal, and guest speakers of relevance and interest to the students. It is intended to be a fun, and engaging evening complimentary to their sporting endeavours. As seats are limited, it will be first in first served.

For more information or to Book your school's group tickets email NOW Lucie@waddell.nz

Friday 29th August

- 10.00am - Interprovincial Relay first event start. Races will follow same format as Day one
- 12 noon – Event concludes with prizegiving, and race packs returned

COURSE, TEAMS and DISTANCES

The event shall comprise of four athletes each completing over an approx. distance of between 2.4km and 2.6km each on an out and back course with the four legs totalling approx. 10km overall for the team.

In 2024 there will be two courses with the changeover being at a central hub

➤ **Leg # 1** and **Leg # 3** will be an approx. 2.6km leg and **Leg # 2** and **Leg # 4** will be an approx. 2.4km leg

The course will be the same for both Inter Schools and Interprovincial Relay Events

ENTRY PROCEDURES

See separate Information sheet at www.nzssaa.org.nz for School teams and Interprovincial teams

ATHLETE & TEAM ELIGIBILITY

Athletes competing in the relay need to be bona fide enrolled students in the school team they are representing.

- ✓ **Mixed Relays** Teams are to be made up of 2 boys and 2 girls from a single coeducational school.
- ✓ Single gender schools may apply to the NZSSAA Events Coordinator for entry to join with another single gender school provided both school rolls are under 250 pupils each and the schools are from the same locality.
- ✓ Athletes who have entered and competed in their individual schools' team in the Thursday Interschool Relay events are all eligible to compete for their Interprovincial teams. Where, the opportunity exists, an athlete must first represent their own region either in their own or an older age group.
- ✓ Athletes from smaller provinces may run in another neighbouring regions team if their own region is not entering a team in their grade and they cannot be used in an older team.
However, this team will not be eligible to receive awards unless the combination of regions has been approved by NZSSAA. The NZSSAA relays coordinator should be made aware of any teams using athletes from outside of their own region.
- ✓ Regions can enter multiple teams in any grade (i.e. A Team, B team, C Team, D Team etc) although only the top finishing team will be eligible to receive awards.
- ✓ Every endeavour will be made for All teams to have their time and placing recorded in the official results.
- ✓ No athlete can compete more than once on Day two.





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- ✓ Teams that don't have the required number of runners should just run until all their runners have had one turn each or one athlete runs two legs consecutively.
- ✓ If an athlete is unable to compete on the Thursday, their Relay Team Manager must request a dispensation from the NZSSAA Entry Co-Ordinator to allow them to compete. This would only be approved in exceptional circumstances as the intent is that all athletes will compete on Day one [Thursday] for their school before again competing on Friday for the region.

REGIONS for INTERPROVINCIAL EVENT:

➤ Northland/North Harbour	➤ Whanganui	➤ Tasman
➤ Auckland	➤ East Coast North Island	➤ Canterbury
➤ Counties Manukau	➤ Manawatu	➤ Aoraki
➤ Waikato BOP	➤ Wairarapa	➤ Otago
➤ Taranaki	➤ Wellington	➤ Southland

Participation in these events is open to any student Year 9 or above, who attends a New Zealand Secondary School. Year 7 and 8 students are not eligible to compete.

School Sport NZ Eligibility and Regulations apply for this event. The regulations are available at <https://www.schoolsportnz.org.nz/Sport-1/Events/eligibility-regulations-1>

It is recommended that Regional Team Managers appoint a separate Assistant Team Manager for each of your teams who can then look after that team's singlets, numbers and timing chips/bibs and record lap times encase there are timing issues.

UNIFORM

DAY 1. Inter Schools Relay – Athletes need to compete in their individual school's uniform.

Day 2. Inter Provincial Relay - Athletes need to compete in a regional/provincial uniform.

IDENTIFICATION BIBS OF AGE GRADES

A race bib number is required to be used to help with the identification of the different age groups.

The number needs to be attached to the front and back of an athlete's singlet and will display the team number/region and the age group of the athlete.

See separate document for an explanation of the race numbers and how to identify the teams

AWARDS

Where possible Awards will be awarded approximately 10-15 minutes after each event to the first three placed teams in each division.

