

SOUTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

Date: Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March 2026

Venue: Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub, Halswell, Christchurch

Time: Saturday 9am – 6pm; Sunday 9am – 1.00pm.

MAJOR CHANGES FOR THE 2026 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entry: Based on discussion from the 2025 Annual Meeting and subsequent online meetings during 2025, the 2026 Championships will trial using a limited Open Entry system rather than the regional quota system that has been used for the past 50 years. (The limited refers to all athletes meeting a prescribed entry standard.) See attached.

All entries will be the responsibility of each individual school and will be received online via **Athletic Net** from 9am Monday 16th February through until 10am Wednesday 26 March. Please note that all schools will need to have created a free account to access Athletic Net. Further online training will be available for schools to learn how to do this early Feb 26. An instruction How To doc. Is also included with this email.

Grades As approved by the 2025 Annual Meeting the date from which grades are established has been changed from 1 January in the year of competition to 31 December in the year of competition. To reflect this the age grades will now be listed as Under 15 (previously Under 14) Under 16 (previously Under 15) Under 17 (previously Under 16) and Under 20 (previously Under 19) Selected Open Events will be listed as Under 17 and Under 20. Para grades will Under 17 and Under

Current SISS records will be updated to reflect the grade age changes.

Changes and Scratchings All schools will be able to manage their own entry changes up until the entry close date (25 March) Changes including scratchings made after on-line entries close, should be emailed to bill.grogan@ssc.org.nz before 1pm on Wednesday 25 March after this, handed in NPW before 9am Saturday 28 March

Cost: There will be an entry fee of \$10 per athlete (TBC) to be invoiced to your school following the meet. Athletes who withdraw from the meet without following scratching protocols will also pay the entry fee. There will be NO gate charge on either day for this event.

Athlete entry an individual athlete may enter up to 4 events. This can be made up of either up to 4 individual events or 3 Individual events plus a 4x100m Relay. (4x400m relays are excluded from this entry restriction)

Managers meeting: A meeting for team managers will be held in the Café at Nga Puna Wai at 6pm on Friday 27th March. Information from this meeting will be made available via social media for any school personnel unable to attend this meeting.

Annual Meeting the meeting held online in 2025 recommended that the annual meeting of the SISS Association be held online during the week prior to the championships. Date and time TBC with a call for remits to this meeting.

Accommodation: We recommend booking early to avoid disappointment. A range of accommodation options are available at <https://www.christchurchnz.org.nz/>

Programmes: A copy of the new order of events has been prepared. This will be forwarded to schools via the RSD Network and posted on the SSC and SSNZ website by Wednesday 4 February

Specifications: A copy of the specifications, implement weights etc. is included with this document. A copy is also available on the School Sport Canterbury website.

PARA Athletes:

Grades, Categories and Classification - There will be two age grades Under 17 and Under 22, and two divisions, Intellectually Impaired Athletes, and Physically and/or Visually Impaired Athletes. All entrants must apply for a Provisional Classification from Paralympics NZ to be eligible to compete. If you already have a Paralympics Provisional or Full Classification you do not need to re-apply. Physically and/or Visually Impaired athletes consist of 5 classification groups: Visually impaired, Short Stature, Cerebral Palsy, Amputees /Others, and Wheelchair user. All will compete together with results being calculated as a percentage of the world record for their Paralympic classifications. Visit the [PARALYMPICS NZ](http://www.paralympicsnz.org.nz/) website for further information on the Provisional Classification forms. These forms can be downloaded, filled out and must reach Paralympics N.Z. before the deadline of Friday 13th March.

School marquees: Schools are invited to bring a marquee to put up on the grass bank. Erecting of Marquees is not permitted until after Note: Marquees left overnight are at your own risk. Nga Puna Wai is exposed to the wind, so any marquees, tents, or similar shelters, must be robust and securely pegged.

Health & Safety A Health and Safety Action plan, together with a Risk Management plan has been up-dated to reflect the date changes and is available on the SSC and SSNZ websites. All team managers are expected to have a first aid kit for minor injuries. St. John personnel will be in attendance throughout the event. Physiotherapy services will be available on site throughout the meeting on a subsidised user-pays basis.

SISS Athletic Championships Specifications

Hurdles

AGE GROUP	DIST	FL'TS	TO 1st HURDLE	SPACINGS	HEIGHT	TO FINISH LINE
U20 Boys	110m	10	13.72m	9.14m	914mm	14.02m
U17 Boys	100m	10	13.00m	8.50m	840mm	10.50m
U16 Boys	80m	8	12.00m	8.00m	840mm	12.00m
U15 Boys	80m	8	12.00m	8.00m	762mm	12.00m
U17 Boys	200m	5	20.00m	35.00m	840mm	40.00m
U20 Boys	300m	7	50.00m	35.00m	840mm	40.00m
U20 Girls	100m	10	13.00m	8.50m	762mm	10.50m
U17 Girls	80m	8	12.00m	8.00m	762mm	12.00m
U16 Girls	80m	8	12.00m	8.00m	762mm	12.00m

U15 Girls	80m	8	12.00m	8.00m	762mm	12.00m
U17 Girls	200m	5	20.00m	35.00m	0.762m	40.00m
U20 Girls	300m	7	50.00m	35.00m	762mm	40.00m

Steeple Chase

Open Boys 2,000m, hurdle height 838mm

Open Girls 2,000m, hurdle height 762mm.

Field Event Implements

AGE GROUP	HAMMER	SHOT	DISCUS	JAVELIN	HIGH JUMP	POLE VAULT
					Starting H	Starting H
U20 Boys	5.00kg	5.00kg	1.5kg	700g	1.55m	
U17 Boys	5.00kg	5.00kg	1.25kg	700g	1.50m	
U16 Boys	4.00kg	5.00kg	1.25kg	700g	1.40m	
U15 Boys	4.00kg	4.00kg	1.00kg	600g	1.30m	
U20 Girls	3.00kg	3.00kg	1.00kg	500g	1.30m	
U17 Girls	3.00kg	3.00kg	1.00kg	500g	1.25m	
U16 Girls	3.00kg	3.00kg	1.00kg	500g	1.20m	
U15 Girls	3.00kg	3.00kg	1.00kg	500g	1.15m	

Personal Implements: we prefer athletes to use the implements supplied by the organisers. However, if an athlete wishes to use a personal implement it MUST be handed in to the equipment room for checking by 5pm Friday for Saturday events, and 5pm Saturday for Sunday events. The implement (if compliant) will be added to the pool of implements available for use by any of the competitors.

No implements will be provided for practice.

Pole Vault: Competitors MUST bring their own poles – none will be provided by the organisers.

Height adjustments will be 15cm.

Relays

4x 400m Relays contested in 4 grades U17 Boys, U20 Boys, U17 Girls, U20 Girls

Under 15, Under 16 & U17 Boys & Girls are eligible to compete in either U17 or U20 4x400m Relays (not both)