

New Zealand Deaf Games

By Laws



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2. General Rules and Bylaws

2.1. Aim

- 2.1.1. The New Zealand Deaf Games (NZDG) aims to bring together the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community in an honest and fair competition.

2.2. Duration of the New Zealand Deaf Games

- 2.2.1. The NZDG shall be contested over one week every two years in January.
- 2.2.2. The NZDG shall consist of:
 - 2.2.2.1. Opening Ceremony
 - 2.2.2.2. Interzone Competition
 - 2.2.2.3. Social Competition
 - 2.2.2.4. Awards Evening

2.3. Bidding Procedure

- 2.3.1. An Associated Deaf Club or Society interested in bidding for the right to host the NZDG must apply in writing on the official application form, and post it to the NZDG Administrator at least thirty (30) months before the conduct of the actual Deaf Games.
- 2.3.2. Applications to host the NZDG shall be confirmed at the General Meeting two years before the conduct of the actual games.
- 2.3.3. The Host Deaf Club or Society will be appointed by a simple majority vote, represented by delegates of eligible Associate Members.
- 2.3.4. Successful applications to host the next NZDG will be announced at the Awards Evening of the preceding NZDG.

2.4. Host Committee

- 2.4.1. The Associated Deaf Club or Society awarded the NZDG shall appoint immediately after the DSNZ BGM a Host Committee (HC) to be responsible for organising the Deaf Games.
- 2.4.2. The HC must appoint a Host Administrator (HA) at least twelve (12) months before the NZDG.
- 2.4.3. The HA shall enter into direct dialogue with the NZDG Administrator.
- 2.4.4. The HC is responsible for sports venue bookings and payments for all competitions.

- 2.4.5. The HC will make freely available information about available accommodation options for the duration of the NZDG.
- 2.4.6. The HC must pay travel and accommodation costs for the DSNZ President for the duration of the NZDG.

2.5. Interzone Competition

2.5.1. Interzone Competition sports

- 2.5.1.1. Interzone Competition sports shall be restricted to those sports of fully paid up National Associate Members.
- 2.5.1.2. Interzone Competition sports shall be confirmed twelve (12) months before the NZDG.
- 2.5.1.3. Only those sports and events having preliminary registrations by teams or individuals from at least two Zones shall remain on the official program. Should the final registrations be less than two teams or individuals, this sport or event shall be cancelled.
 - 2.5.1.3.1. In case of cancellation of an individual Sport OR Team Sport due to the above rule, the NZDG Administrator must notify all Zones at least fourteen (14) days after the Preliminary Entry deadline and if necessary, immediately after the deadline for Final Registrations.

2.5.2. Qualification

- 2.5.2.1. Participation in the NZDG Interzone Competition sports are restricted to persons who are:
 - 2.5.2.1.1. Deaf, defined as a hearing loss of at least 55 db in the better ear or three tone frequency average of 500, 1000, and 2000 hertz **and**;
 - 2.5.2.1.2. Members of an National Associate Member.
- 2.5.2.2. Athletes who are Sixteen (16) years of age and under on the date of the Opening Ceremony will require a completed Consent to Play Form signed by a parent or guardian.
- 2.5.2.3. Overseas competitors may not compete in Interzone Competition sports.
- 2.5.2.4. Penalty for Wearing Hearing Devices
 - 2.5.2.4.1. Participants are not allowed to wear hearing devices while competing during the NZDG.
 - 2.5.2.4.2. If caught, he/she will be taken out of competition immediately disqualified/or penalised subject to the rules of the sport in question.

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- 2.5.2.5. Athletes may be required to undergo gender verification tests.
- 2.5.2.6. Athletes may be required to undergo doping tests.

2.5.3. Registration Fees

- 2.5.3.1. The cost of the Registration Fees shall be confirmed by DSNZ twelve (12) months before the NZDG.
- 2.5.3.2. Registration Fees shall be paid to the HC with the Final Registration Forms, three (3) months before the NZDG.
- 2.5.3.3. Registration Fees shall be paid by:
 - 2.5.3.3.1. Athletes
 - 2.5.3.3.2. Coaches
 - 2.5.3.3.3. Team Managers

2.5.4. Team Sports

- 2.5.4.1. Preliminary Entry Forms must be submitted to NZDG Administrator six (6) months before the NZDG.
- 2.5.4.2. Final Registration Forms with names of each athlete must be submitted to the NZDG Administrator three (3) months before the NZDG.
- 2.5.4.3. Up to three teams per zone shall be admitted.
- 2.5.4.4. Only teams recognised by the National Associate Members shall be accepted for qualification in the NZDG.
- 2.5.4.5. A withdrawal penalty is levied for withdrawal of a team after the Final Registration deadline. The amount of this fine is to be determined by the DSNZ Executive Board.
 - 2.5.4.5.1. The penalty shall be payable to the Host Committee.

2.5.5. Individual Sports

- 2.5.5.1. Preliminary Entry Forms must be submitted to NZDG Administrator six (6) months before the NZDG.
- 2.5.5.2. Final Registration Forms with names of each athlete must be submitted to the NZDG Administrator three (3) months before the NZDG.
- 2.5.5.3. A withdrawal penalty is levied on each non-starting athlete with the exception of:
 - 2.5.5.3.1. a doctor's certificate stating that the athlete is unable to compete,
 - 2.5.5.3.2. personal grievance, by letter,
 - 2.5.5.3.3. or any other exceptional circumstances that may arise.

2.5.6. Prizes and Awards

2.5.6.1. In each Team Sport a Trophy shall be presented to the winning team, plus a certificate to each member of the winning team.

2.5.6.1.1. Runner-up teams shall only receive certificates.

2.5.6.2. For each Individual Sporting Event, a Trophy shall be presented to the winner/winners plus any prizes.

2.5.6.2.1. Runner-ups shall only receive prizes if available.

2.5.6.3. Points towards the Aotearoa Turi Shield will only be awarded to the top 3 placings for each Interzone Competition sport category i.e

- 1st Place - 3 points
- 2nd Place - 2 points
- 3rd Place - 1 point
- 4th Place and onwards - 0 points

2.5.6.4. Points towards the Aotearoa Turi Shield shall be awarded to the respective zones in which teams score a top 3 placing.

2.5.6.5. If a competitor is disqualified, the award, pennant or certificate must be returned to DSNZ.

2.5.6.6. Winners and Runner-up certificates will be presented immediately after the events have taken place. Presentations shall be made by a member of the HC, a DSNZ Representative or any other Official.

2.5.6.7. The winners for each Interzone Competition sport category, outstanding players of each sport, individual awards, the Colin Kay Trophy and the Aotearoa Turi Shield shall be presented by a representative of the DSNZ at the Awards Evening.

2.5.6.7.1. A representative from each zone shall be appointed at the BGM prior to the NZDG, and shall collect the Aotearoa Turi Shield should their respective zone win the overall Interzone Competition points.

2.5.6.8. An overseas competitor who wins a cup or trophy at the NZDG must leave said Cup or Trophy in the care of the DSNZ. No Cup or Trophy belonging to DSNZ may leave New Zealand.

2.5.6.9. An official representative of each sport appointed by the Host Committee shall select the Most Outstanding Player of that particular sport they are responsible for, and present the athlete's name in a sealed envelope to the NZDG Administrator who will then with one DSNZ Representative select the winner of the Colin Kay Trophy (Sportsperson of the NZDG Award).

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2.5.6.10. All cups and shields should be engraved with the winner's name on the cup/shield immediately after the event, and presented at the Awards Evening.

2.5.7. Damaged Cups/Shields.

2.5.7.1. Winning athletes or teams of any Cup/Shield which is damaged while in their possession shall be responsible for the full cost of repairs replacement of said Cup/Shield.

2.5.7.2. Any Deaf Club or Society holding NZDG or DSNZ Cups/Shields on their premises shall be responsible for full cost of repairs or replacement of any loss or damages to said Cups/Shields.

2.6. Social Grade

2.6.1. Social Grade sports

2.6.1.1. Social Grade sports shall be confirmed six (6) months before the NZDG.

2.6.2. Qualification

2.6.2.1. Participation in the NZDG Social Grade shall be restricted to persons who are:

2.6.2.1.1. Eighteen (18) years of age and over on the date of the Opening Ceremony, and are current Members of a Associate Deaf Club or Society; or

2.6.2.1.2. Seventeen (17) years of age and under on the date of the Opening Ceremony, and are members of a Regional Association for Deaf Children; or

2.6.2.1.3. Seventeen (17) years of age and under on the date of the Opening Ceremony, and their parents are members of a Associate Deaf Club or Society.

2.6.2.2. There is no age limit for all competitors in each sport.

2.6.2.3. Athletes who are Sixteen (16) years of age and under on the date of the Opening Ceremony will require a completed Consent to Play Form signed by a parent or guardian.

2.6.2.4. Overseas competitors may compete in Social Grade sports.

2.6.3. Registration Fees

2.6.3.1. The cost of the Registration Fees shall be confirmed by DSNZ six (6) months before the NZDG.

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2.6.3.2. Registration Fees shall be paid to the HC with the Final Registration Forms, two (2) months before the NZDG.

2.6.3.3. Registration Fees shall be paid by:

2.6.3.3.1. Athletes

2.6.4. Team Sports

2.6.4.1. Preliminary Entry Forms must be submitted to NZDG Administrator three (3) months before the NZDG.

2.6.4.2. Final Registration Forms with names of each athlete must be submitted to the NZDG Administrator two (2) months before the NZDG.

2.6.4.3. A withdrawal penalty is levied for withdrawal of a team after the Final Registration deadline. The amount of this fine is to be determined by the DSNZ Executive Board.

2.6.4.3.1. The penalty shall be payable to the Host Committee.

2.6.5. Individual Sports

2.6.5.1. Preliminary Entry Forms must be submitted to NZDG Administrator three (3) months before the NZDG.

2.6.5.2. Final Registration Forms with names of each athlete must be submitted to the NZDG Administrator two (2) months before the NZDG.

2.6.5.3. A withdrawal penalty is levied on each non-starting athlete with the exception of:

2.6.5.3.1. a doctor's certificate stating that the athlete is unable to compete,

2.6.5.3.2. personal grievance, by letter,

2.6.5.3.3. or any other exceptional circumstances that may arise.

2.6.5.4. Overseas competitors may compete in the Individual Events.

2.6.6. Prizes and Awards

2.6.6.1. In each Team Sport a certificate shall be awarded to each member of the winning, and runner-up teams.

2.6.6.2. For each Individual Sporting Event, a certificate shall be presented to the winner/winners plus any prizes.

2.6.6.3. Additional prizes for each Sporting Event may be awarded at the discretion of the HC.

2.7. Identity Cards

2.7.1. The NZDG Administrator must provide identity cards for the following:

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- Life Members
- Each Athlete, Coach and Team Manager
- DSNZ President
- NZDG Administrator
- Host Committee
- Interpreters
- Host Volunteers
- Other Officials arranged by Host and/or DSNZ

2.7.2. The identity card shall include the following details:

- Surname/family name
- Given name
- Zone
- Sport
- NZDG Logo with Host City and Year

2.7.3. The identity card authorises entry to all sites where the competitions are held. Without the identity card no start or admission will be allowed.

2.8. Uniforms

2.8.1. Each Interzone Competition team shall wear the team colours as defined on the submitted Final Registration form.

2.8.2. All Uniforms shall display the Regional Zone Crest that they are representing.

2.8.3. That notice is given to all teams that all players wear proper team uniform. Referees shall have the power to refuse any incorrectly attired players to play any match.

2.9. Control and Sanctions

2.9.1. All athletes, officials, and spectators must respect the DSNZ Code of Conduct at all times. The Host Committee will be responsible during the NZDG for any disorderly behaviour etc.

2.9.2. Any Individual or Team may be disqualified for the misuse of drugs.

2.9.3. A Team Manager shall not be allowed to act as an official in any sports event.

2.9.4. Each Zone Team Manager is responsible for looking after their Team while travelling to and from the Games and accommodation, and for the duration of the Games.

2.10. Technical Directors

2.10.1. A Technical Director (TD) shall be appointed for each sport at the NZDG.

2.10.1.1. TDs for Interzone Competitions shall be appointed by the sports' National Associate Member organisation.

2.10.1.2. TDs for Social Grade Competitions shall be appointed by the HC.

2.10.2. The TD shall make public the playing rules at least 3 months before the NZDG.

2.10.3. The TD shall make themselves available for the full day on days of competition.

2.10.4. The TD will be responsible for collecting all the results, and sharing these results with the NZDG Media Team at the close of each day.

2.10.5. Technical Director meeting

2.10.5.1. HC must arrange TD meetings for each sport before the start of competition to clarify official programme entries, equipment, etc.

2.10.5.1.1. The TD, HA and up to two representatives from each team will attend the TD meetings.

2.10.5.1.2. A draw for competitions may take place during the TD meetings.

2.11. Authority and Jurisdiction (Referees, Umpires and other Officials)

2.11.1. For each sport the TD shall be responsible for notifying Referees, Umpires and other Officials of the Rules in the NZDG ByLaws.

2.11.2. The HC shall work with the TDs to organise Referees, Umpires, and other such officials for each sport.

2.11.2.1. The HC must bear the cost of expenses for such officials.

2.11.3. The NZDG Administrator shall be notified of the names and sports of these officials 3 months before the NZDG.

2.11.4. The HC shall have the complete responsibility for the allocation of these officials who must not have other tasks during the Games.

2.11.5. The NZDG Administrator or DSNZ Executive Board constitutes the supreme authority, which will decide in the last resort all disputes relating to the Games on appeal by the HC or the participating Zone Club.

2.11.6. The competition rules for each sport are those of the National or International Federations concerned, modified by regulations for transferring auditory cues to visual cues.

2.11.6.1. Protests and Appeals (Disputes)

- 2.11.6.1.1. Protests made to ground judges in matters of competition are judged by them without appeal, unless a protest has been made in writing no later than one hour after the results of the competition have been declared.
- 2.11.6.1.2. Appeals against decisions of an official can be made to the NZDG Administrator with a deposit of \$50.00.
- 2.11.6.1.3. An appeal against the decision of the jury can be addressed by an official of the protesting delegation to the Jury of Appeal of the games within two hours after the decision of the first jury has been declared.
- 2.11.6.1.4. A Jury of Appeal has three members. One of the three is the NZDG Administrator, one is appointed by the NZDG Administrator and the remaining one by the HC.
- 2.11.6.1.5. If a protest is accepted the deposit is to be returned to the protesting delegation.
- 2.11.6.1.6. Appeals regarding hearing ability, sex, drugs, of an athlete are solely the jurisdiction of the NZDG Administrator in consultation with the DSNZ Executive Board.
- 2.11.6.1.7. In the event of a protest, a qualified NZSL Interpreter must be present if required.

2.12. Publications

2.12.1. Intellectual Property

- 2.12.1.1. The NZDG Logo and the DSNZ Logo are the intellectual property of DSNZ.
- 2.12.1.2. All publications, video, official documents, reports of the NZDG, including merchandise for sale to the public must show the DSNZ and NZDG logo on a prominent and visible location.
- 2.12.1.3. The NZDG and DSNZ Design Guidelines must be adhered to.

2.12.2. Promotion

- 2.12.2.1. A poster design must be submitted to DSNZ 12 months before the NZDG for approval.
- 2.12.2.2. The poster must have the DSNZ and NZDG logo in a prominent position.

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- 2.12.2.3. Promotional material may be advertised in, but not limited to Social Media, the DSNZ website, and Deaf Club or Society Newsletters.

2.12.3. Competition Results

- 2.12.3.1. The HC is responsible to establish a NZDG Media Team which includes reporting, photography and results of the events of the NZDG and passed onto the NZDG Administrator at the close of each day.
- 2.12.3.2. The HC is responsible to give the copies of the results of the NZDG to the NZDG Administrator to keep on file.
- 2.12.3.3. The NZDG Media Team will be responsible for publishing the results of the NZDG via Social Media and the website immediately, and through local Deaf Club Newsletters within one month.
- 2.12.3.4. All results will be printed by the NZDG Administrator and distributed to all National Associate Members, and Deaf Clubs or Societies within one month.

2.12.4. Report

- 2.12.4.1. After the closing of the games, the HC must present a final audited financial statement to the NZDG Administrator within twelve (12) months to be approved at the next General Meeting.
- 2.12.4.2. After the closing of the games, the HC must present within a written report about the said NZDG.
 - 2.12.4.2.1. This report will be shared with the next host for the NZDG, and shall be used as a learning tool.

2.13. Venues

- 2.13.1. The HC shall work with the TDs to book venues for each sport.
 - 2.13.1.1. The venues for each sport shall be tentatively booked at least six (6) months, and confirmed at least three (3) months before the NZDG.
 - 2.13.1.2. The HC shall be responsible for the cost of expenses for such venues.
- 2.13.2. The HC shall consider having a NZDG Hub as a meeting place and information centre.

2.14. Games Personnel and Support

- 2.14.1. The HC should arrange a pool of volunteers to help in different sports as arranged. These volunteers shall be but not limited to - e.g. - Door person, refreshments, hall/field facilities, safety of visitors and players.
- 2.14.2. The HC shall make available a pool of qualified interpreters.

2.15. Miscellaneous

- 2.15.1. In the event of circumstances not covered in these regulations, the DSNZ Constitution and by-laws shall be referenced, and where appropriate, the International Sport Federation Regulations and the Olympic Charter shall be followed.