



RULES for
**SUPERCHAMPS NATIONAL GRADED CLUB
CHAMPIONSHIPS**
2015



INCLUDING:
Graded Teams Superchamps District Eliminations
Graded Teams Superchamps National Finals

1 COMPETITION FORMAT

For the Graded Teams Competitions, teams will consist of five players from the same club, who are of the same or a lower grade, who will compete against other teams of the same grade.

Each district will hold *Superchamps District Eliminations* to find the best club team within their district at each grade of B, C, D, E and F/J. These winning teams will then go on to the *Superchamps National Finals* where they will represent both their club and their district.

2 CLUB ELIGIBILITY

Any club affiliated to Squash NZ can compete in the competitions provided all of its team members are eligible to play for the club, in accordance with the player eligibility rules below.

3 TEAM ELIGIBILITY

For the *Superchamps District Eliminations*, any club team which fulfills the requirements of 2 and 4 herein, and any criteria imposed by their home district is eligible to enter.

For the *Superchamps National Finals*, the winning team at each grade in the *Superchamps District Eliminations* is entitled to enter so that each district is represented at each grade by their best club team at that grade. If the winning team in a grade is unable to enter, their place will be offered to the runner-up, and then the third placed team, and so on.

4 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

In order to represent a club, a player must be:

- **A full financial member of the club they are representing**
- **Registered on their club's grading list in the appropriate (or a lower) grade as of eight weeks before the first day of the Suggested Weekend for Superchamps District Eliminations (or the closest working day in the event of a weekend/public holiday). In 2015 this date is 29 May.**

Squash New Zealand will run a grading list as at 29 May. Each district will be emailed their respective grading list for checking player eligibility and grading.

Please note – to appear on the 29 May grading list for a particular club, players will need to have been moved to that club NO LATER THAN 28 May (in order to appear on the 29 May grading list run), although preferably earlier. CHECK WITH YOUR DISTRICT FOR LOCAL TRANSFER DEADLINES.

NB: Squash NZ reserves the right to alter grade eligibility and seedings should there be evidence of withholding or manipulating results. Note that only results from club or district sanctioned events will be considered for grading purposes. Where there is evidence of individual results being entered to manipulate the grading list those results will be deleted.

Squash NZ reserves the right to apply dispensations to individual players in respect of rule 4.

Clubs must register their players with their district for the *Superchamps District Eliminations* by their district's publicized closing date.

The winning teams from the *Superchamps District Eliminations*, who wish to compete in the *Superchamps National Finals*, must send a completed entry form to their district within 48 hours following the end of the *Superchamps District Eliminations*. Their district will then pass this on to the host club of the *National Final* for that grade as soon as possible.

4A REFEREEING QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

All players will be required to have passed the Club Referee qualification (available on the Squash New Zealand website). The qualification is valid for two years. The National Office will verify with the Referee Director that all players in teams representing their district have gained this qualification. Any matches played at Superchamps National Finals by players that have not passed this test will count as 3/0 losses for their team, with grading points lost.

It is the responsibility of the player to ensure this test is submitted to the National Referee Director *with enough time to be marked before Superchamps National Finals*.

5 ENTRIES

Entries for the *Superchamps District Eliminations* will be called for by each home district. Each club should return their entry to their home district by the specified date.

Entries for the *Superchamps National Finals* should be sent by each district to the *Superchamps National Finals* host club immediately after the *Superchamps District Eliminations* are over. The host clubs will vary from year to year.

No late entries will be accepted.

All entries must be accompanied by the appropriate fee.

All team entries must be submitted on the correct form and in playing order. Teams will have ONE opportunity to alter their team or playing order to reflect current form, after the 1 September grading list has been published. Any alterations to the team or playing order must be submitted to the host club tournament director by 8 September. Teams should be aware that some order changes may be necessitated by half-grade changes following the 1 September grading list to satisfy rule 6(a).

6 TEAM PLAYING ORDER

The playing order of the team members, including up to two reserves, must be submitted at the time of official entry. The playing order cannot be changed after it has been submitted, other than where necessitated by half-grade changes following the 1 September grading list.

- a) In Grades B-E the order shall be such that a player can not play above another player graded higher (e.g. B2 cannot play above B1) but within each half grade players must be submitted in order of **playing strength** (e.g. a B2 with 2850 points may play above a B2 with 2900 points). In the F/J Grade competition all players shall play in grading points order (from highest to lowest grading points) as at the **1 September** grading list.
- b) In determining the Playing Order, all gradings shall be taken from the **29 May** grading list for Superchamps District Eliminations and the **1 September** grading list for the Superchamps National Finals. Squash New Zealand will post these lists on its website.

Winning clubs from District Elimination must submit their teams in playing order at the time of entry. Following the 1 September grading list, they will have one opportunity to alter their team and/or playing order to reflect current form. Some playing order changes may be necessitated to satisfy rule 6(a) if a player has moved up or down a half grade.

Any grading changes that occur **after** the 1 September grading list will not be taken into account for final team orders.

NB: Squash NZ reserves the right to alter playing order and seedings should there be evidence of withholding results.

- c) All team orders shall be circulated to all other team managers (by email) 7 days prior to the commencement of the competition.
- d) Any team needing to substitute players in/out of its team shall make application in writing (by email) to the Tournament Director no later than 5.00pm on Friday preceding the competition. Where substitutions are accepted, the Tournament Director will make the final call on **where** the introduced player(s) appear in the team playing order – based primarily on grading points. Should this have a major implication on the seeding, it will be necessary for changes to be made.
- e) The Tournament Director will rule on all substitutions, and his/her decision shall be notified to all team managers by Monday prior to the start of the competition. His/her decision is final.
- f) A player who has been substituted out of the team cannot be substituted back in at a later stage.
- g) Any changes to team composition occurring after 1 September that are NOT substitutions may only occur with the unanimous permission of the other teams in the competition.
- h) Prior to the Managers' meeting, the Tournament Director will make a final check of the team compositions from the 1 September grading list. Final ratification of all teams and playing orders will take place at the Managers' meeting.
- i) The team orders confirmed by the Tournament Director shall apply for all rounds of the competition.

7 DAILY ORDER OF MATCH PLAY

The daily order of match play shall be drawn by lots, except that the match between each team's number one shall be the third match in each contest.

A separate order of play shall be made for each day's play.

The order of play for the first day will be made by the host club's Tournament Director prior to the start of the competition and will be notified to participating teams on or before Monday prior to the start of the competition.

The order of play for subsequent days will be drawn at the managers' meeting prior to commencement of the competition.

Players must be on court ready to warm up no more than ten minutes following the conclusion of the previous match, or the appointed start time of the tie. Failure to do this will result in the match being defaulted if a complaint is made to the Disputes Committee by the opposing team.

8 SUBMISSION OF TEAMS

The teams for the first round must be placed in a sealed envelope in playing order and handed to the Tournament Director at least one hour prior to the start of play.

Teams for each subsequent round must be placed in a sealed envelope in playing order and handed to the Tournament Director within half an hour of the finish of play in the preceding round. *This applies also to teams that have a bye in any round of the competition.*

9 RESERVES

All teams can consist of up to seven players of which five will be nominated to play in any one round of the competition.

In any round, two players from the pool of seven will be stood down and the remaining players will play in the order nominated under 6 above.

10 REPLACEMENT PLAYERS

At any time after the submission of teams pursuant to 8 above, and prior to commencement of play in any one tie of the competition, a player may be replaced by another nominated team member at the discretion of the Disputes Committee.

Such replacements will only be granted in the case of illness or injury (medical report or other such evidence required), or urgent personal business, that prevents the player from taking part in the tie after having been named in the team after the previous round. The Disputes Committee will have the final say on whether the illness/injury/personal business justifies a replacement being permitted.

Replacements may only be from other nominated team members or reserves and the replacement must take their place in the team in the order in which they were nominated. (See 6 above).

After the commencement of any one tie of the competition, replacements for that tie are not permitted.

Replacements from outside of the nominated team members may only be permitted by the Disputes Committee where, due to injury or urgent personal business, a team has less than five players able to play for any particular round. Matches played by replacements from outside of the nominated team members will count as automatic losses for the team, although may count for personal grading points if both players agree.

11 DEFAULTS

When a team defaults a match within any one tie of the competition, and is unable to field a replacement under 10 above, the default will apply to the No. 5 position with all other players moving up to play the matches from 1 to 4.

If the tie has already commenced (meaning a replacement player is not permitted) and players cannot move up to play the matches from 1 to 4, the default will apply to the position the defaulted player was named in (in 8 above), with all players remaining in their named positions.

12 SEEDING

The *Superchamps District Eliminations* will be seeded by each District, according to the sum of the top five players' grading points taken from the 29 May Grading List.

The *Superchamps National Finals* will be seeded by the host club Tournament Director according to the sum of the top five players' grading points taken from the 1 September Grading List.

13 EVENT FORMAT

Graded Teams Events will be played on a pool basis, depending upon the number of entries.

Eleven Districts Entered

Should all districts enter, the *Superchamps National Finals* will be played on a pool basis as follows:

Pool A	1 4 5 8 9
Pool B	2 3 6 7 10 11

Ten Districts Entered

Should ten districts enter, the *Superchamps National Finals* will be played on a pool basis as follows:

Pool A	1 4 5 8 9
Pool B	2 3 6 7 10

Nine Districts Entered

If nine districts enter the *Superchamps National Finals*, Squash New Zealand will invite one more team to bring the number of participating teams to ten (as per the ***Protocol for***

Inviting Additional Teams), and run in the format outlined above. Should this not be possible the event shall be run with nine teams as per the following format:

Pool A	1 6 7
Pool B	2 5 8
Pool C	3 4 9

After the completion of pool play, the three teams that finish first, second and third in their respective pools will form a new pool and play each other to find final placings.

Eight districts Entered

If eight districts enter the *Superchamps National Finals* for any one grade, Squash New Zealand will invite two more teams (*as per the Protocol for Inviting Additional Teams*) to bring the number of participating teams to ten. Should this not be possible the event shall be run with eight teams as per the following format (passed by remit at the 2002 Annual General Meeting).

The *Superchamps National Finals* will be played on a pool basis as follows:

Pool A	1 4 5 8
Pool B	2 3 6 7

In pool play, each team will play the other teams in their pool once with each tie consisting of five matches - with team members playing their correspondingly ranked member of the opposing team once. This pool play should be completed by the end of Thursday.

On Friday the second round of play will be played as follows:

Winner of Pool A v Runner up of Pool B - **Match A**

Winner of Pool B v Runner up of Pool A - **Match B**

Third place getter of Pool A v Fourth place getter of Pool B - **Match C**

Third place getter of Pool B v Fourth place getter of Pool A - **Match D**

The finals day (Saturday) playoff will be determined as follows:

1st & 2nd Place

Winner of Match A v Winner of Match B

3rd & 4th Place

Loser of Match A v Loser of Match B

5th & 6th Place

Winner of Match C v Winner of Match D

7th & 8th Place

Loser of Match C v Loser of Match D

Seven Districts Entered

Where four districts are unrepresented at the *Superchamps National Finals* for any one grade, Squash New Zealand will invite additional teams (*as per the Protocol for Inviting Additional Teams*) and the event will be run with either eight or ten teams. If further teams cannot be invited, the *Superchamps National Finals* will be played on a pool basis as follows:

Pool A	1 4 5
Pool B	2 3 6 7

In pool play, each team will play the other teams in their pool once with each tie consisting of five matches - with team members playing their correspondingly ranked member of the opposing team once. This pool play should be completed by the end of Thursday.

On Friday the second round of play will be played as follows:

Winner of Pool A v Runner up of Pool B - **Match A**

Winner of Pool B v Runner up of Pool A - **Match B**

Third place getter of Pool A, third place getter of Pool B and fourth place getter of Pool A form a pool and play each other to determine minor placings.

The finals day (Saturday) playoff will be determined as follows:

1st & 2nd Place

Winner of Match A v Winner of Match B

3rd & 4th Place

Loser of Match A v Loser of Match B

5th, 6th & 7th Place

Final pool play matches played to determine placings.

Six or Fewer Districts Entered

Where fewer than seven teams enter the *Superchamps National Finals*, Squash New Zealand will invite additional teams (as per the ***Protocol for Inviting Additional Teams***). Where final entry numbers are six or lower, a single pool round-robin format will be used.

Protocol for Inviting Additional Teams

In any one grade, if two of the teams winning the *Superchamps District Eliminations* are unable to participate in the *Superchamps National Finals*; the event will be run with ten teams and their places shall be offered to the following teams in merit order:

1. Host district runner up at that grade
2. Neighbouring district runner up at that grade
3. Host district number three at that grade
4. Neighbouring district number three at that grade
5. Host district number four and so on.

General

The teams in each pool together with their team orders will be circulated 7 days prior to the commencement of the competition.

In pool play, each team will play the other teams in their pool once with each tie consisting of five matches - with team members playing their correspondingly ranked member of the opposing team once.

All matches in pool play must be played.

The final playoff round shall consist of the top placed team in each pool playing one another, the second placed teams playing one another etc.

14 SCORING

For grades C and below each individual match (both in District Eliminations and National Finals) shall be the best of five games with PAR to 15 (must win by 2). For B Grade each individual match (both in District Eliminations and National Finals) shall be the best of five games with PAR to 11 (must win by 2).

Each tie shall consist of five matches and the team winning the most matches shall win the tie.

One competition point will be allocated for each tie won.

The team winning the most competition points shall win the round.

When teams play one another in a Pool, the final order of merit in that Pool is decided based on all results in that Pool, as follows:

- a) First by greater number of Ties won;
- b) If two teams have won the same number of ties then by the result between those two teams.
- c) If three or more teams have won the same number of Ties, then teams will be ordered based upon the number of matches won *in the ties between those three teams only*;
- d) If two teams are still equal i.e. have won the same number of ties and matches, then by the result between those two teams.
- e) If three or more teams still equal i.e. have won the same number of ties and matches, then by greater positive difference between games won and lost *in ties between those three teams*;
- f) If two teams are still equal after positive difference between games won, then by the result between those two teams.
- g) If three or more teams are still equal, then by greater positive difference between points won and lost *in ties between those three teams*;
- h) If two teams are still equal, then by the result between those two teams.
- i) If more than two teams are still equal, then by random drawing of places.

15 RESULTS

The host club Tournament Director is required to display the full match scores throughout the event and to forward these to the Squash NZ national office immediately after the event concludes. The "Teams Result Sheets" provided should be used.

These results will be communicated to the media and copies of the full results will be available for participants from the Squash NZ national office 7 days after the end of the event.

The host club is required to enter the results into the iSquash Grading List within five days of the event's conclusion.

16 MANAGERS' MEETING

A Managers' Meeting must be held at least one hour prior to the commencement of the first round of play. This meeting may be used as a forum to make alterations to playing orders/personnel IF proposed changes receive unanimous approval from ALL managers. If there is any opposition to proposed changes, they may not occur.

The Tournament Director will chair the meeting.

17 DISPUTES COMMITTEE

The Disputes Committee shall consist of the Tournament Director, the Tournament Referee and one other suitable person (or, where the Tournament Director *is* the Tournament Referee, two other suitable persons). The Disputes Committee shall rule on any protests made by teams/players about the Superchamps National Club Graded Championship Rules. Their decision will be final.

18 TROPHIES

Trophies for the *Superchamps District Eliminations* will be awarded by the district associations.

Squash New Zealand will provide pennants and trophies for the following places for the *Superchamps National Finals*:

Graded Teams Finals winning team B grade men	Davis Trophy
Graded Teams Finals winning team B grade women	Bouchier Cup
Graded Teams Finals winning team C grade men	Royal Oak Shield
Graded Teams Finals winning team C grade women	Hawkes Bay Shield
Graded Teams Finals winning team D grade men	Tawa Cup
Graded Teams Finals winning team D grade women	Tawa Cup
Graded Teams Finals winning team E grade men	Southern Cup
Graded Teams Finals winning team E grade women	Bay of Plenty Cup
Graded Teams Finals winning team F/J grade men	Cashmere Club Cup
Graded Teams Finals winning team F/J grade women	Lancaster Park Cup