

WPA Tournament Sub-Committee Report Interclub 2018

At the WPA committee meeting of 4th May 2017 the clubs present voted that the interclub competition would be run on 27th January and consist of teams of 4. The tournament sub-committee was to work out a suitable format.

The only viable format to run an interclub with teams of four was to have each club team consist of 2 doubles teams. Clubs would play against each other in a Swiss draw format with the first round to be drawn by each team drawing a number. This determined their starting position and who they played in the first round. Subsequent rounds were decided by results (wins, draws or losses) in the previous round.

Each club was invited to enter more than one team. The first team of each club would be automatically placed in the first division competition and any further entries would make up the second (and subsequent) divisions as required.

All WPA affiliated clubs with the exception of Khandallah and Wanganui East entered at least one team. Entries were as follows:

First Division:

Hataitai
Horowhenua
Kapiti
Manawatu
Masterton
Naenae
Otaki
Silverstream
Upper Hutt

Second Division:

Horowhenua
Kapiti Pink
Kapiti Blue
Manawatu Green
Manawatu Red
Manawatu White
Otaki
Upper Hutt Blue
Upper Hutt Red

Unfortunately with 9 clubs entering (particularly in the first division) this resulted in a bye. With the intention that the first division be a "true" interclub with each club represented there was no other alternative to having a bye. There was no fair way of reducing the division to 8 teams and likewise there was no fair way to

bring up a team from division 2 as this would give the club with 2 teams an advantage. Also, how would you decide on which club was entitled to 2 teams in division one?

As stated earlier, a club team consisted of 4 players playing in 2 doubles combinations. However, each club team could have extra players named on the entry form and could swap players after each round but not during a round. This allowed for clubs who could only find 4 players to enter and it also allowed clubs with 6 players wanting to play also enter a team. It also took into account clubs with players who felt they couldn't (for whatever reason) play the whole day.

Clubs could not however swap players between divisions.

The day started with a briefing for all players on the format. This was followed by a briefing for team captains only to explain the scoring requirements.

Games were played over a time of 60 minutes plus one end.

Each doubles win in a round was worth 1 point. Therefore a "club" team could gain a maximum of 2 points per round.

The draw was done manually after each round. Winners would play winners and losers play losers and teams that had drawn their matches in the previous round were also matched or near results. Teams could only have the bye once and also no teams played each other more than once. This seemed to work well and I thank Colleen Horton for her assistance in compiling the draw after each round.

The competition was completed by about 4.30 in the afternoon.

Observations:

It was a very hot day but most players seemed to manage the heat well. Teams with substitutes available were probably able to handle the heat more than others. In future I would recommend 50 minute plus one end. Not just because of the heat factor but because it would allow for a slightly earlier finish to the day. Using the Swiss draw means it takes a bit longer between rounds while the next round is calculated.

There were a lot of players involved in the day which was great to see and many new players were taking part and also many players who have not been seen on the terrain for a long while were there.

One of the things evident was the need to better be able to identify team members so that players can more easily find their opponents. Piste allocation would assist in achieving this.

Some of the comments that were made to me were that players in general enjoyed the day and the format. Maybe playing later in the day and into early

evening or even more into the autumn would help with the heat situation but we never know what weather we will be given.

The final results were:

Division One:

First	Horowhenua on 8 points
Second	Kapiti on 7 points
Third	Silverstream on 6 points
Fourth	Otaki on 5 points
Fifth	Masterton on 4 points
Sixth	Hataitai on 3 points
Seventh equal	Naenae and Upper Hutt on 2 points
Ninth	Manawatu on 1 point

Division Two:

First Equal	Kapiti Pink and Kapiti Blue on 8 points
Third	Manawatu Red on 6 points
Fourth	Upper Hutt Red on 5 points
Fifth equal	Manawatu Green and Otaki on 4 points
Seventh	Horowhenua on 3 points
Eight	Manawatu White on 2 points
Ninth	Upper Hutt Blue on 1 point

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