

# Newcastle Oztag Sports Association



## CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Thank you for reading our registration kit for our Competition. We supply this kit so that delegates receive all relevant information. Please read all pages carefully as they all make up part of the rules and regulations of the Newcastle Oztag Association. Please assist us in our efforts to administer the competition in an efficient and professional manner.

Newcastle Oztag Association will handle all administrative matters concerning the competition and referees, all queries should be directed to the Competition Co-ordinator for clarification or further assistance.

Development Officers: Jo and Brett Howard

## TEAM DELEGATE DUTIES

- **The delegate is the person who registers the team and indicates online that they are the organiser of the team.** Any questions regarding change of registrations/swaps etc due to pregnancy, illness or working away you must contact Newcastle Oztag to discuss your options.
- They are the only person allowed to ask questions to the Referee in a respectful manner.
- They should check the score with the referee at the end of the game and sign the card.
- DO NOT sign the score card if you disagree with the score, come and see us at the canteen.
- If someone else has the role of captain during a game please notify the Referee.
- The delegate is responsible for all actions of their players and their spectators. If a player or spectator does not follow the instructions of the Referee it is the delegates responsibility to ensure they do.
- The Delegate may be dismissed by the Referee to deal with any players/spectators.
- Any suspensions given to unregistered players or will be borne by the delegate in attendance at the game in question. Should the delegate not be in attendance at the game, or is a non playing organiser, the penalty will fall to either the captain or another person in the team (the committee will decide this)

## REGISTERING A TEAM & POLICIES

If you wish to register a team please view the competition tab on our website for a step by step guide and link to register.

Please make sure you have the 10 players registered to secure your team before the cut of date. Any player needs to be paid online before they play in rd 1. **No late regos.**

All teams entering Newcastle Oztag competition will be at the discretion of Newcastle Oztag committee.

After round 4, there is **NO** refund and **NO** replacement of registration to any player, regardless of circumstances. Any player found playing that has not paid their registration fee in the team they are playing in, **penalties will apply.**

Prior to each player paying online they **MUST** read the accompanying sheet that lists the insurance details.

Players must be 15 years old before they can register and play in an adult team.

Team delegates can access sports fix to see who has paid in their team.

**If you have played previous seasons that does not mean your team is guaranteed a spot in the next season.**

If you have any problems finding extra players, understanding any of the supplied information or filling in the forms then please contact us on 0418 440 319. If you have problems contacting us please leave a message and we will get back to you ASAP.

## REGISTRATION FEES

### Player Registration Fee:

Summer Competition \$110 PP *(includes gst)*

Winter Competition \$110 PP *(includes gst)*

**3rd team discount:** \$50 PP (paid at the canteen, not online)

**Bank Details:** *(only used if Newcastle Oztag has been contacted and you cannot use the online system)*

**Account name:** Newcastle Oztag Association Inc.

**BSB:** 637 000

**Account Number:** 781174769

(Team name and full name as ref)

## COMPETITION DATES We reserve the right to alter these dates and length of competition if required.

**Summer Competition:** 10 rounds plus finals ( 2 washout rounds allocated)

**Venue & Start month:** Smith Park Broadmeadow. Starting end of OCT every year.

**Winter Competition:** 10 rounds plus finals ( 2 washout rounds allocated)

**Venue & Start month:** Waratah Ovals Waratah ( Starting in April/May every year.

**Players may register to play in multiple teams under the following conditions:**

- We offer no guarantee the games will not clash times.
- The players can only switch teams at half time if the teams play at the same time.
- Players must be in correct uniform for each team.
- It is the PLAYERS responsibility to contact Newcastle Oztag to advise us that they are playing in multiple teams and if both teams make finals. We will make every eort to avoid clash of times during finals.

*The registration of any player into multiple teams is at the discretion of the committee.*

## GRADING/REGRADING

**Guidelines considered during initial grading:**

- Past performance of the team. Players in a team (rep, experienced)
- Oztag experience (new players/team) Number of teams in a division.
- Team requests.
- Potential player/referee clashes.
- Field availability.
- Our knowledge of teams.

**Guidelines considered when regrading teams:**

- We have the right to regrade teams up until round 5 once most teams in the competition have played each other once. The committee reserves the right to regrade a team earlier than this should they deem it necessary.
- How many games have been played and against what teams have these games been played?
- How many players did teams have playing on a particular night?
- How many players did the opposition team have?
- How is the whole division performing?
- Do other teams in the division needing regrading?
- What are the for/against figures?
- Do teams in higher/lower divisions require regrading and can be switched?
- Do the teams have a history of poor performance and then much improved performance once regarded?

**A grade and rep players:**

- Under no circumstances will any representative or A grade player be permitted to be added to a lower grade team if they don't commence the season with that team. This is deemed as being unfair to lower grade teams and the grading process.
- This decision by the Committee is final and cannot be appealed against.
- Please ensure you have your team organised to avoid any issues.

## GAME TIMES & LENGTH

(Newcastle Oztag has the right to alter these times as required)

**Game times are 30 minutes in total with 15 minute halves.**

**Summer competition time slots:** 545pm, 620pm, 655pm.

**Winter competition time slots:** 6pm, 635pm, 710pm, 8pm.

## FORFEITS & ABANDONED GAMES

- Teams require 5 players to take the field and have 5 minutes before a game is declared a forfeit.
  - Team delegates **must** notify Newcastle Oztag If they cannot field a team.
  - Teams who forfeit a game without notice will be deducted -5 points for the forfeit.
  - If notified before 4pm of the game day, the team will incur 0 points.
  - If a team does not show for a game without notifying Newcastle Oztag -5 points is deducted.
  - After 2 forfeits the team may be dismissed from the competition, **NO** refunds will be issued.
  - If you are having problems with player numbers please email the committee Newcastle@oztag.com, we may be able to assist you.
  - If teams forfeit semi finals they will **NOT** be eligible for finals.
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- If a team falls below five players due to injuries or (period of time in sin bin) they may continue the game. If they choose not to continue they will lose the game as a forfeit and receive 0 points.
  - If a team falls below five players because of players dismissed for the remainder of the game the non-offending team shall be declared the winner. The offending team will be given 0 points and the non-offending team will be given 3 points and either a 5-0 win or the score at the cessation of the game, whichever is the greatest advantage to them.
  - If the referee abandons a game the committee will decide the result at a later date.
  - If a game cannot continue due to a bad injury/incident, the team leading at that time will win the game.

## POINTS SYSTEM/FINALS SERIES

WIN	LOSS	DRAW	BYE	FORFEIT
3 Points	1 point	2 points	3 points	<b>Forfeited team:</b> -5 points and 0 points. <b>Team forfeited against:</b> Receive the win 3 points and 5 tries, 0 against.

**Finals series:** 1st v 4th and 2nd v 3rd (Winners through to grand final)

**Draw in final series:** Teams will go straight to golden point and first team to score wins the game

## SIGNING ON

Teams must supply all players correct shirt numbers on sports fix prior to start of competition. Failure to do so will result in a game not being recorded for that player, which may affect qualifications for finals (5 games need to be played prior to finals to qualify)

Sign on sheets will be removed at the start of the second half and the next time slots sheets will be put up at the sign on boards. Players **MUST** sign on for themselves before the game or at half time of the game.

Players must sign on for themselves only, penalties apply if players are signing on for others.

## UNREGISTERED PLAYERS & INFRINGEMENTS

Only players registered in a team may play for that team **ONLY**. Penalties for teams playing players not registered in their team will be severe.

If an unregistered player takes part in a game (no matter the length of time) or attempts to by pretending to be someone else or signing on for someone else, that is deemed unregistered.

If a player plays in multiple teams the suspension will be enforced on one of the sides that the player plays in on the night of infringement. If more than one player is caught playing unregistered in one side, the rule applies for all. The suspension will carry over to the next competition the player plays in. Any player that is suspended for any length of time will **NOT** receive a refund.

You as a delegate must make sure everyone is aware of the rule and never assume that all your players are registered, especially late players.

If you are found to have unregistered players in the semis/finals your team will be disqualified.

OFFENCE	PENALTY
Sign on sheet	Example: If you have 8 players played and only 6 sign on. Loss of 2 competition points.
Playing or attempting to play unregistered players that are not registered in your team.	6 weeks to the player and a loss of 6 competition points.
Playing a player or attempting to play a player not registered at Newcastle Oztag in ANY team.	Loss of 8 competition points.
	<b>Correct team shirt with no number:</b> Stamp given from canteen before taking the field, the player can still play but they cannot score.

Incorrect Shirt	<p><b>Incorrect shirt (no number, completely different):</b> Stamp given from canteen before taking the field, the player can still play but they cannot score. If this occurs for more than 2 weeks of play, your team will lose 1 point for infringements each week it is incorrect.</p> <p>If your shirt has been lost or damaged and you cannot source another one in time, the player must come to the canteen before they take the field to get a stamp to show the referee and they cannot score.</p>
No number on the shirt	Player cannot score. (Discretion of Newcastle Oztag Committee)

## Send offs - Periods of time - Fighting

A Referee may send you for a P.O.T, the duration of which is at the discretion of the referee. You must remove your tags and hand them to the referee and position yourself behind your opponents try line.

**Any player sent o for the duration of the game will incur one of the following below:**

- Reminder of the game being sufficient penalty.
- Automatic 2 week suspension. (only includes played games)
- If more severe it will be reviewed by Newcastle Oztag committee.

If you are in doubt with any of the above please get your captain to check with the referee after the game or the competition organisers.

### **FIGHTING - SEND OFF GRADING FOR JUNIORS & SENIORS**

GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3
Offence Classified as 1. Minimum of 2 games.	Offence classified as 2. A minimum suspension of 3 games	Offence classified as 3. A minimum of 5 weeks suspension.
Not obeying referees instructions.	Fighting (pushing/ shoving) physical contact.	Fighting (punches connect) with physical contact.
Being sinbinned more than twice during a match.	Continued back chat or arguing with the referee during the match.	The player commits common assault (pushes or touches anyone)
Using oensive or obscene language to other players or the referee.	Unprofessional and oensive behaviour.	Abusing/ Dissent an Oztag Referee during a match about decisions.

Continually impedes or obstructs an opponent who is not in possession of the ball continued professional foul.	Deliberate tripping.	Second appearance in one competition, this is the min suspension.
	Abuse towards the organisers of Newcastle Oztag.	

GRADE 4	GRADE 5
<b>Offence classified as 4. A minimum of 8 weeks suspension</b>	Offence classified as 5. A minimum suspension of one comp or permanent behaviour that brings game into disrepute.
Unsportsman like behaviour that is contrary to the spirit of the game. assaults any person and causes actual body harm.	Assaults anyone to cause grievous bodily harm.
Attempting or actually head-butting.	Spitting on a person or referee associated with Oztag. Touching any Oztag Referee in any fashion.
Threaten or abuse oztag referee at the completion of the match.	To cause any armed person to fear for their safety. Who is associated with any player that is a repeat offender over 1 or 2 seasons will be graded 5.
Being the 2 <sup>nd</sup> person in during a fight and becoming involved.	
Any player suspended for any length of time will not receive any refund of their registration paid.	

If a player plays in more than one team on any night of the week and is suspended with grading 4 or 5 the suspension will be the committee decision.

We respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion. This applies to all incident gradings.

## COMPLAINTS

If you have any complaints please email us at [newcastle@oztag.com](mailto:newcastle@oztag.com) or see us on the night of the complaint in a rational and calm manner. Abusive or foul language to any staff will NOT be tolerated.

## Uniforms - Footwear - Jewellery

Shorts and Tights are available to purchase from our office on allocated short nights or times during the day sent to team delegates.

**UNIFORM:** It is the team delegates responsibility to ensure their team abides by the rules.

**Shorts and Tights:** \$35

**Sublimated shorts and Tights:** \$40

#### **Footwear**

- Shoes without screw in studs are to be worn by all players.
- Light leather or synthetic boots with soft moulded soles are permitted, providing individual studs are no longer than 1cm in length.
- No player is allowed on the field without footwear.

**Teams have up until round 2 to compile with the below uniform requirements:**

- Players must wear ocial Oztag shorts/tights or you cannot take the field.
- No league tag shorts are allowed.
- No shorts are loaned out (unless a faulty pair of shorts have been purchased)
- All players must be correctly attired in the teams uniform.
- Shirts must be tucked into shorts at all times.
- If wearing a jumper they must be worn under the team uniform and they must be tucked under the uniform.
- No swapping of uniform on the sideline is allowed.
- Players with incorrect shirts will receive a penalty (refer to penalty table above)
- Shirts must be the same design, colour and have iron on numbers or printed.
- Strictly NO Texta or tape numbers.
- Numbers must be no less than 16cm in height and clearly displayed.
- We suggest that all teams have a minimum of 2 extra uniforms in a regular size incase they get ripped or lost.

#### **Jewellery and fingernails**

- Players are not to participate in any match whilst wearing any item of jewellery that might prove dangerous.
- Long or sharp fingernails are to be trimmed or taped.
- Hard peak hats are to be worn backwards or hats are to be soft peak ocial oztag hats.
- Sungalsses/safety glasses cannot be worn.
- Prescription glasses may be worn at your own risk.

## **Alcohol**

Players are not permitted to consume alcohol at any time during a game they are participating in. This includes any time they may be o the field during the game or at half time of a game. Players observed consuming alcohol during a game they are participating in will not be permitted to continue participating in that game.

It is the delegates responsibility to ensure this rule is adhered to. Teams and players that ignore this rule may be subject to suspensions.

## **Wet Weather**

In an event of wet weather of field closure the Facebook page will be updated if games are cancelled due to weather.

Please do not contact before 2pm, or go to <https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/groundinfo> under menu, recreation, then sports ground closure.



Wet weather rounds are allocated to each competition (up to 2) and there will be NO refunds given for games varied or cancelled due to conditions outside of Newcastle Oztag's control. Eg weather, public health orders, council requirements.

**Newcastle Oztag reverses the right to:**

*Change field venues if fields are unplayable/closed for a number of weeks and N.C.C can allocate alternate fields. Games may be played any day of the week, including weekends. These may be single or multiple rounds.*

*If the fields are closed during finals, the finals will be pushed back into remaining spare weeks, if they have not already been used.*

*If there are no spare weeks available, finals series may be cancelled.*

*Grand finals will be attempted to be played on alternative days in the weeks leading up to next season.*

*If the grand finals are not completed at least 2 weeks prior to the next competition starting, joint premiers will be*

## Rule book

<https://oztag.com.au/ao/resources/rules/>

## First Aid

Newcastle Oztag provides a first aid ocer to attend injuries.

If you need strapping, bandaids etc please bring your own, as first aid supplies are for injuries only on the night.

**Please note the following:**

If there is an injury in your game you must notify us and the Referee, we cannot view all games and see all injuries. If you require treatment at your field get someone to come up to the canteen and we will attend your field.

If the first aid ocer believes an Ambulance is required they will ask the injured person if they would like an Ambulance called. If they do not want an Ambulance called we generally will not call one unless the player is suering a life threatening injury/illness.

## Insurance Forms and Reporting a Claim

Insurance forms must be completed correctly by all players and handed in at registration. It is critical that these forms are completed otherwise player's claims for injuries may be refused. Players should look at carrying their own insurance, as the Oztag Player Insurance Policy is limited.

We cannot accept forms if there are mistakes which are crossed out. You must fill in form correctly.

**IMPORTANT:** Please make sure you make a copy of your registration forms so you have correct information for the next season.

Your team can now purchase top up loss of income cover for \$110 (inc GST) per team. The standard insurance covers you for death (including permanent disability) and non-Medicare medicals (ie: Physio, dental etc), ***IT DOES NOT INCLUDE LOSS OF INCOME COVER.*** You can purchase this cover by completing the form available from the website under in the insurance tab.

The injured player must report any injury sustained whilst playing the game of Oztag to game officials or referee immediately.

## General and final word

While the competition is scheduled for 10 rounds, Oztag reserves the right to vary the length due to the circumstances that may arise. Newcastle Oztag is under no obligation to provide refunds if the competition length is shortened, or games cancelled, due to unforeseen circumstances such as weather events, or public health issues.

Remember, we are all here to have fun and enjoy the game. If in any doubt about any aspect of the game come and see a committee person. We are here to help you out and, as most people would know, we bend over backwards to ensure you get to play your games. But remember rules are in place for a reason, and at times we cannot be flexible with how the competition is run.

Respect the referee's and the job they are doing. Whether you agree with them or not, keep your opinions of the referees to yourself whilst playing the game. There is only 1 referee on the field and they make the the calls. Everyone else should keep quiet in regard to refereeing calls. We are quite happy to receive feedback about referee's but talk to a committee person and do so in a calm and respectful manner. Being abusive or derogatory will result in you being ignored and, in some circumstances, you may be suspended.

**Development Officers: Jo & Brett Howard Phone: 0418 440 319**

**Email: [newcastle@oztag.com](mailto:newcastle@oztag.com)**

**Website: [newcastle.oztag.com.au](http://newcastle.oztag.com.au)**

**Phone hours: 9:00am - 7:30pm Mon-Thurs 9:00-5:00pm**

**Office Unit 7/7 Revelation Close Tighes Hill Office open via appointment.**