

30 August, 2024

Kia ora Hockey Whānau,

Firstly, we've renamed the Board communication to Around The Boards – apt and fitting as we head into the busiest part of the season!

• IHNZ Merchandise:

Its here!!!!

We are delighted to release our fantastic new merchandise range of IHNZ developed on rink and off rink clothing - tees, hoodies, shorts, playing jerseys and pants all going live today!

All items are available for purchase via Esports – pictures and sizing charts are listed for each item and if you order by Friday 6 September, items are guaranteed to be available at Nationals for you to pick up!

Esports Gallery and Size Charts

You can check out the merchandise following this link and place your orders!

• IHNZ National Championships Draw:

The draw has been released with 62 teams entered over 11 grades and 171 games scheduled over nine days! Its going to be a fantastic showpiece of hockey! Our thanks to Cam Rock for his untiring efforts to produce the draw with such a large number of teams and grades.

Team rosters are due over the next few weeks and clubs will complete these via Esports.

Planning is well underway with Willy Harvey working overtime to ensure the Ravens rink is looking fantastic for everyone!

The link to the draw is attached - please note the Junior Women draw is not yet finalised but will be added to the later part of the draw in the near future.

https://www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz/blog/2024-national-scheduling-released/



• Female League Weekend:

The future of women's hockey is looking bright with a group of promising young girls competing at the final round of the Female League this weekend in Kilbirnie. The draw has been shared to Clubs, Facebook and the IHNZ website so pop past and watch our future women's hockey stars in action!



• IHNZ NPL Round 3:

A fantastic weekend of hockey was held with our premier teams in New Plymouth this past weekend with the top 4 teams being decided for finals weekend.

The top two teams from the Northern pool were the Mt Wellington Panthers and the Northern Stingrays. From the Southern pool we have the Capital Penguins and New Plymouth Ravens.

The finals are being held in conjunction with the InterConference event so our younger players will get to watch our premier players in action! Being 3 weeks prior to Nationals makes it an exciting lead up to Premier honours!

Mark your diaries for both events - September 14-15 in Hamilton!



• Junior Interconference:

Interconference team announcements are now out on their respective Facebook pages! These players are proudly going to be wearing our new interconference jerseys during the finals of the NPL.

A huge thank you to DEJA Hockey for their support of our juniors and their sponsorship of the Tui 10U team!

We invite you to come support and watch our up-and-coming players battle it out for Interconference supremacy and being the first grades to wear our new Interconference jerseys!











Club Update:

The Whakatāne Avalanche, having reestablished themselves this year, are now holding regular practices at the Ōhope Hall.

Their new jerseys have arrived and are enhancing the club's visibility. Recently, the club proudly fielded four players who first played inline hockey together in the Under 10 age group back in 1998! To attract new talent in the Eastern Bay of Plenty, the Avalanche is also promoting the sport through local community radio.

• IHNZ Team Updates

Welcome Nadia!

As part of the Board's commitment to aid this magnificent sport regain its former glory, we would like to introduce the newest member of our communications team, Dr Nadia Holland.

Nadia joins us with a PhD in Mass Communications and is the Social Media Officer for the IHNZ National Premier League. Nadia is skilled in written communications, digital marketing and is passionate about health, fitness and sport!

At this stage we are still working through over 33 applications received for the Communications Manager role.

Note both the Communications Manager and Financial Administration roles close Sunday 1 September.



2025 and 2026 Planning:

At the forefront of everything we do is providing and engaging in more quality hockey opportunities for all. We have a number of initiatives being worked on that we look forward to sharing and a number of steering groups and members of the sport are providing valuable feedback and support to us as we develop the cornerstones of a new structure.

Lastly, huge thanks also to Jarrod Finlay, Kokako Chair for his hours of untiring work to provide a draw and hockey to the conference. Amazing stuff and thank you again! Jarrod has been instrumental in ensuring hockey takes place and has arranged a number of cross conference games as well to keep everyone on their wheels!

Don't forget to read this weeks Coach's Notes section written by Tara Fox our Senior Women's Coach with some great information prior to the Female league happening this weekend!

For any questions you may have, please send via the usual channel to gm@inlinehockeynz.org.nz.

Enjoy your week and we look forward to bringing you our further updates as soon as able.

Regards

IHNZ Board