

2024 NZ Team selection changes / Remits – June 2024

At the 2024 NZRCAA AGM (April / Galatea) during general business the current F3A team selection event timing and format was discussed.

The current ruling states that the Nationals will set the ranking for the year, and that the P schedule will determine the team ranking.

In recent years, securing a field at the Carterton Nationals with a surface suitable for F3A has become more difficult. Gone are the days of flying of smooth sheep paddocks. At the last Nationals a couple of contestants had gear failure attributed to the rough surface being flown off.

At the Nationals because we share the RC1 site with other disciplines we are usually pushed for time.

Weather at this time of year can be very unpredictable in the Wairarapa.

The Carterton Nationals held at the start of 2023 served as our team selection event for the 2023 W/C held in Australia. With the event being so close to NZ, this was our most contested team trial in a long time. Bad weather caused huge time constraints, and we were actually only able to fly 3 rounds of P. The 3rd and final round was practically flown in the dark because the pending forecast was for “more rain tomorrow”.

At the W/C, 2 of the team members made it to the semi finals (a NZ first) and flew F schedule. F schedule has been flown at local events for a couple of years now.

General consensus at the AGM was to change the current rulings, so the committee has more flexibility on deciding the venue and timing of the trial, and the format of what schedules will count for team selection (eg only P counting, or both P and F counting).

The event needs to be run before March, and the timing / venue & format needs to be advertised 6 months in advance.

Current Rule:

2.4 NZ Team Selection. The MFNZ Nationals (if held in the North Island) will be used to select New Zealand teams for the following 12-month period (or until the following Nationals). Separate entry fees, advertisements or cut off times will not be required as part of the selection process. If there happens to be a South Island Nationals, the SIG will determine a suitable North Island event to be used as the team selection trial. The trial result provides a ranking list from which to select the team. Contestants must confirm their commitment to attend a particular international competition in a timely manner, as determined and communicated by the SIG, to ensure sufficient preparation times for all contestants. Note that the team selection and ranking list is determined by the ‘P’ schedule ranking, before ‘F’ is flown.

Proposed Changes:

Remit 1

The NZRCAA Committee will determine the venue and timing for the annual Team selection event.

The Team selection event will be run prior to March 1st.

The event timing and location will be advertised 6 months in advance.

The ranking will stand for the period through to the next Team selection event.

Remit 2

The NZRCAA Committee will determine the format of the team selection event. Whether it be P schedule only, or P and F that determine the ranking. This will also be advertised 6 months in advance.

Text to remain in 2.4 rule following the proposed changes

“The trial result provides a ranking list from which to select the team. Contestants must confirm their commitment to attend a particular international competition in a timely manner, as determined and communicated by the SIG, to ensure sufficient preparation times for all contestants.”

Reasons for Remits

1. The committee now have the flexibility to run the trial at a major event somewhere other than the Nationals, at a time when the weather is likely to be better.
2. At a stand alone event, more time would be available for the F3A Team selection than we have at the Nationals.
3. At a stand alone event, attendance maybe be higher than we would usually get at a Carterton Nats (and not just F3A flyers, but people that can judge F3A too).
4. The event can be run at a site with a field surface suitable for F3A.
5. Either P schedule, or P + F can be used as the selection format. Committee to decide what's best at the time.
6. Advertised 6 months in advance, people have plenty of time to prepare.
7. Trial run before the start of March, so those that actually make the team have enough time to prepare for an August W/C.
8. If the timing / location of the Nationals were to change in the future, the Nationals could still be used as the Team Trial event.

Email Voting on these two remits will close on 21st July 2024

Please submit your votes with your Full Name & MFNZ Number

Remit 1 - Yes/No/Abstain

Remit2 – Yes/No/Abstain

to: vote@nzrcaa.co.nz