

# **NABBA**®

New Zealand

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## **COVID UPDATE 2021**

## COVID UPDATE October 19<sup>th</sup> 2021

Following the Government Announcement yesterday 18/10/21, Auckland remain in Alert Level 3 for two more weeks, Northland go to Alert Level 2 on 19/10/21, Waikato remain in Alert Level 3 with a review on 22/10/21, the rest of the country remains in Alert Level 2.

We are very fortunate to be able to go ahead with our 2021 New Zealand National Championships in Palmerston North, 23-24th October. Running the event in Alert Level 2, does mean we have to operate under specific guidelines. We appreciate everyone respecting that these rules are in place to meet government guidelines, and are for everyone's health and safety. There will be a Final Notice emailed out to all athletes this week, with Final Information you need to know before the event.

We had remained hopeful that there would be a shift in Levels from the Government to allow our Auckland and Waikato Athletes and Judges to travel for the event. At this time, following yesterday's announcement we are saddened to accept it will not be possible for these athletes to compete.

Some athletes were exploring the possibility of exemption to travel. In compliance with Government Guidelines, and to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all athletes and everyone involved in the event, athletes in Alert Level 3 can not compete at the Championships.

My thoughts are with those athletes that have persevered and worked so hard toward the goal to compete. These are very unusual times for us all, but everyone's health and wellbeing takes precedence above all else.

We will miss our brothers and sisters from Auckland and the Waikato this year, but we look forward to more fortunate times in 2022, with our full event calendar, and sporting opportunity for all athletes in New Zealand.

#### COVID UPDATE October 12<sup>th</sup> 2021

Following the Government Announcement 11/10/21, Auckland remain in Level 3 for one more week, with a review 18/10/21. Northland and Waikato remain in Alert Level 3, with a review on 14/10/21

Our 2021 National Championships take place in Palmerston North on the 23-24 October 2021. We have a number of athletes entered for the Championships from these affected areas. We will be following the Government Announcements, and are hopeful for 'the window of opportunity' for these athletes to still compete at Nationals. Our Nationals Programme and Organisation includes all our Auckland, Northland, Waikato Athletes.

If you have entered the 2021 NZ National Championships and feel you need to withdraw at this time, please contact NABBA HQ nabba@inspire.net.nz

We were able to successfully run the Lower North Island Championships in Masterton, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October adhering strictly to Government and Venue Covid Guidelines for our event management. We would like to assure all those involved with the 2021 NZ Nationals, that we will be strictly working to Government and Venue Guidelines in the management of our event. We take everyone's health and safety seriously.

Athletes will be updated by email with Information Packs in due course.

#### COVID UPDATE October 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

Following the Government Announcement we know Auckland remain in Alert Level 3, with borders restricting the Region. We were hopeful to run the North Harbour Championships on the 30<sup>th</sup> October. However at this time, we now feel there is too much uncertainty to plan ahead for the event, on this basis we are postponing the North Harbour Championships. We will run the event late February/early March 2022 (date to be confirmed). The North Harbour Championships will be the first Qualifier for the 2022 NZ National Championships.

#### COVID UPDATE September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021

Auckland is still in Alert Level 3 and this will be reviewed Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

The rest of NZ remains in Alert Level 2.

#### <u>Lower North Island Championships – Masterton, Saturday October 2nd – LEVEL 2 Protocols</u>

We are very fortunate to be able to go ahead with our LNI Event. Running the event in Alert Level 2, does mean we have to operate under specific guidelines. We appreciate everyone respecting that these rules are in place to meet government guidelines, and are for everyone's health and safety. If everyone can co-operate we can all enjoy the event

- The venue for the LNI Championships is the Wairarapa College Auditorium. The Auditorium will be Zoned to manage and maintain the allowed number of people in a space.
- ZONE ONE Downstairs Viewing Area, seating 100 people, with a separate entrance and toilet facilities
- ZONE TWO Upstairs Viewing Area, seating 100 people, with a separate entrance and toilet facilities
- <u>ZONE THREE Backstage Area</u>, this area is strictly for Athletes and one Backstage Supporter per Athlete, with separate entrance and toilet facilities.
- · The three Zones must not interact with each other
- Unfortunately this means Athletes and Backstage Supporters cannot move between Backstage and the Auditorium. There will be the Backstage Preparation Area for athletes preparing to go on stage, and a Backstage Waiting Area for athletes waiting to go into the Preparation Area. We hope to have a live feed for viewing from Backstage.
- <u>Backstage Supporters</u>: We have quite a different set-up for Backstage Supporters under these Level Two Guidelines. As per the zoning guidelines we are operating under, Athletes and Backstage Supporters are not allowed in the viewing auditorium.
- Backstage Supporters will need a BACKSTAGE TICKET. This Ticket that will allow you Backstage only. The Backstage Pass will be \$10.00 per person (non-refundable) which will give you all day access.
- Everyone entering the venue must scan in using the Wairarapa School QR or use the written Contact Tracing Form
- Wearing of masks is mandatory, with the exception of Athletes on stage.
- Two metre distancing with people you don't know, otherwise One metre distancing

We are grateful to be able to go ahead with our LNI Event, and we ask you all to appreciate that operating our event at Level 2 does come with some disruptions to our usual show process. We need to all work together and stick to the guidelines, be kind and be considerate, so we can still enjoy a great event.

#### COVID UPDATE September 14<sup>th</sup> 2021

## Lower North Island Championships – Masterton, Saturday October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Following the Government Announcement we know Auckland remain in Alert Level 4 until Tuesday  $21^{st}$  September. The Rest of NZ remains in Alert Level 2 until Tuesday  $21^{st}$  September. The next Government Announcement is on Monday  $20^{th}$  September.

- We encourage all athletes wanting to compete at the Lower North Island Championships to get your entries in this week, before Entries Close on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September
- We are organised and prepared to go ahead with this event. We will be guided by the Government's decision on Alert Levels on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September
- We were all very disappointed to see the cancellation of three events, and so we are enthusiastic to make this event happen if we can.
- We will be able to make a final decision following the Government announcement on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September. We will provide and update the following day.

## COVID UPDATE August 24<sup>th</sup> 2021

#### Otago Championships and Bay of Plenty/Waikato Championships Update - 24/8/21

An update on our next two events that are coming up in September; The Otago Championships (11/9/21) and the Bay of Plenty/Waikato Championships (18/9/21)

We are obviously in quite uncertain times, as we all watch for the Government updates, especially in regards to our Alert Levels. We were faced with the hard decision about what to do with these two events coming up. Taking into consideration the athletes, Entry cut-off dates, event organisation and administration, sponsors and of course our Alert Level status.

With so much uncertainty surrounding our Alert Levels in the coming days and weeks, and the amount of event organisation we do leading up to an event, and the time allowance we need to do that organisation. We feel the hard but most appropriate decision is to cancel these two events in September.

Our stance is if we can run events we will. So we would like you to all stay focused and optimistic for our remaining three events this year - we certainly are. We are hopeful things will settle somewhat and we will see a return to an Alert Level 2, where we will be able to run these events.

On Friday we will have an update on the website about Athlete Refunds and NZ Nationals Accommodation. For now, stay safe, stay in your bubbles and stay positive Yours in Sport, Marianne Poole, NABBA NZ Secretary

#### COVID UPDATE August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021

#### East Coat Championships Update - 22/8/21

We are saddened to announce our decision to postpone the East Coast Championships, Saturday 28th August 2021, due to the country currently being in Covid Alert Level 4. The East Coast Event is postponed to 27<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

We have the upcoming Otago, BOP/Waikato, Lower North Island, NZ Nationals and North Harbour Championships scheduled on our 2021 Calendar. We will be following how the NZ Government will be dealing with the Delta variant, and how the Alert Levels will be managed.

We will keep you informed on any impacts on our events in due course. Our stance is to run our events if we can under the Government Guidelines.

For all those athletes preparing for an event, you will have all put in so much hard work to come this far in your event preparation, and so we encourage you to keep your nutrition going and stay focused as if you are going to compete.

We are not the only sport affected by the Covid pandemic, but we are in a country that is managing to keep us safe. We will keep you all informed as we move forward. We hope you are all well, safe and happy in these uncertain times

Yours in Sport, Marianne Poole, NABBA NZ Secretary