

NZDG National Tour Policy

1. New Zealand Disc Golf Association (hereafter NZDG) National Tour calendar:

1.1. The nationwide New Zealand Disc Golf Tour (hereafter NZDG Tour) is held between June 1st and May 31st.

1.1.1. To allow changes to the NZDG Tour “calendar season” some events will count towards two tour seasons. E.g. all events that take place between June 1st and December 31st 2021 will count both for the 2021 season as well as the new 2021/2022 season. This will allow for a full 2021/2022 season as well as give a trial period for implementing the changes.

1.2. There are three event levels / tiers on the NZDG Tour:

Major (60 points) – 54 hole minimum requirement. Minimum 100 player capacity. Minimum 50 players required. The majors are owned by NZDG and are:

-)The NZDG National Championships (Nationals)
-)The North Island Championships (NI Champs)
-)The South Island Championships (SI Champs)

Regular (50 points) - 36 hole minimum requirement (54 preferred). Minimum 72 player capacity. Minimum 40 players required.

Minor (40 points) - 18 hole minimum requirement (36 preferred). Minimum 30 players required.

1.3. The NZDG Tour Director shall contact the membership inviting event organisers to apply for NZDG sanctioning specifying which level / tier they are applying for by the end of April of the year ahead of the event. i.e. by April 30th 2022 for 2022/2023 events.

1.3.1. Event organisers must notify NZDG of their first and second choice dates for their event by the end of May of the preceding year. i.e. by May 31st 2022 for a tour event in the 2022/2023 season.

1.3.1.1. Exception being the 2021/2022 season where a separate announcement will be made and TDs invited to apply for sanctioning.

1.3.2. Additional events may be added to the tour calendar past the deadline and will be reviewed on a case by case basis. The total events counted formula may also be reviewed.

1.4. Event organisers must inform the NZDG Tour Director of their priority player registration opening time and date and their general registration opening time and date.

1.5. The NZDG Tour Director shall then confirm the events with the event organisers and publish the event details as follows:

On the nzdg.org.nz website

On teepad.org (the tour scoring website)

On NZDG Facebook event pages (after event organisers have invited NZDG to co-host their events).

1.6. Dates for Major events:

1.6.1. Nationals - between 1st March - 30th April

1.6.2. NI & SI Champs - between 1st December - 28th February

1.6.3. All Major events should be a minimum 3 weeks apart

2. The NZDG Tour points system and scoring:

- 2.1. The NZDG tour scoring / ranking system is hosted at teepad.org
 - 2.2. There are three scoring levels / tiers (as per 1.2 above) – 40 point, 50 point, and 60 point.
 - 2.3. The following equation is used to calculate tour points for NZDG sanctioned events:
Tour points = 1 + (max tour points -1) x (number of players - player's ranking) / (player count -1). This calculation allocates points based on the number of players and the players ranking in that event.
 - 2.4. The following equation is used to calculate the best of number of events used to calculate overall tour points.
Best of events = number of confirmed events at start of first tour event for the season / 3 and then rounded down.
For example, if there were 20 events as of the start of the first tour event of the season:
The best of number of events = 20 / 3 = 6.66 = 6.
 - 2.5. A players' score from no more than two majors (60 point) events can be included.
 - 2.6. TDs must enforce two methods of scoring. One main method (as defined by TD) and one backup method for cross checking scores (e.g. PDGA live scoring and Udisc app). The scores have to be kept by a minimum of 2 players in the group (i.e. the same player can't do PDGA live scoring and paper scorecards). Each player is responsible for their own score.
 - 2.7. If an event is cut short due to force majeure or other reasons and minimum requirement of holes played is not met then the points awarded will be reduced by 10 (i.e. event considered as a tier lower). If there are less than 18 holes played then no points are awarded.
 - 2.8. Player classification:
Players are classified by the division they play in the tournament. *E.g. If a Grandmasters player plays a tour event in the Masters division then their tour points are calculated towards their placing in the Masters division for the NZDG Tour).*
- NZDG Tour divisions:
- Open - MPO
 - Advanced (includes All Open age amateur divisions - MA1, MA2, MA3, MA4)
 - Masters (includes MP40 and MA40)
 - Grand Masters (includes MP50 and MA50)
 - Senior Grand Masters (includes MP60 and MA60)
 - Legends (includes MP70 and MA70)
 - Juniors (includes all Junior divisions)
 - Women's Open - FPO
 - Women's Advanced (includes All Open age women's amateur divisions - FA1, FA2, FA3, FA4)
 - Women's Masters (includes FP40 and FA40)
 - Women's Grand Masters (includes FP50 and FA50)
 - Women's Senior Grand Masters (includes FP60 and FA60)
 - Women's Legends (includes FP70 and FA70)
 - Women's Juniors (includes all Junior girls divisions)
- 2.9. Only if a division is not available at an event - A player can play for tour points in another division if agreed with the Tour Director (by email tour@nzdg.org.nz) prior to the start of the event. (e.g. a Masters players rating is too high to play MA40, but MP40 is not available. The player can coordinate with Tour Director before the event to make sure their gained Tour points count towards the Masters division and they can play the event in another division where they are eligible e.g. MPO or MA1)

3. NZDG sanctioning requirements:

- 3.1. The event must abide by the current PDGA rules of disc golf.
 - 3.1.1. International events are subject to the PDGA International Program Guide and NOT PDGA Tour Standards which apply to the USA and Canada mainly. There are some parts that overlap, but these are outlined in the International Program Guide. The PDGA Tour Standards can be used as a guide for reference.
https://www.pdga.com/files/2021_international_program_guide_2021-02-10.pdf <- **Applies**
https://www.pdga.com/files/2021_pdga_tour_standards.pdf <- **Does NOT apply**
https://www.pdga.com/files/divisions_ratings_and_points_factors_07-15-2021.pdf
 - 3.1.2. If there are any unresolved PDGA rules queries during an NZDG sanctioned event after consulting event rules officials and the Tournament Director (hereafter TD) , the TD must contact the NZDG Tour Director as soon as possible and before the event awards ceremony. If unable to contact the NZDG Tour Director, then contact the current PDGA NZ rep – as of September 2021 this is Simon Feasey (Mobile 021 653 653).
- 3.2. NZDG requires event TDs to be current PDGA Rules Officials.
- 3.3. All NZDG Tour events should have Open (MPO) and Women's Open (FPO) divisions available. If Open divisions are not available - the event can only be a Minor tier 40 pointer.
- 3.4. The event organiser must include the current NZDG automatic membership policy (i.e. automatic membership for 12 months from event date, mailchimp email database opt-in and NZDG insurance inclusion) in their published event details.
 - 3.4.1. All players who register to play the complete number of holes for an NZDG sanctioned event are required to pay the \$7 NZDG membership / insurance levy.
 - 3.4.2. These players become members of NZDG for 12 months from the starting event date as per the NZDG constitution.
 - 3.4.3. The NZDG membership / insurance levy must be included in event registration fees and collected by the event organisers.
- 3.5. Registration has to be open a minimum 3 weeks prior to the event. NZDG recommends 6 weeks to allow players to make travel plans, book accommodation etc. Registration opening date (incl time and website) has to be announced at least a week in advance to give all eligible players equal chance at registering. Priority registration can be implemented allowing early registration to the following groups (no more than 50% of all available spots):
 - 3.5.1. The previous years' division winners
 - 3.5.2. Event helpers and volunteers
 - 3.5.3. For regular tour events (50 pointers) - the previous year's NZDG Tour top 32 men and top 8 women.
 - 3.5.4. For majors (60 pointers) - the previous year's NZDG Tour top 64 men and top 16 women.
 - 3.5.5. TD discretion (wildcards, local club members, rating based)
- 3.6. Event organisers must have a published cancellation / refund policy in place.
- 3.7. Event organisers must have a health and safety plan in place prior to the event.
- 3.8. Event organisers must confirm with the NZDG Tour Director that they have no alternate tees and have adequate Drop Zones (hereafter DZ) in place for players unable to throw longer distances. Please note that if a TD allows players to go straight to the DZ from the tee then that player will be playing their third shot from the DZ.
- 3.9. Event organisers must collect player information and contact details for the NZDG member database and provide this to the NZDG secretary (secretary@nzdg.org.nz) within 48 hours of the completion of their event. Player contact details must include a minimum of:
 - 3.9.1. First name, last name, email, postal address, date of birth
- 3.10. Event organisers must provide final scores or a link to published final scores to the NZDG Tour director (tour@nzdg.org.nz) within 48 hours of the finishing of their event.

4. Tour event standards

- 4.1. Teepads should be clearly marked. If the sides/back are not marked then the teepad area is considered to be 1.2m wide and 3m long. Teepad surface should be even and not contain protruding rocks or roots. Tee areas should be level from left to right. They should not slope from front to back.
- 4.2. OB lines should be clearly marked. Avoid using grass/dirt transitions as OB lines. Use stakes, paint, or string whenever possible.
- 4.3. All mandos must have marked dropzones. Drop zones must be within 10-metres of a mando or PDGA dispensation must be obtained.
- 4.4. If using tee times there should be a designated practice area available to players to warm up their throws and putts. Located on the same or adjoining property.
- 4.5. If the event is held on a temporary course the course must be available for practice the day before the tournament. All registered players must have equal access for practice.
- 4.6. Major event standards (on top of the previous points):
 - 4.6.1. Earthen (grass, bare ground, gravel) tee pads are not allowed for use at Major events.
 - 4.6.2. OB lines must be clearly marked. Grass/dirt transitions cannot be used as OB lines unless clearly marked by other means. Use stakes, string or paint whenever possible.
 - 4.6.3. For Major events the course must be available for practice a minimum of one full day before the tournament.
 - 4.6.4. Major event average hole length (course length divided by number of holes) must be at least 90m.
 - 4.6.5. Major events must have a caddy book and course map available prior to the event.
 - 4.6.6. Major events must use PDGA approved Championship* targets of same design and manufacturer
- 4.7. Events that meet all the criteria will have preference for sanctioning. There can be exceptions to these standards that can be reviewed on a case by case basis.

*Refer to https://www.pdga.com/files/pdga-technical-standards_2021-01-20_0.pdf

5. Review

- 5.1. All decision making will be made without bias or prejudice and in a fair, impartial, confidential and professional manner.
- 5.2. Policy Breach:

If a complaint is made regarding failings that are discovered in the tour events as set out in this policy, the event in question will be reviewed as per these policies by the NZDG Tour Director and taken to the board for a decision on the appropriate course of action.