



McKINNON SHIELD SERIES

2025-2026 SUMMER SEASON

SERIES RULES

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Issue B



Herb Towers Track, Mount Smart Stadium
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1.0 THE McKINNON SHIELD SERIES

1.1 About

Contested during the summer season, this year from October 2025 to March 2026, the McKinnon Shield Series (MSS) is Athletics Auckland's summer track and field competition. With over 20 clubs, clubs battle it out across eight to ten rounds of MSS to see who gets crowned the McKinnon Shield champions in the Premier Division and McKinnon Cup champions in the Cup Division.

Each athlete can register for and compete in as many events as they wish. Athletes will be scored based on a performance scale, with three (3) of their best individual events on any series scoring day counting towards their club's overall score.

To compete in the MSS, an athlete must be a member of an Athletics Auckland affiliated club.

1.2 McKinnon Shield and McKinnon Cup

For the 2025-2026 season, the first three rounds of competition will be grading rounds. After three rounds, the top ten clubs (based on the league table) will compete in the Premier Division for the McKinnon Shield. The remaining clubs will compete for the McKinnon Cup in the Cup Division.

After the three grading rounds and clubs have been allocated to a division (Premier or Cup), all club ladder points will be set to zero (0) and new ladder points accumulated from the start of Round 4 in the MSS for both the Premier and Cup Division.

1.3 McKinnon Shield Rules

These rules are to be read in conjunction with the World Athletics and Athletics New Zealand Supplementary Rules.

2.0 ATHLETE INFORMATION

2.1 Athlete Eligibility

Athletes must be registered with an Athletics Auckland affiliated club for the 2025-2026 season (i.e. showing financial on the Athletics Auckland database). Athletes registered in other centres are not eligible for team scoring.

Secondary school athletes not registered with a club can compete up until the NZSS Championships. These athletes are not eligible for team scoring in the MSS. As soon as they are registered with a club, they become eligible for both club and schools points.

2.2 Age Grades

Age is taken as of 31st December in the year of competition.

The following grades will be used for the 2025-2026 season:

U14 athletes aged 12 & 13
U16 athletes aged 14 & 15
U18 athletes aged 16 & 17
U20 athletes aged 18 & 19
Senior athletes aged 20 to 29
Masters athletes aged 30 & over

2.3 Entries

The entry link will be published on the Athletics Auckland website on the Monday prior to the meet.

Entries close at 11.59pm on the Wednesday prior to the meet.

No late entries or on the day entries will be accepted under any circumstances.

The entry list will be published on the Athletics Auckland website on the Friday evening prior to the meet.

Most events will be seeded so please ensure you state your Season's Best (SB) for each event.

U14 athletes: If you are entering in the Sprint Hurdles, 200m Hurdles, 2000m Steeplechase, Race Walk, Pole Vault, Triple Jump, Javelin or Hammer, you must be training for these events.

Entry fees (payable online at time of entry):

Auckland club registered athletes	\$11 per athlete
Registered athletes with other centres	\$15 per athlete
School athletes (not registered with a club)	\$13 per athlete

2.4 Programme

The final programme is uploaded to the Athletics Auckland website on Friday evening usually around 6pm. It is the athlete's responsibility to check the final time for all events.

The draft programme is listed on the Athletics Auckland website. The programme is dependent on the number of entries received and therefore all start times listed on the programme are approximate and may change.

Times will be confirmed after the close of entries and published on the event page of the Athletics Auckland website on Friday evening.

2.5 Athlete Check-in

All athletes must report to the check-in desk no later than 60 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of their first event (90 minutes for Pole Vault).

Athletes who fail to check in may be scratched from the event.

2.6 Scratchings

Athletes scratching from events should inform the check-in officials well ahead of the scheduled event time.

Athletics Auckland will also have an event mobile that will be available for scratchings via text only on the event day from 9.00am through to the end of competition.

Please do not leave a voicemail. Please also note that texts will not be replied to.

Scratchings mobile: 021 08941243

2.7 Uniform and Shoes

Athletics Auckland athletes must wear the uniform of their registered club.

School athletes must wear school uniform if they don't belong to an athletics club.

U18, U20 and Senior grade athletes: competition shoes need to comply with World Athletics regulations under Technical Rule 5.

Please be sure to check that your shoes are on the approved list. You can check on the World Athletics website

This list is updated regularly. Please note that any shoe bought before 1 January 2016 is deemed to meet the technical requirements of Technical Rule 5.

At all venues in Auckland the requirements of spikes are as follows:

Track, Long Jump, Triple Jump & Pole Vault	Maximum 6mm cone/xmas tree shaped only
High Jump & Javelin	Maximum 9mm cone/xmas tree shaped only

Needles and pin type spikes are not allowed.

2.8 Field Events

Athletes will have three trials and the top 8 athletes in each grade will receive a further three trials.

2.9 Personal Implements

If an athlete wishes to use their own implement they must be presented for inspection at the check-in desk at least one hour prior to the scheduled start time of the event.

3.0 SAFETY

In the interests of safety, the following should be adhered to at all times:

- Only athletes and officials are to enter the competition area.
- Athletes and officials should take care when crossing the track.
- No one is to cross the infield of the competition area.
- Warm-ups inside the competition area will be under the supervision of the officials following World Athletics rules.

- Warm-ups outside the competition area must be supervised by a coach or parent.
- Throwing implements should only be retrieved by officials or approved assistants.
- Spikes are only to be worn in the competition area. Please remove before leaving the competition area.
- No glass is permitted within the competition area.

Athletes must read and sign the safety notice at the time of entry.

4.0 McKINNON SHIELD POINT SCORING

McKinnon Shield points may only be scored by athletes competing within the Athletics New Zealand technical specifications for the grade in which they are competing. This restriction does not apply if an athlete throws a heavier weight than the grade requires.

4.1 Definitions

Recorded Performance - The best performance of recorded attempts, excluding did not start (**DNS**).

Scoring Performance - the best performance of recorded attempt after being adjusted if required as stated in rule 4.2.

Valid Performance - Any athlete who genuinely competes in an event, including disqualification (**DQ**), no measure (**NM**), or did not finish (**DNF**), is still deemed to have competed.

Club Score - Is the total number of points assigned to a club after any relevant adjustments have been applied.

4.2 Points Scoring

For each event and specification, the McKinnon Scoring table (available on Results Hub) specifies performance values associated with point scores of 100, 200, 300, 400, 500 and 600.

Points are designed to be a balance between rewarding performance and participation. The points allocation provides an incentive to perform at an optimal level, while providing the club level athlete the opportunity to contribute to a team score in a “meaningful” way.

The performance values are known as key marker performances and key marker points which are detailed as follows:

100 points	awarded for a minimum standard performance (approximately at the 0.5 percentile point).
200 points	awarded for a performance at the 25-percentile point
300 points	awarded for a performance at the 50-percentile point
400 points	awarded for a performance at the 75-percentile point
500 points	awarded for a performance at approximately the 99.5 percentile point
600 points	awarded for a performance equal to the World Record

If a scoring performance lies between two key marker performances, then points awarded shall be a linear pro-rata assignment between the higher and lower key marker points.

There are separate scoring tables for male and female athletes and age adjustment factors such that an equivalent performance, irrespective of age or gender, is awarded the same number of points.

Results and associated point allocations have been statistically normalised across the different specifications of similar events

Points are calculated and awarded thus:

- An actual performance will be adjusted in the following situations and order: Para-athletes, 30+ athletes, junior athletes in competition will have their performance adjusted as per the published adjustment tables.
- Any manual timed track event will have an adjustment factor added (0.14 seconds for events starting at the Finish line, and 0.24 seconds for all other events)
- The resultant adjustment by either or both above, will become the athlete's scoring performance.

Any performance not covered by the above, the actual performance is the scoring performance.

If a scoring performance equals any of the key marker performances, then the associated key marker points value is assigned as the points scored.

If a scoring performance is below the 100-point key marker performance, no points shall be awarded. All point scores are rounded down to the nearest whole number (i.e., no fractions), hence similar performances may be awarded the same points score.

If the performance of an athlete in a track event is not recorded by a designated official, and after due process the record of performance cannot be reconstructed, the athlete has the option of a re-run at a suitable time on the day of competition offered by the Competition Manager or accept a default score of 100pts. In all situations, the performance shall count for eligibility.

4.3 Similar Events and Scoring

Athletes competing might do so with differing specifications. For this purpose, if/when following events are held, they will be grouped for scoring:

- i Sprint Hurdles (includes 80m, 100m and 110m)
- ii Distance Hurdles (includes 200m, 300m and 400m)
- iii Steeplechase (includes 2000m and 3000m)
- iv Walks (includes 2000m and 3000m)
- v Distance Run events (3000m & 5000m)

4.4 Athlete Scoring Limits

Athletes will have their points score for each event, or similar event, ranked in order from best to lowest. The best three (3) individual event scores for each athlete from each individual club will be accrued for each MSS event.

4.5 Ladder Points

After each round of the McKinnon Series, ladder points shall be awarded. Ladder points are only awarded to clubs that score club points:

1st will be awarded points equal to the number of teams in the division. Each position following 1st will be awarded 1 less point than the team above. (e.g. 3rd position will be awarded one less point than 2nd).

Example

- If the division has 10 Teams – 1st = 10 points, 2nd = 9 points, etc. to 10th = 1 point.

- If the division has 11 teams – 1st = 11 points, 2nd = 10 points, etc. to 11th = 1 point.

If clubs finish on the same club points at the conclusion of a round, ladder points will be combined and split evenly between the two clubs.

4.6 Power Play

Clubs will have the opportunity to play one (1) power play each season to double their Ladder Points for the individual round. The Power Play can be played during any round after Round 3. To activate the Power Play, a club representative must email powerplay@athleticsauckland.nz no later than the event closing date (usually midnight of the Wednesday preceding the competition day) prior to competition round.

Clubs must nominate one person who will advise Athletics Auckland of their intent to play the Power Play. The nominated person must be confirmed by the President of the club.

If a club plays their power play on a particular round that is cancelled before or during the event, the power play will be reinstated to the club and can be played at an alternative round. If a club plays their powerplay on the final round and that round is cancelled, the power play will be used on the previous round.

If a club does not play their power play across any rounds of the MSS season, the power play will then be forfeited, and no double points scored for that club.

5.0 RESULTS

5.1 Individual Results

Results will be posted at the track and published on a “live” results platform. Information on the platform will be advised to athletes.

Final results will be published on the Athletics Auckland website as soon as possible after the event.

5.2 AAI Results Hub

For the McKinnon Shield and McKinnon Cup, “live” club and individual points will be available at:

www.aai.resultshub.com.au

6.0 MEDALS

Athletes who compete in five (5) or more MSS meets and whose club finishes in the top 3 of either the Premier Division or the Cup Division will receive a medal based on the club position.