

The Canterbury Basketball Association Position With Regard to School Sport New Zealand (SSNZ) Regulations (2025 Update):

From 1 January 2021 the number of “New To School” players allowed to compete in a basketball team is two. The maximum number of students competing under a PCRE is also two. For reference, [SSNZ publishes their eligibility regulations here](#)

What this means with respect to our competitions that have secondary school students competing within:

- Weekend Winter Club (weekend, and the Midweek grade played on Wednesday nights):
 - No change – these are club competitions, so as such do not have any endorsement or affiliation with School Sport Canterbury (SSC) or NZSS (teams entered in these competitions can be made up of players from anywhere, so long as they meet the normal requirements in our Competition Rules – which can be found on [our documents](#) page)

- Grocott, Thomson and Whelan Competitions
 - These are endorsed by, and affiliated with BBNZ and SSC (who apply SSNZ policies in our region), so teams entered must adhere to the rules and regulations from these bodies
 - For a player to compete in in these competitions, he/she must be enrolled as a bona fide student, and studying at least 80% of a programme that is part of the timetable provided by the school for at least four weeks immediately prior to the event. The four weeks does not include holidays, and only includes the weeks where the school is scheduled to be open for instruction
 - Players must be eligible before the playoffs in their respective competition start (i.e. a player could not play in the grand final, if he/she was not eligible in a semi-final game)
 - To be eligible to compete in playoffs, a player is not required to have appeared in any games for the team, so long as all other eligibility requirements are met
 - Up to two “New to School” (NTS) students are allowed to compete in a competition or tournament. SSC has advised that a “competition” in this regard is the entirety of the competition (from week one through to the Grand Final)
 - A maximum of two PCRE’s issued in any calendar year may be included in a basketball team. If a school applies for three PCREs, two of them can play this year, and the third needs to fill a NTS slot (if available), or cannot play. The following year all three PCREs would be treated as “non-restricted” students, and not be subject to a maximum quota
 - Students who are “restricted” (classified as a NTS or PCRE) are only allowed to play if their name is submitted to the CBA Competitions Administrator a minimum of 24 hours before the first game of the season (or before the first game they would be eligible to play in, if not enrolled at the school before the season starts). These players cannot be exchanged for another restricted player throughout the season, without clearance from SSC. This will usually only be granted in exceptional circumstances
 - The “non-restricted” players in each weekly roster can be changed freely by their Thomson, Whelan, and Grocott teams
 - All rostered players must satisfy every eligibility requirement

This document has been prepared by [James Lissaman](#) and communicated with schools that enter our competitions on 6 March 2025