

CHAMPIONSHIP/COMPETITION DETAIL

Contest Area

The dimensions of the contest area shall be as follows:

Front and Rear Boundaries	31.50 metres
Side Boundaries	22.50 metres

The boundaries of the Contest Area are to be indicated by white lines of 6cm in width with a circle of 3 metres diameter centered on the front boundary and a flag or pole at each of the four corners of the rectangle.

Setting Out of Contest Area

All movement points of the Quickstep/Compliments/Movements (**Q/C/M**) phase are to be indicated on the ground by coloured discs 15 cm in diameter. The measurements are detailed within each Grade's individual sections.

Quickstep

Three Quickstep poles of approximately 80 cm in height will be positioned at 3.66 (U13, yellow) 4.08 (U18, red), 4.50 (Senior/Masters, white), metres right of centre on the **back** boundary line. (Markers may be placed **0.3 metres back from the front** boundary directly opposite the Quickstep poles on the **back** boundary – offering better site lines).

Judges Seating

- Technical A Judge: A standing position. A seat shall be placed approximately 2.25 metres (3 senior paces) outside the left boundary and in line with the rear back boundary line (when viewed from the front boundary) **or at the direction of the Chief Judge on the day.**
- Technical B Judge: **1.00 metre** back from the **rear** boundary line and **5.25 metres (7 senior paces)** to the left of the centre of the circle (when viewed from the front boundary).
- Technical C Judge: **1.00 metre** back from the **rear** boundary line and **5.25 metres (7 senior paces)** to the right of the centre of the circle (when viewed from the front boundary).
- Technical D Judge: **1.00 metre** back from the centre of the **rear** boundary line (when viewed from the front boundary).
- Technical E Judge: Under 13 and Under 18 Grades – **1.00 metre** back from the **rear** boundary line and 3.75 metres (5 senior paces) to the right of the centre of the circle (when viewed from the front boundary).
Senior and Masters Grades – **1.00 metre** back from the **rear** boundary line and 4.50 metres (6 senior paces) to the right of the centre of the circle (when viewed from the front boundary).
- Compliance Judge: Will judge the team in a standing position approx. **1.50 metres** back from the front boundary line **and 3.00 metres (4 senior paces) to the right of the centre of the circle** on an elevated platform of a minimum of 0.3 metres above ground (when viewed from the front boundary).
- Display **D** Judge: Will judge the team in a seated position of **1.50 metres** back from the front boundary line and **3.00 metres (4 senior paces) to the left of the centre of the circle** (when viewed from the front boundary).
- Display **F** Judge: Will judge the team in a standing position approx. **1.50 metres** back from the front boundary line **and 3.00 metres (4 senior paces) to the right of the centre of the circle** on an elevated platform of a minimum of 0.3 metres above ground (when viewed from the front boundary).

Discs

Discs or painted dots will be:

Masters	Hot Pink	Seniors	White
Under 18	Red	Under 13	Yellow
Introductory	Blue		

The start for the Review & Inspection (**R&I**) phase will be indicated by four appropriately coloured discs for each grade to indicate the Leaders Start point. The Finish Discs shall be orange with a dot in the middle of the colour of the grade (eg; U13 yellow, U18 red, Senior white).

Senior, Masters, Under 18 and Under 13 Grades

The Leader's disc at the start of the **Q/C/M** phase will be referred to as the START.

In correct relationship to this disc there will be five other discs on the ground to indicate the commencement position for Team Members 1 / 2 / 3 / 5 / 8.

Masters Grade

The Leader will start on the Senior (white) Start disc.

Introductory Grade

The Leader (or the No. 2 Member) will start on the Under 13 (yellow) Start disc.

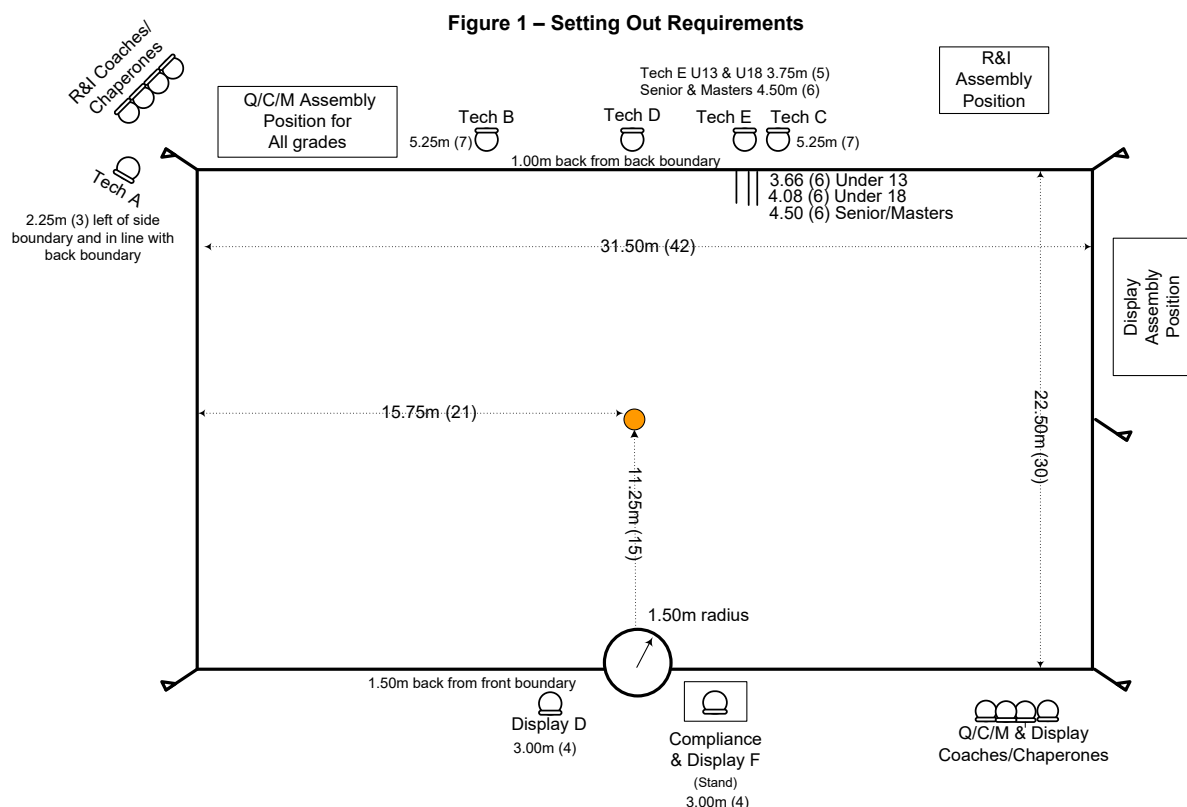
The disc for the commencement of the Display (Centre of Contest Area) for all grades will be Orange and will be 11.25m from the Front Boundary on the Centre Line.

Coaches and Chaperones Seating

R&I Coaches and Chaperones seating shall be placed at the left rear corner of the Contest Area, at least 3.00 metres back from the rear boundary **or at the direction of the Chief Judge on the day.**

Q/C/M and Display, Coaches and Chaperones seating shall be placed **at least 2.50 metres** back from the front boundary line and at least 9.50 metres to the right of the centre circle (when viewed from the front boundary).

The minimum setting out requirements for the contest area are shown in Figure 1 below.



Music

Quick Time	120 beats per minute
Slow Time	60 beats per minute
Tolerance	2 beats either side of 120 beats per minute

Should it be established beyond doubt that the music is playing at a timing of less than 118 or more than 122 beats to the minute, the Chief Judge will signal the Marshal for the Team to be stopped. The Team will be returned to the Start either immediately or at a later stage in the programme at the sole discretion of the Chief Judge, who will arrange for Judges to start judging from the commencement with a new set of Sheets.

Duration

The duration of a Championship or Competition will be from the commencement of a meeting of the Secretary, Coaching Co-ordinator and Chief Judge with Team Coaches (and possibly Judges also), as determined on the Timetable of Events or other information forwarded to competing Teams in advance of the event, until the conclusion of the Presentation of Awards. However, in the case of aggregated Competitions, for other than the final of these competitions, the conclusion will be at the completion of the final grade/s march or Massed item according to the Timetable of Events or other information forwarded to competing Teams in advance of the event.

If a meeting as outlined above is not scheduled, then the commencement of a Championship or Competition will be from the start of the first phase by the first competing Team.

The Secretary may, upon application, release a Team or Team member, prior to the conclusion of a Championship or Competition

Championship / Competition Format

The Format for the running of a Championship / Competition will be set by the Conducting Authority. There are several formats that can be used and the setting of these is at the discretion of the Conducting Authority.

If an alternating Technical Drills / Display format is being used, the order of Teams shall be as follows:

1. Team 1 **R&I**
 2. Team 1 **Q/C/M**
and Team 2 **R&I**
 3. Team 2 **Q/C/M**
and Team 3 **R&I**
 4. Team 1 Display
 5. Team 3 **Q/C/M**
and Team 4 **R&I**
 6. Team 2 Display
- (Continuing as necessary for the remainder of the draw)

The order of Teams may be adjusted as necessary to allow for Teams choosing to compete in either the Technical Drills or Display sections only.

The Conducting Authority should, whenever possible, confer with the Chief Judge when setting the programme of events to ascertain availability of Judges.

Phases

The **R&I** and **Q/C/M** phases are to be held in conjunction with each other and will be known as the 'Technical Drills' section.

Under 13 Grade	See Policies & Operations Manual (Technical), Section 4.
Under 18 Grade	See Policies & Operations Manual (Technical), Section 5.
Senior Grade	See Policies & Operations Manual (Technical), Section 6.
Masters Grade	See Policies & Operations Manual (Technical), Section 7. (Masters do not perform a R&I)

The Display phase is a separate section known as the 'Display' section - ***See Policies & Operations Manual (Technical), Section 9.***

Teams may choose to enter either the Technical Drills section or the Display section, or both.

Compliance Requirements for Under 13, Under 18, Senior and Masters Grade

Technical - Teams competing in the 'Technical Drills' section must perform **all required movements as specified in the Q/C/M for their grade. Under 13, Under 18, and Senior teams are also required to perform a R&I and must field the same number of Marchers in both the R&I and Q/C/M phases. Masters teams are not required to perform a R&I.**

If a team does not meet the technical requirements as specified for their grade, **does not comply with Marcher placement as outlined below, or (where applicable) does not field the same number of Marchers in R&I and Q/C/M phases**, the team will still be considered compliant for the purposes of being deemed to have competed in the technical phase at the relevant competition, and will receive judging sheets, however the team will be ineligible for any awards in the 'Technical Drills' section at that competition.

Display - Teams competing in the Display section must perform within the display time requirement as specified for their grade.

If a team does not meet the minimum time as specified for their grade, **or performs a repeat or near repeat of the Q/C/M phase in place of a Display**, the team will still be considered compliant for the purposes of being deemed to have competed in the display phase at the relevant competition, and will receive judging sheets, however the team will be ineligible for any awards in the 'Display' section at that competition.

If a team goes over the maximum time as set down for their grade, a penalty of one point per second over the maximum time set will be applied.

Placement of Marchers

Seven Marchers – Leader and Nos 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5 / 6
Eight, nine or ten Marchers – Any rear rank positions (Nos 7 / 8 / 9) may be filled
For Leader and Team member positions refer to "Team Formation" in the Policies & Operations Manual (Technical), Section 2

Criteria for Less than 10 Marchers

For Under 13, Under 18, Senior and Masters Grades, teams may march with less than ten members, however, if they do, then the following will apply:

Technical Drills Phase (R&I and Q/C/M)

In the case of a team fielding 7, 8 or 9 Marchers they will remain competitive HOWEVER, their scores will be normalised to a 10 Marcher equivalent based on the average points per Marcher. This is applied on the Master Sheet.

Teams fielding fewer than 7 Marchers, or more than 10 Marchers, in the Technical Drills Phase will deem themselves non-competitive in that phase.

Fielding Exception Requirement – Island and National events only

Teams intending to field fewer Marchers than their registered number, must complete a Fielding Exception form (available on MNZ Website) and obtain prior Technical Working Party (TWP) approval.

This applies to:

- **Teams with 8 or 9 registered Marchers who plan to field fewer than their registered number; and**
- **Teams with 10 or more registered Marchers who plan to field fewer than 10 Marchers.**

This does not apply to teams with 7 registered Marchers.

All applications must include supporting evidence outlining the reason for the reduced number of Marchers and must be submitted no earlier than 14 days and no later than 7 days prior to the event.

Where a Fielding Exception is approved, the team coach will receive written confirmation from the TWP. A copy of this approval must be presented to the Chief Judge on the day of the Championship.

If no valid reason is provided, or there is evidence that available registered Marchers have deliberately not been fielded to gain a competitive advantage, the matter may be reviewed and could result in a penalty under RAC 11.1.

Fielding Exceptions do not apply to Display.

False Starts

A false start occurs when four or more team members are out of tempo at the completion of the whistle signal to the first movement.

If the Marshal, Chief Judge, or Technical Drill E Judge identifies that four or more members are out of tempo, they will signal this by raising an arm above their head and, where applicable, cease judging. The Chief Marshal will then bring the team to a halt. If the Chief Marshal is unable to do so, the Chief Judge will stop the team. Music will continue to play.

The team will return to the Starting Discs without formality and take up position ready to restart by marking time on the discs in tempo with the music. The Marshal will then give the command "TEAM / QUICK / MARCH" on successive left beats of the music. The team will mark one further beat with the right foot, then step out with the left foot.

Re-Marches

If a Chaperone observes a team member in distress, they may immediately enter the Contest Area to provide assistance. This would typically only occur where a Marcher is unable to continue, such as in a medical situation.

The team will be stopped and, when appropriate, will complete a re-march. The team will restart from the beginning of the Q/C/M phase and Judges will resume judging from the point where they had ceased judging previously (where team member stopped).

If a re-march is required due to a technical issue (for example, music tempo outside permitted limits), the team will restart from the beginning of the Q/C/M phase. In this case, coaches, in consultation with the Chief Judge, may choose for judging to recommence either from the start of the Q/C/M phase or from the disc immediately prior to where the technical issue occurred.

Replacements

Replacements can be obtained for a Team member, ONLY in extreme emergency circumstances, and at the discretion of the Chief Judge of the day, in consultation with the Association Coach. Extreme emergency circumstances may include sudden health conditions, accident and bereavement.

All applications for 'extreme emergency' replacement Marchers, must be notified by the Chief Judge of the day, to the Director of Judging with all relevant information, within 10 days of the event being held.

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Extreme emergencies apply for seven days only.

Where a Team from any Association wishes to visit another Association for competition and take with them a replacement from their own or another Association, they should secure and produce to the Chief Judge of the Championship/Competition at which they

are visiting, a certificate from the Chief Judge of their own Association stating that the replacement complies with the requirements dealing with Replacements.

The numeric strength of Teams for Championship/Competition purposes is defined in the Competitive Requirements within each grade.

Teams will march with at least four members (Introductory Grade only) and ten members (all other Grades) as per Criteria for Less than Ten Marchers detailed in this section.

The following criteria will apply for replacements –

- i. The need for replacements should be communicated to the Chief Judge of the day and Association Coach at the commencement of the Championship/Competition and replacements may be made only with their combined approval.
- ii. Replacements approved must remain in their own Team's uniform.
- iii. Replacements should be obtained from a Team or Teams of equal or lesser standard than that of the Team requiring replacements.
- iv. If replacements are beyond two in number, the Team may be judged and points recorded, but the Team cannot win an award. The Chief Judge shall advise the Chief Recorder that the team is non-compliant and therefore ineligible for any awards.
- v. Members of Teams not competing at the Championship/Competition may be included as replacements provided that the foregoing conditions are complied with.

Dispensations

Provision will be made in the conduct of Championships and Competitions for a waiver of the requirements that cannot be reasonably achieved by a Marcher because of accident or health factors that would prevent participation on a fair and equitable basis.

Two dispensation categories are available for consideration as follows:

a. Dispensations for a Permanent Disability:

These are applicable only to Marchers who through reasons of birth, accident or illness have a permanent disability and are unable to execute drills as per requirements.

Permanent dispensations must be applied for each year at the time of registration of the Marcher (membership application) or within a reasonable time of any accident giving rise to a permanent disability (as the case may be).

- Applications for a permanent dispensation must be completed online, using the 'Application for a Permanent Dispensation' form, by the Team Coach supported by the original, signed statement on official letterhead from a qualified professional, such as a medical practitioner in the case of health-related factors.

This statement should confirm that the Marcher is medically cleared to compete and provide detailed information about the specific effects of the health condition, including how it may affect the Marcher's ability to meet the performance requirements during the competition.

- The TWP will review the application along with any supporting documentation and, at their sole discretion (acting reasonably), will either approve, decline, or request further clarification, providing the Team Coach with appropriate feedback.

If the application is approved, the TWP will discuss with the coach of the Marcher the means by which the affected Marcher will be made identifiable to the impacted judges (for example, by wearing a clearly visible identifying marker) in order to ensure the impacted judges can provide fair and equitable judging and this information will be included in the letter of approval.

It is noted that a permanent dispensation will not be able to be applied if the impacted judges are unable to clearly and easily identify the Marcher in question in the phases to which the dispensation applies.

The Team Coach will receive a copy of the approval letter from the TWP, which must be noted on all Team Entry Forms. This letter must also be presented to the Chief Judge on the day of each Championship and Competition, along with details of the Marcher's position in the team for the relevant phases.

Permanent disability for the purposes of the above refers to a condition or disability that as a result of birth, accident or illness is ongoing, non-reversible, and expected to be present for the remainder of the Marcher's participation in the sport. It is not temporary, seasonal, or subject to recovery or correction through treatment or rehabilitation.

b. Emergency Dispensations:

The Chief Judge will be authorised to grant or decline a dispensation of an emergency nature in respect of a health factor that may arise within 14 days prior to, during the course of, or at the commencement of a Championship or Competition. The decision of the Chief Judge will be final.

Emergency dispensations must be accompanied by a medical certificate containing explanation as to the injury incurred and defined effects. Further clarification may be requested.

Emergency dispensations can only be applied for once, unless (as in the case of a broken arm) a time-frame of healing is indicated by the medical practitioner.

All applications for 'emergency dispensations', must be notified by the Chief Judge of the day, to the Director of Judging with all relevant information, within 10 days of the event being held.

Introductory Grade Requirements

All requirements for the Introductory Grade, including R&I, Q/C/M, Display, Uniform, Judging and non-competitive provisions, are contained within the Policies & Operations Manual (Technical) Section 8.

Mascots

Teams with a human mascot will only be permitted to parade the mascot during non-competitive aspects of an Association Championship or Competition with the authority of the Secretary (this will not be allowable in any case at New Zealand Championships).

Discipline and Errors

Deductions will be made for any Marcher errors, talking or counting aloud during any phase of the competition. The judge will record these on their sheets accordingly.

Judge/Coach Interviews – Local Competitions and Island Championships

Interviews may be held after the competition for clarification only and will be co-ordinated by the Chief Judge of the Day.

Paces	Under 13/Intro	Under 18	Seniors/Masters
1	0.61	0.68	0.75
2	1.22	1.36	1.50
3	1.83	2.04	2.25
4	2.44	2.72	3.00
5	3.05	3.40	3.75
6	3.66	4.08	4.50
7	4.27	4.76	5.25
8	4.88	5.44	6.00
9	5.49	6.12	6.75
10	6.10	6.80	7.50
11	6.71	7.48	8.25
12	7.32	8.16	9.00
13	7.93	8.84	9.75
14	8.54	9.52	10.50
15	9.15	10.20	11.25
16	9.76	10.88	12.00
17	10.37	11.56	12.75
18	10.98	12.24	13.50
19	11.59	12.92	14.25
20	12.20	13.60	15.00
21	12.81	14.28	15.75
22	13.42	14.96	16.50
23	14.03	15.64	17.25
24	14.64	16.32	18.00
25	15.25	17.00	18.75
26	15.86	17.68	19.50
27	16.47	18.36	20.25
28	17.08	19.04	21.00
29	17.69	19.72	21.75
30	18.30	20.40	22.50
31	18.91	21.08	23.25
32	19.52	21.76	24.00
33	20.13	22.44	24.75
34	20.74	23.12	25.50
35	21.35	23.80	26.25
36	21.96	24.48	27.00
37	22.57	25.16	27.75
38	23.18	25.84	28.50