



NATIONAL ROAD SERIES



2022 Cycling New Zealand National Road Series

The purpose of this document is to provide further details on the National Road Series (NRS) to Event Organisers interested in applying to be included.

1. Introduction

Cycling New Zealand's objectives for the NRS is:

- To provide accessible and meaningful racing opportunities
- To create a fun environment for connection
- To challenge and develop youth riders
- Where learning is at the centre of everything we do

2. Support

This NRS is supported by [Cycling New Zealand Schools](#) and [Cycling New Zealand Road & Track](#).

3. Context and Background

The NRS is an initiative of CNZ initially based on feedback from junior tour organisers on how racing can become more meaningful for junior riders. The inaugural series was held in 2020/2021 season with around eight events included plus two Zwift bonus races.

The original aim of the NRS was to support meaningful racing opportunities to riders through a coordinated calendar, appropriate distances, appropriate recognition through the grades and a focus on skills development specifically for the junior riders (U15, U17 and U19). While these objectives are still appropriate, they have been adapted for 2022 (see above) following our series debrief to resonate more personally.

Events will retain their own individual branding and organisers will be responsible for their own promotion and marketing but will sit under the national banner of the "National Road Series" with Cycling New Zealand supporting their marketing to reach a wider audience.

Events selected to be included will be required to participate in the [Cycling New Zealand Event Certification programme](#) which will provide a level of assurance to stakeholders that the event understands and complies with the relevant laws, and regulations, and utilises best practice event management.



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4. How The 2022 Series Will Work

We acknowledge the challenge of calendar management, particularly in the summer months and the emphasis that is placed towards the end of the season approaching National Champs. To alleviate pressure (for riders and organisers) over the summer window and to spread the competition opportunities, the 2022 series will be run as a calendar year series (January – December). We hope this will produce a more balanced calendar with each event having its own space.

Any successful events that are scheduled for October – December 2021 will be considered bonus races that riders can race in their 2021 age group with those bonus points going with you to your 2022 age group. Points for these two bonus races will be the same as the E-Sports Bonus Races available in 2020. So essentially, as a catch up year, it will be an October 2021 – December 2022 series. This is to recognise events that supported the initiative last year and provide momentum at the back end of the year.

The overall series recognition will be decided by a points system gained from official events. Riders are encouraged to race one or more events with points from their (to be determined number) of their best results (plus any bonus points from the 2021 events) considered for the overall series recognition. The number of events that will count will be confirmed when we have the series confirmed.

Each event will continue to provide appropriate recognition for each grade offered independent of their NRS status (i.e. awarding their own podium or prizes as they normally do).

Some changes to note from 2021:

- All three National Championship events (Vantage Criterium National Champs, Vantage Elite Road National Champs and the Vantage Age Group Road National Champs) and the E-Sport Bonus race have been removed from the 2022 series, removing the emphasis from National Championships and allowing the other races more exposure.
- The 2022 series is looking to include two more south island races to create more opportunities for south island riders (to remove some travel expense barriers).
- Branding for the series will be changing, with a new logo that resonates with the youth riders and to take away any 'national championship' connotations.
- Removal of the U13 grade from NRS recognition. Organisers can still include this grade but it will not be part of the series. Those U13 riders who are at the U15 ability can race U15 (the first licence available in the R&T system).
- Cycling New Zealand will introduce a series leader jersey, to be awarded after the first event to U15, U17 and U19 grades. This jersey will be handed back at the end of each event, and will travel to each event. If the NRS Series Leader is also the current Tour Leader, KOM/QOM or Sprint Ace leader, the current tour jersey will take precedence and the NRS Series leader jersey won't be worn for that race(s). At the



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conclusion of each event the NRS Series Leaders will be announced, this will not change from stage to stage.

5. Events

Events will be able to apply to be part of the series with the intent to have a range of events that are accessible and support a cohesive and coordinated calendar. Acceptance to the NRS is not guaranteed. To meet eligibility criteria events must at a minimum (see also #15- The role of the organiser):

- Support the intent / objectives of the series
- Meet the criteria of the [Cycling New Zealand event certification programme](#)
- Accept only riders with a Cycling New Zealand licence or schools licence
- Offer one or more of the series age group categories
- Offer appropriate distances and racing for each category

5. Eligibility of Riders

All riders must be a minimum of year 7 at school in the year of the competition for the U15 grade in the NRS. Event organisers can set their own criteria for U13's.

6. Calculating Age Groups

The series is regarded as the 2022 series and as such ages are calculated as at 31 December 2022.

Each event will offer a minimum of one of the following grades: U15, U17 and U19.

For 2021 Bonus Events; riders are able to race in their 2021 age group with any points gained from these races taken with them to their 2022 age category.

7. Licences

Riders will be required to hold a [Cycling New Zealand Youth or Schools Licence](#) * Noting age categories are calculated as at 31 Dec 2022. For events prior to 1 January 2022 a 2021 licence is accepted. For events post 1 Jan 2022 only a 2022 licence is accepted.

*U19 riders must hold a Cycling New Zealand Youth licence – all other grades are eligible to race on either a Cycling New Zealand Schools licence or a Cycling New Zealand Youth Licence.

8. Entry

Entries are made by the individual to each event as determined by the event organisers. Entries are subject to the terms and conditions of each organiser.

9. Series Points

Points will be awarded for each event in the series using the points system on our website, [click here](#) for more information.

10. Recognition

The overall series winner is awarded to the rider that scores the most series points taking into account their (to be determined number) of their best results (plus any bonus points from the 2021 events) considered for the overall series recognition

In the event of a tie for first, the highest-placed rider in the final race of the most recent series race shall take precedence.

Top three overall riders in the series categories (U19, U17 and U15) will be recognised as National Series Champion and podium place getters. There is no recognition for U13; this can be done by each event at their discretion.

At the time of entry, riders will be able to nominate their CNZ affiliated club, CNZ affiliated trade team or CNZ Hub. There will be recognition of each of these categories throughout the race series.

In line with the series objectives, Cycling New Zealand (together with the event organisers and commissaires) may recognise a rider who best demonstrates the intent of the objectives. This will be through the "Living the Values" awards.

11. Sponsorship

Event Organisers maintain the right to 100% of their sponsorship assets of their event.

Cycling New Zealand reserve the right to apply a sponsor across the NRS brand to continue to support the series and create further marketing and promotion opportunities for the series and elevate visibility for the included events.

Any sponsor secured will only be applied to the series branding. i.e. ACME National Road Series – not to the event.

12. Branding and Use of Logos

Organisers are asked to display series signage (provided by Cycling New Zealand) at their event including series branded backdrops for presentations. The event is able to use the series branding as part of their own backdrop design. This can be mutually agreed.

The use of the Series and event logos are to be mutually agreed.

13. Event Levy

Events will be required pay a flat fee of \$300 + GST as a fee to Cycling New Zealand to support the management and sustainability of the NRS. Cycling New Zealand will invoice event organisers following their event.

14. Role and support of Cycling New Zealand

CNZ will play an important role in assisting event organisers to achieve the best possible outcome for their event and the sport of cycling under the umbrella of this series. While CNZ does not provide any financial assistance directly to the events, their support includes (but not limited to):

- To develop a NRS branding and branding guidelines and provide this to organisers
- To develop a NRS communications plan and share this with organisers
- To develop and host a NRS website and list approved events
- To include approved events on the Cycling New Zealand calendar
- To profile events and entry in monthly member newsletters and social media
- To waive the event certification fee
- To update series points at the conclusion of each event and update the website
- To promote the series (and the events) through its database and social media platforms
- To host and update series information on dedicated webpage
- To provide advice and templates to assist with the events with operational and administration planning
- To provide overall recognition prizes for end of the series (i.e. jerseys)
- To provide series branding collateral to support event organisers (i.e. backdrop)

15. Role and support of Event Organisers

The event organiser is responsible for the overall delivery of the event. They will be issued with a 'Partnership Agreement' to sign which outlines their responsibilities which include:

- To be responsible for the overall organisation and promotion of their Event
- To promote the event locally and through their own email and social media channels
- Maintain the highest standards and industry recognised best practice for general event organisation
- To apply for and ensure all health and safety documentation and implementation is compliant and meets the requirements of Cycling New Zealand Event Certification
- The date, specific events and distances to be agreed with CNZ that enables the principles of participation and accessibility, as well as providing a competitive and stimulating competition environment
- Providing a link to the NRS website on their own website
- Managing their event entry process in accordance with this document
- As soon as possible after the event will send full results in Excel to CNZ, in a format agreed with CNZ
- To run the event in accordance with the [CNZR&T rules and regulations](#)

16. Feedback from the 2020/2021 series

From survey feedback, riders said they most enjoyed; The Friendly club running the event, being able to talk with the girls in my age group at the social lunches and being able race and learn new skills, the new and challenging courses and how well the event was run, racing new people and in a new place, catching up with my mates from around nz.

We also caught up with a few NRS Series Winners at the conclusion of last year's series:

- "Winning the NRS yellow jersey was a big stepping stone this year and will be one that I will remember with the tough competition from all round the country at every junior tour" - Lewis Bower.
- "I really enjoyed racing in the series especially as it was the first one. I really enjoyed the variety of courses that we rode. I was so stoked to come away with the yellow jersey and polka dot jersey, and looking forward to racing the series again next year. A huge thanks as well to cycling New Zealand and the clubs for running all the events" - Amye Kellow
- "It means quite a lot to me to have won my age group at the NRS. At the start of the year, I had not been in any Tours so I had to learn what things like GC meant. At first, I liked the social side but now I just love it. Ultimately I would love to be riding on a pro team in Europe in the future" - Josh Rowe

For further information and if you are interested in applying to have an event as part of the NRS, please contact events@cyclingtonzealand.nz by 15 July 2021.