



**MANAWATŪ
RUGBY**

24-25th June 2023

U18 Girls Rugby Festival Series

Leg 1 - Palmerston North

Ashleigh Knight Tournament



Key Information

The purpose of the U18 Girls Rugby Festival Series is to provide more meaningful playing opportunities to participants by organising tournaments providing them the event to play against comparable levels of opposition.

This festival of rugby is open to all girls U18 teams (school, composite & club based) of any competitive level who would like to enter. Subject to entry numbers, multiple grades will be formed in order to achieve the goal of giving all participants a quality rugby experience.

The weekend will be opportunity for girls from around the country to play against each other as well as build relationships off the field away from rugby. Manawatu Rugby is very honoured to name this tournament after Feilding High School and Manawatu Cyclones player Ashleigh Knight who sadly passed away in 2021. Ashleigh has the most appearances in Feilding High School history and played 5 seasons for the Cyclones by the age of 21. She was incredibly passionate and loved her rugby and we find it only fitting that the tournament be named after her and a trophy will be presented in her name also.

Date: 24th - 25th June

Venue: Feilding High School, Feilding

Grades:

- ♦ U18 XV's Cup
- ♦ Carnival grade TBC subject to entries

Maximum capacity: 12 teams per grade

Entry Fee: \$250 per team

Contact:

Ryan Evans

Tournament Director

Manawatu Rugby Union

027 930 4150

ryane@manawaturugby.co.nz

Referee incentive programme: Teams that bring their own qualified referee will have their entry fees waived. Please communicate this with the Tournament Director no later than June 21st.

Register here: <https://www.nzrugby.co.nz/get-involved/schools/competitions-and-events/u18-girls-rugby-festival-series-team-entry-form/>

Eligibility

XVs Cup Grade

As the XVs grade is designated as a cup level tournament, participating teams must comply with the School Sport NZ eligibility regulations & NZR policy, regulations & rules.

Teams

- Teams may be comprised of players representing a school, multiple schools, or a rugby club. More detail on the regulations and eligibility of this is still to come.

Players

- Players must be under 18 years of age on 1 January, 2023. Players aged 18 years of age must receive dispensation by their local Provincial Union in order to participate in play.

Carnival grade

The carnival grade is designed for those teams who may not be as competitive. The aim of this grade is to allow those players who want to play for the love of the game instead of the competitiveness. The carnival grade will be flexible for those schools who might not be able to field a 15 a side game and playing 10s would be better suited. By developing this grade will help bring more participation into the women's rugby side and will offer a more enjoyable experience for girls.

Accommodation

Teams are encouraged to plan around travel and accommodation as early as possible.

Teams are expected to make their own arrangements. Listed below are a number of accommodation providers in the area.

Hotel	Email	Contact Nr	Website
Palmerston North Holiday Park	palmerstonnorthholiday-park@xtra.co.nz	06 3580349	http://palmerstonnorthholidaypark.co.nz/
Comfort Inn Kauri court motel	info@kauricourt.co.nz	(06) 356 6040	http://www.kauricourt.co.nz/view/conference/sports-teams-and-groups.php
Pavilion Motel	info@pavilionmotel.co.nz	(06)3571131	https://www.pavilionmotel.co.nz/location-palmerston-north.html
Harringtons Motor Lodge	stay@harringtonsmotorlodge.co.nz	(06)3547259	https://harringtonsmotorlodge.co.nz/
Cornwall Motor Lodge	info@cornwallmotorlodge.co.nz	(06) 354 9010	https://cornwallmotorlodge.co.nz/
Fitzherbert Regency Motor Lodge	info@fitzherbertregency.co.nz	(06)-355 5155	https://fitzherbertregency.co.nz/
Hacienda	stay@hacienda.co.nz	(06) 357 3109	https://hacienda.co.nz/

Programme

Please note all times are subject to change depending on number of teams entered, but the days will not commence any earlier than stated below.

Saturday 24th June

11:00am	Opening Ceremony	All Teams
11:20am	Managers Meeting	All Managers
12:00pm	Rd 1 Matches Begin	All Teams
12:30pm	Lunch	All Teams
1:30pm	Rd 2 Matches Begin	All Teams
2:30pm	Rd 3 Matches Begin	All Teams
6:00pm	Festival Dinner (Seated by 5:45pm)	All Teams

Sunday 25th June

9:00am	Captains Photo	All Team Captains
10:00am	Rd 4 Matches Begin	All Teams
11:00am	Rd 5 Matches Begin	All Teams
11:30pm	Lunch	All Teams
12:30pm	Rd 6 Matches Begin	All Teams
1:00pm	Closing Ceremony, Presentations & Farewell	All Teams

Additionally, throughout Days One and Two, player and coach development activity will be delivered to teams by NZR and MRU while teams aren't playing.



Competition Format

Total Matches per team: 6

Match Length: 30min

Point Tally: Win = 3 points; Draw = 1 point; Loss = 0 points

The draw format will be sent out once registration has closed and all teams have been confirmed.

Referee Incentive

We ask that all participating schools consider bringing a referee along to support the success of the U18 Girls Rugby Festival Series. Teams that bring their own qualified referee will have their entry fees waived. Please communicate this with the Tournament Director no later than June 21st.