

Hi All

I had mixed reactions to the news regarding the JMC Closed, with many wanting to play and finalise teams as soon as possible.

I have tried to find alternative venues at such a short notice to accommodate us for at least 5 90/90 rounds over 2 days, but with no success.

The purpose of the JMC Closed is to experience similar conditions and game time to that of the SAJCC, and also for coaches to meet and observe the various age group team members against each other, and to finalise teams.

Some venues only have Saturday available. We cannot fit 5 rounds of 90/90 into a single day, and changing to 60/60 defeats the purpose of having this kind of tournament.

We considered the timing of team selections, player activity throughout the year, planned practise sessions, school holidays and exams and the effectiveness of last year's closed and came up with the following decisions:

- a) The tournament of 16/17 September is still going on at Randburg High School, and will be 5 rounds of 90/90 for Saturday and Sunday.
- b) Most schools would have started exams mid-September, or have sports or culture activities during this time, **thus this tournament will be an Open tournament and non-compulsory**, but we urge those in the final teams to use this opportunity to attend and show your skills to the coaches.
- c) For teams to be finalised soonest, we must therefore use an extra tournament performance as substitute for all players to determine a final list. This would have been the case for those who have applied for exemptions anyway.
- d) The above will impact the number of teams to go to SAJCC, (probably more teams). Final teams to follow in the next week.
- e) There are still a number of players with NO CLUB membership. For those players showing up as NO CLUB, and still want to be part of the teams, please make sure you register with a Club and that **the club provide the membership details to me** by Friday 25 August.

By Friday I will remove all NOCLUB players from the lists to get final teams.

For clarification regarding our fees to register for SAJCC.

1. Jhb Metro needs to submit teams and player numbers to SAJCC in September.
2. Jhb Metro needs to make the first payment to SAJCC by End of September based on these numbers.
3. Therefore, once teams are announced, we will require players to pay their R800 deposit as acceptance to go to Nationals (SAJCC) by latest mid-September (17th).

Players requesting funding support needs to formally apply for it, using the form on the website, together with the necessary documentation. If you have not applied for funding support, and you pay no acceptance fees, then you will be removed from the team lists.

Those who have already paid their registration fees for the planned JMC closed this weekend, will be credited towards the R800. Example, if you paid R150 for JMC Closed, then you will only owe R650 for SAJCC team acceptance.

We will finalise costing based on teams/managers/coaches/coaching-sessions and share with all soon.

Based on all considerations, this is the best we can do in the time we have.

We tried to fit as many players into the decisions, and unfortunately there will be some unhappy about it.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution.

The selection committee would like to collect your input to assist in the improvement of the selection criteria for teams for next year onwards.

Comparatively, we are one of the Regions with the most “open/relaxed” selection criteria, with the lowest number of tournaments and games required to qualify, and no limitations on which tournaments count or not. We also do not have compulsory tournaments post team selection to keep players active until nationals and to improve teams.

We need to find something that will work for us as a Region.

I appreciate your understanding.