



2026 SNZ Inaugural Australasian Open

Join us in lovely Mt. Eden, Auckland for the debut of a brand new international open tournament! We guarantee that the winner's purse will top \$1000 - the largest in New Zealand in quite some time.

Venue: [Mt Eden Village Centre](#), 449 Mount Eden Road, Mount Eden, Auckland

Dates and Times: 20-21 June, 2026: Report at 8:40am for a 9am start both days. We expect to wrap up, including the prize ceremony, by 5:30pm on Sunday at the latest.

Format: 15 games - 8 Saturday, 7 Sunday. One grade for all. Swiss pairing system with KOTH for the last 2 rounds.

Rules: [Scrabble New Zealand Constitution and Rules of Play](#) **Lexicon:** CSW24

Rating: This tournament will be rated by Scrabble New Zealand and WESPA

Early Registration: Players that pay their entry fee before **20 April 2026** will be eligible to win back \$60 in a lottery draw. Capacity is limited, so register early to guarantee your spot! [See current entrants list here.](#)

Entry: Payment of **NZ \$115** entry fee is payable by **13 June 2026**

NZ Players: Please pay via direct bank transfer: Account Name: **NZ Association of Scrabble Players**

Kiwibank 38-9010-0771416-00 Include the name of the Entrant for reference.

International Players: Pay your **NZ \$115** entry fee here via **Wise:** <https://wise.com/pay/me/christophert3852>

Download **Wise** to create an account if you don't have one: <https://wise.com/invite/dic/christophert3852>

Cash on the Day may be accepted as a last resort - please enquire if you are having difficulty with payment.

Notify Tournament Convenor: Chris Tallman, SNZ Secretary: chrishtallman@gmail.com with your entry details:

Full Name of Entrant and whether you are bringing a board and/or a clock

For international entrants, please also indicate your Home Scrabble Organisation and Current WESPA rating

P₃ **R**₁ **I**₁ **Z**₁₀ **E**₁ **S**₁

PLACE PRIZES FOR TOP OVERALL FINISHERS, PERFORMANCE PRIZES & SPOT PRIZES

The Overall Winner is guaranteed at least NZD \$1000

(At least \$1200 is being added to the prize pool over and above entry fees via private donations)

***Performance Prizes:** Top Finishers with ratings below certain thresholds will win performance prizes * TBD depending on entries. Eligibility for these prizes as follows:

"B Grade" - NZ Rating of 1900 or below. WESPA rating of 1700 or below if an entrant has no NZ rating.

"C Grade" - NZ Rating of 1500 or below. WESPA rating of 1300 or below if an entrant has no NZ rating.

Refreshments: Morning and afternoon teas provided. BYO lunch, or buy it from several nearby cafes. There are many great options for food and coffee right outside the venue. Microwaves are available on site to heat up lunches.

There will be a group dinner on Saturday night - for those interested, email chrishtallman@gmail.com

Parking: There is a 60 minute max parking right outside the venue (suitable for dropping off gear) - afterwards, there is free parking further down Ngauruhoe St. or on Poronui St. (across Mt Eden Road).

Live streaming: One game per round will be live streamed. Please indicate if you do NOT want to play on stream upon entry. Organisers will avoid putting players that opt-out on stream, except for those on the top board in the final KOTH round. By entering this tournament, you agree to play on stream if you are in contention to win in round 15.