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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

1 June 2010

# **Heartland Championship 2010 season draw**

Two-time Meads Cup winners Wanganui will have the home advantage for their Heartland Championship 2010 season opener against South Canterbury, while 2009 Lochore Cup winners North Otago play away from home against East Coast.

The Heartland Championship kicks off on 28 August, and the draw released by the New Zealand Rugby Union (NZRU) today sees all teams playing one home and one away game in the first two weeks, setting up another promising season of grassroots provincial rugby.

The 12 provinces playing in the Heartland Championship play in two pools with a five-match pool round. At the end of those five weeks, the teams are seeded with the top half playing for the Meads Cup and the bottom half playing for the Lochore Cup.

The Finals of the Meads and Lochore Cups are scheduled to be played on Saturday 30 October.

The 2010 Heartland Championship teams are:

<b>POOL A</b>	<b>POOL B</b>
Wanganui	Mid Canterbury
South Canterbury	Poverty Bay
Horowhenua Kapiti	Wairarapa Bush
West Coast	North Otago
King Country	Buller
Thames Valley	East Coast

The 2010 Heartland Championship draw is also attached.

# 2010 Heartland Championship match schedule

*Current as at 1 June 2010.  
All details are subject to change  
Home team is listed first*

DATE	KICK OFF	MATCH	VENUE	TOWN
<b>WEEK 1</b>				
<b>POOL A</b>				
Sat 28 Aug	2.30pm	King Country v Horowhenua Kapiti	Rugby Park	Te Kuiti
Sat 28 Aug	2.30pm	Wanganui v South Canterbury	Cooks Gardens	Wanganui
Sat 28 Aug	2.00pm	Thames Valley v West Coast	Paeroa Domain	Paeroa
<b>POOL B</b>				
Sat 28 Aug	2.30pm	East Coast v North Otago	Whakarua Park	Ruatoria
Sat 28 Aug	2.30pm	Buller v Wairarapa Bush	Victoria Square	Westport
Sat 28 Aug	2.00pm	Mid Canterbury v Poverty Bay	Ashburton Showgrounds	Ashburton
<b>WEEK 2</b>				
<b>POOL A</b>				
Sat 4 Sept	2.30pm	Horowhenua Kapiti v Wanganui	Levin Domain	Levin
Sat 4 Sept	2.30pm	West Coast v King Country	Rugby Park	Greymouth
Sat 4 Sept	2.30pm	South Canterbury v Thames Valley	Alpine Energy Stadium	Timaru
<b>POOL B</b>				
Sat 4 Sept	2.30pm	Wairarapa Bush v Mid Canterbury	Trust House Memorial Park	Masterton
Sat 4 Sept	2.30pm	North Otago v Buller	Whitestone Contracting Stadium	Oamaru
Sat 4 Sept	2.30pm	Poverty Bay v East Coast	More FM Rugby Park	Gisborne
<b>WEEK 3</b>				
<b>POOL A</b>				
Sat 11 Sept	2.30pm	South Canterbury v Horowhenua Kapiti	Alpine Energy Stadium	Timaru
Sat 11 Sept	2.00pm	Thames Valley v King Country	Paeroa Domain	Paeroa
Sat 11 Sept	2.30pm	Wanganui v West Coast	Cooks Gardens	Wanganui
<b>POOL B</b>				
Sat 11 Sept	2.00pm	East Coast v Buller	Whakarua Park	Ruatoria
Sat 11 Sept	2.30pm	Poverty Bay v Wairarapa Bush	More FM Rugby Park	Gisborne
Sat 11 Sept	2.30pm	Mid Canterbury v North Otago	Ashburton Showgrounds	Ashburton
<b>WEEK 4</b>				
<b>POOL A</b>				
Sat 18 Sept	2.30pm	King Country v Wanganui	Owen Delaney Park	Taupo
Sat 18 Sept	2.30pm	West Coast v South Canterbury	Rugby Park	Greymouth
Sat 18 Sept	1.45pm	Horowhenua Kapiti v Thames Valley	Easton Park	Foxton
<b>POOL B</b>				
Sat 18 Sept	2.30pm	Buller v Mid Canterbury	Victoria Square	Westport
Sat 18 Sept	2.30pm	Wairarapa Bush v East Coast	Trust House Memorial Park	Masterton
Sat 18 Sept	2.30pm	North Otago v Poverty Bay	Whitestone Contracting Stadium	Oamaru

<b>WEEK 5</b>				
<b>POOL A</b>				
Sat 25 Sept	2.30pm	South Canterbury v King Country	Alpine Energy Stadium	Timaru
Sat 25 Sept	2.30pm	Horowhenua Kapiti v West Coast	Paraparaumu Domain	Paraparaumu
Sat 25 Sept	2.30pm	Wanganui v Thames Valley	Cooks Gardens	Wanganui
<b>POOL B</b>				
Sat 25 Sept	2.30pm	Poverty Bay v Buller	More FM Rugby Park	Gisborne
Sat 25 Sept	2.30pm	Wairarapa Bush v North Otago	Trust House Memorial Park	Masterton
Sat 25 Sept	1.30pm	Mid Canterbury v East Coast	Ashburton Showgrounds	Ashburton

**Note:**

- Following pool play, Meads and Lochore Cup pool matches will be played over three consecutive weekends – Saturday 2 October, Saturday 9 October and Saturday 16 October. The six highest ranked teams will go into the Meads Cup Pool. The six other teams will go into the Lochore Cup Pool.
- The Meads Cup and Lochore Cup semi finals will be played on Saturday 23 October, with the two Cup Finals played on Saturday 30 October.

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