



LINE MECHANIC COMPETITION RULES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1 To compete in this competition, you must have a team of four. Three of the team members must be registered line mechanics with current practicing licenses. The fourth team member must be a trainee line mechanic on a Connexis line mechanic pathway or equivalent.
- 1.2 Trainee line mechanics that completed their last block course prior to the competition may still compete as trainees providing, they are not registered with the Electrical Workers Registration Board at the time of the competition.

2. EVENTS

2. Each team will participate in all events contained in the programme.

3. COMPETITOR REGISTRATION

3. Competitor registration will be held on **Monday 18 September 2023 at 3.00pm** Venue TBC
- 3.2 The team managers of any teams/competitors who are unable to attend registration at this time must advise the Event Manager Hillary Riches, hillaryr@connexis.org.nz as soon as possible, but no later than **Thursday 14 September 2023**. Unforeseen circumstances will be accepted.
- 3.3 Withdrawals from the competition must be by written notification and emailed to the Event Manager Hillary Riches, hillaryr@connexis.org.nz no later than **1 September 2023**. Competition withdrawals received after this date may be subject to a request to cover associated competition costs incurred by Connexis.

4. JUDGING GUIDELINES

- 4.1 Industry experts who have experience in line mechanic examinations and competitions have been selected to judge the events and will follow strict criteria. The first aid event will be judged by a recognised First Aid trainer or St John.
- 4.2 Judging will be based on best industry practices and procedures used across New Zealand and industry guides, regulations, and handbooks.
- 4.3 One Chief Judge will oversee and, if necessary, moderate the individual Event Judges to ensure fair and consistent judging across all teams.
- 4.4 There will be a minimum of one judge per team for each of the events.
- 4.5 Competitors can only ask questions of the Event Judges before the individual event begins, after the specification sheet is handed to the teams during the tailgate session, but not during the event.

Please Note: *The new SMEI format will be used from 2022*

- 5.1 Team members may be judged as individuals or pairs. However, it is the teams' average score for each event that contributes to their overall score.
- 5.2 Points will be deducted for any infringements as identified on the score sheet.
- 5.3 Where teams are tied, time may be the determining factor. The Chief Judge and Competition Manager may use their discretion to decide on the additional criteria used to determine the results if no other factors from the event judging sheets can separate the winner.
- The Competition Manager and the Chief Judge decision will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into.**
- 5.4 Additional penalty points will be deducted from teams for the following infringements.
- Two Penalty Points:**
- Not wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Dropping of tools/equipment
 - Misuse of tools/equipment
 - Knife blade unprotected
 - Pole strap dragging on ground
 - Untidy work site
 - Tape on harness
- Five Penalty Points:**
- Not being attached at all times
 - Ladder not secured before climbing
 - Carrying equipment in hands while climbing ladder
 - Not using hand line to raise and lower equipment
 - Not wearing insulting gloves ground to ground
 - Faulty equipment
 - Tools, equipment, or vehicles out of test
- Note: The penalty points listed above are not exhaustive and the judges will use their experience and industry best practice to identify further potential infringements. Points may also be deducted for improper procedures or safety violations not listed.**
- 5.5 Teams may be disqualified for unprofessional behavior. An Event Judge, Chief Judge or the Competition Manager may disqualify a competitor who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The team manager can challenge the disqualification by requesting a breath screening test or drug screen, which will be carried out by a suitably qualified independent person at no cost to the competitor's company.
- Alcohol Breath Screening Test**
- Testing will be carried out using a breathalyser or digital alcohol meter that complies with AS 3547:1997
- If the team member is over 18years of age and the reading is:
- 250 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath or less, the competitor will continue in the competition.
 - More than 400 micrograms per litre of breath, the original decision to disqualify the competitor will be upheld.
- There is zero alcohol limit for competitors 18years of age or under
- Drug Screen**
- Drug screening will be in compliance with AS/NZS 4308:2008. If the result is:
- Negative the team will continue in the competition.
 - No-Negative the original decision to disqualify the team will be upheld.

6. DISPUTES

- 6.1 With the exception of Rule 5.5 only competitors can lodge a dispute. The levels of authority for any dispute or disciplinary action are as follows:
- Team Member
 - Team leader
 - Event Judge
 - Chief Judge and Competition Manager. Any decision made at this level will be final.

7. HEALTH & SAFETY

- 7.1 It is the responsibility of companies to ensure their employees are not under the influence of alcohol or drugs during the event.
- 7.2 All competitors and team managers must attend the following briefings, which will be held at the competition venue
- **19 September 2023 at 8am**
 - **20 September 2023 at 8am**
 - **21 September 2023 at 8am**
- 7.3 Before beginning an event, each team must complete a tailgate and put in place the control methods identified on the tailgate.
- 7.4 All competitors must wear PPE and use tools and equipment that are appropriate for each task.
- 7.5 All accidents/incidents must be reported to the Competition Manager.

8. TOOLS, EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES AND PPE

- 8.1 Competitors must use a full-body harness that complies with AS/NZS 1891.4:2009. Lower body harness/safety belts (i.e., traditional line mechanic belts) will not be permitted.
- 8.2 It is the responsibility of competitors to ensure their PPE, tools, vehicles and equipment are safe, currently "in test" and appropriate for the tasks they will have to carry out during the competition.
- 8.3 Any equipment found to be faulty or out of test will be removed and the team will incur penalties. Competitors should ensure they have copies of test certificates available as judges may request evidence for relevant equipment.

9. WEATHER

- 9.1 In the event of extreme or arduous weather conditions like lightning, high winds or heavy continuous rain, a decision to cancel, delay, postpone or proceed will be made by the competition manager.

10. COMPETITION AWARDS PRESENTATION AND INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE AWARDS DINNER

- 10.1 The Competition Awards presentation will be held on the final day of the competition, 21 September 2023, at 6.00pm at the Bill Richardson Transport World, Invercargill. Please note this immediately precedes the Connexis Excellence Awards Dinner.
- Tickets are required to attend the Connexis Excellence Awards, and these can be purchased from the Event Manager prior to the evening.

- 10.2 All teams are expected to attend the Connexis Excellence Awards Dinner. There will be no announcement of the top three competitors at the Competition Awards presentation.
- 10.3 Connexis as the event owner will be enforcing host responsibility. **Competitors and guests who are visibly intoxicated will be asked to leave the premises and will not receive a refund of their ticket price.**

11 **FILMING AND PHOTOS OF COMPETITION EVENTS**

- 11.1 Competition Chief Judges and Connexis Event Management will have the discretion to ask competitors or associated support people to refrain from taking photos/videos in or around the competition arenas that is deemed to be at the disadvantage of other competitors.

The competition has official photographers (Still & Video- Aerial Drone) and no other photographers will be allowed into the competition arena. The flying of drones inside the arena and outside the arena within a distance of 10m from the arena fencing is strictly prohibited.

12 **COVID-19**

- 12.1 Connexis, is committed to COVID-19 Ministry of Health guidance and will take responsibility to stay up to date regularly and consistently with Ministry of Health guidance prior to and during the event.

Annual Connection will enable effective contact tracing which is essential to stop the spread of COVID-19 and will undertake best practice to encourage attendees to use the record keeping mechanisms at Annual Connection 2023. Good hygiene facilities will be available during the event. The Annual Connection tracer app will be on display in prominent places throughout the venue. Hand sanitiser will be available on site at multiple stations.

The event management plan will be circulated to all competitors prior to the event outlining all details around Covid and other health & safety policies related to the event.

KEY DATES AND CONTACT

Team Entry Registration (Online)	Open 6 March 2023	Close 1 May 2023
Confirmed Team Names and T-Shirt Size Hillaryr@connexis.org.nz	1 July 2023	
Registration / Welcome Function	18 September 2023	3.00pm - 5.00pm
Contact: Hillary Riches – Event Manager Hillaryr@connexis.org.nz 027 565 1961		