



# BY-LAWS & RULES

Effective 18 March 2025

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## **DEFINITIONS**

Unless explicitly defined in this document, terms used in these By-Laws & Rules shall have the same meaning as described in the Constitution of the Association.

**Abandoned** means a match or Round is called off after it commences, for any reason.

**Association** means Mid Hills Netball Association.

**Cancelled** means a match or Round is called off before it commences, for any reason.

**Club** means an organisation which nominates teams for the MHNA competition. In winter competition, Clubs must be affiliated with MHNA.

**Disqualified** means a team is deemed ineligible to have competed in a match due to a breach of the Association rules.

**Division** means a subgroup of an age group in junior competitions. The number of Divisions in an age group shall be determined by the Grading and Permits Committee depending on the number of teams nominated for the age group.

**Finals Team List** means a submitted list of Qualified players for each team which makes finals, and are named on the scorecard for finals matches

**Forfeit** means to withdraw from a match either prior to or during the match. See also Mutual Forfeit.

**Grade** means a single competition. In junior competitions, the Grade includes the Division (e.g. 13&Under Division 3)

**Minor Round** means the scheduled home and away matches leading up to the finals

**Mutual Forfeit** means to agree with the opposing team that both teams shall voluntarily withdraw from a match, either before or during the match.

**Permit Request Form** means the standard form required for submission of permit requests to the Grading and Permits committee.

**Qualified** means having met the requirements to play finals for a Club in one or more Grades.

**Qualifying Grade** means the lowest Grade in which a player qualifies to play finals.

**Recorded** means entered into the PlayHQ or other official recording systems of the Association.

**Registered** means having NetballSA playing membership for the current year, either through an affiliated Club in winter competition or through MHNA in summer competition. Registration must be renewed annually.

**Representative Team** means a team selected to represent the Association at NetballSA Country Championships and other carnivals as approved by the Board of Management.

**Round** means a complete set of scheduled matches for a Grade or the whole competition. Where Grades play on different days of the week, a Round includes all days of play (e.g. Round 1 includes all matches played on Friday and Saturday of the first weekend of competition).

**Single Game Voucher (SGV)** means a voucher purchased from the Association to provide insurance coverage for one match. SGVs are required for any player who is not Registered.

**Standard Fine** means a financial penalty imposed on a Club for a breach of these rules. The amount of the Standard Fine is decided at the Annual General Meeting each year.

**Unfinancial** means having overdue fees of any kind to the Association, or one of its affiliated Clubs.



# BY-LAWS & RULES

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## **BY-LAWS**

### **BL 1 OFFICERS**

#### **BL 1.1 GENERAL**

Members of the Board of Management shall serve 2 year terms as described in the Constitution. All officer positions listed within BL 1 and sub-points shall be effective for a twelve (12) month period, unless otherwise approved by the Board of Management. All officers shall be impartial and make decisions in the best interest of the Association.

#### **BL 1.2 PRESIDENT**

The President shall

- a) Preside at all General Meetings of the Association and all meetings of the Board of Management.
- b) Adhere to the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of the Association
- c) Supervise the activities of the Association and its Committees in general
- d) Submit a written report to the Annual General Meeting

#### **BL 1.3 VICE-PRESIDENT**

The Vice-President shall assist the President and, in the President's absence or inability to act, shall perform the duties of President.

#### **BL 1.4 SECRETARY**

##### **BL 1.4.1 DUTIES**

The Secretary shall

- a) Attend all General and Board of Management meetings and carry out all directions given at any such meeting.
- b) Arrange all General Meetings and, within the notice periods specified in the Constitution, supply in writing to each Club and Life Member all documentation related to the meeting.
- c) Keep the minutes or records of proceedings of all General Meetings of the Association and all Board of Management Meetings, and current copies of the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules.
- d) Keep a register of affiliated Clubs, their colours, uniforms and financial members
- e) Keep a register of Association policy decisions not covered by the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules
- f) Submit an annual report to NetballSA for inclusion in their Annual General Meeting report.
- g) Attend to all other clerical work of the Association.

##### **BL 1.4.2 ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY**

If required, an assistant to the Secretary shall be appointed by the Board of Management, but shall not be a voting member of the Board in that capacity.



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## **BL 1.5 FINANCE OFFICER**

### **BL 1.5.1 DUTIES**

The Finance Officer shall

- a) Be responsible for receipt of all monies due to the Association, which shall be deposited without delay to the Association's bank account.
- b) Be responsible for the immediate issue of official receipts for money received, if requested by the payer, and receiving of official receipts for money paid.
- c) Pay, by cheque or electronic banking, all accounts presented by Association Officers or Committees. Such cheques shall be signed by three of four signatories authorised by the Board of Management. If monies are withdrawn by electronic banking, one signatory must make the transfer while another two signatories must authorise the payment. A transaction limit for electronic banking may be set by the Board of Management.
- d) Ensure payment of the closing balance by the due date of the Credit Card or Debit Card statement
- e) Submit to each Board of Management meeting a statement of receipts and expenditure, and a current bank statement balance.
- f) Prepare a financial statement at the end of each financial year to be audited and submitted to the Secretary in time for distribution to Clubs and Life Members before the Annual General Meeting.
- g) Notify the Recording Officer and Board of Management immediately if a player and/or Club becomes Unfinancial, so that the Board of Management may impose the appropriate penalty (refer Rules R 2.3.3, R 11.4.1 and R 12.2.1)

### **BL 1.5.2 ASSISTANT TO THE FINANCE OFFICER**

If required, an assistant to the Finance Officer shall be appointed by the Board of Management, but shall not be a voting member of the Board in that capacity.

## **BL 1.6 FACILITIES MANAGER**

The Association may employ a Facilities Manager to ensure the facilities used by the Association are well maintained and of acceptable standard. The Facilities Manager shall

- a) Ensure the compliance requirements for the facility are regularly monitored and updated if needed
- b) Advise the Board of Management of any facility issues and required repairs
- c) Organise and liaise with necessary providers in relation to maintenance or repairs
- d) Liaise with Council or Woodside Recreation Grounds as necessary in regard to Council's responsibilities
- e) Seek approval from the Board of Management prior to committing the Association to any financial expenditure or action
- f) Document all procedures and update such procedures at all times of change

## **BL 1.7 RECORDING OFFICER**

The Recording Officer shall

- a) Be appointed by the Board of Management prior to the Annual General Meeting
- b) Keep a register of playing members

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- c) Take charge of, and record scores, players and best player votes from scorecards
- d) Submit match results to the local newspaper for publication
- e) Arrange for a premiership table to be available to members and submit to the local newspaper for publication at regular intervals and at the completion of the Minor Round.
- f) Supply player, match or competition information to members on request.
- g) Be automatically appointed to the Grading & Permits Committee.

## **BL 1.8 PRESS SECRETARY**

The Press Secretary shall

- a) Be appointed at the Annual General Meeting
- b) After each Round, collate match reports submitted by Clubs, and forward to the local newspaper in time for publication.

## **BL 1.9 CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS & RULES OFFICER**

The Constitution, By-Laws & Rules Officer shall

- a) Be appointed by the Board of Management.
- b) Become familiar with all clauses of the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules, including interpretation of clauses.
- c) Be consulted by any member of the Association for clarification on the meaning or operation of all clauses
- d) At least once each year, review the Constitution, By-Laws & Rules, and submit recommendations for change to the Board of Management for consideration. Formulate revised wording as required and submit to the Secretary in time for inclusion in General Meeting notices to Clubs and Life Members.

## **BL 1.10 MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICERS**

At least two (2) Member Protection Information Officers shall

- a) Be appointed by the Board of Management
- b) Have completed the necessary training to perform the role
- c) Be familiar with the Association's Member Protection Policy
- d) Provide support, advice and guidance for members on all matters relating to member protection.

## **BL 1.11 CHILD SAFE OFFICERS**

At least two (2) Child Safe Officers shall

- a) Be appointed by the Board of Management
- b) Have completed the necessary training to perform the role
- c) Be familiar with the Association's Child Safe Environments Policy
- d) Provide support, advice and guidance for members on all matter relating to a Child Safe Environment.

## **BL 1.12 EXECUTIVE**

- a) In circumstances where urgent decisions are needed and it is not practicable to convene a meeting of the full Board of Management, the Association Executive shall confer.
- b) The Executive comprises the President, Finance Officer, Secretary and the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules Officer.



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## **BL 2 CANTEEN**

### **BL 2.1 GENERAL**

The canteen shall be under the control of the Board of Management, who shall appoint a Board Member to act as Canteen Finance Officer.

### **BL 2.2 CANTEEN FINANCE OFFICER**

The Canteen Finance Officer shall

- a) Collect and count all cash monies received by the canteen, and deposit without delay into the canteen bank account.
- b) Submit to each Board of Management meeting a statement of receipts and expenditure and a current bank balance.
- c) Submit a written annual report on canteen operations to the Secretary six weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. Canteen financial information is included in the audited financial statements and does not need to be reported separately.

### **BL 2.3 CANTEEN MANAGER**

The Association may employ a Canteen Manager to operate and stock the canteen. At all times the canteen is open, the Canteen Manager, or a Club canteen representative, must be present and responsible for supervision and control of canteen operations.

## **BL 3 SUB-COMMITTEES**

### **BL 3.1 GENERAL**

#### **BL 3.1.1 PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT**

All sub-committees shall be appointed for a twelve (12) month period commencing from the Annual General Meeting, unless otherwise approved by the Board of Management.

#### **BL 3.1.2 POWER TO CO-OPT**

All sub-committees shall have the power to co-opt additional members if required. This must be noted in the committee's minutes when it occurs.

#### **BL 3.1.3 REPORTING TO BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

Each sub-committee shall provide a copy of minutes to the Board of Management meeting following each committee meeting.

#### **BL 3.1.4 REPORTING TO AGM**

Each sub-committee shall provide a written report of its operations to the Secretary six (6) weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting.

### **BL 3.2 UMPIRES COMMITTEE**

#### **BL 3.2.1 COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT**





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An Umpires Committee consisting of at least one (1) member from each affiliated Club shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

## **BL 3.2.2 DUTIES**

The Umpire's Committee shall

- a) meet monthly
- b) at the first committee meeting after the Annual General Meeting, appoint a representative to the Board of Management
- c) allocate neutral umpires for matches as described in R 3.7.1
- d) arrange umpire training and improvement programs during the year
- e) co-ordinate umpire practical assessments
- f) encourage all umpires to upgrade their skills and generally assist with the promotion of umpires and umpiring within the Association
- g) administer the whistle awards program during winter season

## **BL 3.3 FINALS COMMITTEE**

### **BL 3.3.1 COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT**

A Finals Committee consisting of at least twelve (12) members shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

### **BL 3.3.2 DUTIES**

The Finals Committee shall

- a) meet as necessary
- b) arrange neutral scorers and timekeepers for all finals matches
- c) arrange for the purchase of all trophies and awards, solicit donations where appropriate and maintain control of perpetual trophies
- d) arrange presenters for premiership trophies on grand final days

## **BL 3.4 CARNIVAL COMMITTEE**

### **BL 3.4.1 COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT**

A Carnival Committee consisting of at least eight (8) members shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

### **BL 3.4.2 DUTIES**

The Carnival Committee shall

- a) meet monthly
- b) recommend coaches and team managers for each Representative Team for Board of Management approval
- c) arrange and co-ordinate all matters relating to the selection and training of Representative Teams
- d) co-ordinate the involvement of Representative Teams in NetballSA Country Championships and other carnivals
- e) arrange and administer the Mid Hills carnival

## **BL 3.5 GRADING & PERMITS COMMITTEE**

### **BL 3.5.1 COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT**

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A Grading & Permits Committee consisting of four (4) members plus the Recording Officer shall be appointed by the Board of Management. A Minutes Secretary shall also be appointed but shall not have voting rights.

## **BL 3.5.2 DUTIES**

The Grading and Permits Committee shall

- a) meet as necessary
- b) arrange the grading of teams prior to the commencement of each season, taking into consideration the age, skill level, experience and past performance of nominated players and teams
- c) consider written requests for permits for players to play below their age group in extenuating circumstances, and for exemptions to finals qualification rules. The committee may place conditions on the use of any permits they grant.
- d) re-grade, if necessary, during the season, and consider requests from Clubs as input to the re-grading process
- e) notify the Secretary promptly of the results of grading or re-grading, to enable the program to be prepared or altered.

## **BL 3.6 SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

### **BL 3.6.1 COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT**

A Social Committee consisting of at least five (5) members shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

### **BL 3.6.2 DUTIES**

The Social Committee shall

- a) meet as necessary
- b) arrange and co-ordinate all aspects pertaining to any social function and/or fundraising event held on behalf of and approved by the Association

## **BL 4 AD HOC COMMITTEES**

### **BL 4.1 GENERAL**

Ad hoc committees shall be convened by the Board of Management as required. Once the immediate task of the committee is completed, the committee shall be dissolved.

### **BL 4.2 WEATHER COMMITTEE**

A Weather Committee shall comprise members as described in the Extreme Weather Policy. Its duties shall be to make decisions in accordance with that policy.

### **BL 4.3 COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE**

A Complaints Committee shall be convened to deal with member protection issues, or any complaint submitted to the Association in accordance with its complaints procedures.

#### **BL 4.3.1 COMPOSITION**

The committee shall comprise three (3) members, without conflicts of interest, from the following areas



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- a) One (1) Board of Management representative, being the President, Vice-President or Constitution, By-Laws & Rules Officer
- b) One (1) Association Member Protection Information Officer
- c) One (1) Board of Management officer or Umpire Committee representative

## **BL 4.3.2 DUTIES**

The committee shall

- a) consider and take any action required with consideration of the rules of the game and the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of the Association, and in accordance with existing member protection policies.
- b) Provide a written report of all complaints to the next Board of Management meeting.

## **BL 4.3.3 ESCALATION**

Should the Complaints Committee be unable to resolve an issue, the parties involved may escalate the matter to a higher body, such as NetballSA.



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## **RULES**

### **R 1 GENERAL**

#### **R 1.1 ASSOCIATION COLOURS**

The Association's official colours are red and white. Black may be added to uniforms or merchandise to enhance the design, but red and white must be the predominant colours

### **R 2 AFFILIATED CLUBS**

#### **R 2.1 CLUB COLOURS/UNIFORM**

##### **R 2.1.1 UNIFORM REGISTRATION**

Every Club must register its colours and uniform, including shorts, socks and skivvies, with the Secretary.

##### **R 2.1.2 ALTERATIONS TO UNIFORM**

No Club shall alter its colours or uniform without the approval of the Board of Management. The Board of Management reserves the right to reject uniform changes or colours if they are too similar to the uniform of another Club or are otherwise considered inappropriate.

#### **R 2.2 NEW CLUBS**

All new Clubs wishing to join the Association for the winter season are required to give all relevant information to the Board of Management at least two months prior to the Annual General Meeting.

#### **R 2.3 FEES**

Affiliated Clubs shall be liable for team fees levied by the Association.

##### **R 2.3.1 DUE DATE**

All fees shall be due for payment by the completion of the fourth Round of matches.

##### **R 2.3.2 METHOD OF PAYMENT**

Fees shall be paid by EFT into the Mid Hills bank account or cheque made out to Mid Hills Netball Association Inc.

##### **R 2.3.3 OVERDUE FEES**

Overdue fees shall incur at least one of the following penalties, at the discretion of the Board of Management

- a) Loss of all premiership points from the start of the season up to the date the fees are received
- b) 10% interest added per month
- c) Refusal to accept future team nominations from the Club

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## **R 2.4 ATTENDANCE AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

Affiliated Clubs are required to send a delegate to all General Meetings and Special General Meetings of the Association.

PENALTY: The Standard Fine shall be imposed on Clubs who do not send a delegate to a General Meeting.

## **R 2.5 CANTEEN DUTY**

Affiliated Clubs are required to supply sufficient canteen staff on rostered weeks during the winter season. The number of staff required at each timeslot shall be allocated by the Canteen Finance Officer or Canteen Manager.

PENALTY: The Standard Fine shall be imposed on any Club not supplying the allocated number of staff.

## **R 2.6 UMPIRE ON DUTY**

Affiliated Clubs are required to supply suitably experienced people to act as Umpire On Duty on rostered weeks during the winter season.

PENALTY: The Standard Fine will be imposed on any Club which does not provide an Umpire on Duty when rostered.

## **R 2.7 MATCH REPORTS**

All teams are encouraged to supply match reports to the Press Officer by 6 pm on Sundays. Match reports are compulsory for A, A2 and Inters Division 1 grades. Match reports are to be submitted by the home team in the Minor Rounds, and the winning team in finals.

PENALTY: The Standard Fine shall be imposed on any Club which fails to submit match reports for the compulsory grades by the deadline.

## **R 2.8 FINALS SCORING AND TIME-KEEPING**

Affiliated Clubs are required to supply sufficient experienced officials to score and/or keep time in finals matches. The number of officials required shall be allocated by the Finals committee.

PENALTY: The Standard Fine shall be imposed on the Club for each non-attendance of rostered officials.

## **R 3 COMPETITION STRUCTURE**

### **R 3.1 RULES OF THE GAME**

All matches shall be played according to International Netball Federation rules.

### **R 3.2 COMPETITIONS OFFERED**

#### **R 3.2.1 AGE GROUPS**

Provided that sufficient teams nominate to play in each age group, The Association shall run competitions in each of the following

- a) Senior

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- b) Inters
- c) 13&Under
- d) 11&Under
- e) 9&Under

## **R 3.2.2 DIVISIONS**

Depending on the number of teams nominating for each age group, the Grading and Permits Committee may split the group into multiple Divisions.

## **R 3.3 QUARTERS AND BREAKS**

### **R 3.3.1 9&UNDER AND 11&UNDER**

In 9&Under and 11&Under age groups, teams shall play four (4) quarters of ten (10) minutes each.

Breaks for these age groups shall be

- a) Two (2) minutes at quarter time
- b) Three (3) minutes at half time
- c) Two (2) minutes at three-quarter time

### **R 3.3.2 13&UNDER AND OLDER**

In all other grades, teams shall play four (4) quarters of fifteen (15) minutes each.

Breaks for these age groups shall be

- a) Three (3) minutes at quarter time
- b) Five (5) minutes at half time
- c) Three (3) minutes at three-quarter time

## **R 3.4 SEASON LENGTH**

The number of Rounds in a season shall be determined by the Board of Management before the commencement of the season.

## **R 3.5 PREMIERSHIP POINTS**

- a) Two (2) point shall be awarded for a win.
- b) One (1) point to each team in the event of a draw.
- c) Two (2) points shall be awarded for a bye.

## **R 3.6 "A" GRADE NUMBER OF TEAMS**

The A grade of winter season shall, where possible, comprise an even number of teams. The final number of teams shall be determined by the Grading & Permits Committee, considering team nominations, capabilities and integrity of the competition.

## **R 3.7 UMPIRES**

### **R 3.7.1 NEUTRAL UMPIRES**

In Inters Division 1 & 2 and all Senior grades, the Umpire Allocations Officer shall allocate neutral umpires to all matches.

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**PENALTY:** The Standard Fine shall be imposed on the Club should its umpire fail to attend their allocated match. In addition, the Club will be required to pay a replacement umpire for the match.

## **R 3.7.2 HOME AND AWAY UMPIRES**

In 9&Under, 11&Under, 13&Under age groups and Inters Division 3 or lower grades, each Club shall supply its own umpire for each match.

**PENALTY:** The Standard Fine shall be imposed on a Club for each non-attendance of an umpire for a match. In addition, the Club will be required to pay a replacement umpire.

## **R 3.7.3 REPLACEMENT OF AN UMPIRE DURING A MATCH**

The officiating umpire may be replaced during a match only in the event of sickness or injury.

## **R 3.8 FINALS STRUCTURE**

At the end of the Minor Round, the top four (4) teams in each Grade shall play in the finals, over the next 3 weeks.

### **R 3.8.1 SEMI-FINALS**

- a) In the first semi-final, the third-placed team plays the fourth-placed team. The winning team goes on to the preliminary final, while the losing team is eliminated from the competition.
- b) In the second semi-final, the top team plays the second-placed team. The winning team goes straight to the grand final, and the losing team goes on to the preliminary final.

### **R 3.8.2 PRELIMINARY FINAL**

The winning team of the preliminary final goes on to play in the grand final. The losing team is eliminated from the competition.

### **R 3.8.3 DRAWN MATCHES IN FINALS**

In the event of a draw in any finals match, the teams shall

- a) Have a two (2) minute rest period. Substitutions and/or team changes may be made during the rest period.
- b) Play two (2) overtime periods. For grades playing 10 minute quarters, each overtime period shall be five (5) minutes long. For all other grades, each overtime period shall be seven (7) minutes long.
- c) There shall be a one (1) minute interval between overtime periods, during which teams change ends. Substitutions and/or team changes may be made during the interval
- d) If, at the completion of the overtime periods, the result is still a draw, play continues with no break or change of ends until one team leads by two (2) goals.

### **R 3.8.4 SCORERS AND TIMEKEEPERS**

Neutral scorers and timekeepers shall be appointed by the Finals Committee for all finals matches.

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## **R 3.8.5 TEAM LISTS FOR FINALS**

### **R 3.8.5.1 FINALS TEAM LIST SUBMISSION**

All teams competing in finals must submit a Finals Team List of up to 12 Qualified players to the Finals Committee by 10 am on the Monday preceding the Semi Final Round.

PENALTY: The Standard Fine shall be imposed on a Club for each team whose Finals Team List has not been received by the deadline.

### **R 3.8.5.2 CHANGES TO FINALS LISTS**

Subject to finals qualification rules (refer R 10), Qualified players can be added to the Finals Team List at any time, so long as no more than twelve (12) players are listed at any time.

## **R 4 VOTED AWARDS**

### **R 4.1 BEST & FAIREST**

Association Best & Fairest and Runner-Up trophies shall be awarded for all age groups except 9&Under.

#### **R 4.1.1 VOTING**

The umpires for each match shall award Best & Fairest Votes on a 3-2-1 basis

#### **R 4.1.2 WHEN VOTES ARE TIED**

In the event of a tie, multiple Best & Fairest and/or Runner-Up trophies shall be awarded.

#### **R 4.1.3 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS**

Any player suspended by the Complaints Committee shall be ineligible for Best & Fairest awards.

### **R 4.2 WHISTLE AWARDS**

The Umpires Committee shall organise awards for excellence in umpiring.

#### **R 4.2.1 VOTING**

Both coaches shall vote on each umpire's performance each match, on the form provided. Coaches are encouraged to provide constructive feedback.

PENALTY: The Standard Fine shall be imposed on any Club who fails to return an umpire assessment form within 2 weeks of the match.

### **R 4.3 A GRADE TEAM OF THE YEAR**

The A Grade Team of the Year shall be voted on by the A grade teams.

#### **R 4.3.1 TEAM NOMINATIONS**

Prior to Round 14, each A grade coach shall nominate 7 players from their own team, in their starting positions. Nominated players must have played at least six (6) matches for the nominating team in the Minor Round.



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## **R 4.3.2 VOTING PROCESS**

Each A Grade team shall vote for players nominated by the other teams in A grade. Teams are not permitted to vote for their own players. Teams vote for the Coach of the Year and the best player in each position, on a 3-2-1 basis.

## **R 4.3.3 STARTING 7 & COACH OF THE YEAR**

The highest vote getter in each position is named in the starting 7 for the A Grade Team of the Year. In the event of a tie, the position shall be awarded on countback. If votes are still tied after countback, multiple players can be named for the position.

## **R 4.3.4 INTERCHANGE**

Once the starting 7 has been determined, the next highest vote getter in each of the 3 court areas (goals, mid court and defence) is named on the interchange.

## **R 4.3.5 UMPIRE OF THE YEAR**

The Umpire of the Year is the highest ranked umpire in the Whistle Awards, who has umpired a minimum of eight (8) A grade games during the Minor Round. .

## **R 4.4 RISING STAR**

The Rising Star is awarded to an emerging player in A grade.

### **R 4.4.1 ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for the Rising Star award, a player must

- a) Be 21 years of age or younger as at 31 December in the year of competition
- b) Play at least six (6) A grade matches in the season, and
- c) Have played no more than six (6) A grade matches in any previous season.

### **R 4.4.2 VOTING**

The performance of each eligible player is voted on by the opposition coach in each A grade game.

### **R 4.4.3 WHEN VOTES ARE TIED**

In the event of a tie, multiple Rising Star awards shall be presented.

## **R 5 PLAYERS**

### **R 5.1 ELIGIBILITY BY AGE**

#### **R 5.1.1 MINIMUM AGE**

A player must turn seven (7) years or older in the year of competition to be eligible to play.

#### **R 5.1.2 EFFECTIVE DATE FOR AGE GROUPS**

A player's age as at 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year of competition is used to determine their eligibility to play in junior competitions. For example, to play in a 13&Under competition, a player must be 13 years or younger on 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year of competition. To

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play in the Inters competition, a player must be 17 years or younger on 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year of competition.

## **R 5.1.3 PERMITS FOR OVER-AGE PLAYERS**

Prior to the season commencing, a Club may seek a permit from the Grading and Permits Committee to play an over-age player, as described in R 6.2. If a Club wishes to add an over-age player after the season has commenced, the permit must be requested at least two (2) weeks before the player takes the court.

PENALTY: A team playing an over-age player without a permit shall be Disqualified from all matches in which the player has taken the court.

## **R 5.1.4 BOYS PLAYING**

Boys under 12 years of age at the commencement date of the competition may play, and shall be permitted to play until the conclusion of that competition, regardless of the date they turn 12.

## **R 5.1.5 JUNIORS PLAYING IN SENIOR COMPETITION**

A junior player may play a full season in junior and/or senior competition.

## **R 5.2 REGISTRATION AND INSURANCE**

### **R 5.2.1 PLAYERS MUST BE INSURED**

Every player who takes the court must be a member of NetballSA, and covered by the Netball Australia insurance policy. This is achieved by either

- a) The player being a Registered member of a NetballSA affiliated Club, or
- b) The player purchasing a Single Game Voucher before the match.

### **R 5.2.2 MAXIMUM SINGLE GAME VOUCHERS PER SEASON**

A player may use a maximum of five (5) Single Game Vouchers per season. Once the player has used five (5) Single Game Vouchers in a season, they must become Registered before taking the court again.

### **R 5.2.3 PENALTY FOR PLAYING AN UNINSURED PLAYER**

Any team for which an uninsured player takes the court shall be Disqualified from the match(es) concerned.

## **R 5.3 UNIFORM AND PRESENTATION FOR MATCHES**

### **R 5.3.1 READINESS FOR PLAY**

Players must present ready for matches as described in the Rules of Netball, and no time shall be allowed for adjustments such as cutting of nails and removal of jewellery.

### **R 5.3.2 MUST PLAY IN REGISTERED UNIFORM**

- a) All players must play in the uniform registered by their Club and approved by the Board of Management.
- b) Players may also wear the following items under their club uniform:
  - i.) Skivvies in registered team colours
  - ii.) Unadorned black leggings of any length or black track pants without pockets.

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## **R 5.3.3 MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS FOR VARIATIONS TO UNIFORM**

Players may request permission from the Board of Management to wear variations to standard uniform on medical grounds. A letter from a doctor or physiotherapist is required. Once permission has been granted, the Board of Management shall issue a permit card, which the player must produce if requested by an umpire. Players without permit cards cannot wear the varied uniform on court.

## **R 5.3.4 PLAYER WEARING INCORRECT UNIFORM**

If officials notice that a player is not wearing correct uniform, the Club shall be advised and asked to correct the problem before the next Round.

PENALTY: If the player continues to wear the incorrect uniform in future Rounds, they shall be removed from the court.

## **R 5.4 CLUB AFFILIATION AND CLEARANCES**

### **R 5.4.1 CLUB AFFILIATION**

Any player is free to play for any one Club in a season, provided the player qualifies by age and does not owe money to another Club or to the Association. A player is affiliated with a Club from the first time their name appears on a scorecard as having taken the court.

### **R 5.4.2 CLEARANCES DURING THE SEASON**

If a player wishes to change to another Club once the season has commenced, they must apply to the Board of Management in writing, explaining their reasons. Permission to change Clubs shall be at the Board's sole discretion, and shall only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

PENALTY: If a player takes the court for more than one Club without receiving permission from the Board of Management, any team for which the player takes the court for the second or subsequent Club shall be Disqualified from the match(es) concerned. This penalty does not apply to teams sharing players in 9&Under Grade, as described in R 5.7.

### **R 5.4.3 INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER ASSOCIATIONS**

Any member of the Association is free to transfer to, participate or play in another association, providing that member is not deemed to be Unfinancial.

## **R 5.5 MAXIMUM MATCHES PER ROUND**

Any player shall be permitted to play in up to two (2) matches in the same Round.

PENALTY: The team(s) for which the player plays in the third or later matches in a Round shall be Disqualified from those matches.

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## **R 5.6 MULTIPLE TEAMS IN ONE GRADE**

Where a Club has more than one team in a Grade, a player is permitted to play for any one of the teams in a single Round. Special finals qualification rules apply (refer R 10.4)

PENALTY: The team(s) for which the player plays in the second or subsequent matches in the same Grade in a single Round shall be Disqualified from those matches.

## **R 5.7 9&UNDER TEAMS SHARING PLAYERS**

If at the commencement of or during a 9&Under match, one team has fewer than 7 players while the other has an excess of players, the teams may share their players to ensure the match proceeds. The players are to be marked clearly on the scorecard as a substitute/opposition player, and are to remain in their club uniform but with the opposition bib.

## **R 6 TEAM NOMINATION**

### **R 6.1 NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

#### **R 6.1.1 CUT-OFF DATE**

All team nominations for winter season must be received by 31<sup>st</sup> March.

#### **R 6.1.2 WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM AFTER NOMINATION**

- a) If a Club withdraws one or more teams after 31<sup>st</sup> March and before the start of the winter season, the Standard Fine shall be imposed for each team withdrawn.
- b) If a team withdraws after the start of the season, full team fees must be paid by the Club, plus the Standard Fine for each team withdrawn.

### **R 6.2 PERMIT REQUESTS**

Clubs may request permits for exemptions from age limits or other rules by completing the Permit Request Form and submitting it to the Grading and Permits Committee by 31<sup>st</sup> March. For permit requests outside the team nomination process, refer to R 5.1.3.

## **R 7 MATCH DAY**

### **R 7.1 SCORERS & TIMEKEEPERS**

#### **R 7.1.1 TEAM OBLIGATIONS**

In the Minor Round, the home team must provide an official scorer, timekeeper and a digital time clock. Scorers and timekeepers must be at least 14 years of age. The away team must provide a check scorer and timekeeper for breaks.

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## **R 7.1.2 SCORER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The scorers for each team must stand together in line with the centre circle while the match is in progress, and regularly check that their scores agree.

## **R 7.1.3 SCORECARD INFORMATION**

Player names must be printed on scorecards, up to a maximum of 12 players per team. Names must be listed in alphabetical order of the players' surnames, and both given name and surname must be supplied for every player. Positions must be shown against each player for all four quarters of the match.

## **R 7.1.4 SCORING DISPUTES**

In the event of a dispute between the scorers as to the score of the match, the official scorer's result shall prevail.

## **R 7.2 END OF MATCH PROCEDURES**

### **R 7.2.1 COMPLETION OF SCORECARD**

At the end of the match, the official scorer must ensure that the scorecard is signed by both umpires, both captains and the official scorer.

### **R 7.2.2 COURIER BEST PLAYER**

Coaches in senior and Inters age groups shall choose the opposition best player. All other age groups choose the best player from their own team, with the exception of 9&U, which do not publish best players.

### **R 7.2.3 UMPIRE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Scorecards are to be given to the umpires when completed and signed. Umpires shall check that the scorecard has been correctly completed, and if so, return the scorecard to the Recording Officer.

## **R 8 FORFEITS AND DISQUALIFICATION**

### **R 8.1 FORFEITS**

A team may Forfeit a match if they are unable to field enough players to take the court.

#### **R 8.1.1 ADVICE OF FORFEIT**

A team wishing to Forfeit must advise all of the following as early as practicable but no later than 7:30 am on the Saturday their match is to be played.

- a) The opposing club's Secretary
- b) Their Club Umpire Co-Ordinator for both home and away matches and allocated matches
- c) The Club Umpire Co-Ordinator must advise the Umpire Allocations Officer for all allocated matches
- d) The Association Secretary

**PENALTY:** The Standard Fine, to be paid within 7 days of the scheduled match. If the fine is not paid within 7 days of the forfeited match, no further premiership points shall be awarded to the team until the fine is paid.

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## **R 8.1.2 NON-FORFEITING TEAM MAY SUBMIT TEAM LIST**

If a match is Forfeited, the team receiving the Forfeit may submit a team list for finals qualification purposes within one week of the scheduled match.

## **R 8.1.3 SCORES AND PREMIERSHIP POINTS**

In the event of a Forfeit, premiership points and scores shall be awarded as follows

- a) If there is a Mutual Forfeit either before or during a match, no premiership points shall be awarded, and no scores or team lists for finals qualification Recorded.
- b) If a team Forfeits before the start of the match, the opposing team shall be awarded two (2) premiership points, and a scoreline of 10-0.
- c) If there is a Forfeit after the commencement of play
  - i.) If the Forfeiting team is ahead in the match at the time of the Forfeit, the opposing team is awarded two (2) premiership points and a scoreline of 10-0.
  - ii.) If the Forfeiting team is behind in the match at the time of the Forfeit, the opposing team is awarded two (2) premiership points and the score at the time of the Forfeit shall stand.

## **R 8.2 DISQUALIFICATIONS**

### **R 8.2.1 PENALTIES FOR DISQUALIFICATION**

If a team is Disqualified, both of the following penalties shall apply

- a) If the team with the higher number of goals is Disqualified, the opposing team shall be awarded two (2) premiership points and a scoreline of 10-0. If the team with the lesser number of goals is Disqualified, the score Recorded shall stand.
- b) Best Player votes for the Disqualified team shall not be recognised, nor shall the match count towards finals qualification for any member of the Disqualified team. Best Player votes for the opposing team shall be recognised, and the match shall count towards finals qualification for all members of that team.

### **R 8.2.2 DISQUALIFICATION OF BOTH TEAMS IN A MATCH**

In the unlikely event that both teams in a match are Disqualified, neither team shall be awarded any premiership points or goals. No Best Player votes shall be Recorded, and the match shall not count towards qualification for finals for any player.

## **R 9 CANCELLED AND ABANDONED MATCHES**

### **R 9.1 GENERAL**

#### **R 9.1.1 MATCHES TO BE PLAYED ON SCHEDULED DAY**

All matches shall be played on the scheduled day unless the Board of Management decides the Extreme Weather Policy or any other exceptional circumstance applies.

#### **R 9.1.2 WHOLE GRADE TO BE CANCELLED / ABANDONED**

If a Round is Cancelled or Abandoned in any circumstance before all matches in a Grade are completed, no premiership points or scores shall be awarded for any match in the Grade.

#### **R 9.1.3 ABANDONED ROUND - IMPACT ON FINALS QUALIFICATION**

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If a Round is Abandoned, matches will still be counted for finals qualification purposes.

- a) For any matches which commenced before the Round was abandoned, the home team must submit a scorecard, completed up to the point the match stopped, to the Recording Officer within one week of the scheduled match.
- b) For any matches which had not commenced when the Round was Abandoned, both teams must submit a team list within one week of the scheduled match.

## **R 9.1.4 CANCELLED ROUND - IMPACT ON FINALS QUALIFICATION**

If a Round is Cancelled, no scorecards or team lists shall be Recorded for finals qualification.

## **R 9.2 CANCELLED OR ABANDONED FINALS**

### **R 9.2.1 SEMI FINALS AND PRELIMINARY FINALS**

If any Semi-Final or Preliminary Final matches are Cancelled or Abandoned, the match shall be replayed at a mutually acceptable time, but no later than the following Tuesday in winter season.

### **R 9.2.2 GRAND FINALS**

If a Grand Final match is Cancelled or Abandoned, the match shall be replayed on the following weekend in winter season.

## **R 10 FINALS QUALIFICATION**

### **R 10.1 GENERAL**

#### **R 10.1.1 FINALS PLAYERS MUST BE QUALIFIED**

All players who take the court in a final must be Qualified for the Club and Grade of the match, or have been granted a permit to play by the Grading and Permits Committee (refer R 10.5)

PENALTY: Any team in which an unqualified player takes the court in a final will be Disqualified

#### **R 10.1.2 NUMBER OF MATCHES TO QUALIFY**

A player must play at least six (6) Minor Round matches for their Club to qualify for finals.

#### **R 10.1.3 QUALIFYING FOR BOTH JUNIOR AND SENIOR FINALS**

A player who plays both junior and senior competitions must play at least six (6) matches in junior competition to qualify for junior finals.

### **R 10.2 QUALIFYING GRADE**

#### **R 10.2.1 DETERMINING THE QUALIFYING GRADE**

- a) A player's Qualifying Grade is the lowest Grade in which the player has played six (6) or more Minor Round matches.
- b) If the player has not played six matches in any single Grade, the Qualifying Grade is the Grade in which they have played the greatest number of matches. If the greatest number applies to two or more Grades, the Qualifying Grade is the lowest of those Grades.

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- c) If a player has not met the criteria in R 10.1.3, then only matches played in senior competition are used to determine their Qualifying Grade.

## **R 10.2.2 ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY FINALS**

Subject to R 10.3 and R 10.4, a player is Qualified to play finals in their Qualifying Grade and any higher Grade.

## **R 10.3 JUNIORS PLAYING SENIOR FINALS**

### **R 10.3.1 SENIOR GRADES B2 AND ABOVE**

A player who has Qualified for junior finals can play senior finals in B2 grade or above without seeking a permit.

### **R 10.3.2 SENIOR GRADES B3 OR BELOW**

A player who has Qualified for junior finals can play senior finals in B3 Grade or below, so long as

- a) They have played at least six (6) matches in that or any lower senior Grade, or
- b) The Grading and Permits Committee approves an application from the player's Club for permission to play.

## **R 10.4 MULTIPLE TEAMS IN ONE GRADE**

Where a Club has two or more teams in the same Grade, a player can only play finals in one of the teams.

- a) If the player has played four(4) or more matches in any of the teams during the Minor Round, they can only play finals for the team in which they played the highest number of matches.
- b) If the team cannot be determined by point a), the Club can nominate the team when submitting their Finals Team List. Once the player has taken the court in finals for their nominated team, they cannot change to any other team in the same Grade.

## **R 10.5 PERMITS FOR EXEMPTIONS FROM FINALS QUALIFICATION RULES**

The Grading and Permits Committee will consider requests for permits for unqualified players to play in finals. If granted, the Grading and Permits Committee may place conditions on the permit to play

### **R 10.5.1 FORM AND TIMING OF PERMIT REQUESTS**

Requests must be submitted on a Permit Request Form, as soon as possible after the completion of round 13.

## **R 11 REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS**

### **R 11.1 REPRESENTATIVE TEAM COACHES**

Applications for Representative Team coaches are open prior to the commencement of trials each year. Coaches must hold a development level coaching accreditation, or undertake to achieve this level of accreditation before Country Championships in the year of appointment.



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## R 11.2 SELECTIONS AND PLAYER COMMITMENT

### R 11.2.1 TRIALS

Trials for Mid Hills Representative Teams shall be organised by the Carnival Committee after the completion of the previous year's winter season.

To be eligible for selection, players must

- a) Have Registered and played for a Mid Hills affiliated Club in the winter season prior to the carnival year.
- b) Register and play for a Mid Hills affiliated Club in the winter season of the carnival year.
- c) Be available to play in the two compulsory carnivals; Mid Hills carnival in May and Country Championships on the June long weekend.

### R 11.2.2 SUMMER COMMITMENT

Selected players must play with their Representative Team in the Mid Hills summer competition. They may also play for other teams, subject to R 5.5 and the following restrictions

- a) If match times clash, the player must give priority to the Representative Team's match and miss the other match
- b) If both matches are being played on the same night, the Representative Team match must be the first match played.

### R 11.2.3 TRAINING AND CARNIVAL YEAR COMMITMENT

At a minimum, players must

- a) Play in at least the two compulsory carnivals. Players are expected to play in all scheduled carnivals if possible.
- b) attend training sessions set by the Representative Team coaches.

PENALTY: Removal from the Representative Team.

## R 11.3 SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

The Carnival Committee may decide to nominate a Senior Representative Team for selected carnivals.

- a) Players selected in a Senior Representative Team shall be exempt from rules R 11.2.1 c), R 11.2.2 and R 11.2.3 a).
- b) The Carnival Committee will advise selected players of their expected level of commitment.

## R 11.4 REPRESENTATIVE TEAM FEES

Representative Team fees shall be deemed overdue if not paid by 30th November for the summer season and 31st May for the winter season.

### R 11.4.1 PENALTY FOR OVERDUE FEES

Overdue fees shall result in immediate removal of the player from the Representative Team, and may also incur at least one of the following penalties at the discretion of the Board of Management

- a) 10% interest added per month



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- b) Player to be deemed ineligible for selection in future Representative Teams
- c) Player to be deemed ineligible to play for any Mid Hills affiliated Club

## **R 12 DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS**

### **R 12.1 GENERAL**

The Association may organise development, training and coaching programs. Eligibility criteria for these programs may vary and will be at the Board of Management's sole discretion.

### **R 12.2 FEES FOR PROGRAMS**

All individuals participating in development and training programs must pay any fees charged by the Association by the due date.

#### **R 12.2.1 PENALTY FOR OVERDUE FEES**

An individual who does not pay fees for development programs on time will be deemed Unfinancial and will incur at least one of the following penalties, at the discretion of the Board of Management

- a) 10% interest added per month
- b) Individual to be ineligible to participate in future development programs.