



Nelson Bay Netball Competitions Policy

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DEFINITIONS

Association Committee means the Committee of Nelson Bay Netball Association

Executive Committee consists of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Relevant Registrar

Association means Nelson Bay Netball Association

Team means an affiliated team whom plays in Nelson Bay Netball Association

Team Delegate means the identified contact person of a registered team. They will receive all communications from the Association Committee or their representative.

Member / Player means a person who has completed their online registration and paid their membership in full for that year.

NBNA means Nelson Bay Netball Association

Unregistered player means a player who is not registered with Netball NSW.

Ineligible player means registered player who, by their grading is not eligible to play in that game.

Senior Team refers to any team registered into a Seniors Competition i.e. Wednesday Night Seniors Competition or Seniors Twilight Competition.

INF Is International Netball Federation

1. Registration – General

- 1.1. Registration fees will be set by the Association Committee for each competition.
- 1.2. Teams may register a maximum of 12 players per team.
- 1.3. A team may not be registered with less than 7 players without the prior approval of the Association Committee.
- 1.4. A team may register Nelson Bay Netball Association representative players in any one team. However, the make-up of this team and appropriate grading is subject to approval by the Grading Panel.
- 1.5. No individual player registrations will be accepted if they have any money owing to the Association until the outstanding money is paid.
- 1.6. The Association Committee may request to sight Birth Certificates, passports or drivers licences as only means of proof of age for all participants.
- 1.7. Players will be registered with NSW Netball under the following categories:

- a. Senior: players aged 18 and over as at 31 December in the year of play.
 - b. Junior: players aged 11-17 as at 31 December in the year of play including those playing in the senior competition.
 - c. NetSetGO: players aged 10 and under as at 31 December in the year of play.
- 1.8. NBNA competition allows 10's and under to compete in the junior competition based on ability.

2. Registration Procedures

- 2.1. In order to become or remain a member, Individual Members (including players who obtain summer registration only) must complete the relevant online registration form applicable to Nelson Bay Netball Association and pay the annual Individual Membership fees prescribed by the Committee. By registering to become a member, Individual Members also consent to becoming a member of Netball NSW and agree to comply with all applicable policies.
- 2.2. Team registrations shall close on a date to be fixed by the Association Committee each year. Such registrations shall be on the Association registration form. All forms must include the details of a team delegate.
- 2.3. All team coaches are required to be a registered member of Nelson Bay Netball Association.
- 2.4. All team officials – umpire, manager, team delegate etc. should be a registered member of Nelson Bay Netball Association.
- 2.5. Teams' names must be approved by Nelson Bay Netball Association.

3. Registrations – Players whom secondary register

- 3.1. Players whom secondary register, means they play for two teams, one within their relevant age group and the other team they play up a division.
- 3.2. All secondary registered players can only play 2 games per day.

4. Late Registrations

- 4.1. After a team has been graded, any late registrations must be of an equal playing standard. Previous experience is to be considered and the Grading Panel is to make the decision. In the event of an appeal, circumstances are to be reviewed by the Executive Committee which is to have power to change any decision made.
- 4.2. Any player who wishes to change teams after the player has been formally accepted by the team delegate, must obtain written permission from the team delegate to change teams and this must be done before round one

commences, even if that player has not taken the court. Once round 1 has commenced, a player cannot change teams.

5. Deregistration's

- 5.1. Any member, whether having played a game or not, may deregister by notifying Nelson Bay Netball Association in writing.
- 5.2. The Netball NSW Affiliation and Membership policy states at 7.1
 - 5.2.a.1. *Once an Individual Member registration has been entered on the Netball NSW membership database system, that Individual Member shall not be entitled to claim a refund of the Netball NSW capitation fee component of Membership Fees after 29 February in the relevant year, unless extenuating circumstances exist.*
- 5.3. There will be no refunds of Nelson Bay Netball Association registrations fee once a player has played a game or any part thereof, unless extenuating circumstances exist. These circumstances need to be provided in writing to Nelson Bay Netball Association for their consideration.

6. Grading Panel

- 6.1. The Grading Panel will consist of
 - a. Two delegates of Nelson Bay Netball Association Committee, who are deemed not to have a conflict of interest. A conflict of interest is defined as a person who is a relative and/or child, who plays in a junior team or coaches a junior team within the competition.
 - b. One independent member
 - c. The Registrar will be the convenor of the Panel and will have no voting rights.
- 6.2. NBNA Committee reserves the right to invite Independent Members to form the panel should they not receive appropriate nominations prior to the commencement of the season.
- 6.3. The Grading Panel shall undertake all grading of the Association Competition in accordance with Clauses 7 and 8 below.

7. Grading

- 7.1. On receipt of completed team lists, the Registrars will complete provisional grading.
- 7.2. All teams will be ranked in comparative order and allocated an initial appropriate Division in the new season competition prior to the first grading meeting.

7.3. The basis of this grading may include a combination of, but not limited to the following:

- a. Win/loss ratio in the previous season.
- b. Goals for/against ratio in previous season
- c. Finals series performance in the previous season
- d. Eligibility of players
- e. Retention of Team Identity (Original Team) which has retained at least 5 players from the previous season, will be recognised as retaining its identity.
- f. Information provided on the individual's team grading request.

7.4. When required, the Grading Panel may call a grading day where shorter games are played for either all grades or selected grades.

8. Review of Grading

8.1. The Grading Panel can recommend grade reallocation of any team that indicates a significant change in their performance. This reallocation will only be reconsidered at the completion of round 2 of the relevant season.

8.2. Where round 1 and 2 of a season have been NOT played due to adverse weather, the right to reallocation can only occur once two games have been played.

9. Duration of Play

9.1. Duration of play of matches will be as follows:

- a. NetSetGO modified matches will be 4 quarters of 10 minutes duration.
- b. Juniors, Intermediate and Senior matches will be 4 quarters of 15 minutes duration.
- c. Twilight matches will be 4 quarters of 10 minutes duration.

9.2. The time of the interval between each period of play will be:

- a. between quarter breaks: 2 minutes
- b. at the half time break: 3 minutes

10. Playing Rules – General

10.1. Where a NetSetGO or Junior player with a disability submits appropriate medical evidence, the relevant Registrar has the discretion to grade a player into a team that is lower than the age of the player that has the disability.

10.2. In all mixed competitions, only three male players may be on the court at any one time and the playing positions must be one male to each third.

10.3. Boys up to 12 years of age are permitted to play in junior competitions including NetSetGO.

10.4. In all aspects, the INF Rules shall apply to all competition matches, except where special domestic rules are applied.

11. Competition Divisions

11.1. Nelson Bay Netball Association may offer 3 types of competition, which is determined by the Association Committee:

- a. Female only competitions
- b. Mixed competitions
- c. Male competition

11.2. The Association will conduct the competition in the following divisions; however, this may need to be changed and will be decided by the Association Committee:

- a. Seniors: players aged 16 and over as at 31 December in the year of play.
- b. Intermediates: players aged 13, 14, and 15 as at 31 December in the year of play.
- c. Juniors: players aged 10, 11 and 12 as at 31 December in the year of play.
- d. NetSetGO GO Tier: players aged 8 and 9 as at 31 December in the year of play.
- e. NetSetGo SET Tier: players aged 6 and 7 as at 31 December in the year of play.
- f. NetSetGO NET Tier: players aged 7 and under as at 31 December in the year of play.

11.3. The size of each division is dependent on the number of teams graded in each division by the Grading Panel.

11.4. Players who are younger than the stated age range for that division are able to request consideration to play in a higher division. To do this, the following process needs to occur annually:

- a. The relevant Team delegate must discuss this with the player's parents and the request must be submitted in writing or on the appropriate form.
- b. The parents of player must be made aware the risk associated with this move.

- c. The Association Committee will review this request and talk with both the Team Representative, the player's parent and possibly the player before making a decision.
- d. The decision of the Association Committee is final and binding. No appeal can be raised.

12. Commencement of Matches

- 12.1. Timing of the games will be centrally timed where applicable and play must commence at the time set down in the published fixtures.
- 12.2. The game will start and finish on the umpire's whistle. No extra time will be provided for a game that starts late.
- 12.3. If a team is ready at the time set down and the umpire has not arrived. The Club House should be notified of the name of the Team of the missing umpire. The game is not to commence until two umpires and a scorer are present.

13. Point Scores

- 13.1. The official score sheet is the only true record of the match.
- 13.2. The following points for games shall be awarded:
 - a. Win – 2 points.
 - b. Draw – 1 point.
 - c. Loss – 0 point
 - d. Bye – 2 points.
 - e. Game Abandoned / wet weather – If the game is abandoned after half time due to weather, the results as per the score sheet will stand. If a game is abandoned before half time, the game is to be replayed in an allocated wet weather round.
 - f. Forfeit – 2 points to the opposing team.
- 13.3. In the event of there being a division which is to split after the first round of competition, the point score for the top division will continue to decide minor premier. The point Score for the lower division will restart.

14. Forfeits

- 14.1. A forfeit may be claimed if opposition cannot field the minimum team of five players within 5 minutes from commencement of games.
- 14.2. If a court and umpires are available and the opposing team has five players, then play must commence on time. A forfeit may be claimed if this team refused to play.

- 14.3. Teams claiming forfeits should complete and have captains sign the score sheet as usual, if forfeit has not been notified beforehand.
- 14.4. All players registered in the team receiving forfeit will be recorded as playing.
- 14.5. Where a game is in progress and a team forfeit, the opposing team is awarded game points for that game, however each team retain their score.
- 14.6. Notified Forfeits – Junior Games (Saturdays)
 - a. Any team aware that it will forfeit a match, must advise in writing to the relevant Registrar by 6pm on the day prior to game day. If any team does not meet this timeline a 2 point loss will apply to the current tally.
 - b. In the event of the notified forfeit, the relevant Registrar is to notify the team delegate receiving the forfeit as well as the umpire's convenor who will then notify the relevant umpire.
- 14.7. Notified Forfeits – Senior Games
 - a. Any team aware that it will forfeit a match, must advise in writing to the relevant Registrar by 3pm on the day of the game. If any team does not meet this timeline a \$50.00 fee will be payable to NBNA before the team takes the court the following game day.
- 14.8. All forfeits must be in writing to both the following communication channels:
 - a. Google Form: <https://forms.gle/2qdyFSRipM4VEJFh7>
 - b. Nelson Bay Netball Association Facebook Messenger page
 - c. *If you are unable to utilise Facebook Messenger, please email both:*
registration@nelsonbaynetball.com and nelsonbaynetball@hotmail.com
- 14.9. Any team who forfeits 3 games throughout the season may be withdrawn from the competition at the discretion of the Nelson Bay Netball Association Committee. Training and grading games do not count as a forfeit.
- 14.10. Adverse weather and forfeits:
 - a. In the event of adverse weather, teams who have completed a notified NBNA of a forfeit prior to NBNA cancelling the game, (e.g. adverse weather conditions) the forfeit carries forward to the replay date (if applicable). The forfeit will stand with the forfeiting team being awarded 0 points, and the opposing team being awarded 2 points.
 - b. If the team notifies NBNA after the cut off time of a forfeit as mentioned above then NBNA cancels play due to adverse weather, the fine system will still apply.

15. Team Withdrawals

15.1. Where a team withdraws during the competition, all remaining teams drawn to play the withdrawn team in that round will receive two competition points (i.e. will become Bye rounds).

16. Scoring and Scoresheets

16.1. The names of registered players are computer generated and printed on the score sheet.

16.2. Each team must identify on the scoresheet who has played that game.

16.3. The name of late registered players is to be handwritten on the score sheets until such times as the computer-generated score sheet provides these details. Failure to do so will incur a loss of 2 competition points.

16.4. Teams who are found not to be providing the names of any borrowed registered players on the scoresheet will lose 2 competitions points.

16.5. Each team should supply a scorer for their match. Teams failing to supply a scorer must accept without challenge the score sheet as submitted by the opposing team. Scorers should stand together near the centre of the court and jointly carry out the responsibility of scoring.

16.6. Scoresheets should be signed by both captains, umpires and scorers and all details completed for each player. If this is not done, the team may lose 2 competition points.

16.7. If the score sheet is not handed into the club house within 15 minutes after the end of the game, the points and goals scored by each team will be forfeited. It is the responsibility of the winning team to provide the team sheet to the club house.

17. Substitutions

17.1. There is no limit to the number of substitutions that can be made by a team provided that players used do not exceed twelve.

17.2. No player may take the court without their name being present on the scoresheet. Penalty for not complying is game is awarded to the opposing team and no goals to be recorded by infringing team.

18. Borrowing Players

18.1. A player may only play a second game on the same day provided that the second game is in a higher division than they have been originally graded.

18.2. A player may play in two games for a team that is higher than they have been originally graded, and still be able to play with their original team.

- 18.3. A player may not play in any game for a team in a division that is lower than the division that they have been originally graded in.
- 18.4. Once a player has played in 3 games with a team that is higher than they have been originally graded into, they will continue to play in higher team and must register with that team.
- 18.5. A team may only borrow enough players to be able to take the court (i.e. have 7 players). No teams are able to borrow players to have reserves.
- 18.6. A Senior Team may borrow from any team within their division or a lower division.

19. Injury

- 19.1. INF Rules shall apply to all injury time in matches, however no extra injury time shall be added to the match in the regular season.
- 19.2. In the final's series, injury times will be added to the relevant quarter of play.
- 19.3. All injuries must be reported to the Clubhouse on the day of the injury and an injury report form must be filled out as soon as practicably possible following the incident.

20. Finals Series

- 20.1. Players need to have taken the court in three (3) Matches with the relevant Team, to be eligible to play in the Finals Series.
- 20.2. Semi Finalist shall be the top 4 teams in each grade with the highest number of points at the end of the last round of the scheduled regular competition.
- 20.3. Should a team be equally placed on competition points at the end of the last round of the scheduled regular competition, a goal average shall be decided as follows:

Total number of goals scored by the team, divided by the total number of goals scored against the team, multiplied by 100 and divided by the actual number of matches played by the team.

$$\frac{\text{i.e. goals scored} \times 100}{\text{goals scored against matches played}}$$

- 20.4. The number of matches actually played includes a match a team has forfeited but does not include a match where the team has received a forfeit.
 - a. The Final series shall be played as follows:
 - b. Semi Final 1: 1st v 2nd
 - c. Semi Final 2: 3rd v 4th
 - d. Final: Loser of Semi Final 1 v Winner of Semi Final 2

- e. Grand Final: Winner of Semi Final 1 v Winner of Final
- 20.5. If there is a draw in semi- final, final or grand final match, a two (2) minute interval shall be taken. During the interval the score will be verified, and the Teams change ends. During the interval there may be substitutions and/or Team changes.
- 20.6. The Umpire will indicate which Team has the next centre pass and play will commence.
- 20.7. Then 2 halves of 5 minutes each will be played to determine a winner.
- 20.8. After the first half there will be a 2-minute interval and the Teams will change ends. Substitutions and positional changes are allowed during the changeover.
- 20.9. If still a draw at the end of the second half, a visual signal will indicate that play continues and the first Team to score a two (2) goals advantage shall be declared the winner.
- 20.10. During extra time, normal injury or illness procedures shall apply.

21. Adverse Weather

- 21.1. The courts and weather conditions shall be inspected by three Nelson Bay Netball Association Committee members 45 minutes prior to the commencement of each time slot. A decision will be made as per the Netball NSW Adverse Weather Conditions Policy.
- 21.2. Unless such announcement of no play is made, all participants shall attend at their scheduled playing time.
- 21.3. Once a decision is finalised Nelson Bay Netball Association will circulate this decision over the PA at the venue as well as on the Association website and/or other social media.
- 21.4. If, in the opinion of Nelson Bay Netball Association games are abandoned due to severe inclement weather or adverse court conditions before half time, those games will be replayed in an allocated wet weather week. If this occurs after half time, current point score stands.
- 21.5. If during the Final Series, adverse weather should force the stoppage of a game at any stage, then the game will be completed or replayed as soon as possible.

22. Umpires

- 22.1. Each team must provide an appropriately qualified umpire, as required for the competition the team has registered for. Where more than one Team proposes to use the same umpire for a competition, the prior permission of the Association Umpire Convenor must be obtained.

- 22.2. Failure to provide an umpire when required will result in the Team:
 - a. Receiving a \$50.00 fine to be paid by COB business on the following Tuesday. Failure to pay the fine will result in the team be unable to take the court; and
 - b. Losing one competition point
- 22.3. The Team delegate must be available at each timeslot to answer any calls at the courts when their Team is providing umpires for that timeslot.
- 22.4. It is each Teams responsibility to ensure that the umpires provided are capable of controlling the game.
- 22.5. The approved dress code of umpires is the approved and registered Team or Association Uniform. Tracksuit pants and shirts are permitted with the approval of the umpire convenor.
- 22.6. Umpires can also wear all white.
- 22.7. If dissatisfaction is felt with the umpiring of a game, a team representative should approach the Clubhouse for assistance.
- 22.8. Reserve umpires are to be allocated to each time slot. All reserve umpires must remain at the NBNA Clubhouse ready and able to umpire until they are dismissed.
- 22.9. If only one umpire is on the court when the hooter sounds for the start of play, the game should not commence until the other umpire arrives.
- 22.10. An umpire sending a player from the court for disciplinary reasons must complete an Incident report Form and hand this into the Umpire Convenor or to the Clubhouse.
- 22.11. There shall be no substitution for umpires except in cases of illness or injury with the consent of the Umpire's Convenor or a Committee Member.
- 22.12. The Umpire Convenor shall allocate umpires for the final's series.

23. Team Uniforms and Equipment

- 23.1. Teams shall register all items of uniform to be worn by their members for approval by the Committee. All Teams must wear matching appropriate uniform.
- 23.2. No players shall be allowed to compete in competition matches unless wearing the registered uniform of that team, except for borrowed players.
- 23.3. Exemption and clarification on uniforms will be made by the Association Committee for extenuating circumstances.

24. Complaint Handling

- 24.1. All complaints lodged with Nelson Bay Netball Association in relation to the Competition will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures of Netball NSW Policies or within the rules of competition policy.
- 24.2. All registered Players, Umpires, Team Officials and Spectators are required to abide by the Code of Behaviour, as published from time to time within the Netball NSW Member Protection Policy.
- 24.3. All participants of the Competition including but not limited to Players, Umpires, Spectators and Team Officials, who have breached the Code of Behaviour, Netball NSW Member Protection Policy and/or the Netball NSW Disciplinary Policy, may be subject to disciplinary action as listed within the corresponding policy.

25. Twilight/Summer competitions

- 25.1. With the Nelson Bay twilight competition there is no scoring, rankings or final series.

26. NBNA Decisions

- 26.1. Any special and/or specific requests regarding the NBNA Representative Program, which fall outside of NBNA Policy, will be directed to NBNA Executive Committee. The Executive will meet to discuss the request and provide a response to the requestor. NBNA Executive Committee decision is final, and no appeals will be taken into consideration.