



# GRIFFITH NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC

## COMPETITION POLICY

<b>Approved By:</b>	GNA Executive and Delegates
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<b>Version Number</b>	<b>Description of Changes</b>	<b>Adopted Date</b>
2.2022	Location amendments for new netball facility at Griffith Regional Sports Centre	2nd March 2022
3.2023	Registration online changes. Changes to borrowed players.	19th June 2023
12.2023	Amendment to team bond return. Adoption of the Netball NSW Inclusion Uniform Guidelines in regards to jewellery.	18th December 2023

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## **1. Season.**

Any competition shall commence and finish on dates to be decided by the Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee). The winter competition shall commence no earlier than March and finish as determined by the Committee. Special event dates and any other out of season competitions including Midweek netball shall also be determined by the Committee.

## **2. Registrations.**

Annual registration fees for all members of Griffith Netball Association shall be determined by the Committee and confirmed at the first Council Meeting in the calendar year. Registration shall close on a date to be determined each season by the Committee and registrations will be valid for twelve (12) months.

### **2.1 Team Registrations.**

- i. All teams must register at least five (5) players. All players are to complete registrations online via the PlayHQ or GNA website. No team may have any more than twelve (12) fully registered players each season.
- ii. Registrations must be submitted by the advertised date; however the Committee reserves the right to accept late entries provided a bye exists in the appropriate grade or prior to the draw being finalised.
- iii. Teams will be responsible for the online registration of all players and non-playing members of their team.
- iv. A bond, set by the committee, must accompany the nomination team form with a nominated umpire or the team will not be included in the draw.
- v. Teams will have bonds returned at the end of the Annual General Meeting. Any umpire fines will be deducted from the team bond prior to its return.

### **2.2 Individual Registrations.**

- i. New players may register at any time during the season provided that such registration together with the registration fee is made prior to participation in any competition match.
- ii. A player may only register with one team per competition in any one season. The only exception is for a representative player to be registered in their representative team and their local team.

- iii. A player registered with a team in any one season may not transfer to any other team until the following season except in the case of special circumstances that must be referred to the Committee in writing.
- iv. A player seeking a transfer from any team mid-season must seek written approval from their registered team to ensure any outstanding commitments have been fulfilled. Approval is required by the Association Executive prior to any transfer.
- v. The Registrar must be informed of any transfers between teams.
- vi. All individual players are to complete GNA Netball registration online.

### **2.3 Non Playing Members.**

- i. Associate and non-playing members may join the Association on payment of a fee set by the Committee each year which covers insurance. Members shall be responsible for processing their membership through the online registration system.

### **3. Grading of Teams.**

- i. The winning team in each senior grade must play in a higher grade the following season if five (5) players of the original team are still registered with that team. Appeals must be received in writing to the Committee.
- ii. Runners up in senior grades will be considered by the Committee.
- iii. Junior teams with three (3) or more representative players must play in a higher division.
- iv. The Committee reserves the right to promote or demote any team according to performance at the completion of round 4. Team points will be carried over by in the grade where the re graded team is placed.

### **4. Team Requirements.**

#### **4.1 Meetings**

- i. Two General Council Meetings will be held throughout the winter season. Meetings will be held at a time and place determined by the Executive Committee.
- ii. Each team must have a representative in attendance. An apology is not accepted as attendance.
- iii. Failure to attend a General Council Meeting will incur a loss of two(2)competition points for the non-attending team.

- iv. Only financial and life members of Griffith Netball Association will have voting rights at Council meetings. Each registered team will be entitled to have one (1) registered member vote at Council meetings.

Definition:

**Team:** A single entity of 5 to 12 players registered with Griffith Netball Association.

#### **4.2 Uniform**

- i. All team members must be in team uniform according to Netball NSW Inclusion Uniform guidelines and positional patches are compulsory.
- ii. Leggings/tights may be worn by any/all player/s on court but must be black or white.
- iii. Uniforms must not present a genuine safety risk to the wearer or other players (i.e. open pockets, buttons or zippers).
- iv. Long sleeve undershirts may be worn by any player on court but any team members wearing the shirt must have the same colour, either black or white.
- v. A wedding ring or medical alert bracelet is permitted to be worn. If either is worn they must be taped.
- vi. If jewellery is not able to be removed for religious / medical reasons, it is the player's choice to play with them, and this player accepts the risks involved.
- vii. Jewellery which cannot be removed for religious / medical reasons should be covered with padding / tape as necessary to prevent injury to others. Jewellery or other items which cannot be securely covered or taped must be removed.
- viii. A club or individual team seeking change of uniform must submit a request to the Executive for approval of the new uniform

#### **4.3 Umpiring - General**

- i. All teams taking part in competition matches conducted by the Association must nominate an umpire at time of Registration. If available, a nominated umpire sheet must be submitted with details of the teams umpire for the season.
- ii. Umpires will umpire as per the draw. The umpire shall take no part in the play on court whilst umpiring.
- iii. Failure for a team to supply an umpire on the day of play will incur a fine for the team. The fine will be determined by the Committee and will be removed from the team bond.
- iv. All teams involved in forfeits must provide umpires as shown in the draw for that day.
- v. The Association will offer a junior umpiring scheme at the beginning of each season if possible. This will be advertised on the website.
- vi. Team umpires are permitted to wear a team uniform whilst undertaking umpiring

duties. Appropriate footwear must be worn.

vii. All umpires participating in semis, finals and grandfinals must wear whites.

## 5. Competition.

i. The Association will run the winter season competitions. Competition matches between registered teams shall be controlled by the Committee.

ii. Competition for all players shall be governed by the rules of Netball Australia.

Game times for the main winter competition shall consist of 4 x twelve (12) minute quarters with a two (2) minute break at quarter and three quarter time and three (3) minutes at half time.

iii. The winter competition shall consist of a minimum of fourteen games (14) games.

iv. No stoppage time for injury is added during competition rounds, however throughout the final series any stoppage time shall be played at the end of the game for all centrally timed games. Normal stoppage allowance for injury applies as per Netball Australia rules.

v. All final series games are to be played on the days allocated in the draw.

vi. The draw for the semi-finals, finals and grand finals will be determined by the Committee at the conclusion of the competition rounds and will be played as follows:-

Semi-finals 1 v 2 and 3 v 4

Finals loser of 1 v 2 will play the winner of 3 v 4

Grand final winner of 1 v 2 will play the winner of the final

vii. In the event of a drawn match in the final series (semi finals, finals and grand finals), there shall be a two (2) minute interval at the end of full time, team substitutions and changes are permitted. The teams will change ends and extra time of five (5) minutes each way to be played. Teams will change ends at half time with a one (1) minute interval and team changes and substitutions are allowed. At the completion of extra time and if the game is still drawn, play will continue until one team holds a two (2) goal advantage.

viii. NetSetGo grades and under 8 and 9 years competition are non-competitive and all participants will receive an award of recognition of participation.

### 5.1. Points

i. Points will be awarded for competition matches as follows

3 points for a win or a win on forfeit

3 points for a bye

2 points a drawn game including abandoned or canceled game due to

weather.

1 point for a loss or notified forfeit

0 points for a forfeit

- ii. Matches not commenced because of wet weather shall be considered drawn and all fully registered members of that team are considered to have played.
- iii. The point score shall be kept by the Registrar and shall be the official record. The point score will be published on the GNA website.
- iv. In the event of a tied point score at the completion of the competition rounds, a goal percentage will determine the placing for semi finals:-

$$\frac{\text{Goals for}}{\text{Goals Against}} \times \frac{100}{1}$$

## 5.2. Players

- i. All players must show their court positions on the scoresheet as a record of their participation in any competition match. If no positions are listed then no record of players playing will be recorded.
- ii. A player may only play for one team in any one time slot, ie. once the player has taken the court in one time slot they may not change and take part in any other match in that time slot.
- iii. A player shall not play in a lower grade or across a grade to that which they are registered. The only exception being a Representative player playing in their Representative team in the same competition.
- iv. A player must play a minimum of five (5) games with their registered team to qualify for finals.

## 5.3. Borrowed Players

- i. Borrowed players must be listed on the scoresheet below the team being filled list from the team/grade from which they came.
- ii. Teams may borrow players from other teams but players must be from the same or a lower playing grade.
- iii. A borrowed player may only take the court once all original team players are on the court. They may not substitute for an original player, unless the original player is injured and can no longer take part in the game.
- iv. A borrowed player must be registered in the same competition.

## **5.4. Forfeits**

- i. Teams forfeiting must notify the Registrar before 9.00 pm on the day preceding the competition.
- ii. The Registrar will notify the opposing team contact of the forfeit and the team notifying the forfeit will receive one (1) point.
- iii. Each team may only receive one (1) notifiable forfeit per season.
- iv. Any forfeit received after 9.00 pm on the day preceding the competition will be deemed an un-notified forfeit.
- v. The team forfeiting and team claiming the forfeit are still required to carry out umpiring duties that may have been allocated to the team on the day of the forfeit.
- vi. An un-notified forfeit requires the scoresheet to be returned to the Registrar, clearly marked as a forfeit, during the set time slot. The scoresheet needs to be completed by the team claiming the forfeit.
- vii. When a team receives a notified forfeit, all players fully registered at the time of the forfeit are deemed to have played in that game.
- viii. A team which forfeits three (3) competition matches during any one (1) season will be disqualified from the competition, but may appeal the decision. Appeals are to be received by the Committee in writing within seven (7) days of the third forfeit.
- ix. The Registrar will notify teams after two (2) forfeits.
- x. Teams with un-notifiable forfeit will receive no competition points. Opposition teams will receive three (3) points.

## **6. Umpiring**

### **6.1. Competition**

- i. An umpire sending a player from the court for disciplinary reasons must complete the Incident Report Sheet available at control. The matter will be investigated by the Umpire Convenor, President or nominated Executive Committee member, who will then decide whether or not further action is to be taken.
- ii. An umpire is permitted to stop a match and award the game to the opposing team if there are any continued abusive remarks or unduly loud criticisms of their umpiring from a team or their spectators.

### **6.2. Representative Level**

- i. Representative teams taking part in carnivals conducted by Associations must nominate an umpire at time of Registration.
- ii. Umpires will umpire as per the draw. The umpire shall take no part in the play on court

whilst umpiring.

- iii. The Committee will organise umpires for representative teams.
- iv. Umpires are permitted to wear Association tracksuit, jacket and/or shirt whilst undertaking umpiring duties. Appropriate footwear must be worn.
- v. **All umpires participating in Regional League, Junior and Senior State Titles must wear whites.**
- vi. Umpires will be paid in accordance with their qualification as determined by the Committee.
  - A badge - \$250
  - B badge - \$200
  - C badge - \$150
  - Unbadged - \$100

## 7. Adverse and Dangerous Weather

- i. A decision regarding play due to adverse weather prior to the commencement of a game is by Committee discretion. The game shall be deemed a draw and each team will receive two (2) competition points.
- ii. If rounds commence, all games will continue for the full four quarters. If the weather deteriorates during the games and play is considered dangerous by the Registrar, the Umpires Convenor and the President, or their nominated substitute, play will be abandoned.
- iii. If the Association abandons play **before** half time, all games will be deemed a draw for that round and each team will be awarded two (2) competition points.
- iv. If the Association abandons play **after** half time the team with most goals will be declared the winner and will be awarded three (3) competition points and the team with the lesser goals will be awarded one (1) competition point.
- v. If one team decides to cease play during a game, that team will be deemed to have forfeited the game and shall receive no competition points.
- vi. Decisions regarding complete abandonment of play shall be made by the Registrar, the Umpires Convenor and the President, or their nominated substitute.
- vii. Advice regarding play will be notified on the GNA website and the GNA Facebook Page once a decision has been made.
- viii. Games abandoned due to adverse weather shall be classed as drawn games and two (2) competition points will be awarded to each team.
- ix. All fully registered team members at the date of the abandoned game shall be deemed to have played on that day.
- x. In the event of lightning, all games will be abandoned.

## **APPENDIX**

### **8 Annual Fees, Fines and Penalties**

Fees will be set each year by the Committee. This will be after the Netball NSW council meeting.

#### **Penalties:**

- Playing an unregistered player - Loss of game points
- Notified Forfeit – One (1) game point awarded
- Un-notified Forfeit - No game points awarded

#### **Fines:**

- Failure to supply an Umpire – Loss of money from team bond. Umpires must be at the courts and start the game within thirty (30) seconds of hooter sounding.