**PDFNL NETBALL REGULATIONS**

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Updated February 2020

* The PDFNL shall have control and management of all matches played by member clubs under the official rules of the Australian Netball Association and shall have the power to settle all disputes in connection with these matches.

CONTENTS

1. [Age Group Requirements / Available Grades](#_1._Age_Group)
2. [Awards](#_2._Awards)
3. [Conduct of Matches](#_3._Conduct_Of)
4. [Finals](#_4._Finals)
5. [First Aid / Emergency](#_5._First_Aid)
6. [Forfeits](#_6._Forfeits)
7. [Grading of Teams](#_7._Grading_Of)
8. [Player Qualification](#_8._Player_Qualification)
9. [Registration Types](#_9._Registration_Types)
10. [Representative Teams](#_10._Representative_Teams)
11. [Scoresheet / Scores / Timekeepers](#_11._Scoresheets/_Scorers/)
12. [Umpires](#_12._Umpires)
13. [Uniforms & Registration of Colours](#_13._Uniforms_and)
14. [Workshops / Clinics](#_14._Workshops_/)

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# 1. Age Group Requirements / Available Grades

Available Grades

**Senior** – A , B , C and C Res ( all female only )

**Junior** – U17’s / U15’s ( Female only )

U13’s Male and Female.

**1.2   Dates for Age Grouping**

Age groups are determined at 31st December each year.

1.3   Minimum Player Age

The League Competition consists of 7 competitive grades with the minimum age group requirements in the year of playing are:

**Senior Grades**

1. A Grade, B Grade, C Grade, C Reserve – *13 years of age*

**Junior Grades**

(b)      17 Under – *13 years of age*

(c)           15 Under – *11 years of age*

(d)        13 Under – *no minimum age*

# 2. Awards

**2.1 Best and Fairest**

Home teams supply the Best & Fairest vote cards & envelopes for the 7 grades for the days matches. B*oth* Umpires shall confer regarding voting during the course of the match and sign the Vote card and Vote envelope.

(a)    Votes are accumulative only in their own grades, in their own Club

(b)        Vote Cards shall consist of;

Best Player      =  3 Votes

2nd Best Player =  2 votes

3rdBest Player  =  1 Vote

(c) If the two umpires cannot agree the matter shall be referred to the PDFNL board via the league operations manager.

(d) Best & Fairest Medallions and Runner Up Trophies are awarded in each of the affiliated grades, other than 11 Under Modified. In the case of joint winners, a runner’s up trophy shall not be awarded.

(e) Should there be an outright winner and joint runner-up, all players concerned will be declared trophy winners

(f) Players found guilty of offence/s in accordance with the Rules of Competition Regulation/ Dispute Resolution, shall be ineligible to receive the Best & Fairest or Runners Up that season

**2.2  Rising Star Award**

The best player aged 19 years and under at 31st December of the current year shall receive the Rising Star Award.  The Award shall be determined by the player who gains the most votes in Senior A Grade League Best and Fairest vote count.

(a) In the event a number of players receive equal votes, all players concerned shall be declared joint winners

(b) The top 6 players in this category shall be invited to Presentation Evening, with all players called onto stage and announced as Rising Stars, prior to the overall winner being awarded.

(c) A player is only eligible to receive this award once

**2.3 Club Championship**

 Points shall be allocated to the winning team as follows :-

  A Grade 6 points

B Grade 5 points

C Grade 4 points

C Reserve         4 points

17 & Under        5 points

15 & Under       5 points

13 & Under       5 points

(a)   In the event of a drawn match, the allocated points shall be halved

(b)   In the event of a forfeit, the allocated points shall be awarded as a win to the non-forfeiting team

(c)    In the event that a Club has Ladder points deducted, their allocated Club Championship points shall also be deducted.

# 3. Conduct Of Matches

**3.1      Home & Away Match Guidelines**

(a) In all matches 4 premiership points shall be awarded for the winning team, 2 points each for a draw.

(b)        Each Bye has 4 premiership points awarded.

**3.2      Duration of Matches**

13/Under:  Play 10 minutes with 2 minutes between 1st & 3rd quarters & 3minutes @ half time.

15/Under:  Play 12 minutes with 3 minutes between 1st & 3 quarters and 5 minutes @ half time.

17/Under:  Play 15 minutes with 3 minutes between 1st & 3rd quarters and 5 minutes@ half time.

C Reserve: Play 12 minutes with 3 minutes between 1st & 3rd quarters and 5 minutes @half time.

C Grade:  Play 15 minutes with 3 minutes between 1st & 3rd quarters and 5 minutes@ half time.

B Grade:  Play 15 minutes with 3 minutes between 1st & 3rd quarters and 5 minutes at half time.

A Grade:  Play 15 minutes with 3 minutes between 1st & 3rd quarters & 5 minutes at half time.

**3.3      Match Commencement Times**

 (a) Commencement of play :-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Minis and U15's | 9.30am |
| U13's & U17's | 10.40 am |
| C Reserves & B Grade | 12.00 pm |
| A Grade and C Grade | 1.30 pm |

Any alteration to these times must be by mutual agreement by 5pm the Thursday night prior and granted by the PDFNL in writing.

Umpires shall be responsible for the adhering of starting times.

(c)        A period of five minutes extra time shall be given to a player who has umpired/coached the previous game.

# 4. Finals

**4.1 Final Eight**

A final eight (8) will operate for all grades.

Week 1  
Elimination Final   #1         5 x 8  
Elimination Final #2 6 x 7

Week 2

Qualification Final  #1      1 x 4

Qualification Final #2 2 x 3

Week 3  
2nd Semi Final                          Loser 2nd QF vs Winner of 2nd EF   
1st Semi final                            Loser 1st QF vs Winners of 1st EF  
Week 4  
Preliminary Final #1                 Winner 1st QF v Winner 2nd Semi   
Preliminary Final #2                 Winner 2nd QF v Winner 1st Semi  
Week 5  
Grand Final                               Winners of 1st and 2nd Preliminary final

 Finals starting times will be notified prior to the final’s series

**4.2      Qualifying Players for Finals**

A player must have played at least six (6) ROUNDS with a club during the home and away season, to be eligible to play with that club in a finals match.

**4.3      Recording of Games Played**

Home and Away matches ONLY are considered for the purpose of finals qualification.

**4.4 Games in grade**

Within senior grades a player must have played 4 games in a specific senior grade or lower grade during the home and away season. This includes junior aged or qualified players.

Eg. For a player to play finals in b grade she must have played 4 games in b, c or c reserve.

Within Junior grades a player must have played 4 games in a specific junior grade or younger grade during the home and away season.

**4.5      Junior Players in Finals**

Senior grade teams (B, C, CRES) shall be restricted to fielding no more than two (2) junior qualified players in any one quarter of a finals match.  A Grade is exempt of this rule.

**4.6 Umpires**

A register of PDFNL club badged umpires is to be maintained. Umpires from this register can be utilized in finals where their club is not competing in that grades finals series. Where possible all finals matches are to be officiated by neutral current accredited badged umpires.

**4.7 Teams Playing Official Requirements**

Teams playing in the finals shall provide their own scorer and timekeeper for their match. That is 1 scorer and 1 timekeeper from each club who are responsible persons 14 years and over. The 4 sit together for the duration of the match.  The League shall provide time clocks.

**4.8 Drawn Finals**

In the event of a draw there shall be a 2 minute interval at the end of full time.  Substitutions and/or team changes are permitted.

(a)           Extra time of 2 halves each shall be played as follows:

A & B Grade                                             7 minutes

C Grade                                                   7 minutes

C Reserve 15 Under                                  6 minutes

17 Under                                      7 minutes

 13 Under                                     3 minutes

(b)          There shall be an interval of one (1) minute at half time;

(c)           Teams shall change ends at half time;

(d)          During these intervals, substitutions and/or team changes may be made;

(e)           During extra time, normal injury or illness procedures shall apply.

(f) In the event of a draw remaining at the end of extra time, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one team has a two (2) goal advantage.

**4.9 Weather Conditions**

If prior to or during a final’s match the Board, together with the 2 officiating umpires, shall make a decision that is in the best interest of participant safety on weather conditions.

**4.10 Host Clubs Requirements**

Clubs hosting a final match must supply;

(a)        Ice available for injury upon all courts in use.

(b)        Afternoon tea/lunch for umpires and officials

(c)        Brooms to sweep the court

(d)        Drinking Water available for umpires

(e)        Portable scoreboards and a person to attend them if required

(f)   A designated sheltered (weather compliant) bench area for each match, ie 2 separate areas. Teams are to vacate this area as soon as match is complete.

(g)        Administration area for officials and umpires

(h)        Score tables for both courts, and provision to keep scorers dry if inclement weather prevails

(i)         Run-off on the court perimeter must be free from spectators

(j)         Make available water and bucket to remove spillage from courts

**4.11 Scoresheets**

(a)   Scoresheets for finals matches must have all players names written at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.  This is to be completed with the official administration area.

   (b)  Playing positions may be completed courtside providing they are completed five minutes prior to match commencement under supervision of a Board Member.

PENALTY: $100 FINE

**4.12 Ineligible player**

Any club who allows a player to take the court, during a final, who is not listed upon the official scoresheet shall immediately forfeit the game. As soon as it is deemed that this breach has occurred the game shall be awarded to the non-offending team.

**4.13 Grand Final Presentations**

(a)   Premiership Cups shall be presented to Premiership Teams

(b)  Thirteen (13) individual medallions shall be presented to Premier team

(c)  Premiership Pennants in Club colors shall be presented to Premier teams

(d)   Any Club requiring more than thirteen (13) awards shall make their own arrangements to order more

(e)  A “Best on Court” medallion shall be presented to one player as deemed suitable by the 2 officiating umpires of each match

(f) Umpires who officiate in each Grand Final match shall be awarded a PDFNL embroidered hand towel.

# 5. First Aid Emergency.

**5.1   First Aid**

(a)        Participating Clubs shall provide a first aid kit for their own use in both Home & Away matches and in Finals series

(b)        First Aid Kits shall be in an accessible location for all appropriate Club members

**5.2   Emergency Procedure**

Clubs shall display a list of all Emergency Contacts – Ambulance, Doctor, Hospital, Police, Fire

Advised to also have this list in the First Aid Kit

# 6. Forfeits

**6.1** If a Match is unable to commence or continue within the time scheduled for the Match for reasons beyond the control of either Team (including circumstances where it is unsafe for the Match to proceed) the following shall apply:

(a) Match Not Commenced: The result of a Match which is unable to commence for reasons beyond the control of the Team shall be determined by the Controlling Body.

(b) Prior to Half Time: If a Match has commenced but is not able to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the Match, the Teams shall depart from the Court.

If the Match is unable to recommence within a 30-minute period, the Match shall be deemed to be drawn and the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be used in

calculating the percentage of each Team.

(c) Half Time & Beyond: If the Half Time interval has been reached

and the Match is unable to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the Match, the Teams shall leave the court, or in the case of Half Time, not return to the court. If the Match is unable to recommence within a 30-minute period, the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be deemed to be the final scores of the Match. The Team with the highest score shall be deemed the winner of the Match and the scores shall be used in calculating the percentage of each Team.

(d) Match Not Able to Proceed: Unless otherwise determined by a Controlling Body, the Umpires shall, having regard to the health and safety of the Players and any other relevant circumstances, determine whether a Match is unable to commence or proceed. The Umpire’s must determine that a Match is unable to commence or proceed for such time as lightning is present at or within the immediate proximity of the venue where the Match is being conducted.

(e) The Controlling Body may vary the length and scheduling of the intervals, to suit practical circumstances.

Any game forfeited prior to the commencement of the game shall be noted on the scoresheet along with a 20 goal to 0 win for the non-forfeiting side. The listed players will be recorded for the purpose of player qualification.

Any game forfeited or cancelled after the commencement and before half time shall be declared a draw with league votes and game tallies recorded.

Any match cancelled by the umpires after half time, shall be deemed as concluded with the result being recorded as at the time the match stopped. Game tallies and votes shall be recorded as a completed match.

**6.2** Where a team is directed to recommence play by the umpires and fails to recommence play the team shall be deemed as forfeiting the match.

# 7. Grading Of Teams

Clubs shall field all sides unless they gain written permission from the PDFNL board.

**7.1      Modified Teams (11 Under)**

The League abides by the Netball Victoria direction that the games for Mini-Midgets (Under 11 Modified Netta) are to be run as an introductory fun game of netball.

(a)        Scorebooks are not to be introduced and League votes are not given.

(b)  Games should not be played in inclement weather and wearing of Club uniform should not be compulsory.

(c)        Netball Victoria Registration fees must be paid

(d)        Boys may play unrestricted in this age group

**7.2     Overage Player – Under 13’s, Under 15’s and Under 17’s**

Clubs can apply in writing to the league Operations Manager up to 2 weeks prior to the start of the season for permission to have an over age player/s.

No overage player will be allowed, except in exceptional circumstances.

The league will appoint a committee of 3 persons to oversee if a player is eligible. This appointed committee will have the final decision if a person/s can be used as an overage player.

Overage Players will not be eligible for any league award.

Any player who has been granted permission to play overage may only play finals, if the club has requested written permission, to play overage during finals, prior to round 14.

The board may withdraw the right to play overage at any given time and at the board’s sole discretion.

# 8. Senior Player Qualification

**8.1      Player Qualification Rules**

A player may not play in a senior grade, if they have previously played 7 games in a higher grade within the current season.

# 9. Registration Types

**9.1** Any player who is not registered with the club prior to the commencement of a match, including valid single game voucher, shall be deemed an ineligible player.

All registrations including single game vouchers cease after Rnd 14.

In exceptional circumstances if a Club wishes to register a player after Round 14, they must seek written permission from the PDFNL Board by way of substantiating that a change of residence or employment transfer has occurred.

**9.2      Single Game Vouchers**

A single game voucher must be registered online prior to the commencement of the game.

(a)  Single Game Vouchers do not count towards finals qualification games

(b)  There is no limit to the amount a player may purchase.

(d)  All Single Game Voucher registrations shall cease after Round 14

(e) A player shall only play using a SGV with a second PDFNL club in a season after seeking PDFNL board written approval.

**9.3      Further Registrations after Closing Date**

If a Club wishes to do any further registrations after Round 14, they must satisfactorily substantiate to the Board Committee that a change of residence or employment transfer has occurred.  There must be genuine reason that further players are required.

**9.4      Unregistered/ Ineligible**

Any player found to be unregistered or ineligible to register shall have any Best & Fairest votes voided for the match in question

# 10. Representative Teams

**10.1** Coaches of Junior Representative teams shall complete a Working With Children Check (WWCC) as per Netball Victoria requirements.

     League Dresses;

a.      A deposit of $75.00 per dress shall be paid by the player.  A full refund of $75 shall be paid to the player on return of the dress to the League, providing it is in the same condition as when received by the player.

b.      Players are to be mindful that the dresses are the property of the League and shall remain so.  They should be worn only to play netball.

c.       Dresses may not be worn around the waist during warm up sessions

d.      Any player seen no to be compliant with the above Constitution will return their dress immediately, and shall not play for the League Representative Team

(xii) League Team

a.      Clubs shall be levied costs associated with funding the Rep Teams This is regardless of whether the Clubs has players that represented the League or not.  These costs shall be distributed evenly between all affiliated Clubs.

# 11. Scoresheets/ Scorers/ Timekeepers

**11.1**

(a) Both clubs must supply a scoresheet printed from the my-netball website with up to 12 players listed. The latest printed scoresheet shall form as the official scoresheet.

(b) If a player takes the court who was not upon the scoresheet, the leagues operations manager is to be informed and provided all relevant details.

Written changes may only be made prior to the start of the match.

**11.2   Scorer/Timekeeper/Clocks**

Each team is to provide their own person to be a scorer and the home team is to supply a timekeeper. The home team to supply three (3) time-clocks. One time-clock is to be set for 30 sec minutes injury time, one time-clock is for match time and the third shall be set for quarter breaks, should a player be sent from the court then the 3rd ( quarter break clock) shall be set for the 2 minute penalty time.

No mobile phones or electronic devices are to be used by those performing the duty of scorer or time keeper.

**11.3   Minimum Age for scorers**

Scorers and Timekeepers must be aged 14 years minimum, must be seated together, and cannot be substitute players of the game in progress

**11.4   Duties of scorer**

(a)   Scorers shall ensure ALL centre passes and goals are recorded.

(b)  Positional changes are to be filled in EACH quarter, prior to the match re-commencing.

(c)   Each team TOTAL is to be recorded.

**11.5   Discrepancy**

The scorers shall attempt to resolve any discrepancy in the score prior to recommencing the game or giving the match result, any unresolved discrepancy shall be referred to the PDFNL board via the leagues operations manager.

**11.6   Captains/Umpires**

Scorers shall ensure both Captains & both Umpires sign both score sheets, after the scoresheets are finalized

**11.7   Home Club duties**

It is the responsibility of the HOME club to:

(a)   Enter results of all matches played on Netball Victoria website by 5.30pm match day

(b)  Provide Best & Fairest vote cards for all grades

(c) lodge all necessary stationary as previously requested by the leagues operations manager.

PENALTY: $100 fine

# 12. Umpires

**12.1**   Club requirements

Each Clubs shall provide one umpire per match.

**12.2**   Umpire Uniform

(a)   Umpires should wear predominately white and shall not umpire in Club Colors or playing uniforms and no club colors should be visible.

PENALTY:  Fine $50

**12.3**   Injury/Illness

An umpire must umpire for the whole match unless an injury or illness occurs.

# 13. Uniforms and Registration of Colours

**13.1   Uniforms**

(a)        All teams must wear uniform skirt & top OR dresses

(b)  If skirt/tops are worn then players are permitted to wear long sleeves providing they are the same color as the registered shirt color

(c)  Shirts may be worn untucked provided they are no longer that one quarter of the skirt length, unless deemed unsafe by the Umpires.

(d)  Wearing of bike shorts is permitted providing they are in Club colors and NOT visible below the hem line of the uniform

(e)  Football socks are not allowed

(f)   Females are permitted to wear shorts if boys are participating in that grade competition.  Boys’ sports shorts are not allowed

(g) All players in the one team must be in the same style uniform.  Eg. All players in dresses or all players in skirt/top.

(h)  Clubs have the choice of which grades wear dresses or skirt/tops

The board upon application may approve any variance to the above

**13.2   Bibs/Patches**

Initialed bibs/patches are to conform to the rules of Netball Australia Rulebook

**13.3    Uniform Changes**

(a)   The Board must approve any variance to the Clubs previously registered uniform

(b)  New Clubs entering the League shall submit their preferred uniform to the Board for approval prior to the Annual General Meeting

(c)   The Board reserves the right to request the new club to alter their preferred uniform

**13.4   Jewellery**

(a)   No jewellery or adornments are to be worn

(b)  A wedding band or medic alert bracelet may be worn, provided it is adequately taped

**13.5    Hair adornments**

No plastic hair combs, clips, or adornments shall be worn

**13.6   Gloves**

Wearing of gloves is not permitted unless prior written consent has been provided by the PDFNL Board. A medical certificate must accompany any request made to the board for a player to wear gloves.

**13.7    Fingernails**

Fingernails are to be kept short or taped

(a)   Taping must be done with surgical tape, not Band-Aids or sticky tape

(b)  Tape must cover the first joint and be completely around each finger

# 14. Workshops / Clinics

Upon the League holding coaching or umpiring workshops, all Clubs are required to have two (2) relevant attendees in attendance.

PENALTY: $50 fine per non-attendance plus any costs incurred.