

# BALLARAT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE – NETBALL BYLAWS

2026



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## **BALLARAT FOOTBALL & NETBALL LEAGUE INC. OPERATIONAL BY-LAWS NETBALL**

### **DEFINITIONS**

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**“League”** – Means the Ballarat Football Netball League

**“Club”** – means a non-profit incorporated body which has an interest in netball and is affiliated with the league

**“Bylaws”** – Means these bylaws of the league as amended from time to time

**“Netball Management Committee”** – Is the governing body of the league (Ballarat Football Netball League Board Netball Directors, Ballarat Football Netball League Board members and Ballarat Football Netball League Netball Manager

**“Club Delegate”** – is a representative of a club who liaises with the Netball Management Committee

**“Team Official”** – Has the meaning given to it by bylaw 6

**“PPS”** – Means Player Points System, refer bylaw 30



## 1. CONTROLLING BODY

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- a) The controlling/administering body of the BFNL will be known as the "Netball Management Committee"
- b) The Netball Management Committee, through the BFNL Netball Manager, will meet in each year as often as deemed necessary by the Committee.
- c) The Netball Management Committee will report directly to the Ballarat Football Netball League Board of Directors.

## 2. NETBALL VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP

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All players must be registered with their club via the Netball Victoria's Netball Connect System.

- a) All new players to the league must have registered themselves on the Netball Victoria Netball Connect System before taking the court on Match Day.
- b) All players continuing with their home club from a previous season must have re-registered themselves via the Netball Connect System before taking the court on Match Day. All contact details must be kept up to date, including current postal address, mobile phone and email address.
- c) All Coaches and Umpires must have registered themselves through Netball Connect prior to undertaking their roles within their BFNL Club.
- d) Co-ordinators are not permitted to register any players – registrations must be completed by the individual.
- e) Failure to comply with the above will result in a \$100 fine per player/coach/official
- (f) An off-the-court membership (administrative roles eg President, secretary, time keeper) product will be offered to those Association members that have an off-court role.

## 3. MATCH RULES

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- a) All BFNL matches shall be conducted according to Netball Australia Rules unless otherwise stated in these by laws, however BFNL by-laws should be referred to before any other rules.
- b) Starting times and match duration times will be set each season by the Management Committee.
- c) BFNL senior competition (including 19 and under) and BFNL junior competition are two separate competitions.



d) Rule 10 Rolling Substitutions – All Grades

- a) The rolling substitution stands at the designated area.
- b) Before leaving the designated area, the substitute tags (with hands) the player leaving the court.
- c) Only one (1) rolling substitute per team can be made at a time.
- d) Play is not to be held up for rolling substitutions. If play is delayed, the player will be penalised under Rule 19.2. Delaying play.
- e) Players must observe the offside rules as they enter/leave the court.  
Sanction: Free pass where the infringement occurred (offside area) unless this places the non-infringing team at a disadvantage, or advantage is applied.
- f) Players must not interfere with the umpire's movement during the substitution.  
Sanction: Free pass where the ball was when play was stopped (advantage may be applied).
- g) If a player leaves the court as a rolling substitution, and there is no player in the designated area, the replacement player is treated as a late player (as per Rule 3.8) and must wait until a break in play to enter the court.  
3.8. Any late player may, after advising the umpire, take the court in the vacant position/s at the next break in play.  
Action: Any late player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry and possession is awarded to the opposing team where the ball was when play stopped.  
Terminology: Incorrect entry

**\*\*Refer appendix B\*\***

#### 4. VENUES

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- a) Each Club plays their home matches within the confines of the ground where their football club is playing.
- b) Each home club will be responsible for providing a court in fit condition, which must be approved by Netball Victoria & the Ballarat Football Netball League.
- c) The Netball Australia Safe Netball Checklist must be completed prior to the commencement of the first game of the day. All conditions or risks marked as 'no', should be identified, and rectified. If it is not safe, no play should occur.

[Click here to download a PDF of the checklist](#)

- d) All courts are to be situated outdoors, as the BFNL is an outdoor competition. In the event that a scheduled home and away match is unable to be played on the netball court at the scheduled venue, an alternative outdoor venue will need to be sought by the home club.



## 5. UMPIRES

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Umpires must be registered with Netball Victoria via Netball Connect.

- a) Each Club will be responsible for payment of umpires on match day, for all grades, excluding the finals series.
- b) It is not acceptable to only have one umpire per game as this is a risk management issue. If a club cannot obtain an umpire below is the procedure that must be followed:
  - i. The home team has the opportunity to supply a badged umpire in a reasonable time, if not,
  - ii. The away team has the opportunity to supply a badged umpire in a reasonable time, if not,
  - iii. Both teams agree on an unbadged umpire.
- c) If clubs do not supply an umpire and a second umpire is supplied by the other competing team, the club who cannot supply the umpire are required to pay for the second umpire.
- d) If clubs are unable to supply an umpire for any game in which their club competes, that Club may be asked by the BFNL to show due course why further action should not be taken against their Club.
- e) An umpire may officiate a maximum of three (3) matches in any one day, inclusive of both junior and senior fixtures, and must not officiate more than two (2) matches consecutively.

Where a club umpire is also scheduled to play for their club on the same day, they may officiate no more than two (2) matches, and these must not be consecutive. Or

### Penalties:

- First offence – Official warning
  - Second offence – \$100 fine
- f) Umpires must be a current C grade badge under Netball Australian Accreditation requirements to be eligible to umpire in either A or B Grade.
  - g) To be eligible to umpire all other junior and senior matches the umpire must have:
    - Completed the Umpires Online Theory Examination and obtained a pass mark of 70%, as well as completing the Online Foundation Umpires Course - Each Umpire must supply the
    - BFNL Netball Manager with proof of accreditation prior to officiating their first game. The exam and theory must be current qualification.
  - h) Umpires are required to be in uniform from the 11 & Under games through to A Grade. Uniform must be a white skirt/shorts or black pants with a white polo shirt/T shirt or long sleeve white top. Umpires may wear a white spray jacket if required.



- i) Failure to comply with the above will result in a \$100 fine to the umpire/club.
- j) The match umpires shall award votes of the best and fairest three players in each game. Voting shall be 3 votes for the best and fairest player, 2 votes for the second best and fairest player and 1 vote for the third best and fairest player.
- k) Umpires must supply their own whistle and clubs must have a current rulebook and the competition by-laws at the court.
- l) Club umpires are not permitted to coach the team for which they are umpiring

## 6. OFFICIALS

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The Match officials are umpires, scorers and timekeepers. The Team officials are coach, assistant coach, team manager, and up to two (2) other personnel, one of whom must be a Primary Care Person who is qualified to diagnose and treat injured or ill players.

- a) All coaches, team managers & umpires must have a Current Netball Victoria registration and be registered with their club within BFNL. Failure to comply with the above will result in a \$100 fine.
- b) A maximum of five players not on court at start of play, shall constitute the team bench
- c) Team officials and bench players MUST NOT engage in any inappropriate comments or any form of inappropriate behaviour, including moving up and down the side lines or along the goal lines, during play.
- d) Club coaches and team officials must stay in the designated bench area during all home & away and finals matches.
- e) The appointed specified coach is the only member of the club that can coach on match day. The coach must be easily identified and wear an Official League Coaches Vest. All coaches of all age groups and grades, must have the minimum Netball Victoria Foundation level coaching qualification and a pass mark in the Rules of Netball exam by Round 1 of the season (this must be a current qualification). Failure to comply with the above will result in a \$100 fine.
- f) All coaches and assistant coaches' names must be provided to the BFNL Netball Manager three weeks prior to the season starting. The Netball Manager will keep a list of Team Officials in preparation for finals. Accreditation will also be checked by the Netball Manager. If there is a change in coaching these details must be supplied to the BFNL Netball Manager within 24 hours.
- g) Coaches, Team managers or other bench personnel, may not approach the umpires.



## 7. EQUIPMENT & MATCH DAY PAPERWORK

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- a) The BFNL will supply all relevant paperwork.
- b) Hosting clubs are required to print out the day's games score sheets for each grade for match day.
- c) All Clubs are required to enter the results from their home game matches into Netball Connect by 6.00pm on game day. These results include scores, best players and goal statistics (goals and attempts) and positions.

*Penalty:* Clubs failing to enter results into Netball Connect by 6pm game day and to submit paperwork to BFNL headquarters by 7:00pm on the day of the match will incur a \$150 fine.

- d) Finalised team sheets must be entered into the Netball Connect system by 10am on the Friday before match day to enable the home team to print out all game's score sheets.

*Penalty:* Clubs failing to enter teams into the Netball Connect system by 10am on the Friday before match day will incur a \$150 fine.

- e) In relation to finals series sheets, failure to enter into the Netball Connect system by 10am on Friday before match day will result in a \$150 fine.
- f) Failure to submit completed best & fairest vote cards will incur a penalty of \$150 fine to the home club.
- g) All clubs are required to purchase and have as part of their match day equipment, a Hart Megaphone 6 watt. The megaphone is to be used for all senior and junior home and away games. The megaphone replaces air horns, which are not acceptable for use.

## 8. AGE REQUIREMENTS

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- a. Minimum age requirement for the senior competition is turning 15 years of age by the 31st of December, 'in the current year'.
- b. 19&Under: Players must be 19 years of age or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 20 this year. This is a female only competition.
- c. 17&Under: Players must be 17 years of age or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 18 this year. This is a female only competition.
- For 17 & under grade competition the minimum age limit set for participants must be turning 14 years old in the year of competition. This is a female only competition.
- d. 15&Under: Players must be 15 years of age or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 16 this year. This is a female only competition.



➤ For 15 & under grade competition the minimum age limit set for participants must be turning 12 years old in the year of competition.

e. 13&Under: Players must be 13 years of age or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 14 this year. This competition is classed as a mixed competition.

➤ For 13 & under grade competition the minimum age limit set for participants must be turning 10 years old in the year of competition.

f. 11&Under: Players must be 11 years of age or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 12 this year. This competition is classed as a mixed competition.

➤ The minimum age for 11&U is 9 years old at the commencement of the said season.

g. 9 & Under: Players must be 9 years of age or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 10 this year. This competition is classed as a mixed competition.

➤ The minimum age for 9 & U is 7 years old at the commencement of the said season.

h. Special age exemptions will be considered to assist with junior numbers. These must be submitted in writing to the BFNL Manager and BFNL Netball Director/s for approval.

i. The BFNL senior netball competition is a female only competition.

j. The BFNL Junior Netball competition is as a modified mixed competition and will allow males to participate in the 13 & Under Competition, 11 & Under Competition and the 9 & Under Competition.

The league observes the Netball Victoria Gender Regulation in regard to male participation:

- (a) Males who are 13 years (and older) are not permitted to participate in the female competition. This means that males must be less than 13 years of age (actual age) as at the first day of the competition or season; and
- (b) Males that turn 13 during that competition or season will be permitted to participate for the duration of that competition or season.

## 9. JUNIOR NETBALL CAP

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The BFNL places a cap on players per junior age group to the junior netball competition to assist in the distribution of players across the 11 competing clubs. The cap is 24 players per age group. Clubs found to have deliberately breached the cap by clearing or registering new players will be presented to the BFNL board for further management. The only circumstance in which a club can register more than 24 players in any age group, is if they have more than 24 players wanting to re-register with the club from the previous year only.



Any players who are not recognised as a registered player of the club in the previous year will be subject to the cap.

Penalty: Loss of 4 premiership points and games score. \$250 fine.

## 10. WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

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This check replaces the police check and is free for volunteers. This is applicable to all persons working with juniors up to the age of 18 years. It is mandatory by law as of January 2007 for coaches, officials and volunteers to obtain this check if they undertake any of the following roles:

- a) Club personnel including coaches, umpires, trainers etc appointed or seeking appointment for reward.
- b) Volunteer personnel who will or are likely to travel away overnight with teams of players under 18 years of age and
- c) Persons appointed or seeking appointment to a role in which that person is likely to have individual and unsupervised contact with players Under 18 years of age.

The digital Working with Children Check is stored in the Service Victoria app. You can see if someone's Check is current or expired by using the Service Victoria app to scan the QR code on the digital Check.

Go to Service Victoria for [more information on digital Checks](#).

- Check if a person is allowed to work with children while their application is processed by using [the Status Checker](#)

You can check the status via [Service Victoria website](#)

All coaches and officials associated with the junior BFNL competition (and senior competition where under aged players are participating) require a current working with children check.

### Record keeping sheet

Allows all clubs to retain this information on file

Each club affiliated with the BFNL are required to maintain their own records of WWCC of their members on a yearly basis.

## 11. CLEARANCES

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a) A clearance is required if a player wishes to transfer to another BFNL Club before or during the current home & away season.



- b) A clearance will not be granted after the 1st of July of the current year
- c) Each club must process a clearance through the Netball Connect Database System
- d) No player will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season.
- e) Players who owe outstanding playing fees or are in possession of club property will not be granted a clearance. or Team property (uniform, equipment) are not eligible to be granted a clearance.
- f) The existing club has seven (7) days to approve or deny the clearance. If the club fails to deny the clearance within 7 days, the Netball Connect Administration system will automatically clear the player to the new club.

The league will make the final approval through the Netball Connect Database System for all player clearances.

- g) All clearance notifications will be generated and sent via the Netball Connect Database System to all relevant members involved with the clearance.
- h) Penalty for playing without clearance is \$100 and loss of any competition points for the match(es) the player played in.
- i) A clearance form is not required by the league before processing the clearance on the Netball Connect Database system. If the league does request the clearance form, it must be received and signed by the player or parent/guardian (if under 18 years) within 24 hours of the request.
- j) If the Club refuses to clear the player, the League will write to the player advising the reason why and forward a copy to both clubs. Any dispute arising from clearance restrictions will be dealt with according to the Grievance Procedure outlined by Netball Victoria.

#### h) Player Clearances After Two (2) Years

##### 1. Clearance Eligibility After Two (2) Years

A player who has not participated in any match (senior or junior) for their registered club for a continuous period of two (2) full seasons shall be eligible to apply for a clearance.

##### 2. Financial and Property Obligations

Prior to the approval of any clearance under this provision, the player must:

- a) Settle in full any outstanding monies owed to their previous club, including but not limited to membership fees, fines, levies, fundraising commitments, or any payments made in error by the club; and
- b) Return all club property issued to the player, including uniforms, apparel, equipment, or any other club-issued items.

##### 3. Non-Compliance

Where a player fails to:

- Repay any outstanding amounts (including payments made in error), and/or
- Return all club-issued uniforms or property,



the clearance shall not be granted at the conclusion of the two (2) year period. In such circumstances, the player's clearance eligibility period shall be extended to three (3) full seasons of non-participation.

#### 4. Discretion

The League shall retain discretion to review individual circumstances and determine whether the obligations under this bylaw have been satisfied prior to granting a clearance.

## 12. UNIFORM

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It is important that Ballarat Football Netball League recognises that everyone participating in our sport can wear a uniform that caters for individual preferences and religious beliefs. BFNL must approve the uniform of any team which can include any of the components listed below, however the team uniform must be the same colour and/or design. These uniform guidelines will apply for all levels of competition from 1st January 2023.

### UNIFORM OPTIONS

All teams can play in an approved uniform consisting of the following items provided it is the same colour and/or design, sponsorship requirements are met and that no part of the uniform options cover the positional bib:

- A dress
- A singlet
- A bodysuit
- A tee shirt, long or short sleeved
- A skirt
- Shorts
- Sunglasses are not permitted
- any other approved item

a) Each Club must register its uniform with the Netball Management Committee.

b) The Netball Management Committee must approve all uniform colours, designs and styles.

c) Clubs must notify the Netball Management Committee in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform.



d) Players will not be permitted to take the court unless they are in full uniform. If uniforms are not ready, approval must be sought and given by the Netball Management Committee. Uniform includes suitable sports footwear (spiked soles are not permitted).

e) Bike pants or boy legged briefs can be worn but shall be no longer than the dress when a player is standing upright.

f) Socks must be white with club logo and must be purchased through BFNL approved supplier. Players wearing compression socks must ensure they are neutral or black and approved by league.

g) Senior Netball Competition - In the event of extreme weather, long sleeved tops can be worn underneath the uniform. The colour must be included in the Clubs uniform register and submitted for approval with all other uniform items. All team members must be in the same coloured long sleeve top. The directive of extreme weather will be communicated via the Netball Manager.

Junior Netball Competition - Considered part of uniform, long sleeved tops can be worn underneath the uniform of any Junior age group. The colour must be included in the Clubs uniform register and submitted for approval with all other uniform items before each season commences. For the 11 and 9 & under competitions, players may wear black leggings underneath their uniform.

h) Gloves are only permitted to be worn for certified medical conditions. This needs to be approved by the Netball Management Committee. A medical certificate will need to be provided in support of the request. A letter from the league, outlining the approval of the exemption should be carried by the player at all matches. Only plain cotton gloves with no metal clips, sharp adornments, Velcro, rubber spikes or any other covering to enhance the catching of the ball shall be allowed to be worn.

i) Players may not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players, specifically:

(a) No adornment or jewellery may be worn other than a wedding ring or medical alert bracelet, which must be covered with soft tape – appropriate sports tape is to be used (Band-Aids are not permitted).

(b) Fingernails must be short and smooth – taping of nails is not permitted.

(c) Hair must be suitably tied back.

(d) Tongue piercings are to be removed.

(e) Elastic headbands are acceptable during play. Plastic headbands must not be worn during matches.

j) Sponsors logos are not permitted on bibs with the exception of required official BFNL major sponsor. Netball Victoria have a requirement that all Country Netball Leagues include the WorkSafe logo on the positional bibs.



### 13. TIMEKEEPERS/SCORERS

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#### Scorers and Timekeepers

- a) All teams are required to provide their own scorer and/or timekeeper for all matches. Scorers and timekeepers must be seated together in the designated area at the court.
- b) During the home and away season, both the home and away clubs must supply two (2) scorers/timekeepers for each game.
- c) In finals matches, each participating club must supply two (2) scorers/timekeepers for every game in which their club competes. (Refer Appendix B.)
- d) Scorers and timekeepers must be fourteen (14) years of age or older. If a team is unable to provide a scorer/timekeeper who is at least 14 years of age, a parent, guardian, or coach must fulfil the role. Where no suitable scorer/timekeeper is provided, one (1) team member must stand down and take no part in the match until the requirement is met.
- e) The home club shall be required to supply all the necessary paperwork for the match including a printed scoresheet from the Netball Connect database management system. Clubs will be provided with all required paperwork by the League prior to the season.
- f) The home team scorer is to record on the official scoresheet and will track home team changes. The away team scorer is to act as check scorer and timekeeper and will track away team changes. The timekeeper will sound siren/horn at the conclusion of each quarter
- g) The timekeeper will notify the umpire by sounding the horn/siren when there are 30 seconds and 10 seconds remaining prior to the start of the game and each interval stoppage. The official scoresheet and timing device must, at all times, be placed in full view of both scorers for the duration of matches.
- h) Scorers must record all warnings and suspensions on the supplied match management log. The umpire will address the score bench when sanctioning a player to assist in match management.
- i) The official scorers must sit together for the duration of the match at the location to be known as the score bench. Scorers MUST be allowed a clear and uninterrupted view of the game when locating a score bench
- j) One official scoresheet will be used for each match. This scoresheet must list the complete and full names (both given and surname) of all players intending to take court. This scoresheet shall also indicate the positions played each quarter and the match score.
- k) A team may have up to 12 players on a team sheet.
- l) The first named team is responsible to return the scoresheet to the League.



m) A Club Official may add players to the team sheet up until the commencement of the game. If this bylaw is breached, you will automatically lose your premiership points for the game this player played in if your club wins the match.

If you are the losing team a fine of \$250 will be imposed on clubs who are found to be in breach of this bylaw. Umpires must sign off the scoresheet prior to the game commencing so no further player can be added to the scoresheet.

n) Names on the scoresheet must not be added or altered after the commencement of play. Any players who take the court without having been named on the scoresheet and/or the position tracking sheet, must be removed immediately and cannot participate in the rest of the match. The scoresheet shall also indicate the positions played each quarter, the goals scored and the match score.

Team Managers are to ensure all players are listed on the scoresheet AND position tracking sheet prior to the start of the game, and that positions for each quarter have been accurately communicated to the score bench at each interval.

g) At the game conclusion, to indicate their satisfaction that the information on the official scoresheet is correct, the official scoresheet is to be signed by:

a. The captains of both competing teams, names must be printed and signed.

b. The scorers, names must be printed and signed.

c. The officiating umpires only sign the score sheet to state they have officiated that game. Names must be printed and signed.

h) If a scorer, team or club believes the score sheet is incorrect, they must not sign it and follow the grievance procedures to protest.

i) A team wishing to protest must:

a. Not sign the official scoresheet and notify the Club Committee and BFNL Netball Manager of the intention to protest.

b. Lodge the protest in writing with the BFNL Netball Manager within 48 hours of the game completion.

j) The BFNL Netball Manager will advise the result of the protest, and this decision shall be final.

k) Clubs who fail to provide a timekeeper/scorer will be fined \$100 for each offence.



## 14. CONDUCT OF MATCHES

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a) Game rules shall be those of Netball Australia, except:

(i) Timing - Refer Bylaw 29

(ii) Late Start - Refer part Bylaw 14 part F

b) The Netball Management Committee shall determine a fixture and any changes to the competition inclusive of the starting times, venues and days of play for all matches

c) Other than where prior arrangements have been made by the Netball Management Committee, games shall commence at the following times and shall consist of four quarters:

### *Senior Competition*

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Quarter Length</b>	<b>Break Time</b>
A Grade	2.30 pm	4 x 15 Minutes	3 - 5 - 3
B Grade	1.15 pm	4 x 15 Minutes	3 - 5 - 3
C Grade	12 Noon	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
D Grade	11.00 am	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
E Grade	10.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
19 & Under	9.00 am	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2

### *Junior Competition*

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Quarter Length</b>	<b>Break Time</b>
17 & Under Seniors	3.00 pm	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
17 & Under Reserves	2.00 pm	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
15 & Under Seniors	1.00 pm	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
15 & Under Reserves	12 Noon	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
13 & Under Seniors	11.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
13 & Under Reserves	10.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
11 & Under Seniors	9.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
11 & Under Reserves	8.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2

d) Teams are to change ends at each quarter time break.

e) The Netball Management Committee may vary the starting times, game day and match conditions in finals.

The home captain shall toss the coin and visiting captain shall call.



## LATE START

- (i) All clubs are to be in position and ready to start at the time set by the League or the mutually agreed, prearranged time.
- (ii) Teams require a minimum of 5 players in order for play to commence.
- (iii) Late arrivals may join at goal intervals, quarter time break or injury time.
- (iv) If one is not ready to commence the game at the scheduled times and the umpires, scorers, timekeepers and opposition team are in position and scheduled start time has passed the following action may be taken:
  - (v) If a team does not take the court at the required time - the clock shall commence. The Umpires shall instruct the scorer to award a 5-goal penalty to the non-offended team. If the offending team still does not take the court within a further 30 seconds, the game will be awarded to the non-offending team. Four premiership points will be awarded to the non-offending team. There will be no changes to a either team's percentage. The offending team will be fined \$50.00.
  - (vi) HOWEVER, all due consideration must be given when a change of venue has occurred. When a delay has occurred due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, both clubs are to arrange a start time within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time.
  - (vii) If a club wishes to alter the starting time of a match during the home and away season then the club must reach an agreeable time with the opposing clubs netball coordinator a minimum of 72 hours prior to game start time.

All changes must be notified and approved by the league.

### g) Injury/illness/blood Policy – refer Rules of Netball

- (v) The umpires may authorise other persons (including team officials) to assist the player to leave the court if needed.
- (vi) Any blood on the ball or the court must be cleaned before play restarts. Any other players with blood on them and/or their clothing must leave the court and have their blood stained clothing replaced and blood cleaned off their body, before play restarts.
- (vii) During the stoppage both teams may make substitutions and/or team changes, provided these are completed within the time allowed for the stoppage by the umpires.
- (viii) If no substitution is made for the injured/ill player, or for a player who is bleeding, play may resume with the position left vacant. If the player is the Centre and no substitution is made, one player must move to play as Centre to allow the match to continue.
- (ix) If the position is left vacant the player concerned or a substitute may subsequently, after advising the umpire, take the court immediately after one of the following:
  - (a) A goal has been scored (in this case the player or the substitute must play in the position left vacant)



Sanction: Free pass where ball was when play stopped – the player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry. (i.e.: a stoppage for injury/illness or blood, or an interval)

(h) Other Stoppages

(i) The umpires may hold time or extend an interval if considered appropriate. Examples for which time may be held include (but are not limited to):

(a) Emergencies such as serious injury/illness of a player, injury/illness of an umpire or technical official/s, the equipment, the court the weather, or technical equipment

(b) Retrieving the ball

(c) Disciplining a player, team official or bench player.

(ii) The umpires decide the length of such a stoppage and ensure play restarts as soon as possible.

(iii) Team officials are not permitted on the court during a stoppage other than specified in Rule 14g

All matches are to be played irrespective of weather conditions. However, if the conditions are considered by either of the officiating umpires, or the executive members of both participating clubs, to present a physical risk to either the players or the umpires, then the umpires shall call a ten (10) minute break. Following this ten (10) minute break the officiating umpires, in consultation with the executive members of both participating clubs, will make a decision as to the future of the match.

In the event of lightning, please follow the 30/30 LIGHTNING SAFETY GUIDELINE

- i. Stop play if the time between seeing a lightning flash and hearing thunder is less than 30 seconds.
- ii. Immediately seek safety under appropriate shelter.
- iii. Do not resume play until at least 30 minutes has passed since the last thunder was heard.

A decision made by two (2) umpires to abandon a game due to weather conditions must be recorded on the score card, stating the time, and at what stage in the match that decision was made

j) Team Lists

(i) Clubs must submit all coaches' names on the team sheet.

(ii) Both a player's first name and surname must be printed clearly on the team sheet and must be easy to read.

(iii) Team sheets must be submitted to the Ballarat Football Netball League with the rest of the club's match day paperwork and sent to Saxon House after the completion of the last match and no later than 6pm on the night of the match played. Refer bylaw 7.



## 15. GAME CANCELLED/FORFEITS

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Penalty: Any team, which fails to take the court when so directed, will be declared as forfeiting the match and four (4) premiership points will be awarded to the non offending team.

a) If a game is cancelled before the match begins due to weather conditions, as long as both umpires agree, points shall be shared between the two competing sides. If a match is abandoned after ½ time due to weather conditions or extenuating circumstances, the scores will be recorded from the point at when the match was abandoned.

When games are cancelled on account of a factor beyond the control of the relevant Teams or Clubs (e.g. power outage, other extenuating circumstances or some other cause) the match will be deemed a draw, both Teams or Clubs will be credited with two (2) points and five (5) goals each and the competition will continue as per the fixture.

If umpires disagree to cancel the game, a Ballarat Football Netball League Official is to be contacted where possible, and they shall make the decision on whether the game shall continue or not. If a Ballarat Football Netball League Official can't be contacted the match must continue.

b) If a team wishes to forfeit, they must notify the Ballarat Football Netball League General Manager or BFNL Netball Manager, opposing team, and umpires, at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time.

The following fines for a forfeit will apply for the following grades:

- A Grade Netball - \$3000.
- B Grade Netball - \$2000.
- C Grade Netball - \$1500.
- D Grade Netball- \$1000.
- E Grade Netball- \$1000.
- 19 & Under Netball - \$1000.
- 17 & UNDER Netball - \$500.
- 15 & UNDER Netball - \$500.
- 13 & UNDER Netball - \$500.
- 11 & UNDER Netball - \$500.

c) If a team forfeits and fails to notify authorities an additional \$100 fine per team, plus all umpire's costs will be imposed.

d) A team may submit a score sheet on the day of a scheduled game in the case where the opposing registered team forfeits. A team can name a maximum of 12 players on a score sheet where a forfeit applies which will count as a game played for all listed players when determining finals eligibility.



## 16. DRAWN GAME

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In the event of a drawn game the points shall be shared, 2 points per team. No extra time will be played for drawn matches during the home & away season.

## 17. REPRESENTATIVE GAMES

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The Ballarat Football Netball League will appoint a senior coach for 17 & under, 15 & under and 13 & under coach on a minimum term of one year for all representative games involving the BFNL.

*Please Note: Players must play for a BFNL club to be eligible for representative teams.*

The BFNL Netball Manager will organise the representative squad selection trials. Selection trials will be conducted under the following circumstances:

All players who have submitted a player registration form, if required shall be informed of the date, time and place where selections will be held.

1. A minimum of three selectors may be appointed for each team and shall be made up of the team coach and two other selectors.
2. Selectors may be appointed to more than one panel.
3. Teams will be published via BFNL website/Facebook page which have been selected within seven (7) days of the final selection trial.
4. The selector's decision shall be final.

Refer appendix C for selection policy –

## 18. BFNL BEST AND FAIREST VOTES

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1. BFNL Best and Fairest votes shall be awarded in each game, as 3, 2, 1 vote, jointly by both umpires after consultation regardless of the match results. Umpires are to print both the Christian and Surname CLEARLY of the players receiving votes.

2. BFNL Best and Fairest votes shall be completed on the appropriate colour coded league vote card, relevant for each grade or age group, signed by both umpires, and sealed in the league envelope provided.

2. BFNL Best and Fairest votes shall be forwarded immediately to the League and kept in strict secrecy.



3. Should clubs fail to submit best & fairest vote cards for each match, on the first instance clubs will be warned and asked to submit the card as soon as possible, on the second instance, the club will be fined \$150.

4. Club Umpires failing to fill out the correct best & fairest card that corresponds to the grade they officiated in will result in a \$150 fine per indiscretion (this applies to both the home and away club as umpires will be from both clubs).

## **19. REPORTS**

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In the event of a report being made on a player, coach or official by an umpire, the Ballarat Football Netball League will resolve the matter through the Ballarat Football Netball League Independent Tribunal and Complaints Manager.

The umpire must notify the individual/s & club of the report being made and fill in the appropriate paperwork and include in the match day paperwork that will be forwarded back to the League. Members will then be informed of the next step taken by the Ballarat Football Netball League. BFNL report forms must be filled out by the reporting umpire and submitted to the league within 48 hours of the match being played.

## **20. INVESTIGATIONS – FEES**

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In instances where a club lodges a request for an investigation in accordance with the Ballarat Football Netball League by-laws the required fee of \$500 shall be lodged, the full amount of \$500 shall be retained by the league. The following policy will be enforced by the league for investigations:

a) When the Investigations/Hearing Officer determines that there is no case to answer, the club that has requested the investigation shall receive a refund of \$300, and the balance of \$200 will be paid to the Investigations Officer as payment for his/her services.

b) In cases where the Investigations/Hearing Officer refers the matter to the BFNL Independent Tribunal, and a verdict of not guilty (or case not proven) is determined, the club that has requested the investigation shall receive a refund of \$300 and the balance of \$200 will be paid to the Investigations/Hearing Officer as payment for his/her services.

c) In cases where the Investigations/Hearing Officer refers the matter to the BFNL Independent Tribunal and a guilty verdict is determined, the club that has requested the investigation shall receive a full refund of their \$500. The club of the player/official that has the guilty verdict applied to



it shall be fined \$200 (In addition to any additional Tribunal fine) which shall be used by the League for payment to the Investigations/Hearing Officer for his/her services.

Note: The above financial policy shall be applied in cases where the Investigations/Hearing Officer shall be paid the standard fee of \$200. In extenuating circumstances (e.g. more difficult, complex or lengthy investigations) the Investigations/Hearing Officer may request an amount over & above the flat rate of \$200 and which will be negotiated with the BFNL accordingly. In such instances, the BFNL will adjust the amount of \$200 to the revised amount in the above case.

## 21. PLAYER QUALIFICATIONS

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a) Any player having played 8 OR MORE games of the total home and away season in any grade or age group shall NOT be permitted to compete in any remaining home and away games in a lower grade or age group.

For example, a club may not drop an A Grade player to their B Grade once that player has competed in more than 8 games of the season in the A Grade team.

It is the HIGHEST graded game played on the day that will be recorded as a qualifying game. Any other game played on that day will not be recorded as a qualification game in a lower game, with the exception of a 19&U player who will have both the 19/under & seniors grade recorded for qualification purposes.

b) Players may play a maximum of 2 (two) games per round during the home and away season with their club e.g. one 19s & 1 A grade or 1 D Grade & 1 C Grade. (normal qualification rules apply – see 22(c))

\*Failure to comply with 22 (b) will result in a loss of premiership points for the third game played in. If the third team/game that this player played in lost the game, then no premiership points will be deducted however a \$250 fine will be imposed.

*Please note: Junior and senior are separate competitions.*

c) Any player who has played less than 8 games of the total home and away season in any grade or age group shall be allowed to move freely between grades or age groups.

d) Finals matches do not count when determining whether a player has competed in 8 OR MORE games during the season.

e) Any player that has played in a higher level than A Grade, e.g. Suncorp Super Netball, Australian Netball League or the Victorian Netball League Championship Division within the last 12 months will be permitted to play NO LOWER than A Grade in the BFNL home and away and finals competition. There is one exception to this bylaw:

If the player is a junior player and playing VNL they are able to play in their junior age group within the BFNL competition.



## 22. FINALS

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- a) The BFNL shall operate under the same final system used by the football arm of the league for the finals series.
- b) Teams found playing an ineligible player during the finals will be considered to have lost that match.
- c) All BFNL finals shall be played at a venue determined by the Ballarat Football Netball League. The starting times may vary and clubs will be advised accordingly.
- d) A senior and junior player can only play in one (1) final match on the same weekend with the exception of players in the 19 & Under competition who can play in 1 junior and 2 senior finals (1 of the senior games must be 19 & under), provided all the qualification requirements have been met. The junior and senior competition are classed as two separate competitions.

Junior players who are playing in the senior competition can play in one junior final and one senior final on the same weekend, provided all the qualification requirements have been met. The junior and senior COMPETITION ARE CLASSED AS TWO SEPARATE COMPETITIONS.

### DRAWN NETBALL FINALS

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During any final including the grand final where at the end of the game the scores are tied there is a two (2) minute break during which time there may be substitutions and / or team changes. At the end of the 2 minutes, there are a further 2 halves played, these times include.

Grade	Extra Time
A & B	2 x 7 Minutes
C, D, 19s and 17s	2 x 6 Minutes
E, 15s, 13s and 11s	2 x 5 Minutes

At the end of the first half of time played, there will be an interval of one (1) minute where substitutions can be made. Teams change ends to begin the second half of time on. If at the end of the second half of time on the scores are still level, then play continues until one team has a two (2) goal advantage. During extra time, normal injury or illness procedures shall apply.

Drawn matches in finals:

- There is a four (4) minute interval at the end of full time to enable scores to be verified on the score sheet.
- Positional changes and substitutions may be made during this interval.



- There will be no change of ends at the end of the 4th quarter.
- 2 x 5-minute halves will be played (13&U thru E Grade); 19&U & C Grade- 2 x 6-minute halves; A Grade & B Grade – 2 x 7-minute halves.
- At the end of the first half teams have a 1-minute break, teams change ends, positional changes & substitutions are allowed.
- Should there still be a draw at the end of the second half of extra time, play continues until one team has a two-goal advantage and therefore declared the winner.

### 23. FINALS ELIGIBILITY

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A player must play in at least five (5) matches (Senior Competition) and at least 4 (4) matches (Junior Competition) for their club in the home and away rounds, in a grade, to qualify to play in the final's series in that specific grade.

Example: Player A plays 5 games in B grade, 3 games in C grade & 5 games in A grade – then Player A is only eligible to play finals in either A or B grade:

If Player A plays at least 8 games in 19&U & at least 5 games in A grade in the home and away rounds – then Player A is only eligible for 19s & A grade.

Exemptions: A club seeking an exemption to qualify a player for the finals must apply to the BFNL board in writing. Exemptions must be submitted no later than 4 weeks prior to the commencement of the final's series. Any requests after the four-week mark will not be accepted. The exemption request will be presented to the Ballarat Football Netball League Board for a decision. The Board will take in to account the following.

- The number of players who have qualified for finals in this team
- If the request for exemption is needed to put a team on the court in finals

*Exemptions are only given for extenuating circumstances, where the club can clearly articulate a need to put a team on the court.*



## 24. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

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### Part (i)

#### Interfering with League Officials

Any official, coach, player, committee member, or club member who, by word, in writing, electronically, physically, or through any violent act, abuses, harasses, threatens, or assaults any League official or witness, any member of the Tribunal, or any member of a League-appointed committee in relation to the performance of their official duties, shall be subject to such disciplinary action as the Board determines appropriate.

### Part (ii)

#### Bringing the Game into Disrepute

Any official, coach, player, committee member, or club member who engages in conduct which, in the opinion of the Board, is unbecoming or is likely to prejudice the interests or reputation of the League and/or the games of Australian Football or Netball, or which brings the League or either game into disrepute, shall be subject to such disciplinary action as the Board determines appropriate.

### Part (iii)

#### Discipline of a Member

Notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules, the Netball Committee has the authority to take such disciplinary action as it considers appropriate against any club, club official, player, umpire, or other person where, in the opinion of the Netball Committee, that club or person has engaged in any act, practice, conduct, matter, or thing that is unbecoming or prejudicial to the interests of the League.

This includes conduct that is calculated to, or does in fact, bring the League or any of its Constituent Clubs, or any person associated with them, into disrepute, or that impairs or affects the enjoyment by any club or person of the rights and privileges associated with membership of, or association with, the League.

## 25. FIRST AID

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- a) Clubs must have a first aid kit on standby for all BFNL matches.
- b) Primary carer must hold a current/valid first aid certificate.
- c) Clubs who fail to have a first aid kit on standby for all matches will be fined \$100.



## 26. FIXTURE

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- a) The BFNL shall run in accordance to the Ballarat Football Netball League Senior fixture.
- b) The BFNL Junior Competition shall run in accordance with the Ballarat Football Netball League Junior fixture.
- c) The Ballarat Football Netball League reserves the right to make changes to the fixture at any point throughout the season.

## 27. COMMENCEMENT TIMES

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The BFNL shall have the following commencement times of matches:

The commencement times will remain the same for a dual gate game. If there is a night game, all games will commence two hours later.

Example: 19 & under would usually commence their game at 9am, if the game is a night match they would then commence at 11am (2 hours later).

Grade	Start Time	Quarter Length	Break Time
A Grade	2.30 pm	4 x 15 Minutes	3 - 5 - 3
B Grade	1.15 pm	4 x 15 Minutes	3 - 5 - 3
C Grade	12.00 Noon	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
D Grade	11.00 am	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
E Grade	10.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
19 & Under	9.00 am	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
17 & Under Senior	3.00 pm	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
17 & Under Reserve	2.00 pm	4 x 12 Minutes	2 - 4 - 2
15 & Under Senior	1.00 pm	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
15 & Under Reserve	12.00 Noon	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
13 & Under Senior	11.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
13 & Under Reserve	10.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
11 & Under Senior	9.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2
11 & Under Reserve	8.00 am	4 x 10 Minutes	2 - 3 - 2

- a) For finals day, commencement times may vary depending on how many games are played.
- b) The BFNL reserves the right to change these times from season to season.



c) If a club wishes to alter the starting time of a match during the home and away season then the club must reach an agreeable time with the opposing clubs netball coordinator a minimum of 72 hours prior to game start time.

All changes must be notified and approved by the league.

## 28. PPS – PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM

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Ballarat Football Netball League, in conjunction with Netball Victoria believes the equalisation of community netball competitions is vital for the growth and sustainability of community netball.

Even fair competitions lead to interest in growth in participation, which leads to stronger clubs and stronger competitions. Even competitions allow players, supporters, and club volunteers the chance to turn up on any given match day with the knowledge that the outcome of the game is uncertain and that their team has an even chance of winning. This mindset motivates people to become and remain engaged with their community club and provide rewards and recognition to all those that assist in putting a team out on the court.

*The objectives of the Ballarat Football Netball League PPS policy are as follows, to:*

1. Promote player loyalty and junior development.
2. Support the role of volunteers undertakes in managing their clubs by:
  - Minimising the need to fundraise for player payments
  - Providing a more competitive environment on field, that encourages more volunteers to support at club level
  - Providing incentive to spend more time and effort in the development of Netball, a welcoming environment and growing the game within the local community
3. Support the Equalisation of the community netball competitions.
4. Ensure teams fielded in the competitions are strong and as equally matched as possible.
5. Provide the best opportunities for players to develop and display their skills.
6. Provide opportunities to compete at a community level within an orderly and fair system.
7. Enable team spirit and public support.
8. Encourage community and corporate sponsorships of Community Clubs.
9. Reduce the inflationary nature of player payments to assist clubs survive financially and reduce financial burden/stress on clubs.



This PPS policy sets out a framework of rules and guiding principles in relation to a player points system which should be adopted by community clubs in order to achieve the above objectives.

Failure to comply with the player points system policy will result in a loss of premiership points and a \$250 fine.

*Refer to Appendix A for full Player Points System Policy.*

## **29. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES / PROVISION CLAUSE**

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Where these By-Laws are silent, the BFNL will have full authority to make any decision that ensures the integrity of the Ballarat Football League Netball League is maintained at all times. The Executive may in using its reasonable discretion and, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in the By-Laws relating to the Ballarat Football League Netball League.

Where these By-Laws are silent, the BFNL shall have full power and authority to make any determination necessary to ensure the integrity and proper administration of the Ballarat Football Netball League is maintained at all times.

The Executive may, acting reasonably and in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary, or waive any requirement contained within these By-Laws as they relate to the Ballarat Football Netball League, where it considers such action to be in the best interests of the competition.

## **31. INDEMNITY CLAUSE**

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Except where provided or required by laws and such can't be excluded, the (Ballarat Football League Netball League) and its respective directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage, however caused, arising whilst participating as a member.

## **32. REQUIREMENTS FOR JUNIOR PRESENTATION AND HENDERSON MEDAL/MCLEAN MEDAL**

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Each year the Ballarat Football Netball League hold two presentation events the Junior Presentation Evening and the Henderson Mclean Medal.

BFNL Junior Awards – The Ballarat Football Netball League has implemented an award for the most outstanding netballer in each age group as voted by the Coaches across every club in each Senior age group.



The Most Valuable Player awards shall be awarded to the player who obtains the most votes from the coaches of each side in their respective competitions.

The award will be determined on the following criteria:

Each coach from each senior grade (13 & Under Seniors, 15 & Under Seniors and 17 & Under Seniors) will vote 3 – 2 – 1 for the best opposing player they have coached against this year. Please ensure your coaches from these age groups are aware of these expectations so they are able to provide the votes at the end of the current season in preparation for the Junior Presentation Evening.

Henderson Mclean Medal - The Ballarat Football Netball League has implemented an award for the “Team of the Year” and “Coach of the Year”. A Grade coaches will be provided with a spreadsheet to complete to record who they believe should be in the A Grade Netball Team of the Year. The A Grade coach will also be required to provide 3-2-1 votes for their fellow A Grade coaches for the season.

The league will provide the relevant paperwork for both the Junior Presentation and the Henderson Mclean Medal events.

Clubs will also be able to nominate a Junior and Senior Coordinator of the year and a junior coach of the year.



# Appendix A



## PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM POLICY

**\*THIS PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM POLICY IS ENDORSED BY  
NETBALL VICTORIA**

**JANUARY 2018**

(Previously AFL Goldfields Netball League Player Points System Policy)



## **BALLARAT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM (PPS) POLICY**

### **Objective of the Ballarat Football Netball League Player Points System and Community Club Sustainability**

Ballarat Football Netball League, in conjunction with Netball Victoria believes the equalisation of community netball competitions is vital for the growth and sustainability of community netball.

Even fair competitions lead to interest in growth in participation, which leads to stronger clubs and stronger competitions. Even competitions allow players, supporters, and club volunteers the chance to turn up on any given match day with the knowledge that the outcome of the game is uncertain and that their team has an even chance of winning. This mindset motivates people to become and remain engaged with their community club and provide rewards and recognition to all those that assist in putting a team out on the court.

*The objectives of the Ballarat Football Netball League PPS policy are as follows, to:*

1. Promote player loyalty and junior development.
2. Support the role of volunteers undertakes in managing their clubs by:
  - Minimising the need to fundraise for player payments
  - Providing a more competitive environment on field, that encourages more volunteers to support at club level
  - Providing incentive to spend more time and effort in the development of Netball, a welcoming environment and growing the game within the local community
3. Support the Equalisation of the community netball competitions.
4. Ensure teams fielded in the competitions are strong and as equally matched as possible.
5. Provide the best opportunities for players to develop and display their skills.
6. Provide opportunities to compete at a community level within an orderly and fair system.
7. Enable team spirit and public support.
8. Encourage community and corporate sponsorships of Community Clubs.
9. Reduce the inflationary nature of player payments to assist clubs survive financially and reduce financial burden/stress on clubs.



This PPS policy sets out a framework of rules and guiding principles in relation to a player points system which should be adopted by community clubs in order to achieve the above objectives.

If this policy is adopted by a Football Netball League, they will need to amend their relevant by laws to include all relevant under PPS Policy.



## 2. DEFINITIONS

**2.1 ANL-** Australian Netball League

**2.2 Category-** player points category which determines the base allocation of the Player Points Allocation for a player

**2.3 Community Club or 'Club'**- Netball club which participates within a community netball competition that does not include State Leagues (VNL, ANL or SUNCORP)

**2.4 Competition-** Victorian Netball competition in which the community club participates in official fixtured matches.

**2.5 Football Netball League-** Netball competition that is run in conjunction with local Australian Rules Football Competitions

**2.6 First Home & Away Match-** first official competition match for the home and away season of a competition

**2.7 Netball Victoria-** Netball Victoria state governing body

**2.8 Player Points Allocation-** total number of points allocated to an individual player in a senior team taking into consideration the player points category that applies to each player and any additional points or deducted points accordance with this PPS policy.

**2.9 PPS Policy-** community club sustainability player points policy as amended by Netball Victoria from time to time.

**2.10 Season-** community netball season between April 1st and 30 September each year (or such agreed dates)

**2.11 Season of Service-** season where a player has player a minimum qualification games as stipulated in the Football Netball Leagues by laws

**2.12 Total Team Points-** total amount of points allocated to a specific senior team by a Football Netball League for each season in accordance with this PPS policy.

**2.13 VNL-** Victorian Netball League

## INTERPRETATION:



A reference to:

### **3. AFFILIATED FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUES RESPONSIBILITIES**

Each Football Netball League affiliated to Ballarat Football Netball League

#### **Total Team Points**

**3.1** acknowledge that the Total team points allocation will be capped at 26 points per A grade team subject to the condition of clause 3.

**3.2** will consider all applications from Community clubs for the allocation Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS policy (i.e., applications based on unique local circumstances under clause 4.5)

**3.3** may allocate additional points or apply deductions to Total Team Points to specific Community clubs in accordance with this PPS policy to manage unique local conditions and meet the needs of local community clubs and the relevant senior competitions.

**3.4** acknowledge that any decision to alter the 26-point Total Team Points cap should be approved by Ballarat Football Netball League.

**3.5** will allocate the final figure for Total Team Points to each senior team for each club affiliate (i.e., not lowers grades or underage competitions) for the following season and in accordance with PPS policy, with all points allocations to be lodged by 1st April.

**3.6** subject to approval of Total Team Points via Netball Victoria and Football Netball Leagues must communicate the allocation of each Club's Total Team Points to each of their affiliate Clubs for the following season in accordance with the PPS Policy.

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### **PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATION**

**3.7** will liaise with Community Club's to ensure Player Point Allocations are entered via League Netball Manager prior to any players first A grade Home and Away Match of each season and will confirm the Player Point Allocations entered by the community club.

**3.8** as part of the Player Point Allocation process, Football Netball Leagues may provide the opportunity for clubs to seek assessment of any player's Player Point Allocation. Any reassessment against a Player Point Allocation should be made to the relevant Football Netball League no later than 5 days before the players first A Grade Home and Away Match each season.

**3.9** once the process in clauses 3.7 and 3.8 has been undertaken, any player's Player Point Allocation will be fixed for that season unless the Football Netball League is of the view that there are exceptional circumstances relevant to a player that warrant an amendment of the Player Point Allocation during the Season.



#### **4. AFFILIATED CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES**

Each affiliated Community Club

**4.1** will determine each Player's Points Allocation for its A Grade squad. This determination may include any additions or deductions applicable to each player in accordance with this PPS Policy. See clauses 6 and 7 and appendices 12.1 for applicable flow chart to assist in this process.

**4.2** will submit Player Points Allocations to Netball Manager prior to the relevant Community Club's first Home and Away match of each season, or a player first A Grade Home and Away Match

**4.3** acknowledges that if a Community Club does not follow this procedure and decides to play a player in a match in an A Grade Competition, who has not had their Player Points Allocation approved and submitted to the Netball Manager, that club will risk of any subsequent enforcement penalty as determined by the relevant Football Netball League in accordance with this PPS Policy.

**4.4** will ensure on match days the A Grade Team does not exceed that Club's Total Team Points. For the avoidance of doubt, Community Clubs may recruit above their allocated points in any given Season but must comply with the Total Team Points allocation on match days.

**4.5** May make an application to its affiliate Football Netball League for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy (i.e., for unique local circumstances). The application process is to be set down and communicated to affiliate clubs by the relevant Football Netball League.

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#### **5. PLAYER POINTS CATEGORIES**

**5.1** A player's Category and the subsequent Player Points Allocation will be determined by that player's playing history and achievements and is structured in a way to promote player retention and loyalty.

**5.2** Each player expected to play in the A Grade Team of a Community Club will be allocated a category and a Player Points Allocation as follows:

**5.2.1** Category 1- Home Player – 1 Point

- a) Player who has played 40 or more junior games at the aligned junior club up to and including U17 Competition; or
- b) A Player who has played only at that Community Club and for no other Community Club or
- c) A Player who has not played Competitive Netball in the Previous 3 years



*NOTE: Under the Category 1 definition, a player may be categorised as a 'home player' at more than one Community Club*

**5.3** If a player does not meet the Category 1 'home player' eligibility above, their points Category will be assessed based on the highest playing level achieved prior to the player joining the current club in the following categories.

**5.3.1** Category 6- International Tier 1 Player/ SUNCROP Netball- 6 Points

- a) A current player of Suncorp super netball/international equivalent or in the previous two seasons
- b) Player who has played represented a Tier 1 Country at an International Event.

**5.3.2** Category 5- International Tier 2 Player/ VNL Open/ ANC/ Suncorp Super Netball League Training Partner – 5 Points

- a) Player who has played represented a Tier 2 Country at an International Event.
- b) A current player of a VNL Open Division team or has played VNL Championship (2023 or prior) in the previous two seasons
- c) A current player of an ANC team or has played ANC in the previous two seasons
- d) A Suncorp Super Netball training Partner

**5.3.3** Category 4- VNL 23&U/ State Representation/Premium Community Player – 4 points

- a) A current player of a VNL Division 1 or 19 & Under team (2023 or prior) or has played in VNL 23&U team, or equivalent State League Competition.
- b) Players selected in State 17 & under and 19 & Under teams
- c) Achieved a club A Grade Best & Fairest top 3 finish, in a A Grade competition only, in the previous season.

**5.3.4** Category 3 – Senior Community Player and Transferred Junior – 3 Points

- a) Player A grade in another FNL in the previous 3 years

**5.3.5** Category 2- Development Community Player- 2 Points

- a) Played B Grade or Lower in an FNL in the previous 3 years

**5.4** A Community club that has a player that does not meet any of the above player Categories will need to apply to their affiliate Football Netball League to determine the appropriate Player Points Allocation. In Determining the Player Points Allocation, the Football Netball League will have referred to all relevant factors so as not to unreasonably restrict the player's movement between Community Clubs or a player's opportunity to play Netball at a club of her choice.

**5.5** For the purpose of a Player Points Allocation, a playing coach or playing assistant coach is classified as a player and will be assessed under the above Categories.



## **6. ADDITIONAL PLAYER POINT ALLOCATIONS:**

**6.1** If a player transfers to a Community Club and will be competing against their immediate former Community Club an additional one-point penalty will be applied.

**6.2** Where a player has registered at three (3) or more different Community Clubs in three (3) seasons, one additional point will be applied to that players Player Point Allocations. In determining the 3 season's timeframe, clubs shall assess the current or upcoming season as the first season along with the previous two (2) seasons, as detailed in the examples below.

Club A- 2021 Season

Club B- 2019 Season

Club C- 2018 Season

**6.3** A Community Club may make an application for a re-assessment under clause 7.3 to its affiliate Football Netball League in relation to a player's additional points allocation.

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## **7. DEDUCTIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATION:**

**7.1** Once a player's Player Points Allocation has been determined, a reduction of one point will apply for each 'Season of Service' to that players Community Club (Minimum Football Netball Leagues qualification quarters per season), even if not in consecutive years, until the player reaches not less than 1 point. (This is the minimum number of points a player can have). For the avoidance of doubt, if a player is eligible for underage Netball at his/her club, they must play minimum quarters to meet the criteria for a Season of Service point reduction.

**7.2** Where a player qualifies in more than one category based on their playing history in current Season or any of the previous 3 Seasons, the Category with the highest points will apply, hence the use of the flow chart in appendix 12.3 (Category 1- Home Players are excluded)

**7.3** Football Netball Leagues may, acting reasonably, reassess an individual players Player Points Allocation where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history and circumstances. Community Clubs may make an application detailing relevant evidence regarding the reassessment of a player to its relevant Football Netball League. The application for reassessment may be based upon one or more of the following:

- a) The age of the player especially if the player is looking to play at a higher level
- b) The injury history of the player
- c) The recent playing history of the player
- d) The living, schooling and work arrangement of the player; or
- e) Any other relevant consideration



**7.4** Subject to the considerations which the Football Netball League should take into account under clause 7.3, the determination of an application for reassessment will be at the discretion of the relevant Football Netball League

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## **8. Total Team Points**

**8.1** Football Netball Leagues will undertake their own process of Total Teams Points allocations and will be responsible for determining Total Team Points for their affiliate A Grade Competition and Clubs. As stated under clause 3, the starting point is that Total Team Points will be capped at 26 points and should only vary for legitimate circumstances to achieve the evenness and equalisation objectives of this PPS Policy.

**8.2** In order to determine variances in the 26-point Total Team Points' cap, Football Netball Leagues should adopt the following guiding principles regarding the additional allocation or reduction of Total Teams Points to a Community Club:

**8.2.1** Additional total team points may be allocated to a Community Club which is located in a region with a low population base.

**8.2.2** Additional total team points may be allocated if a Community Club did not qualify for finals in the previous seasons or has been promoted from a previous season.

**8.2.3** Reduction of total team points for multiple premierships and sustained success over previous seasons.

**8.2.4** Additional total team points may be allocated if a Community Club endures significant hardship, lack of success, is coming out of recess, or is a recently merged or restructured entity.

**8.2.5** Additional total team points may be allocated where a Community Club has no U17 or younger underage sides and is not capable of developing a junior program due to reasons outside of its control.

**8.3** Any alterations to a Community Club's Total Team Points cap under clause 8.2 or for any other reason must be prior approved by Ballarat Football Netball League. For each match, a club must ensure that the Total Team Points allocation is calculated based on the maximum number of players allowed to participate in a match for that competition and this should be consistent for each match within a Season, within each Competition.

**8.3.1** A Grade Team lists must consist of a minimum of 10 listed players and a maximum 12 listed players. It is at the club's discretion to the number of players listed between 10-12 however the Total Team Points calculated for the listed players must not exceed the clubs Total Team Point Allocation.



## **9. IMPLEMENTATION**

**9.1** Football Netball Leagues are free to publicise Total Team Points to affiliate Clubs for the following years at their own discretion once approved by Netball Victoria.

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## **10. ENFORCEMENT**

**10.1** Given Player Points Allocations will be managed via Netball Managers.

**10.2** Should any Club knowingly make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations; the Club may be penalised by the Football Netball League in line with the penalties set out in clause 10.3.

**10.3** Penalties may include (without limitation)

- (a) Club fines
- (b) Loss of Premiership Points- Current Season and in the future
- (c) Suspension from Finals- Current Season and in the future
- (d) Player/Official Suspensions- for those players/officials that knowingly provide false information to the club.
- (e) Any other penalty determined by the Football Netball League or Netball Victoria from time to time

In applying any enforcements provisions in relation to any breach of the PPS Policy, Football Netball Leagues shall take into consideration whether the breach was assessed as

- Unintentional- where a club had not been provided with accurate information
  - Interpretive- where a club had applied the policy in a manner that the policy was not intended
  - Intentional- where a clear breach had occurred with little or no regard to the requirements of the policy
- 

## **11. APPEAL AND REVIEW**

**11.1** Where a Community Club is of the view that a player's Player Points Allocation is deemed inappropriate under the PPS Policy following a reassessment conducted under 7.4, any appeal against that Player Points Allocation must be heard by that Football Netball League under their own appeals process.



**11.2** Where a Club is of the view that its own Total Team Points or Total Team Cap allocation is deemed inappropriate under the PPS Policy, any appeal against that Total Team Points allocation must be heard by the Football Netball League under their own appeals process.

**11.3** An appeal against a decision to apply an enforcement provision under this PPS policy should be made via Netball Victoria Regional Development Manager and will be reviewed by a panel appointed by Netball Victoria.

**11.4** Netball Victoria will review the PPS policy throughout each season and amendments and variations may be made by Netball Victoria from time to time.



# Appendix B



ROLLING SUBSTITUTIONS

OFFICIAL SCORING

SCORE BENCH ROLES

OFFICIAL SCORE BENCH PAPERWORK



## **RULE 10 ROLLING SUBSTITUTIONS – ALL GRADES**

- a) The rolling substitution stands at the designated area.
  - b) Before leaving the designated area, the substitute tags (with hands) the player leaving the court.
  - c) Only one (1) rolling substitute per team can be made at a time.
  - d) Play is not to be held up for rolling substitutions. If play is delayed, the player will be penalised under Rule 19.2. Delaying play.
  - e) Players must observe the offside rules as they enter/leave the court.  
Sanction: Free pass where the infringement occurred (offside area) unless this places the non-infringing team at a disadvantage, or advantage is applied.
  - f) Players must not interfere with the umpire's movement during the substitution.  
Sanction: Free pass where the ball was when play was stopped (advantage may be applied).
  - g) If a player leaves the court as a rolling substitution, and there is no player in the designated area, the replacement player is treated as a late player (as per Rule 3.8) and must wait until a break in play to enter the court.  
*3.8. Any late player may, after advising the umpire, take the court in the vacant position/s at the next break in play.*  
*Action: Any late player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry and possession is awarded to the opposing team where the ball was when play stopped.*  
Terminology: Incorrect entry
- 

## **PLAYER CONDUCT**

Swearing - Any player who swears and it is audible to the umpire whether it be at themselves, another player or otherwise may have a penalty awarded against them.

Any player or bench official who directs abuse towards an umpire, whether it be verbal or otherwise, may be sent from the court and reported to BFNL.

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## **PRATICAL IMPLEMENTATION**

All teams will be required to have two identical sets of bibs to facilitate substitution and changes.

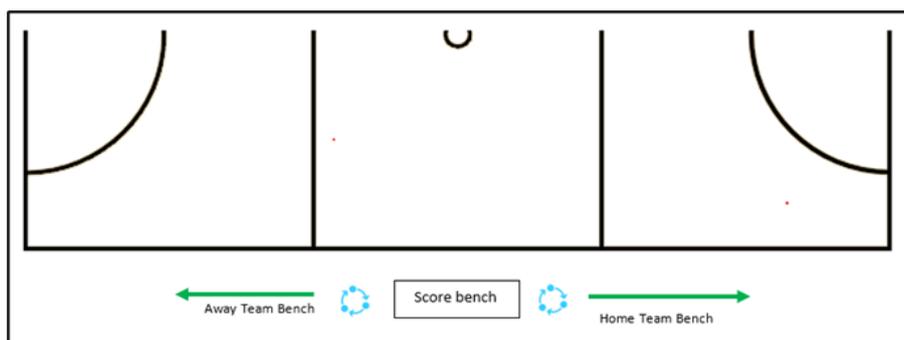


### ROLLING SUBSTITUTIONS

Visual options (flat discs) can be used to create the substitution zone. Ensure safety is front of mind and that discs are not placed within the required run off. Apply common sense.



Location of substitution zone is indicated by this symbol  in the diagrams below:



### RECORDING OF PLAYING POSITIONS & GOALING STATS

There will be no changes made to the current scoresheets available in Netball Connect. 'Fixtures2' is still the official scoresheet to use.

The starting seven positions should be listed on the official scoresheet prior to game start and quarters.



## SUBSTITUTION FORM

Clubs are required to complete a separate substitution form which is handed to the scorers promptly for each change made to be recorded on the Scoresheet for rolling substitution and quarter time breaks.

Substitution forms do **NOT** need to be sent in with the rest of the Match Day paperwork.

Example of completed substitution form below:

	<div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <i>Insert your league logo here</i> </div>							
	<b><u>SUBSTITUTION FORM</u></b>							
<b>DETAILS</b>	Round	<b>1</b>	Date	<b>6/04/24</b>	Grade	<b>A GRADE</b>		
<b>CLUB</b>	<b>Geelong Cougars</b>							
Changed occurred	1	1/4	2	1/2	3	3/4	4	
<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last name</b>		<b>From</b>			<b>To</b>		
<i>Emma</i>	<i>Buwalda</i>		<i>GA</i>			<i>-</i>		
<i>Zanna</i>	<i>Woods</i>		<i>-</i>			<i>GA</i>		

## SCORE BENCH ROLES

### Official Scoresheet, Timer, Official Caller and Score Board

Score bench configurations:

**Home Team:** Official Scoresheet

**Away Team:** Caller

**Home Team:** Timer

**Away Team:** Score Board



# Appendix C



## BFNL REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM SELECTION POLICY



# **BALLARAT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE**

## **BFNL JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE NETBALL TRIAL SELECTION POLICY**



## OBJECTIVE

To identify athletes with the ability to represent Ballarat Football Netball League for the upcoming Junior Representative Netball Program.

## GENERAL

1.1 This policy and process applies to the selection of the following teams:

- a) 17&U Championship Team
- b) 17 &U Development Team
- c) 15&U Championship Team
- d) 15&U Development Team
- e) 13&U Championship Team
- f) 13&U Development Team

1.2 Ballarat Football Netball League Netball Manager will oversee the selection process for all Netball trials. The Netball Manager will ensure the selection process adheres to this policy throughout the entirety of the trials and team announcements.

---

## 1. PLAYERS

2.1 Eligibility

2.1.1 Selection is open to any player who is registered to and playing netball for a Ballarat Football Netball League Club.

2.1.2 Players must be a current financial member of Netball Victoria at the time of the trials.

2.2 Age Criteria

2.2.1 Various competition rules must be adhered to in terms of minimum and maximum age requirements.

2.2.2 Player age is determined as at 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year of competition.

2.2.3 The following age requirements apply:

- a) 17 & Under – 16 or 17 years old
- b) 15 & Under – 14 or 15 years old
- c) 13 & Under – 12 or 13 years old

2.3 Registration

2.3.1 Players wishing to be considered for selection will be required to complete an online player nomination form by the specified closing date.



2.3.2 Late player registrations will not be accepted. This includes registrations received on the day of trials.

## 2.4 Attendance

2.4.1 All players are expected to attend the first selection session and any subsequent sessions to which they are invited.

2.4.2 Any player who is unable to attend a particular session must submit a written apology in advance (with appropriate documentation). Apologies will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the BFNL Netball Manager and BFNL Netball Directors. Acceptable apologies may include for example, injury, illness or extenuating personal circumstances.

2.4.3 Players unable to attend as per 2.4.2 are to be considered by the Selection Panel based on previous demonstrated ability as viewed by, or provided in feedback to the Selection Panel member/s.

2.4.4 A player who is absent from a selections session without apology will not be considered further for selection.

## 2.5 Playing Positions

2.5.1 Players will be required to nominate two preferred positions only for selection trials.

2.5.2 Players will be given the opportunity to play in their two nominated positions during the trials, where possible.

2.5.3 On the request of the Selection Panel, players may be asked to trial in a position not nominated by the player.

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## 2. SELECTORS

3.1 The BFNL Netball Manager will attend and coordinate all selections, including organisation of coaches and selectors. The Netball Manager will meet with coaches prior to trials to organise a suitable selection panel.

3.2 Selectors must declare any conflicts of interest to the BFNL Netball Manager, who shall determine the most appropriate course of action in consultation with the affected selection panel if required.

3.3 Selectors must be available to attend all selection sessions and required meetings:

- A meeting prior to the first session to discuss the selection process.
- A meeting following the first selection session to decide which players should be invited back to the second session.
- A meeting following the final selection session to decide which players should be selected in the final team. This should include nominating two alternate players for each court area (per age group) who will take a position should a selected player decline their offer or fail to commit by the due date.

3.4 Selectors must collate and provide their decisions to the BFNL Netball Manager at the conclusion of selections.



- 3.5 The Netball Manager will approve the final selection of players by ensuring all selections have been conducted in accordance with this policy.
  - 3.6 The decision of the selection panel is final.
    - a) Any selection queries must be submitted in writing to the BFNL Netball Manager.
  - 3.7 Selectors must document reasons for selection and non-selection of players and should ensure that appropriate notes are made on trialling players during the selection process.
- 

### **3. SELECTIONS**

- 4.1 Selection dates will be advised via email to players that nominated to trial.
- 5
- 5.1 The first session will be open to all eligible players that have nominated to trial.
  - 5.2 The second session may be limited to those players invited back by the Selection Panel.
  - 5.3 The exact format of the selection sessions will be communicated to registered players prior to the selection dates.
  - 5.4 Attending players will be viewed at least two times at each selection date. However, this may vary depending on the number of players attending, as well as positions nominated.
- 

### **4. SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 5.1 Selectors shall consider:
  - 5.1.1 Individual player attributes
    - a) Basic skills – ball handling, footwork, positional skills
    - b) Physical skills – speed, change of direction, balance
    - c) Decision making skills – reads entire situation, chooses correct option
    - d) Potential – innate qualities or attributes which may be developed over a long period
    - e) Capacity to take and act upon direction given by Coaches
  - 5.1.2 Team requirements
    - a) Team balance (playing positions) is required for each team.
    - b) Playing combinations – the 10-12 best individual players may not provide the most viable combination for the team.
    - c) Variety – each team needs a variety of players, so there is always the option to change the style of play in a match. Examples of this include a short/tall goaling or defending option, a defensive or attacking centre court focus, quick and speedy player or a slower more creative playmaker.



- 5.2 The Selection Panel should aim to select the most competitive teams to represent Ballarat Football Netball League for the upcoming Junior Representative Netball Program. The selection is based on skill, ability and team. Refer 5.1.1 and 5.1.2.
  - 5.3 At all times, players should be considered on the basis of their ability demonstrated during trials.
  - 5.4 Selectors are required to document their assessment of all players by:
    - 5.4.1 Rating of all players according to the agreed rating system (e.g. 3, 2, 1)
    - 5.4.2 Providing comments, positive and/or negative as applicable
- 

## 5. NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION OUTCOME

- 6.1 All players will be notified via email of their selection to advance to the second round of the selection process.
  - 6.2 Following the final selection session, a list of successful players selected will be sent via email.
  - 6.3 If a selected player declines the offer of a place in the team, that place can then be offered to one of the alternate players in the same court area.
  - 6.4 If unsuccessful players require feedback from the trial process, you must request this feedback in writing within 7 days of the unsuccessful notification/email. Request must be emailed to the Netball Manager [netball@bfnl.com.au](mailto:netball@bfnl.com.au)
- 

## 6. TERMS OF SELECTION

- 7.1 If offered a position, players must accept or reject the position within seven days of the initial email offer.
- 7.2 All players are required to sign and return athlete agreement form.
- 7.3 All players are required to attend all team training sessions.