



***BY-LAWS MARCH 2023***

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## **Rules Covering Play**

- a) An executive shall manage the affairs of the Association, herein after called the “Executive”.
- b) The Executive shall arrange and govern all competition matches and have the right to appoint sub-committees where necessary.
- c) Any individually named team will be considered an entity affiliated with the Association.
- d) Affiliated clubs and individually named teams shall be subject to the Constitution and By-Laws.
- e) A copy of the Constitution and By-Laws will be available at the venue.
- f) The Pakenham Netball Association takes no responsibility for members not accessing information which has been distributed to them.

## **Effect of Membership**

- a) All teams and clubs participating in Pakenham Competitions acknowledge and agree that:
  - i) The By-Laws and Constitution constitutes a contract between each of them and the Association and that they are bound by the Constitution and the Regulations;
  - ii) They shall comply with and observe the Constitution and the Regulations;
  - iii) By submitting to the Constitution and the Regulations they are subject to the jurisdiction of the Association;
  - iv) The Constitution and Regulations are necessary and reasonable for promoting the purposes of the Association; and
  - v) They are entitled to all benefits, advantages, privileges and services of their membership as determined by the Executive.

## **Player Eligibility**

All players (senior and junior), umpires and coaches must have Netball Victoria Registration (NVID). Single Game Vouchers may be used. A player must purchase a Single Game Voucher from the Netball Connect App, prior to taking the court for the Club or team. A Voucher may be used for one game only and a maximum of 3 Vouchers may be purchased by a player before the player must become a Netball Victoria member for the year.

Games played with Single Game Vouchers do not count towards finals qualification unless a full Netball Victoria membership is paid prior to the completion of the home and away season. Once paid all games played as a Single Game Voucher will then be counted towards finals qualification. All Netball Victoria memberships payments must be paid the week before finals.

Stadium Captains are responsible for the checking of current memberships throughout the season and have the capacity to remove non-financial members from court.

All players must pay the current Netball Victoria Registration (NVID) membership or produce current Netball Victoria card prior to the commencement of their first game. Netball Victoria registration runs from 1st January – 31st December. Note that a current Netball Victoria membership will allow a player to complete a season at the Stadium if it runs into the start of a new year. Stadium Captains will use Netball Connect to ascertain whether a player is financial and will use this to make their final decision.

In the Pakenham Netball competition only a new year membership is required to be purchased prior to the Summer competition beginning in October. This membership will also cover the Winter competition.

Fill in players are to purchase a Single Game Voucher (SGV) via the Netball Connect App and notify the Sports Captain at reception before start of play.

All players must be seven (7) years of age or over to participate in a fixtured competition.

A player in Senior competition must be fourteen (14) years of age or over.

### **Juniors**

Age groups for Junior Competitions will be taken from January 1<sup>st</sup> i.e. a player in the 15 & Under Competition should remain fifteen (15) years up until the 31<sup>st</sup> December.

No player can play up more than one age level e.g. an under 11 player cannot play in a U15 competition. Any player in a Senior competition must be at least 14 years of age.

Once a player has played four (4) games in a higher division of one age group, they shall be deemed ineligible to return to the lower division of that age group.

Substitute/ fill in players cannot play in two teams in the same section/division of the competition. If a player is filling in for a higher division in any age group this player can only play for one team in that higher division if more than multiple club/ individual teams are present.

Under the age of twelve (12) years of age – it is not acceptable to exclude either boys or girls under the age of twelve (12) years from any competitive or non – competitive netball activity.

Should any player be suspended for any period the position cannot be filled by any other player, unless it is a centre (C) position, which can then only be filled by a player already on court, not from the sidelines

### **9 & Under and 11 & Under**

In any one game, each team may make an unlimited number of substitutions. No more than twelve (12) players from each team can take part in the game. A player who has previously been substituted may return to the game at a later stage.

Size four (4) netballs are used for 9 Under competitions to develop throwing and catching skills,

Size five (5) netballs are used in 11 Under competitions.

### **13 & Under, 15 Under & 17 Under**

Where participants are aged 12-17 years inclusive, a modified mixed division may be offered in appropriate age groups in addition to girls' only divisions.

As per the Netball Victoria Gender Regulations all Mixed Junior competitions up to and including 13&U may have no restrictions placed on them by gender.

Modified teams may have up to a maximum of two (2) boys on the court at any one time. If two (2) boys are on the court at the one time, they must play in separate thirds of the court.

Male players must play one (1) in each third, being either GS/GA, GK/GD, or WA/C/WD.

### **Ladies Competition**

Any player in a Senior competition must be at least 14 years of age.

Once a player has played four (4) games in a higher division, they shall be deemed ineligible to return to the lower division of that age group.

Substitute/ fill in players cannot play in two teams in the same section/division of the competition. If a player is filling in for a higher division in any age group this player can only play for one team in that higher division if more than multiple club/individual teams are present.

Should any player be suspended for any period the position cannot be filled by any other player, unless it is a centre (C) position, which can then only be filled by a player already on court, not from the sidelines

## Senior Mixed Netball

There shall, at all times, be at least 2, but no more than three male players on the court during play. No more than one male player shall take a position in each “third” of the court.

- One male player can be either G.S. or G.A.
- One male player can either be G.K. or G.D.
- One male player can either be W.A. or W.D. or C (called mid court player.)

Every mixed team must have a minimum of five players and every mixed team must have a ratio of male and female players.

A **FULL** mixed team shall be made up of the following combinations only:

- Four females and three males, or
- Five females and two males
- **Six female players and one male player are not allowed**

A **PART** mixed team shall be made up of the following combinations only:

- Four females and two males, or
- Three females and three males, or
- Three females and two males

If a male person is injured, play may continue with only one male on court, as long as that player remains on court at all times.

If a male person is suspended from play, only leaving one male person on court, then the game will be immediately forfeited by that team. Should any player be suspended for any period the position cannot be filled by any other player, unless it is a centre (C) position, which can then only be filled by a player already on court, not from the sidelines.

## **Wednesday Ladies Competition**

**Scoring Duty:** this is to done on a rotation basis where teams must supply a scorer for their game.

**Suspension/Removal:** Should any player be suspended for any period the position cannot be filled by any other player, unless it is a centre (C) position, which can then only be filled by a player already on court, not from the sidelines

**Crèche:** children must be signed in and out of the Crèche no earlier than 10 minutes prior to scheduled game starting time and must be collected immediately after their game has finished. No school children are allowed in the crèche and it is compulsory for all under school age children to be minded in the registered crèche. NO Children or prams are to be unsupervised during the game. Any prams or children found to be unsupervised, the responsible player will be removed from court. This can be done by Sports Captain or Umpires.

## **Modified Competition**

If there is a modified competition, modified rules will be set according to the circumstances at the discretion of the PNA.

## **Master Competition**

Master players must be 35 years of age and over.

## **Netballers with a Disability**

The team will consist of able players and players with a disability. D Grade registered players will be unlimited on how many may be on court at any one time. A, B and C Grade registered players will be limited to two (2) on court at any one time. Interchange for players with a disability is unlimited in any one game.

Able – bodied players in this team are eligible to play with their own team in finals should the players with a disability make the finals.

## **Finals Eligibility**

To qualify for the finals a player must have played a minimum of six (6) games with a team in each competition played in that season. If for any unforeseen circumstances arise the team captain/club representative may seek approval from the PNA Committee in writing. Each request will be taken on its own merit. The PNA or any official shall not have to explain reasons/explanations for reason of grant or refusal. An email can be sent to [pnasecretary@outlook.com](mailto:pnasecretary@outlook.com). If an ineligible player plays in a final, the offending team will lose the match.

A player shall not participate in more than one (1) final on the same day unless they are different competitions/age groups e.g. Juniors, Ladies and Mixed.

At Semi Finals and Grand Finals it must be clarified that all players on the score sheet have qualified, by playing at least six (6) games in your registered team. No player can take the court that are not qualified without prior approval from PNA and no players may be added before the commencement of the game, without the approval of Centre Management and/or the Committee of Pakenham Netball Association. Once the game has commenced, no further players may be added.

A list of all players and qualifying games will be given to teams six weeks before finals commence. No issues will be dealt with on the day of finals. All issues should be submitted in writing to the PNA/Centre Management at least and no later than 5 days prior to the game.

It is the team's responsibility to keep a record of player qualifications or contact the stadium 6 weeks prior to finals. It is also the team's responsibility to make sure all names are on finals ipad prior to game at reception.

A player is registered in the age section/division in which they first take the court in a season, even if filling in only. A player cannot play as a "borrowed player" in multiple sections/divisions on any given night. A player can only play two games in one night should the first game be of a lower section/competition.

Any one team can have a maximum of 12 players registered. Any player can request to be removed from a team's registration, however qualifications will be removed and cannot be reinstated if player returns.

## **Finals**

When a finals game is drawn there will be a two (2) minute break in which the teams are permitted to bring on substitutions and/or team changes, and will play extra time consisting of four (4) minutes Juniors and (5) minutes Seniors at each end.

In the event of a second draw, once the draw has been confirmed the game will recommence from the C and the first team to a two (2) goal advantage is declared the winner. No substitutions and/or team changes can be made during this period.



Each team must supply their own scorers in semifinals and grand final, and each scorer will be provided with their own score sheet. Only one scorer per team are allowed on the score bench during the match. No children, team players or spectators are permitted with scorer.

### **Byes**

In the instance of a Bye, this does count as a game played for finals qualifications if the registered player/players played for that team during the season.

A bye will receive 4 premiership points.

### **Grading**

The Grading Sub-Committee will grade all teams. All decisions are final. Once graded, a player may not play in a lower section. The Grading Committee/PNA Executive retains the right to query any new player registration after grading. Any players found playing in multiple divisions/sections during the season will incur a forfeit for the team the player is not registered on the scoresheet.

All seasons start with six weeks of grading. It is at the discretion of the PNA and/or the Centre Management to grade teams in a manner that they feel is appropriate.

Scores will be set to 0 at the completion of the grading period (6 weeks) and the competition begins. Any points between round 6 and 8 will be carried up or down if changes are made.

It is at the discretion of the Committee to determine if a player in the section is below her/his standard. If so the player will be deemed ineligible to play in that lower section.

### **Development and Representative Teams**

It is at the discretion of the Committee to determine if a player in the section is below her/his standard. If so the player will be deemed ineligible to play in that lower section.

Players who are currently playing or selected during the season to play in either the:

Victorian State team  
Victorian Open team  
Victorian 21 and under team  
Victorian 19 and under team  
State League Championship Division and/or National League ;

shall only be permitted to play in "A" grade/Section 1 or equivalent

## Time, Scoring and Duties

### Seasonal Matches and Semi Finals:

Match times

**Juniors** will be 4 x 9 minute quarters with a one (1) minute break at quarter and three quarter time and a two (2) minute break for half time.

**Seniors** will be 4 x 10 minute quarters with a one (1) minute break for half time.

**Ladies Elite** will be 4 x at least 12 minute quarters with a two (2) minute break at quarter and three quarter time and a three (3) minute break at half time.

At the commencement of the nights competition, it is the duty of the captain/coach, before play commences, to ensure that all players' names and fill ins are lodged with the Sports Captain at the stadium. Game positions are to be entered on the ipad prior to the game and at the end of each quarter or as a player takes the court. Failing to do this will result in no player qualification for this game and forfeit of points awarded to this game if any. (win, loss or draw). All final positions must be complete.

Each team must supply a competent scorer from the start of the game, fourteen (14) years of age and over, for their game (or incur a five goal (5) penalty). If a competent scorer is not available, a player must leave the court to score. If there are no scorers for either team, a player from each team must leave the court to score. However, it is acceptable for only one (1) team to provide a scorer if there is agreeance from both teams, but the team without the scorer will still incur a five (5) goal penalty. If no agreement is reached, the team without a scorer must take a player off the court to score.

## Uniforms

Team Uniforms must be registered and approved by the Executive. Incorrect uniforms will not be accepted. Polos/Tshirts/Singlets must be of the same colour. No muscle singlets/tops may be worn due to safety reasons. Skirts/shorts/dresses must be of uniform colour throughout the team. Teams and players will be given the first six (6) weeks of the season to be in correct uniform. After round six (6), each player not in uniform shall incur a 5 goal penalty (senior) 2 goal (Junior) prior to the commencement of the game. No tracksuit pants or bike shorts are permissible unless a medical certificate has been provided and approved by the Committee. Appropriate sports briefs must be worn under skirts. Any exemptions are to be emailed for approval to [pnasecretary@outlook.com](mailto:pnasecretary@outlook.com). A copy of this is to be kept with the player at all times for sighting should an umpire request this.

Teams are expected to supply their own positional bibs, which must be worn at all times during the game. When teams cannot do so bibs will be available from the centre under the current hiring arrangement. If two teams on the same court have the same colour bibs, the second named team will change bibs.

Pockets are not permitted. Zips are allowed on the rear top of shorts only. No side zip pockets allowed.

A player cannot be sent off or not allowed to play with incorrect uniform, if the uniform is only wrong in colours and/or styles as above rule, Goal Penalties will apply. Only if the incorrect shorts are worn will the player not be allowed to play due to safety regulations.

If a player is out of uniform and penalty points are awarded, it will be noted on the score sheet and recorded accordingly for further action if required.

Gloves may not be worn at any time. A medical condition may be accepted but the player must provide a medical certificate and seek approval from the PNA as per above. Gloves cannot have rubber grip.

Bare midriffs and short shorts are unacceptable.

### **Female Competition Uniform**

Each team member must wear a uniform of the same design and colour. This may include:

- Skirt, polo shirt, t-shirt or firmly fitted singlet and sports briefs ( no shoestring type).
- singlet's allowed, and all tops must be long enough to tuck into skirts/shorts – that is they cover a players midriff) **OR**
- Body suit and skirt **OR**
- Lycra netball dress (which must not have the top rolled down) **OR**
- Shorts and polo shirt, t-shirt or firmly fitted singlet, (no shoestring type singlet's allowed)
  
- Skin or bicycle shorts under skirts/shorts must be flesh coloured or matching the skirt/shorts colour and no longer than 1 inch of the skirt/dress
- No leggings are allowed.

Boxer shorts, tracksuit pants or slacks are not allowed to be worn under skirts.

### **Mixed Competition Uniform**

Male and female players must wear the same coloured polo shirt or t-shirt with sleeves, or firmly fitted singlet's with wide straps, not faded in colour, and no shoestring type singlet's are allowed.

Male players must wear shorts. Shorts must be all of the same colour and design and not have any pockets, buckles, belts, exposed zips, buttons or velcro attached and they are to be the same colour as the females' skirts/shorts. Females have the option to wear shorts/skirts whilst playing mixed competition.

No Football shorts allowed. (Teams will incur the uniform penalty if worn)

Any shorts worn have the above rules from the female competition applicable to them as described. With the exception that in a mixed competition it does not matter if one female wears a skirt and the others are in shorts. Or vice versa.

The same rule regarding gloves as per female competition apply to mixed competition.

### **Junior Competition Uniform**

For Junior Teams any player may wear shorts. No discrimination is to be made between male or female players – anyone may wear shorts. Shorts must be all of the same colour and design and not have any pockets, buckles, belts, zips, buttons or velcro attached.

### **Footwear and Socks**

Appropriate footwear must be worn. Footwear should provide the stability required for quick directional changes, and should have at least lacing, rigid heel counter and durable grip. Socks must be worn at all times. Barefoot is not permitted at any time.

### **Teams and Registration**

Team registrations are online and all teams can register via the Netball Connect app. The App will require all names, addresses, emails and date of births of all players, as such other details that are required. No teams will be accepted without all requested information. This registrations will prompt players to register via the app direct to the team that requested information and prompt to renew Netball Victoria membership if required.

Registration of a team must be submitted via the app prior to advertised closing date.

Withdrawal of teams, once the season has commenced, will incur a fine as per the registration Terms and Conditions as outlined by Aligned Leisure Pty Ltd. This must be paid prior to any named player registered in the team withdrawing being eligible to play with another team in any other stadium competition.

A player shall be officially recognized as a “registered player” upon participation for the first time in a match of the Competition. A “borrowed player” is not recognized as registered player to that team for finals for qualification purposes.

Should a player withdraw from competition during the season, this player cannot reregister in a lower division to previously registered.

A team cannot have more than twelve (12) players registered for that team at any one time.

Netball Victoria insurance that is determined by PNA/Centre Management must be paid prior to **Round 1 and taking the court.**

A late team entry may be accepted at the discretion of the PNA and/or Centre Management only if there is an available time slot.

### **Player Ineligibility**

A player shall not participate in more than one (1) game in any one (1) round in the same section in a competition. Players may participate in one (1) higher grade/section in any given competition on the day.

After playing four (4) times at a higher level with a club/team, the player will be committed to play in that Section and will be unable to return to registered lower level.

In the event of a club/team playing an ineligible player, the match will be deemed to be a forfeit. The non-offending team will be credited with a 10/0 score. The offending team will incur a loss of 4 premiership points.

### **Forfeits / Cancellations**

A team giving a forfeit will lose the game 10 – 0.

If after play has commenced a team decides to leave the court, they shall forfeit the game and a 10 to 0 loss will be recorded.

Teams receiving a forfeit may complete a score sheet if wishing to qualify a player. This must be completed by the end of the session and may be done over the phone where necessary.

Forfeit fees are determined by the Centre Management, and are payable before playing the next game. Teams are required to pay the forfeit fee within 2 weeks of initial forfeit. Centre Management reserves the right to not allow team to participate until payment in full is received.

Any team withdrawing from the competition is also required to pay Withdrawl Fee. Failure to do so will deem players registered in the team non financial and will not be able to register in the competition in another team until Withdrawl Fee is received.

In case of a forfeit, the non-forfeiting teams' players automatically register as a game played for finals qualifications. Player qualifications will only be given to players already registered to the team prior to the forfeit.

A notified forfeit must be made at least twenty four (24) hours before the game. In a notified or un-notified forfeit, a fine that is determined for that season must be paid by the forfeiting team prior to their next game.

If a game is cancelled for any reason, by the stadium officials, it shall be recorded as a 5 goal each draw and all players registered with the team shall be given a game for finals qualifications.

### **Conduct of Matches**

Four points shall be awarded for a win, two for a draw and four points for a bye.

First named team on the score sheet will be given the first centre pass.

**Fingernails:** should be trimmed in order to avoid injury to other players, or to be taped over and around with Elastoplast tape or similar soft stretch tape. Paper tape or Band-aids are not allowed.

**Chewing Gum:** No player may play with chewing gum in their mouth as it is a choking hazard.

**Hair Accessories:** - no hard head bands, combs, ornamental clips or claw clips are to be worn.

**Anklets** – Anklets must be under the sock line and not been seen if not can be removed.

Wedding bands, medical bracelets, ear and body rings must be suitably taped. This is done at the players' own risk.

Any Jewellery that cannot be removed for religious reasons must be accompanied by a letter from the appropriate religious elder/priest that states why the item cannot be removed. This letter must be shown to the PNA and/or Centre Management prior to the first game of the season that the player is playing in.

The PNA and/or Centre Management will determine if the item is safe to be played in. This item must then be fully covered by tape. Paper tape and band aids are NOT allowed, must be Elastoplast or similar

Players under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be permitted to take the court.

During the game should a player bleed they must leave the court and will not be permitted to continue to play until all bleeding is stopped and all blood is removed from the person and clothing. A stoppage for blood is not regarded as a stoppage for injury or illness and is not recorded against a team.

Injury and Blood Policy procedure: the game is stopped however the clock is not stopped. The player may be substituted or the position left vacant and play is resumed. Substitutions and team changes must be made within 30 seconds.

The time clock will not stop for any injuries. A match may be stopped by the umpires in extenuating circumstances to ensure a safe playing area is maintained.

Each team is responsible for filling in the ipad correctly, checking the final score and finalising the score. Any irregularity of the score must be reported immediately to the PNA and/or Centre Management. The ipad score is the official and final score which over rides the digital scoreboard.

Positions must be recorded to count as a qualifying game.

A team or any person wishing to protest must do so immediately after the match and in writing within forty-eight (48) hours.

In the event of a power failure or emergency situation at the complex during the match, and the match is unable to be finished, two points will be awarded to each team if before half-time. If after half-time, score at time of stoppage of play will stand. Bye teams will still receive four points.

### **Late Start**

One goal per whole minute will be added to the score of the team on the court. The umpire will then notify the scorer as to the amount of penalty goals. Penalty points must be recorded on the ipad before the end of the first quarter and reflected also on digital scoreboard. At least 5 players must be present and ready to play, i.e.: bibs on and nails checked, on court, to be able to claim the goals awarded. Team sheet monies must be handed to Reception before the late team can take the court.

A team should take the court, for at least five (5) minutes, and then after this time the team may leave the court but must remain until quarter time to receive the premiership points.

### **Special Circumstances/Provisions Clause**

a) Where this By-Law is silent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of the Pakenham Netball Association is maintained at all times.

b) The Board may in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in this By-Law relating to the Pakenham Netball Association.

## **Misconduct / Tribunals**

An umpire/supervisor/management may give a first caution to any player/spectator for any inappropriate behaviour or breach of any code of conduct and any further inappropriate behaviour or breach of any code of conduct will result in a warning before being asked to leave the court and or stadium\*\* as per Netball Victoria rules.

Any player found guilty of disputing an Umpires decision on the netball court or otherwise mis-conducting themselves, shall be liable to be disqualified from taking part in any part of the match under the control of the Association for such time as may be decided upon.

Each team is responsible for the conduct of its players and spectators during and after matches conducted as a part of a PNA Competition or Team Representative program.

Should the team have any concerns during a game, only the captain may approach both umpires at quarter/half/three quarter break. No player at any time should otherwise approach an umpire.

A player ordered from the court will not be replaced. When a centre player is ordered from the court the captain may make one change only from the players presently on court until the interval, to provide a centre player.

Any report made should be made by completing the relevant form as soon as practicable after the incident but within 48 hours. The form should be handed to the Sports Captain who will forward it on to the Hearing Officer if it is a reportable offence. If it is not a reportable offence the Sports Captain will handle the report accordingly. Once the Hearing Officer receives a relevant form or report they will make further enquiries if need be and report a result to all parties concerned as soon as possible.

Some offences such as physical contact/violence will be the subject of an automatic one week suspension which will be communicated to the relevant team captain within 48 hours or receiving the report. That suspension can be added to if need be once all enquiries have been made.

If a player is removed from a game due to their behaviour, the balance of that game is not part of their suspension unless otherwise stated.

Right of appeal: A player or club shall have the right of appeal against a decision made by the Committee. Such an appeal is to be made in writing to the Administrator no later than forty-eight (48) hours following the clubs receipt of that decision. The appeal will be heard by three members from the Committee (a quorum) but not connect with either team/club.

The decision made by the quorum will be final and those concerned will be notified of the outcome.



## Indemnity

Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded, the Pakenham Netball Association 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 Committee of the Pakenham Netball Association Inc and/or Cardinia Life Centre Management, reserve the right to make decisions on any of the matters not specifically covered in the information (above) or the “Netball Rule Book.”

It should be expressly noted that PNA/Cardinia Life, Pakenham, will not accept any liability for injury to person or damage to property. All persons engaged in activities organized by PNA/Cardinia Life, Pakenham, whether as a participant or spectator, do so at their own risk. And subject to the condition that the Association and all persons employed by or connected with Cardinia Life, Pakenham and the Association are absolved from liability for any injury to person or damage to property however caused.

## Heat Policy

Once the on-court temperature (as measured by the digital display above Court 4) passes 30 degrees 1 minute per quarter will be removed.

The break between quarters will be extended by 1 minute for each break period.

The Centre position shall be given the option to swap positions once per quarter. This can be done via on court swap of positions or substitution off the bench.

Once the on-court temperature (as measured by the digital display above Court 4) passes 40 degrees' games must be called off.

If a game has passed the half time break the team in front will be declared the winner. If this game has not passed this point, then the game will be declared a draw.

***All matters not contained herein will be dealt with at the discretion of the Executive.***