



State Cup Competition Rules

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3. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

3.1 DEFINED TERMS

Association means any Affiliated Member Association deemed as an Association in accordance with clause 9.1 of the Netball NSW Constitution and any association of Members who have applied for membership to the Board in accordance with clause 9.4 of the Netball NSW Constitution and such application has been approved by the Council.

Bench Officials comprises two (2) scorers and one (1) time keeper who are to be present on the Score Bench for each Match.

Constitution means the constitution of the New South Wales Netball Association Inc. whose trading name is Netball NSW.

Competition means the Netball NSW State Cup.

Competition Rules means the rules of the Competition as articulated within this document.

Divisions mean the three competition divisions within the State Cup, each consisting of 8 teams, who are eligible to contest the Finals Series.

Finals Series means the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Grand Final of the Competition.

Match means any netball match, played by or between Association Teams within the Competition.

Minor Round Matches means a series of Matches played in the Competition as specified in clause 4 prior to the Finals Series.

Netball NSW means the New South Wales Netball Association Inc.

Player means any person who has signed the Player Registration Form with the relevant Association Team.

Score Bench means the official bench for the scoring of Matches.

Team means each of the Associations netball teams granted the right to compete in the Competition by Netball NSW.

Team Officials mean officials involved with the management, preparation and participation of the Team, including the coaches, manager, primary carer, physiotherapist and other support staff.

Umpire means an umpire appointed by Netball NSW to officiate in a Match.

3.2 ADMINISTRATION

- a) subject to these Competition Rules, the Netball NSW Constitution and any other document, the Netball NSW Competitions Manager shall have the authority to enquire and adjudicate all questions and disputes arising out of the Competition. If a matter is not provided for in the Competition Rules, the Netball NSW Constitution or any other document, the Netball NSW Competitions Manager may make any determination after consultation with the General Manager – Commercial and Communications and/or the Chief Executive Officer, where appropriate, and the decision shall be final;
- b) any participating Team refusing or neglecting to abide by a decision of the Netball NSW Competitions Manager may be excluded from the Competition for such time as the Netball NSW Competitions Manager, in consultation with the Netball NSW Chief Executive Officer and Netball NSW Board, shall determine;
- c) all relevant correspondence shall be addressed to and received at the Netball NSW Office by either post; hand delivery; email or facsimile marked attention of the Netball NSW Competitions Manager;
- d) all outward correspondence shall be dispatched from the Netball NSW Office and directed to the Association Secretary by either mail or such other means unless the Association nominates another person to also receive the correspondence;
- e) all Competition Rules and supporting documents will be reviewed by Netball NSW representatives at the conclusion of each Competition.

4. CONDUCT OF MATCHES

4.1 RULES OF NETBALL

4.1.1 The Competition will be conducted with reference to the International Netball Federation Official Rules of Netball and International Netball Federation Regulations (INF Rules), unless where modified in these Competition Rules.

4.2 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

4.2.1 The dates for the Competition shall be advised to Associations by Netball NSW via email and the Netball NSW website and will also be advised at the November Council meeting.

4.2.2 Competition Matches are to be played as advised by Netball NSW.

4.2.3 The fixture for the Competition will be posted on the Netball NSW website one week prior to the commencement of the Competition.

4.2.4 The Competition consists of Association Teams competing in 2 pools as allocated by Netball NSW. At the conclusion of Minor Round Matches the teams shall be divided in three Divisions of 8 teams to contest the Finals Series.

4.2.5 The Competition will consist of eleven (11) Minor Round Matches followed by a Finals Series.

4.2.6 The Netball NSW Competitions Manager will make the final decision as to the draw and the scheduling of Matches.

4.2.7 The top four (4) Association Teams from each pool after the Minor Round Matches will advance to the Finals Series of the Championship Division. This will determine placings 1 – 8.

Places 5-8 from each pool after the Minor Round Matches will advance to the Finals Series of the Plate Division. This will determine placings 9 – 16.

Places 9-12 from each pool after the Minor Round Matches will advance to the Final Series of the Bowl Division. This will determine placings 17 – 24.

4.3 MATCH DURATION AND MATCH FORMAT

4.3.1 A Match shall be played for a period of twenty six (26) minutes divided into two (2) halves, each of thirteen (13) minutes duration.

4.3.2 There shall be a maximum period of two (2) minutes between the end of the first half and the beginning of the second half.

4.3.3 The Umpire's whistle shall start and finish Matches on the indication from the central timing device.

4.3.4 Only the officiating Umpires may stop a Match (temporarily or indefinitely) due to an extraordinary circumstance that may be deemed an emergency. This may include but is not limited to equipment damage or failure, a seriously injured Player or any other reason deemed necessary by the officiating Umpires.

- 4.3.5 The officiating Umpires will determine if a Match may continue to proceed or if that Match must be delayed, postponed or abandoned.
- 4.3.6 In the event that a Match is delayed, postponed or abandoned, that Match must be resumed as soon as is conveniently possible as directed by the officiating Umpires or if prolonged delaying occurs, the Netball NSW Competitions Manager shall direct accordingly.
- 4.3.7 A Team may claim a forfeit one minute after the time set down for the commencement of the Match, if the opposing Team does not have five Players in full uniform on court and ready to play.
- 4.3.8 Injury time may be taken according to the INF Rules, but no additional time shall be added to the match.

4.4 MATCH POINTS

4.4.1 The official score sheet is the only true record of the Match.

4.4.2 In the Minor Round Matches, points will be allocated accordingly:

Win	Loss	Draw	Forfeit	Bye	Abandoned
2	0	1	2	0	1

4.4.3 In the event that due to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances a Match cannot be rescheduled for completion, and has been declared an abandoned Match, the following will apply:

- a) A drawn result shall be declared if the Match was stopped prior to or during the first half. Each Association Team involved in that Match will be awarded one (1) Match point;
- b) If the Match had entered the second half, a win will be awarded to the Association Team with the highest score at the time in which the Match was stopped; or
- c) In the event that both Association Teams were on the same score and the Match had entered the second half, a drawn result will be declared and each Team awarded one (1) Match point.

4.4.4 At the conclusion of the Minor Round Matches, Association Teams will be ranked according to:

- a) Points awarded for a win, loss or draw as outlined in 4.4.2.
- b) In the event of Association Teams having the same level of points at the end of the Minor Round Matches, the respective placing shall be determined by ranking the Association Teams according to the goal average achieved by each Association Team during the Minor Round Matches.
- c) The goal average for each Team shall be decided as follows:
 - i) Total number of goals scored by the Team, divided by the total number of goals scored against the Team, multiplied by 100 and divided by the actual number of matches played by that Team.

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

The number of matches actually played includes a match a Team has forfeited, but does not include a match where the Team has received a forfeit.

4.5 FINALS SERIES

- 4.5.1 If there is a draw in the quarter finals, semi -finals or grand finals, a two minute interval shall be taken.
- a) During the interval the score will be verified and the Team captains will toss to determine playing ends. During the interval there may be substitutions and/or Team changes.
 - b) The Umpire will indicate which Team has the next centre pass and play will commence. A period of 5 minutes extra time will be played to determine a winner.
 - c) If it is still a draw at the end of extra time, a visual signal will indicate that play continues and the first Team to score a two goal advantage shall be declared the winner.

4.6 COMPETITION RESULTS

- 4.6.1 A member from the winning Association Team in each Match will be responsible for submitting the official score sheet to Netball NSW Event Control.
- 4.6.2 The official score sheet must be completed accurately by the Association Teams.
- 4.6.3 No disputes will be entered into regarding score sheets.

5. ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION

5.1 QUALIFYING

- 5.1.1 Only affiliated Associations are eligible to enter competitions or events conducted by Netball NSW.
- 5.1.2 Any Netball NSW affiliated Association can be admitted to enter the Competition subject to the approval of the Netball NSW Competitions Manager.
- 5.1.3 There will be a maximum of twenty four (24) teams in the Competition.
- 5.1.4 The top 17 teams (taken at the conclusion of the Minor Round Matches) from the Metro League Competition in that year will qualify for the State Cup. If a qualifying Team is unable to attend the State Cup, the Team next highest placed Metro League team will be invited by Netball NSW to play in the State Cup.
- 5.1.5 The Association Team that wins each of the 7 Regional State League competitions in that year will qualify for the State Cup. If a qualifying Team is unable to attend the State Cup, the Team that finished in second place in that region will be invited by Netball NSW to play in the State Cup.
- 5.1.6 If a Regional Association plays in the Metro League competition, their path for qualification will be through the Metro League competition.
- 5.1.7 Only one Team per Association may participate within the Competition.
- 5.1.8 Players who are registered to participate for their respective Association in the Competition must have participated in the Metro League competition or Regional League competition in the same year. Players are eligible from any Division of Metro League or Regional League.
- 5.1.9 Entry fees for the Competition for the ensuing year will be notified to affiliated Associations by Netball NSW before 30 November in the previous year.
- 5.1.10 All entries for the Competition must be lodged on the official Entry and Team Registration forms and must be accompanied with supporting documentation as requested by Netball NSW. All Team entries must be received by Netball NSW by the published time and date for close of entries.
- 5.1.11 If an Association Team withdraws from the Competition prior to the draw being finalised at the commencement of the Minor Round Matches the next highest Team to qualify will be invited to play and the draw will be reconstructed. If an Association Team withdraws from the Competition after the draw has been finalised and released to all participating Associations, the withdrawing Association Team will be replaced with a bye in the draw.
- 5.1.12 Where a Team withdraws from the Competition within a week of the commencement of the Competition the affiliated Association will be fined \$500.00.

5.2. GRADING PROCEDURE

- 5.2.1 Teams will be allocated into two (2) even pools of 12 teams by Netball NSW.
- 5.2.2 At the conclusion of the Minor Round Matches, Association teams will be graded into 3 Divisions (Championship, Plate and Bowl) according to their final placing within their pool.
- 5.2.3 Provisional placement of Teams within pools will be completed and advised on the Netball NSW website within seven working days of the completion of the Minor Round Matches of Metro League and Regional League competitions.
- 5.2.4 On completion of final grading, all Players' names and the Team and pool in which they have been placed will be listed on the Netball NSW website for the duration of the Competition.
- 5.2.5 All final decisions relating to Competition structure will be made at the discretion of Netball NSW.

5.3 PLAYER REGISTRATION

- 5.3.1 All Players entered into the Competition must show as a financial registered member of Netball NSW or relevant State or Territory in the Netball NSW Member database prior to the commencement of the Competition, or their participation in the Competition.
- 5.3.2 Affiliated Associations shall register Teams on the appropriate forms with a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of twelve (12) Players' names.
- 5.3.3 A Team is not permitted to have more than twelve (12) Players registered at any time.
- 5.3.4 Where a Player's name appears on more than one Team entry form the Player will be contacted by Netball NSW personnel and the Player must then immediately nominate the affiliated Association that they will be playing with. The affiliated Associations concerned will be advised accordingly. The affiliated Association not nominated by the Player will be given 48 hours from the time of advice to replace the Player without penalty.
- 5.3.5 Players must comply with the age qualifications as stated within the Metro League Competition Rules or Regional League Competition Rules, relevant to the competition in which they are playing, in order to be eligible to be registered in the Competition.
- 5.3.6 Late registration and de-registration of Players will be accepted one week prior to the commencement of the Competition.
- 5.3.7 A maximum of four Players may be "late registered" in each Team. A "late registration" is defined as follows:
 - a) Where a Player has not been registered in the current competition or has been de-registered and is to be re-registered in the same Team in the same grade.
- 5.3.8 Where Netball NSW rejects an application to late register a Player the Association or Player concerned has the right of appeal to Netball NSW.
- 5.3.9 A de-registered Player may only be re-registered in the same Association Team.

5.4 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 5.4.1 If an Association records the name of an unregistered or ineligible Player on the score sheet, the Association will be required to prove that the person who played under that name is registered or eligible to be registered with that Team.

Such proof shall be in the form of a Statutory Declaration to Netball NSW. Failure to submit such proof shall result in the loss of two Competition points per Match.

- 5.4.2 To be eligible to participate in semi-finals, finals and grand finals Players must have played in at least five Minor Round Matches.
- 5.4.3 An Association may lodge an appeal to Netball NSW for consideration of a Player to participate in Finals Series Matches whereby that Player has previously been deemed ineligible to participate in Finals Series Matches as per clause 5.4.2. This appeal will be considered where extenuating circumstances apply and a discretionary determination will be made by Netball NSW.
- 5.4.4 Any Team found playing an ineligible Player in the Finals Series Matches will be considered to have lost that Match in which the ineligible Player has taken part and the Match will be awarded to the opposing Team. Any Player found to be ineligible to take part in the Finals Series Matches will not be permitted to take any further part in the Finals Series.

5.5 INTER-REGIONAL STATE LEAGUE FINALS

- 5.5.1 The highest placed Regional Association at the conclusion of the Finals Series will be named as the Inter-Regional State League winner.

6. UMPIRES

- 6.1 Netball NSW will determine the umpiring format for the Competition and appoint personnel to undertake the allocation of Umpires to all matches.
- 6.2 The names of approved Umpires qualified to participate in the Competition are to be forwarded by Associations to Netball NSW two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Competition. The Umpire/s must be available for the duration of the Competition.
- 6.3 Where an Association fails to forward the name/s of an approved Umpire/s by the due date a fine of \$500.00 will be imposed on the offending Association.
- 6.4 Each Association is required to provide an accredited National "B" badge or higher qualified Umpire.
- 6.5 Associations whose Umpires fail to fill their allocation by a non-attendance will be fined \$500.00 for each duty not fulfilled except in extenuating circumstances.
- 6.6 Female Umpires shall be dressed in white dress or skirt and top, male Umpires shall be dressed in white shorts and shirt.
- 6.7 Any badged Umpire may apply to Netball NSW to be allocated to Matches.
- 6.8 Nominated Umpires may not play, coach or manage a team during the Competition.
- 6.9 Associations, withdrawing Umpires after the confirmation date will be fined \$200.00 per Umpire withdrawn unless a medical certificate is produced that certifies the Umpire's unavailability due to illness or injury or other extenuating circumstances. If an Umpire is not replaced within equivalent badged Umpire a further fine of \$200.00 is enforced.

Where an Umpire withdraws on the day for other than for medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances, or fails to arrive, that Association will incur a fine of \$200.00 per allocation per day.

7. MATCH OPERATIONS

7.1 BENCH PERSONNEL

7.1.1 Each Team is to provide Bench Officials who will score the Match on the official scoresheet provided.

7.2 EQUIPMENT

7.2.1 Score sheets will be supplied by Netball NSW and will be available for each Match.

7.2.2 The method of distribution of score sheets will be determined by Netball NSW each year.

7.2.3 One (1) official from each Team is to sign the score sheet. In circumstances where Team Officials of both Teams involved testify that the score sheet submitted to Netball NSW is incorrect and further they agree on the correct score then Netball NSW has the discretion to vary the official scores.

7.2.4 Each Player in the Team must play in the identical playing uniform, except where prior approval has been given.

7.2.5 Each Team is to have available two sets of position patches, of different colours.

7.3 TEAM LIST

7.3.1 All Players must be included on the Team registration form.

7.3.2 Late registered Players will be added to the Team registration form by Netball NSW.

7.3.3 After the commencement of the first round of Minor Round matches no change to the Team List can be made.

8. COMPLAINT HANDLING

8.1 All complaints lodged with Netball NSW in relation to the Competition will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures of the Netball NSW Member Protection Policy.

8.2 All registered Players, Umpires, Bench Officials and Team Officials are required to abide by the Code of Behaviour, as articulated within the Netball NSW Member Protection Policy.

8.3 All participants of the Competition including but not limited to Players, Umpires, Bench Officials and Team Officials, who have breached the Code of Behaviour or Netball NSW Member Protection Policy may be subject to disciplinary action as listed within the Member Protection Policy.