

2021 Regional League

Vision and Purpose

Vision

Netball NSW Regional League will be the principal competition in each region for athletes 16 years and over. Athletes, coaches, umpires and officials will aspire to represent their Association at this competition and intraregional competitiveness will increase.

Purpose

The Netball NSW Regional League Competition will:

- Deliver an additional representative competition for regional athletes 16 and over to fill an identified gap in performance competition in regional areas.
- Act as the primary selection opportunity for the team to represent each region in the Regional State Cup.
- Provide a sense of purpose for regions to establish athlete development programs for athletes 16 years and older.
- Deliver a regional competition that is recognised as a progression on the Netball NSW performance pathway from Senior State Titles.
- Deliver an intraregional competition opportunity that brings the best athletes from Regional Associations together and crowns a Region champion.
- Develop netball IQ by providing an opportunity for junior athletes to benefit from playing with and against senior players.
- Deliver a competition format and training environment format that is accessible for regional athletes, coaches, umpires and officials.
- Ensure that regional athletes, coaches, umpires and officials have the same opportunities to realise their full potential as metropolitan athletes.
- Increase the numbers of regional athletes, coaches, umpires and officials staying in the sport, progressing and transitioning within the Netball NSW pathway.

Competition Guidelines

Regions

Regional League, will take place in the following regions

- Far North Coast
- Hunter
- North Coast
- Northern Inland
- Riverina
- South Coast
- West Central West

Competition dates

Regional League Competitions can be held within the following windows in 2021:

- 27 February 2021 – 11 April 2021
- 10 July – 22 August 2021

Competition venue

All Regional League Competitions should be held at an indoor facility with a minimum of 3 indoor courts.

Competition costs

Associations participating in the Regional League Competition will incur a competition entry fee and a venue fee. These fees will be notified to Affiliated Associations by Netball NSW before 30 November in the previous year.

Minimum age

The minimum age to be eligible to compete in the Regional League Competition is turning 16 years in the year of play.

Team entries

- Netball NSW will determine the Competition format prior to the opening of team entries.
- The Competition format will determine the maximum number of entries that can be accepted.
- Associations may enter up to four (4) teams to the Regional League Competition, however this may be less based on the final Competition format.
- Only Opens Divisions will be offered.

Competition format

- The competition format will determine the maximum number of entries that can be accepted in each Regional League Competition. When determining the competition format, in addition to competition rules, the following criteria will be considered:
 - Indoor court availability
 - Length of competition
- The format shall be a minimum of two (2) days including finals, and a maximum of four (4) days including finals.
- Where possible all matches of the finals series should be played on their own finals day, and round matches should be completed prior.
- Up to four (4) Opens Divisions only.
- A maximum of thirty-two (32) teams can be graded into the Competition, with the final number to be determined based on the competition format in each region.
- All minor round matches to be a minimum of two (2) x fifteen (15) minute halves, with a minimum of a two (2) minute half time break.
- All finals series matches will be four (4) x fifteen (15) minute quarters, with a three (3) break after the first and third quarter and a five (5) minute half time break.
- All teams in a division will play each other a minimum of once in minor rounds.
- A two (2) round finals series will determine the winner and runner up of the Competition.

Umpires

All umpires officiating in the Regional League Competition must hold at a minimum a current National C umpiring accreditation.

Regional State Cup Athlete Selection

Throughout the Regional League Competition selectors will select the top 12 athletes to represent their region at the Regional State Cup a competition that will see the best region uncovered.