



2021 HART Country Challenge Competition Outline

The ultimate goal of Netball NSW in creating a HART Country Challenge that will be broken into regions is to see our junior players take the court and finish their representative netball season they have been working so hard towards.

HART Country Challenge

- HART Country Challenge North
- HART Country Challenge South

Competition Dates

- 2-day competition
- Saturday, 25 September – Sunday, 26 September

Venues

- HART Country Challenge – North
Tamworth Netball Association, Jack Smythe Drive, Tamworth
- HART Country Challenge – South
Wagga Wagga Netball Association, 124 Copland Street, Wagga Wagga

Entry Fee

Entry fee to the HART Country Challenge - \$220.00 (inc. GST) p/team. No additional payment will be necessary. This fee will be offset against the entry fee already paid for State Titles and the balance will be credited.

Team and Player Eligibility

The HART Country Challenge will only be available to Associations and Players who have not been under the Greater Sydney lockdown.

Expressions of Interest – Response Required

- Associations should submit their Expression of Interest to participate in the HART Country Challenge at the link below, **no later than 5pm, Monday 9 August.**
- [Country Challenge EOI](#)
Please note: this is an expression of interest only, to assist Netball NSW to consider venue allocation and court capacity, this is not an official entry.
- The Expression of Interest form will ask you to nominate the location you wish to attend (ie, Tamworth or Wagga Wagga). It will also ask if you would be prepared to attend the alternate location. This information will be used in the case of there being a high preference to one venue.

- Where an Association is allocated to the alternate venue due to capacity limits, they will be advised no later than Wednesday, 11 August 2021.
- The quality of the final competition (i.e. games played, game length etc) will ultimately be determined by the number of teams in attendance. The venues are not the same size as Metro State Titles venues, so limitations will exist and Associations are encouraged to be flexible.

Competition entry

- Following the Expression of Interest process an entry form will be required to be completed, should an Association wish to enter teams.
- Entry information will be circulated to eligible Associations on Wednesday 11 August 2021 and will be due for return by Friday 27 August.
- Players listed on the Junior State Titles Team lists that are published on the [Junior State Titles](#) page of the Netball NSW website, will be considered members of that team.
- An opportunity will be provided to update team lists at the time of team entry and in the lead up to the Competition.

Key dates

Please find below the outline of key dates for the re-scheduled Country Challenge

COUNTRY CHALLENGE	
9 August	Country Challenge Expression of interest due
27 August	Country Challenge team entry due
17 September	Country Challenge fixture released
25 – 26 September	Country Challenge

HART Country Challenge Rules

- A competition rules document is being prepared and will be circulated on Wednesday, 11 August 2021.
- There will be no Player minimum requirement (30% rule) at the Country Challenge.

Umpires

- Associations will be required to provide one badged umpire per team entered.
- Opportunities may exist for umpires to be badged during the competition, contact Chris Hall, Workforce Manager, chall@netballnsw.com for further information.
- Umpire Coaching will be the responsibility of the Associations.
- Umpire allocation at the Country Challenge will be a cross draw format.

Competition format

- The final format will be determined once team entries close. The final formats may differ at each venue, or age group, based on the number of teams participating.
- Based on final entries consideration will be given to either a Pools or First past the post format.
- The aim would be for Teams to play a minimum of 10 games over the 2-day competition, however this will be dependent on the number of teams participating at the venue.
- Final timing to be determined with the final Competition format.
 - Minimum match time of 10 min halves
 - Maximum match time of 15 min halves.

Competition Grading

- Grading will be determined following the close of entries, taking into consideration final grading of the 2021 Junior State Titles.
- Where entries in an age/division are low, divisions may be combined.
- There will be no appeal process after the final allocation of divisions and/or pools is completed.

Athletes Village

There will be no pre-constructed Athletes Village at the Country Challenge events. Teams will be permitted to bring their own tent.

Awards

- There will be no 'State Champion' declared as this is not a State Titles event.
- Winners and Runners up in each division will be awarded.
- Athletes and Team Officials only will be presented with awards, there will be no team trophy.

Spectator limits

Determined by Government restrictions at the time.