

Tips on how to run a Come and Try Event

Why

Come and Try events are a great way to attract new participants to Netball, whether it's a one day Come and Try day, or up to 4 weeks of introductory netball programs.

When

Think about the timing of your Come and Try event, and how to maximise the possibility of new participants joining your netball family by signing up for the next Competition your club or Association is playing in.

- Pre Winter Season – as early as November, PRIOR to your Winter Comp registrations closing. With registrations for Winter Competitions able to be open from 1 December, don't wait until early the next year, it may be too late!
- Pre Spring Season – As winter season finals are wrapping up, plan an event allowing time to get the word out, and receive registrations for your Spring / Summer Competition
- Any time prior to a competition you are running starts, as long as you are giving participants enough time to register with a club or the association to play in that competition

What

Some examples of what Clubs and Associations could deliver as a Come and Try event.

- Come and Try day – a few hours of skills and drills ending with a game
- New to Netball Program – up to 4 weeks of skills clinics
- Come and Try Gala Day – put participants into teams on the day and have a round robin
- Bring a friend Come and Try day – this could be a skills clinic or a Gala Day where you ask current members to attend and bring a friend

How to market NEW participants to attend

Putting the effort in to make sure there is a great number of new participants at your Come and Try event needs to be worthwhile.

- Create a Simple Flyer, both Digitally and hard copy
- Post on Association and your Netball Clubs social media
- Ask Local Schools to put digital flyer in newsletter
- Visit local schools to talk at assembly or address classes – armed with flyers
- Check with NNSW Regional Manager about School clinics that have been held at local schools recently

- Put up flyers on School Noticeboards, Community Noticeboard, shop windows or shopping centre noticeboards
- Ask your sponsors to put flyers in their shop windows
- Share on local community Facebook pages
- Consider Social Media marketing (this could attract fees)
- Ask current members to share social media posts
- Offer a Lucky Door Prize for participants (think Club/Association merchandise, SSN merchandise, or netball equipment)

How to make it FUN!

- Welcome participants at the entrance to the courts
- Keep participants busy as soon as they arrive
- Have music playing
- Name tags
- FUN activities
- Include a selection of current (age similar) players to assist Coaches
- Explain what is going to happen for the session
- THANK people for coming
- Group participants age appropriately.
- Supply giveaways (Association/Club/SSN teams)

Provide Relevant Information on Flyers / Social Media Posts

For new participants coming to the Netball courts for the first time, it can be daunting. Try to give succinct information on promotional flyers or social media posts without being overwhelming

- Wear your activewear and sneakers
- Bring a drink bottle/snacks/hat/suncream
- Address of courts (directions to entrance if a bit tricky)
- Where to meet
- Can parents stay, or drop off?

What Next?

- After your Come and Try event, follow up your participants via email, or give their parents a call and thank them for coming
- Send them the information on how they can register to your next competition
- Don't forget, if a parent is new to netball, give as much detail as possible in this follow up. Eg. how long the competition goes for, what to wear, how much it costs, is there training

Ask Netball NSW for help

If you are unable to find volunteers to run your Come and Try Event, or want some more ideas, please contact your Regional Manager or community@netballnsw.com and we can try to find a Development Officer to assist your club or association at an additional cost.

Before making a decision to promote your Come and Try Event please follow the process and policy regarding trialing membership outlined [HERE](#) to ensure all your Come and Try participants are covered by Netball NSW insurance and you collect their information to provide further details. Email community@netballnsw.com for assistance.

For any assistance setting up a Come and Try Event in PlayHQ, please reach out to your Regional Manager.

Example of a Come and Try Skills Session

GROUP 1: 5 – 10 year olds

Coach 1 – Throw & Catch
Coach 2 – Footwork
Coach 3 – Defence

GROUP 2: 10 – 14 year olds

Coach 1 – Throw & Catch
Coach 2 – Footwork
Coach 3 - Defence

Schedule for the clinic:

Coaches arrive 15-30 minutes before commencement of clinic at 9 am

15 mins - Warm up conducted with all groups at same time

25 mins - 1st Clinic rotation

25 mins - 2nd Clinic rotation

15 minute break

25 mins 3rd Clinic rotation

(5 mins is allowed between each station for a drinks break).

30 mins Netball game with 2 x 10 mins halves, with 2 mins for half time (Coaches to 'coach' teams during game)

15 mins - Hand out giveaways/information to participants.

*Note participants rotate, coaches stay on the skill