



# Regional League

## Competition Rules

20 November 2023

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# 1 Definitions and Interpretation

## 1.1 Defined Terms

**Abandoned Match** means a match has been stopped due to weather conditions or an event which Netball NSW determines was beyond its control or the control of either Team, preventing the match continuing.

**Affiliate Member** means a body corporate that is affiliated with the Company through Netball and becomes a Voting Member in accordance with the Netball NSW Constitution and the relevant Company Policy.

**Association and/or Affiliated Association** means any Affiliate Member as defined in accordance with clause 9.3 of the Netball NSW Constitution and the relevant Netball NSW Affiliation and Membership Policy (as amended from time to time), where such application for affiliation has been approved by voting members.

**Competition** means the Netball NSW Regional League.

**Competitions Manager** means the person who has been appointed to the role of Competitions Manager with Netball NSW.

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

**Divisions** mean the competition Divisions within the Regional League.

**Finals Series** means any match in the finals series format, this may include but is not limited to a Major Semi Final, Minor Semi Final, Preliminary Final, Grand Final and any Play-off matches of the Competition.

**Ineligible Player** means a player who has not met the criteria and rules as outlined in this document to participate in the Regional League Competition.

**Match** means any netball match or game, excluding training matches, played by or between Teams within the Competition.

**Medical Certificate** is a certificate issued from a registered medical practitioner or the Competition on-site medic (if available), confirming the state of someone's health.

**Member Organisation** means an organisation affiliated to Netball Australia, being the peak body for the game in their respective State or Territory.

**Netball NSW** means the New South Wales Netball Association Ltd.

**Player** means any person who has a current financial registration with Netball NSW and who has been registered with the relevant Team.

**Region** means a specific geographical area as defined by Netball NSW.

**Rules of Netball** means the Rules of Netball as published and updated from time to time by World Netball, the internationally recognised governing body for Netball.

**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, doctor, physiotherapist and other support staff.

**Umpire** means an umpire appointed to officiate in a Match.

## **2 Competition Information**

### **2.1 General Information**

- 2.1.1 Subject to these Competition Rules and the Netball NSW Constitution, the Competitions Manager shall have the authority to investigate and adjudicate all questions and disputes arising out of the Competition. If a matter is not provided for in the Competition Rules and the Netball NSW Constitution, the Competitions Manager may make any determination the consider appropriate after consultation with the Netball NSW Executive General Manager Community and Pathways, and/or the Chief Executive Officer, where appropriate, and this decision shall be final.
- 2.1.2 The Competitions Manager has the power to waive compliance with the Regional League Competition Rules when satisfied that extenuating circumstances exist.
- 2.1.3 Any request to waive compliance with the Regional League Competition Rules must be submitted in writing and be addressed to the Competitions Manager or their appointed delegate.
- 2.1.4 Any participating Team refusing or neglecting to abide by a decision of the Competitions Manager may be excluded from the Competition for such time as the Competitions Manager, in consultation with the Netball NSW Executive General Manager, Community and Pathways, shall determine at their sole discretion.
- 2.1.5 All relevant correspondence shall be addressed to and received at the Netball NSW Office by either post; hand delivery or email marked attention of the Competitions Manager.
- 2.1.6 All outward correspondence shall be dispatched from the Netball NSW Office and directed to the Association Secretary by email or such other means unless the Association nominates another person to also receive the correspondence.
- 2.1.7 All Competition Rules and supporting documents will be reviewed by Netball NSW representatives at the conclusion of each Competition season.
- 2.1.8 Netball NSW may at any time change the Competition match procedure, format or venue, where it is deemed necessary to comply with any legislation, government regulation or order, including but not limited to those related to COVID-19.

### **2.2 Venue and dates**

- 2.2.1 The Competitions Manager will determine the dates when Regional League will be conducted each year.
- 2.2.2 All matches shall be played at an indoor venue.
- 2.2.3 Netball NSW is responsible for deciding the final dates and venue for each Region for the ensuing year.

## 2.3 Uniforms and equipment

- 2.3.1 Players in an Association Team must play in matching playing uniform unless extenuating circumstances exist, in which case a letter of request must be sent to the Regional Manager providing an explanation and giving as much notice as possible.

For the avoidance of doubt a matching uniform may be different styles, (dress, shorts and singlet), however the design (colours, patterns) must be matching across all pieces. Refer to the [Netball NSW Inclusive Uniform Guidelines](#).

- 2.3.2 Associations may identify one sponsor logo on the playing uniform up to a maximum length of 16cm and maximum height of 16cm. Sponsor logos may only appear once on the uniform per player.
- 2.3.3 Associations are to provide a stopwatch, for timekeeping purposes.
- 2.3.4 Each Team is to have available two sets of position patches, of different colours.
- 2.3.5 Each Team is to provide an appropriate match ball as per the Rules of Netball.

## 2.4 Complaint Handling

- 2.4.1 All complaints lodged with Netball NSW in relation to the Competition will be dealt with in accordance with the relevant Netball NSW Policy.
- 2.4.2 All registered Players, Umpires, and Team Officials are required to abide by the Netball NSW Code of Behaviour.
- 2.4.3 All participants of the Competition including but not limited to Players, Umpires, Bench Officials and Team Officials, who have breached the Code of Behaviour, Netball NSW Member Protection Policy and/or the Netball NSW Disciplinary Policy, may be subject to disciplinary action as listed within the corresponding Policy.

All Netball NSW Policies referred to in clause 2.4 can be accessed on the Netball NSW website at the following link, ([Policies – Netball NSW](#))

## 3 Competition Structure

### 3.1 Team eligibility

- 3.1.1 Only Netball NSW Affiliated Associations are eligible to enter Regional League.
- 3.1.2 All players, umpires, coaches and officials entered into the Competition must be a registered financial member of Netball NSW or any other Member Organisation prior to the commencement of the Competition, or their participation in the Competition.

### 3.2 Team nomination & entry

- 3.2.1 The closing date for Team entries into the Competition will be notified to Affiliated Associations by Netball NSW. The closing date will also be included on the relevant entry form and promoted on the Netball NSW website.

- 3.2.2 Team entries are to be received by Netball NSW by the published time and date for close of entries. Late entries will only be accepted as detailed in clause 3.2.8 below.
- 3.2.3 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.
- 3.2.4 A court and medic levy for the Regional League competition will be determined by Netball NSW and communicated to Affiliated Associations by 30 November in the previous year.
- 3.2.5 Associations are to register teams as directed by Netball NSW. The entry will include the submission of a Team list which provides the details of a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of twelve (12) Players' names and their relevant experience as outlined on the entry form, by the closing date of entries for the Competition.
- 3.2.6 At no time is a Team permitted to have more than twelve (12) Players registered.
- 3.2.7 All entries for the Competition must be lodged in accordance with procedures as determined by Netball NSW from time to time and must be accompanied with supporting documentation as required by these Rules and as requested by Netball NSW from time to time. All Team entries must be received by Netball NSW by the published time and date for close of entries.
- 3.2.8 Where an entry is not received by Netball NSW by the published closing time for entries, a late entry may be accepted. A late entry will only be considered if the late entry fee of \$500.00 has been paid and the late entry is received by Netball NSW in accordance with the late entry closing date. This \$500.00 late entry fee is payable to Netball NSW.
- 3.2.9 If an Association Team withdraws from the Competition prior to the draw being finalised at the commencement of the Minor Round Matches, 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.
- 3.2.10 Where an Association Team withdraws from the Competition within three (3) weeks before the commencement of the Competition, the offending Association will forfeit all entry fees including the court and medic levy payable.
- 3.2.11 Where an Association Team withdraws from the Competition after the commencement of the competition, the offending Association will be fined five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and will additionally forfeit all entry fees including the court levy payable.
- 3.2.12 Teams must play in the Regional League in their designated Region as outlined by Netball NSW subject to the following:
- a) In extenuating circumstances, a Netball NSW Affiliated Association Team may apply to Netball NSW for consideration to play as a competitive Team in a Regional Competition that is out of their own designated Region. Where the request is approved Teams are exempted from playing in their designated Region and will play in the Region approved.
  - b) Association Teams who have been approved to play in a Regional League out of their designated Region will be considered a competitive Team eligible to collect points and eligible for the finals series and awards.

- c) Nominations from Associations to play in a Region other than their own designated Region must be approved by the Competitions Manager or their delegate.

### **3.3 Player eligibility**

- 3.3.1 All Players entered into the Competition must be a financial registered member of Netball NSW or any other Member Organisation prior to the commencement of the Competition, or their participation in the Competition.
- 3.3.2 All players must turn 16 years of age by 31 December in the year of play to be eligible to be registered in the Competition.
- 3.3.3 Notwithstanding clause 3.3.2, in extenuating circumstances, Associations may submit a request for approval by the Competitions Manager or their delegate to include a maximum of two (2) players per Team turning 15 years of age by 31 December in the year of play, to be eligible to be registered to a team
- 3.3.4 Players may only be registered to play in one Team of the Regional League Competition.
- 3.3.5 Players are only eligible to play in one Region of the Regional League Competition in a year.
- 3.3.6 If an Association records the name of an unregistered Player on the score sheet, the Association will be required to prove within a time determined by the Competitions Manager or their delegate that the person who played under that name is registered or was eligible to play with the Team.  
  
Failure to submit such proof may result in a penalty as outlined in clause 9.
- 3.3.7 Regional League is a sporting activity for female players only subject to the Netball NSW Gender Identity Policy.
- 3.3.8 Exhibition Male/Mixed match may be held prior to the Grand Final. This will be organised in conjunction with Associations and Regional Managers.

### **3.4 Late registration**

- 3.4.1 A maximum of four (4) Players may be “late registered” in each Team any time from one (1) week before the commencement of the Competition until the end of the Competition.
- 3.4.2 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.
  - b) Where a Player transfers from one Division to a higher Division by virtue of playing one (1) Match in the higher graded Team that Player is counted as a “late registration” in that higher graded Team.
- 3.4.3 A de-registered Player may only be re-registered in the same Association Team in the same grade for the duration of the Competition. A re-registered Player is counted as a late registration.



- 3.4.4 Players may not play in a grade lower than the grade in which they were originally graded.
- 3.4.5 Late registrations are to be submitted on the appropriate form by an Association official to the Regional Manager prior to the commencement of the Match in which they are to play.

### **3.5 Grading Procedure**

- 3.5.1 A maximum of twenty four (24) Teams will be graded into a Regional League Competition.
- 3.5.2 There will be a maximum of four (4) Team entries per Association eligible to compete in the Competition.
- 3.5.3 A minimum of four (4) Teams and a maximum of six (6) Teams shall participate in each Division. Exception will only be made with the prior permission of Netball NSW in their sole discretion.
- 3.5.4 An Association is permitted to enter one (1) Team only in each Division, an exception will be made where a second Team should be graded into the Division to ensure the competitiveness of the Division. This will be determined by the Regional Manager.
- 3.5.5 Where entries received exceed the maximum Team vacancies as per the competition format, grading will be based on the information received and the lowest graded Teams will be balloted out.
- 3.5.6 Where Associations nominate more than one Team, the Association's highest ranked Team will be graded into the Competition (ensuring all Associations entered have a minimum of one (1) Team participating in the Competition), additional Teams will be graded as per the grading process outlined in clause 3.5.7. Where entries received exceed available vacancies, Teams may be balloted out.
- 3.5.7 The process for grading Teams to Divisions will be as follows:
  - a) Player history will be provided by Associations with the Team entry, as directed by Netball NSW per clause 3.2.5, this will be collated and Teams will be ranked by Netball NSW at their sole discretion.
  - b) Provisional grading will be completed by Netball NSW.
  - c) The Regional Manager will circulate to participating Associations provisional grading.
  - d) Participating Associations will have the opportunity to consult and provide comment on Provisional Grading.
  - e) Following a consultative process with participating Associations as determined by the Regional Manager, final grading will be completed by the Regional Manager.
  - f) Final grading will be circulated to participating Associations and published to the Netball NSW website.
- 3.5.8 Team lists, including registered players and team official's names will be published on the Netball NSW website one week prior to the commencement of the Competition and it is the Associations duty to check Team lists are correct.

- 3.5.9 After a Team has been graded, the Regional Manager or their delegate may reject a late registration where it is considered the inclusion of the Player would affect the grade of the Team.

### **3.6 Appeal on Grading Decision**

- 3.6.1 An Association may request a review of their provisional grading that has been actioned as per clause 3.5 of this policy, by submitting a request for an appeal including the grounds for a review to the Competitions Manager within five (5) working days of the announcement of the relevant grading decision.
- 3.6.2 All applications for appeals must be presented by completing all questions on the Competitions Grading Appeals form, which is found on the Competitions [General Information](#) page of the Netball NSW website, and submitting the form by email to the Competitions Manager at [competitions@netballnsw.com](mailto:competitions@netballnsw.com).
- 3.6.3 The request for the appeal must state the grounds for review, or why the grading decision should be changed. It must specifically address issues regarding how the Team was evaluated under situations that put them at a distinct disadvantage to other Teams being evaluated.
- 3.6.4 The Competitions Manager will review all Appeals received, if they have satisfied all requirements for an Appeal, an Appeals Panel will be appointed at the discretion of Netball NSW to adjudicate the Appeal. Appeals that are not deemed to have grounds for an appeal will be dismissed without a hearing at the sole discretion of Netball NSW.
- 3.6.5 An Association can only lodge an appeal regarding a decision made which directly affects their Association. An Association cannot lodge an appeal for or on behalf of another Association or Associations or in relation to another Associations grading.
- 3.6.6 The decision of the Netball NSW Appeals Panel is final and binding on all parties.

## **4 Competition Rules**

### **4.1 General Rules**

- 4.1.1 The Competition will be conducted with reference to the Rules of Netball, unless where modified in these Competition Rules.

### **4.2 Competition Structure**

- 4.2.1 The final format of the Regional League Competition in each Region shall be determined by Netball NSW.
- 4.2.2 The format shall be a minimum of two (2) days including finals, and a maximum of three (3) days including finals.
- 4.2.3 Each Regional League Competition will consist of up to six (6) Opens Divisions.
- 4.2.4 The dates for the Competition in each Region shall be advised to Associations by Netball NSW via email and will be available on the Netball NSW website.

- 4.2.5 All Teams in a Division will play each other at least once in the minor rounds.
- 4.2.6 Netball NSW will make the final decision as to the draw and the scheduling of Matches in its sole discretion.
- 4.2.7 The fixture for all Divisions of the Competition will be available on PlayHQ at least one (1) week prior to the commencement of the Competition where possible.

### **4.3 Match Duration and Match Format**

- 4.3.1 All matches will be a minimum of two (2) x fifteen (15) minute halves, with a minimum of a two (2) minute half time break and (4) minutes between matches. Games will be centrally timed.
- 4.3.2 Each Team is to provide at least one (1) scorer and one(1) timekeeper for each match. Associations are to provide an approved stopwatch.
- 4.3.3 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.
- 4.3.4 The officiating Umpires in consultation with the Regional Manager or Netball NSW Representative will determine if a match may continue to proceed or if that match must be delayed, postponed or abandoned.
- 4.3.5 In the event that a Match is delayed or postponed, that match must be resumed as soon as is conveniently possible as directed by the Officiating Umpires or if prolonged delaying occurs, the Regional Manager or Netball NSW Representative shall direct accordingly.
- 4.3.6 Where a Team fails to retake the court after a break of a scheduled match, the Team will have deemed to have forfeited the match. Any score recorded at the point that the match was deserted will be void.
- 4.3.7 A Team may claim a forfeit one (1) minute after the time set down for the commencement of the Match, if the opposing Team does not have five (5) players in full uniform on court and ready to play.
- 4.3.8 Any Team forfeiting two (2) consecutive Matches will be excluded from the remainder of the Competition, a penalty will be incurred as described in clause 3.2.11.

### **4.4 Rolling Substitutions**

- 4.4.1 In addition to standard substitutions during intervals and stoppages, Teams will be allowed to make rolling substitutions during play.
  - (a) Rolling Substitutions can only be made where a team has a minimum of one (1) player on the team bench.
  - (b) There is no limit to the number of substitutions that can be made.
  - (c) More than one substitution may be made at any time, provided five (5) players remain on court at all times.
  - (d) Time will not be held for rolling substitutions.
  - (e) The substitutions zone will be clearly marked out on the court and will be no more than 1m x 4m (Substitution Zone).

- (f) The substitute(s) stands wholly inside the team's substitution zone to indicate a substitution is to be made.
- (g) The substitute entering the court cannot leave the Substitution Zone until the Player leaving the court has entered the Substitution Zone.
- (h) Players must observe the offside rules as they enter/ leave the court and must not interfere with the umpire's movement during the substitution.  
Sanction: Free pass from where the ball was when the interference or offside entry / exit occurred
- (i) A Player leaving the court must return to the team bench.

## 4.5 Match Points

4.5.1 The Competition shall be conducted on a points score basis.

4.5.2 Regional League Points Table:

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

4.5.3 In the event that due to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances a Match cannot be rescheduled for completion, and has been declared an abandoned Match by the Competitions Manager or their delegate, the following will apply:

- a) A drawn result shall be declared if the Match was stopped prior to or during the second quarter where four (4) quarters are being played or the first half where two (2) halves are being played. Each Association Team involved in that Match will be awarded one (1) Match point;
- b) If the Match had entered the third or fourth quarters where four (4) quarters are being played or the second half where two (2) halves are being played, a win will be awarded to the Association Team with the highest score at the time in which the Match was stopped;
- c) In the event that both Association Teams were on the same score and the Match had entered the third or fourth quarter where four (4) quarters are being played or the second half where two (2) halves are being played, a drawn result will be declared and each Team awarded one (1) Match point.

4.5.4 Goal Average

- a) If two or more Teams finish on equal points after the final round of minor round Matches, positions for Finals Series shall be decided on goal percentage.
- b) The goal average for each Team shall be decided as follows:

Total number of goals scored by the Team, divided by the total number of goals scored against the Team, multiplied by 100

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

Any team receiving a forfeit will be awarded a 10-0 goal win.

## 4.6 Finals Series

- 4.6.1 The top four (4) ranked Teams from the minor round Matches for each of the Divisions advance to the respective finals series for that Division.
- 4.6.2 All finals matches will be a minimum of two (2) x fifteen (15) minute halves, with a minimum of a two (2) minute half time break and (4) minutes between matches.
- 4.6.3 Finals series format is to be determined at the Regional Meeting held prior to the competition and is dependent on number of team entries, available courts and available timing.
- 4.6.4 Netball NSW may make amendments to the finals draw where necessary.
- 4.6.5 To be eligible to participate in the finals series, players must have played the minimum Matches as outlined below:
- a) Players need to have taken the court in three (3) minor round Matches with the relevant Team, to be eligible to play in the Finals Series where the fixture was a single round (i.e. each Team plays each other once) Competition.
  - b) If two or more rounds are played (i.e. Teams play each other twice or more), Players must have taken the court in at least four (4) minor round Matches with the relevant Team to be eligible for the Finals Series.
  - c) Exemption to this rule may be granted by Netball NSW in its sole discretion where Associations are able to provide a medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner or the Competition on-site medic (if available), outlining a Players reasoning for not meeting this Match requirement.
- 4.6.6 Any Team found playing an Ineligible Player in the Finals Series will be considered to have lost that Match in which the Ineligible Player has taken part.
- 4.6.7 Any Player found to be ineligible to take part in the Finals Series will not be permitted to take any further part in the Finals Series.
- 4.6.8 Any Team forfeiting a match in the final series will incur a penalty as described in clause 3.2.11.
- 4.6.9 If there is a draw in a semi- final or grand final match, a two (2) minute interval shall be taken.
- a) During the interval the score will be verified and the Teams change 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. Then two (2) five (5) minute halves will be played to determine a winner. After the first five (5) minutes there will be a one (1) minute interval and the Teams will change ends. Substitutions and positional changes are allowed during the changeover.

- c) If still a draw at the end of the second five (5) minutes, a visual signal will indicate that play continues and the first Team to score a two (2) goals advantage shall be declared the winner.
- d) During extra time, normal injury or illness procedures shall apply, as per the Rules of Netball.

4.6.10 If there is a draw in a play-off match, the following will occur:

- a) There will be a two (2) minute interval at the end of full time.
- b) Teams will change ends.
- c) Extra time will consist of only one (1), five (5) minute interval.
- d) The centre pass is taken by the Team entitled to the next centre pass.
- e) During the interval, substitutions and/or Team changes may be made.
- f) During extra time, normal injury or illness procedures will apply.
- g) In the event of a tie remaining at the end of extra time, a visual signal is given from the bench and will be used to indicate that play will continue until one Team has a two (2) goal advantage.

## 4.7 Competition Results

- 4.7.1 Score sheets are to be returned by the winning Team to the Regional Manager or their delegate at the conclusion of each Match.
- 4.7.2 No disputes will be entered into regarding score sheets.
- 4.7.3 Final results of each Regional League Competition will be available on the Netball NSW website.

## 4.8 Cancellations

- 4.8.1 When matches are cancelled prior to commencement due to an event which Netball NSW determines was beyond its control or beyond the control of either Team, including but not limited to, a lightning strike, power loss, wet weather that causes court or stadium damage, in consultation with the Teams concerned Netball NSW may reschedule the matches. If matches are not rescheduled, all matches cancelled will be deemed to be a draw and each Team will receive (1) competition point each.
- 4.8.2 The Netball NSW Adverse Weather Conditions Policy will be referred to when making a decision on the continuation or suspension of any matches.
- 4.8.3 Competition interruption

If the Regional League Competition is disrupted due to COVID-19 (or similar type of pandemic) due to a government issued order or other extenuating circumstances, Netball NSW may, in its absolute discretion, make variations to the format of the Competition to allow for a finish to the Competition. Variations may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) A reduction in the number of Minor Rounds to be played;
- (b) A revision of the fixtures for the balance of the Competition;
- (c) A revised finals series; and/or
- (d) Not awarding winners and runners-up (including, but not limited to, where minor rounds are unable to be completed)

By way of example and without limiting Netball NSW's absolute discretion, where a determination is made to abandon a Season after the Minor Rounds have been played (and by which point, all Teams will have played all Minor Rounds fixtured), Netball NSW may determine winners and runners-up based on the ladder positions of Teams as at the end of the Minor Rounds.

#### **4.9 Awards**

4.9.1 A trophy shall be presented to the winning and runner up Team in each Division.

4.9.2 An appropriate award shall be presented to Players and Team Officials of the winning and runner up Teams in each Division.

### **5 Team Officials**

#### **5.1 Coaches must:**

- a) Hold a current Working with Children Check, which Associations are responsible for verifying.
- b) Be a current registered financial member of Netball NSW or any other Member Organisation prior to the commencement of the Competition.
- c) Head Coaches must hold at a minimum a current 'Development' Coaching Accreditation.
- d) Assistant Coaches must hold at a minimum a current 'Foundation' Coaching Accreditation.

#### **5.2 Managers and Primary Carers must:**

- a) Hold a current Working with Children Check, which Associations are responsible for verifying.
- b) Be a current registered financial member of Netball NSW or any other Member Organisation prior to the commencement of the Competition.

### **6 Umpires**

6.1 Associations must provide umpires with their Teams for the minor rounds as follows;

- a) Where an Association enters two (2) Teams or more, one (1) non-playing badged Umpire for each Team entered plus one additional non-playing badged Umpire per Association, per day (i.e. an Association entering three (3) Teams must supply a minimum of four (4) umpires per day).
- b) Where an Association has only entered one (1) Team, only one (1) non-playing badged Umpire per day.

6.2 Umpires will be allocated to Matches by the Regional Allocations Team.

6.3 A Regional Allocations Team will be established for each Regional League competition

6.4 The Regional Allocations Team within each Region shall:

- a) Allocate Umpires to all Matches, including reserve Umpires.
- b) Allocate Umpires to finals Matches based on performance of each Umpire throughout the Competition.
- c) Be available and present for all days of Competition.
- d) Brief all Umpires at the start of the Competitions regarding guidelines and expectations for the Competition.
- e) Where appropriate provide coaching and panelling opportunities for Umpires within the Competition.
- f) The Head of the Allocations Team must not be umpiring or actively participate in the current Competition.
- g) All members of the Allocations Team must hold a current Working with Children Check.
- h) All member of the Allocations Team must be members of Netball NSW.
- i) To provide a shortlist of umpires to the Netball NSW Workforce Manager at the conclusion of the competition. The shortlisted umpires will then be selected based on their performance at Senior and Junior State Titles.
- j) The Head of Allocations and Regional Allocations Team member positions will be called for by an expression of interest process. Candidates seeking to be a part of the panel will need to complete an expression of interest form and lodge this with the Netball NSW Workforce Manager. The Workforce Manager, in consultation with the respective Regional Manager will appoint the Head of Allocations and Regional Allocations Team Members for each Region.

6.5 Umpires for the Finals Series will be selected from Umpires officiating during the respective Regional League minor rounds and will be allocated to Finals Series matches by the Regional Allocations Team. Standby (emergency) Umpires will also be allocated to cover any Umpire withdrawals prior to the Finals taking place.

6.6 Umpires at a minimum must hold a current C Badge Accreditation. Umpires must have received their C badge prior to being nominated.



- 6.7 Umpires must also have a current Rules of Netball Theory Exam result.
- 6.8 Where an Association fails to forward the names of the approved Umpires by the due date published by Netball NSW a fine of \$500.00 will be imposed on the offending Association. Changes made to the Umpire Nomination Form must be submitted to the Regional Manager by 5pm Tuesday prior to the round being played. Any late changes received after this will result in a \$100.00 fine. The repeated failure to supply umpires may result in withdrawing the Associations Team from the competition.
- 6.9 All umpires must be dressed in clothing that is distinct from the team's playing uniforms with suitable sports footwear. Umpires must wear a white top with a white or black skirt or shorts. **Umpires will not be permitted to wear tights.**
- 6.10 If an Umpire has not arrived thirty (30) minutes prior to the commencement of the Match, a replacement Umpire may be allocated, providing that Umpire meets the above provisions.
- 6.11 Associations whose Umpires fail to fill their allocation by non-attendance will be fined \$100.00 for each allocation not fulfilled (including reserve allocations) except in extenuating circumstances.
- 6.12 Any qualified Umpire may apply to the Regional Manager to be allocated to Matches.
- 6.13 All participating umpires must be a current registered financial member of Netball NSW or any other Member Organisation prior to the commencement of the Competition.

## **7 Photography and Videography**

In addition to the clauses outlined below, the [Netball NSW Photography policy](#) will be applicable to the Competition.

- 7.1 All photographers and videographers taking photos on behalf of an Association must register with Event Control upon arrival at the Competition.
- 7.2 Extended video footage should only be taken for training purposes.
- 7.3 All photographers and videographers should notify the opposing Team of their intention to photograph or video the match for consent
- 7.4 Photographers and Videographers may be asked to complete an accreditation form, and to wear a Netball NSW accredited photographer pass.
- 7.5 Photographers and Videographers should comply with any Courtside Equipment Guidelines published for the Competition.

## **8 Penalties**

- 8.1 Except where these Competition rules provide that a specific penalty is to apply, any breach of these competition rules may result in any one or more of the following penalties being imposed on an Association by Netball NSW in its absolute discretion:
- a) a fine;

b) loss of competition points.

8.2 Specific penalties included in this document are:

- a) Late entry fee of \$500 is payable for the submission of a late entry, refer to clause 3.2.8
- b) Where an Association Team withdraws from the Competition within three (3) weeks before the commencement of the Competition, the offending Association will forfeit all entry fees including the court levy payable, refer to clause 3.2.10
- c) Where an Association Team withdraws from the Competition after the commencement of the competition, the offending Association will be fined five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and will additionally forfeit all entry fees including the court levy payable, refer to clause 3.2.11.
- d) Any Team forfeiting two (2) consecutive Matches will be excluded from the remainder of the Competition, a penalty will be incurred as described in clause 3.2.11, refer to clause 4.3.8.
- e) Any Team forfeiting a match in the final series will incur a penalty as described in clause 3.2.11, refer to clause 4.5.8.
- f) Failure to submit approved umpires by the due date incurs a \$500.00 fine, refer to clause 6.8
- g) Late changes to umpire nominations incurs a \$100.00 fine, refer to clause 6.8.
- h) Failure to fulfil umpire allocation incurs a fine of \$100.00, refer to clause 6.11.