

APRIL 2024 – POLICY UPDATE SUMMARY

All policy updates include minor spelling, grammar, definition, formatting, and clause numbering changes. This includes the re-wording and res-structuring of certain paragraphs.

Please contact policy@netballnsw.com or lsayers@netballnsw.com if you have any questions in relation to any of the below listed policy updates.

Netball Australia Integrity Policy Framework – 2024 Updates ([all linked here](#))

Netball Australia have made a range of minor changes to the previously released Integrity Policy Framework to ensure alignment with the Sport Integrity Australia policy standards. Key changes to note include;

- a) Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy (formerly known as the Child Safeguarding Policy)
 - Name changed to ‘Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy based on feedback from Sport Integrity Australia to ensure coverage of young people.
 - Stipulation that where conduct occurs between children and young people, this is captured by this policy.
 - Inclusion of a Person in a Position of Authority – based on SIA requirements.
 - cl 4.1 updated to refer to a failure to report to authorities.

- b) Conduct and Disciplinary Policy
 - ADR Body – ability for an MO to establish their own tribunal to hear and determine matters under the framework and the ability for an MO to endorse an internal tribunal established by an Association to hearing and determine matters under the framework.
 - Definition changes, in line with Sport Integrity Australia updates.
 - Inclusion of limitations in the event that a complainant wishes to remain anonymous.
 - Inclusion of reporting through the Netball Speak Up Hotline.

- c) Sports Medicine for Community Netball
 - No substantial changes, however the concussion component will be updated by NA now that the separate concussion policy has been finalised.

- d) Competition Manipulation & Sports Wagering for Community Netball
 - No substantial changes.

- e) Member Protection Policy
 - Provision that the Safeguarding of Children and Young People Policy takes precedence over the application of the MPP.

Netball Australia Guidelines for the Management of Sport Related Concussion in Netball (NA Pathways, Youth and Community Netball) ([linked here](#))

The new guidelines, which are designed to protect the health and wellbeing of all participants, are in line with the Australian Institute of Sport's Concussion and Brain Health Position Statement.

Netball NSW have engaged Dr Laura Lallenec (Netball Australia Chief Medical Officer & Diamonds Team Doctor) to facilitate a Zoom session with clubs and associations on Tuesday 30th April at 6:30pm to discuss these guidelines. During this session, Laura will explain the guidelines in detail and provide netball specific advice in relation to the management of concussion at community level.

Please [click here](#) to register for this webinar.

Netball Australia Inclusion of Transgender and Gender Diverse Athletes in Community Netball Guidelines ([linked here](#))

Netball NSW is committed to providing welcoming, inclusive and supportive places for people to play our great game and we take pride in our record of inclusion and diversity. There is no place for discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, religious belief, age, race or sexual orientation.

These guidelines align with the Australian Human Rights Commission's Guidelines for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in sport (2019) ([link here](#)).

Proud2Play, an organisation committed to ensuring all LGBTIQ+ participants to engage in sport without fear or discrimination, facilitated a session with clubs and associations on behalf of Netball NSW on Tuesday 16th April. A recording of this session can be made available to anyone who was unable to attend this session. This session covered guiding principles for transgender and gender diverse participation in community netball, providing welcoming, inclusive and supportive places for people to play netball, and safeguarding transgender and gender diverse people and maintaining legal compliance.

Key principles of the guidelines include;

- All Australians have a fundamental human right to equality, participation in sport, freedom from discrimination and harassment and privacy.
 - Netball NSW is committed to promoting a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for all those involved in netball.
 - It is against the law to discriminate against another person on the basis of their sex or gender identity in the provision of goods, services, and facilities, in relation to club membership or benefits, and to request personal information from a person for the purpose of discriminating against them on the basis of their sex or gender identity.
 - Netball Australia, and the MO's support the participation of Transgender and Gender Diverse people electing to participate in community netball in accordance with their gender identity, whether or not this aligns with the sex they were aligned at birth and supports them to do so in a safe and inclusive environment.
 - While these Guidelines provide a framework to support the inclusion of an individual, the circumstances of an individual's participation will be considered on an individual basis to reflect the fact that every transition and/or affirmation is different.
 - Netball Australia and Netball NSW have zero tolerance to harmful behaviour motivated by homophobic, biphobic, transphobic, or interphobic attitudes. This behaviour has no place in netball.
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- It is nobody's business but the athlete/individual to share if they are socially or medically affirmed in their gender identity.

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