



netball
NEW SOUTH WALES

Netball NSW

Koori Gala Day Rules

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1 Definitions

Aboriginal Player means anyone who identifies as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Competition means the Koori Gala Days.

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

Divisions mean the available competition divisions at the Koori Gala Days, being Mixed 10-12 years, Girls 13-15 years, Mixed 13-15 years, Mixed Open and Women's Open.

Host Association means the Association at which the event takes place.

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

Netball NSW (NNSW) means the New South Wales Netball Association Limited.

Non-Aboriginal Player means anyone who does not identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Player means any person who registers in a team for the competition.

Team means each of the netball teams registered to compete in the Competition.

Team List means the list of players registered to play in the Competition for a Team.

Team Officials mean officials involved with the management, preparation and participation of the Team, including the coaches, manager and other support staff.

Umpire means a non-playing umpire provided by each participating team to officiate their own Match.

2 Event Information

2.1 General Information

- 2.1.1 The Koori Gala Days are conducted under the authority of the Netball NSW in partnership with the host Association.
- 2.1.2 Netball NSW is responsible for the collection of team and player registrations.
- 2.1.3 Netball NSW will manage the format, structure and conduct of the event.
- 2.1.4 The Koori Gala Days are held in multiple locations across NSW from July to early October each year. Specific locations and dates will be listed on the Netball NSW website once available, [First Nations Programs and Events - Netball NSW](#)
- 2.1.5 The Koori Gala Days are conducted in the following divisions;
 - a) Mixed 10-12 years (see clause 3.1 Eligibility for more details)
 - b) Girls 13-15 years
 - c) Mixed 13-15 years
 - d) Mixed Open
 - e) Women's Open

Final divisions for each event will be determined by number of team registrations received.

- 2.1.6 All matches shall be played on all-weather hard courts.
- 2.1.7 Netball NSW may at any time change any 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.
- 2.1.8 The Regional Manager (or their delegate) has the power to waive compliance with the Koori Gala Day Competition Rules when satisfied that extenuating circumstances exist.

2.2 Uniforms and Equipment

- 2.2.1 There are no uniform requirements, however teams are encouraged to wear similar colours to assist umpires in officiating matches.
- 2.2.2 Each team is responsible for providing position patches to be used during the tournament.
- 2.2.3 Each team is to provide their own match ball.

2.3 Complaint Handling

- 2.3.1 All complaints lodged with Netball NSW in relation to the Competition will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures of the relevant Netball NSW Policies.

- 2.3.2 All registered Players, Umpires, Team Officials and spectators are required to abide by the Netball Australia Integrity Policy Framework and the Netball NSW Code of Behaviour.
- 2.3.3 All participants of the Competition including but not limited to Players, Umpires, Bench Officials, Team Officials, and spectators who are alleged to have breached the Netball Australia Integrity Policy Framework, the Netball NSW Code of Behaviour, and/or the Netball NSW Disciplinary Policy, may be subject to disciplinary action as listed within the corresponding Policy.
- (a) Each breach of policy will be reviewed by the designated NNSW representative on a case-by-case basis. Outcomes may include game suspensions or removal from the Competition, depending on the severity of the offence (see Appendix B)

3 Competition Structure

3.1 Eligibility

- 3.1.1 For the purposes of playing in the Koori Gala Days, players do not need to be financial members of Netball NSW, however they are required to register into the competition via PlayHQ.
- 3.1.2 Koori Gala Days have been sanctioned by Netball NSW. When registering a team and providing participations full name and contact details they will be covered by the [National Insurance Policy](#).
- (a) Players who do not comply with the Rules of Netball and choose to wear any item deemed unsafe or likely to cause harm (see Appendix C) do so at their own risk. Any injury resulting from non-compliance will be the responsibility of the player
- 3.1.3 An Association, Club or Community Group may enter as many teams into the competition as they like, the competition organisers have the right to not accept registrations if competition capacity is reached.
- 3.1.4 The minimum age for any player to participate in the Koori Gala Days is 10 years as at 31 December in the year of play. Team contacts may apply for an exemption as per clause 3.1.5 and by completing the Application to Play in Higher Age Group form found at Appendix A
- 3.1.5 Teams in the 10-12 years' age group may have up to 2 players who are turning 8 or 9 years of age as at 31 December in the year of play.
Teams in the 13-15 years' age group may have up to 2 players who are turning 11 or 12 years of age as at 31 December in the year of play.
Teams in the Open age group may have up to 3 players who are turning 12-15 years of age as at 31 December in the year of play.
- 3.1.6 This event is for Aboriginal players, however, teams in all divisions may include up to 3 non-Aboriginal players if they wish.
- 3.1.7 The age of the players shall be determined by their ages as at 31 December in the year of play.

- (a) Mixed 10-12 years (see 3.1.5 Eligibility for more details)
- (b) Girls 13-15 years
- (c) Mixed 13-15 years
- (d) Mixed Open (16 years and above)
- (e) Women's Open (16 years and above)

3.1.8 Netball NSW observes the following in regard to mixed competition:

- (a) Mixed competition for the 10-12 years' division, will have NO restrictions applied on the basis of gender.
- (b) Mixed competition for the Mixed 13-15 years and Mixed Open Division age groups will observe the following rules:
 1. The minimum number of males in a women's team is ZERO, and
 2. A mixed team must only have a maximum of 3 males on court at any one time, and
 3. A mixed team must only have up to one male in each third on court. For the avoidance of doubt this means:
 - One male is permitted in the defence third occupying the position of Goal Defence or Goal Keeper, and
 - One male is permitted in the mid third occupying the position of Centre, Wing Attack or Wing Defence, and
 - One male is permitted in the goal third occupying the position of Goal Attack or Goal Shooter.

3.2 Team Nomination & Entry

- 3.2.1 The closing date for each individual Koori Gala Days will be 10 days before the scheduled event day and will be outlined on the relevant entry form and on the Netball NSW website.
- 3.2.2 There is a team entry fee of \$40 per team for all Koori Gala Days.
- 3.2.3 All entries must be received by Netball NSW by the published time and date for close of entries.
- 3.2.4 The entry will include details of a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of fourteen (14) players' names and must be received by the closing date for the Koori Gala Day.

3.3 Grading in Divisions

- 3.3.1 The Koori Gala Days are designed to be social events. There will be no grading, if more than one pool is required for a division teams will be allocated at random.

4 Competition Rules

4.1 General Rules

- 4.1.1 All Competition Matches will be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Netball, unless where otherwise stated within these rules.

- 4.1.2 The final format of the Koori Gala Day in each location shall be determined by Netball NSW.
- 4.1.3 All teams will play each team in their pool / division.
- 4.1.4 Netball NSW will make the final decision as to the draw and the scheduling of Matches.
- 4.1.5 The fixture for all Divisions of the Competition will be distributed to all competing teams at least 3 days prior to the commencement of the Competition where possible.
- 4.1.6 Playing times of matches is at the discretion of Netball NSW provided there is a minimum of one (1) minute half-time break and a minimum of two (2) minutes between games.
- 4.1.7 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) If the substitutions zone is not clearly marked out on the court, the substitution zone shall be no more than 1m x 4m level with the Centre Circle on either side line.
- 4.1.8 Injury time may be taken according to official INF rules, but no additional time shall be added to the match.
- 4.1.9 The umpire's whistle shall start and finish games on the indication from the central timing device.
- 4.1.10 Scoresheets and ladders may be kept, this is up to the Netball NSW Staff discretion and may be dependent on number of teams participating.

4.2 Cancellation

- 4.2.1 The Netball NSW Adverse Weather Conditions Policy will be referred to when making a decision on the continuation or suspension of any matches.

5 Officials

5.1 Team Officials

- 5.1.1 Any Team Official (i.e. Coach or Manager) must hold a current Working with Children check, which Association, Club or Community Group are responsible for verifying.

5.2 Umpires

- 5.2.1 Each team must provide at least one umpire that is not a player in their team.
- 5.2.2 The competition format will be umpire your own.

- 5.2.3 It is requested that umpires complete or have already completed the Rules of Netball Exam (online) prior to the tournament, <https://learning.netball.com.au>
- 5.2.4 Umpires are encouraged to complete or have completed the online Foundation Umpire Course prior to the tournament, <https://learning.netball.com.au>
- 5.2.5 Where possible it is encouraged that an umpire holds a minimum a current C badge.
- 5.2.6 All umpires must be dressed in attire that distinguishes them from teams on the court.

6 Photography and Videography

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

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

7 Netball NSW Talent Identification

The Koori Gala Days are an opportunity for eligible players to be talent identified by Netball NSW selectors for further opportunities. Eligibility requirements are outlined below.

- 7.1 Players must be turning 11, 12 or 13 years old by 31 December in the year of play.
- 7.2 Players must identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent, and be able to provide proof of this on request.

2026 KOORI GALA DAYS

APPLICATION TO PLAY IN A HIGHER AGE GROUP

If your team wishes to register a player to play in a higher age group than what they are eligible for in the 2026 Koori Gala Day please complete and submit this application to seek approval for exemption.

NOTE: maximum of 2 players per team in 10-12yrs and 13-15yrs Divisions; maximum of 3 players per team in Opens Divisions.

(Please refer to clause 3.1.5 of the Koori Gala Day Rules for eligibility criteria)

Contact Information

Team Name:	
Contact Person:	Official Position:
Mobile:	Email:

Team details

Age group the team will be entered into:	☐ 10-12yrs	☐ 13-15yrs	☐ Opens
Players Name	Date of Birth	Age in 2026	

Please detail the reason why the underage player/s is required to play in the Koori Gala Day team indicated above and players history

By signing below the Team Official is certifying that the information provided on behalf of the Team is true and correct.

Team Official Signature	
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Please note: This form can be filled out electronically and saved as a PDF Document. The signature of the Team Official will be accepted as an electronic signature in accordance with legal principles (typing is sufficient)

Please complete and return this form to the Netball NSW Regional Manager via their email or community@netballnsw.com
All requests must be received prior to the player being registered in the Koori Gala Day team in PlayHQ.

Netball NSW Outcome

Players approved: YES ☐ NO ☐	Date:
Reason:	
Regional Manager signature	

When determining the seriousness of an alleged offence involving deliberate physical contact regard should be had to the following considerations:

- Impact – Whether the Member was injured as a result of the physical contact and if so, the seriousness of the injury (i.e. superficial cuts or bruises would be considered less serious than broken bones or wounds requiring stitches).
- Contact – where on the body the physical contact occurred (i.e. a strike to the head/face should be treated more seriously than a strike to the body).

1 Level 1 Offences

The offences set out at 1.1 to 1.4 below are Level 1 offences. The range of penalties which shall be imposed for a Level 1 Offence is set out under Appendix B - Schedule of Disciplinary Penalties. Members must not:

No	Rule	Standard
1.1	Abuse netball equipment, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings.	Includes actions which intentionally or negligently result in damage to the advertising boards, boundary fences, dressing room doors, mirrors, windows and other fixtures and fittings.
1.2	Show dissent at an umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse.	Includes excessive, obvious disappointment with an umpire's decision or with an umpire making the decision and/or obvious delay in resuming play. This rule does not prohibit the team captain or coach from asking an umpire to provide an explanation for a decision, or a Team official from making a formal complaint to the Affiliated association official, against the performance of an umpire. This offence is also not intended to penalise trivial behaviour. The extent to which such behaviour is likely to give offence shall be taken into account when assessing the seriousness of the breach
1.3	Use language that is obscene, offensive or insulting and/or the making of an obscene gesture.	This includes swearing and offensive gestures which are not directed at another person such as swearing in frustration at one's own poor play or fortune. This offence is not intended to penalise trivial behaviour. The extent to which such behaviour is likely to give offence shall be taken into account when assessing the seriousness of the breach.

1.4	Ordered Off in accordance with this Policy for multiple infringements of the rules	Where a Member is sent off for minor repeated infringements of the rules (e.g. repeated contact offences) this should be treated as a Level 1 offence.
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2 Level 2 Offences

The offences set out at 2.1 to 2.4 below are Level 2 offences. The range of penalties which shall be imposed for a Level 2 Offence is set out in Appendix B - Schedule of Disciplinary Penalties. Members must not:

No	Rule	Guidelines
2.1	Show serious dissent at an umpire's decision by action or verbal abuse.	Dissent is classified as serious when the dissent is expressed by a specific action such as displays of anger or abusive language directed at the umpire and/or excessive delay in resuming play or leaving the court. This rule does not prohibit the team captain or coach from asking an umpire to provide an explanation for a decision, or a Team official from making a formal complaint to the Affiliated association official, against the performance of an umpire.
2.2	Engage in minor deliberate physical contact with other players, umpires, officials or spectators.	This offence is intended to capture minor physical contact which does not result in any injury or harm to another person. Without limitation, players will breach this rule if they deliberately walk or run into or shoulder another player, umpire, spectator or match official. Please note that this offence is not intended to capture physical contact occurring naturally in gameplay. For example aggressive defending which may be dealt with at the time by the umpires is not intended to be a sanctionable offence.
2.3	Charge or advance towards a player, umpire, official or spectator in an aggressive manner.	
2.4	Throw the ball at or near a player, umpire, spectator or official in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner.	This rule will not prohibit a Member from returning the ball in the normal fashion.

3 Level 3 Offences

The offences set out at 3.1 to 3.3 below are Level 3 offences. The range of penalties which shall be imposed for a Level 3 Offence is set out in Appendix B - Schedule of Disciplinary Penalties. Members must not:

No	Rule	Guidelines
3.1	Intimidate a player, umpire, spectator or official whether by language or conduct.	Acting in a threatening or aggressive manner in an attempt to influence play or an umpire or official's decision.
3.2	Threaten to assault another player, official, umpire or spectator.	Team officials are recognised as, but not limited to; coach, assistant coach, manager, support personnel.
3.3	Engage in deliberate physical contact with other players, umpires, officials or spectators.	This includes striking with a clenched/open fist and striking using a ball or another object which results in a minor injury to another person. Please note that this offence is not intended to capture physical contact occurring naturally in gameplay. For example aggressive defending which may be delt with at the time by the umpires is not intended to be a sanctionable offence.

4 Level 4 Offences

The offences set out at 4.1 and 4.2 below are Level 4 offences. The range of penalties which shall be imposed for a Level 4 Offence is set out in Appendix B - Schedule of Disciplinary Penalties. Members must not:

No	Rule	Guidelines
4.1	Use language or gestures that offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, threatens, disparages or vilifies another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin.	Abusively disparaging speech
4.2	Engage in deliberate physical contact of a more serious nature with other players, umpires, officials or spectators.	This includes striking with a clenched/open fist and striking using a ball or another object which results in a more serious injury to another person. Please note that this offence is not intended to capture physical contact occurring naturally in gameplay. For example aggressive defending which may be delt with at the time by the umpires is not intended to be a sanctionable offence.

5 Level 5 Offences

The offence set out at 5.1 below is a Level 5 offence. The range of penalties which shall be imposed for a Level 5 Offence is set out in Appendix B - Schedule of Disciplinary Penalties. Members must not:

No	Rule	Guidelines
5.1	Engage in <u>serious</u> deliberate physical contact with other players, umpires, officials or spectators during the course of play.	This includes fighting, melees, brawls and/or striking with a clenched/open fist and striking using a ball or another object which results in significant injury to another person.

Appendix C – Extract of Rules Of Netball



RULE 3: TEAM

11. All players have specified areas of the court where they are allowed to play (see diagram opposite).
12. Players may not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players, specifically:
 - a. No body piercings including earrings may be worn.
 - b. No adornment that may endanger player safety may be worn.
 - c. No communication devices may be worn.
 - d. Any other adornment worn must be securely covered with tape and/or padding.
 - e. Medical devices may be worn provided they are securely covered with tape and/or padding.
 - f. Player monitoring devices may be worn provided they are secured within the playing uniform.
 - g. Fingernails must be short and smooth.
 - h. Hair must be suitably tied back (for example in a ponytail, plait or braided) and free from any adornment.