



BAYSIDE & DISTRICT
NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

BAYSIDE & DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

(Registration No. A0059205A)
COMPETITION BYLAWS

DATE: January 2025

These Bylaws govern the Association. They are the operating procedures that determine the conduct of the Association and its members under Rule 36 of the Constitution. The Board adopted these Bylaws on 25th November, 2023. Any amendments to these Bylaws come into effect on the date they are approved by the Board and will remain

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DEFINITIONS

“Association” means the Bayside & District Netball Association Incorporated (BDNA).

“Board” is the governing body of the Association which is also referred to as the executive committee in the Constitution.

“Bylaws” means these By-Laws of the Association as amended from time to time which are also referred to as regulations of the Association under clause 36 of the constitution.

“Club” means a non-profit incorporated body, which has an interest in netball and is affiliated with the Association.

“Constitution” means the constitution of the Association as amended from time to time.

“Delegate” is a representative of a Club or Non Affiliated Team who liaises with the Board.

“Ineligible Player” is a player who is not entitled to participate in a game, which may include a player who has not qualified or a player not eligible to play in that age section.

“Non Affiliated Team” is a team that is not affiliated with a Club.

“Team Official” has the meaning given to it by Bylaw 23.

“Rules of Netball” as defined in the INF Netball Rules Book referenced on the Netball Australia website as amended from time to time.

“Single Game Vouchers” are available for players who do not have a current Netball Victoria Membership. They provide insurance coverage for a single game only.

“Super Team” means a team which contains a significant proportion of elite level players which far exceeds the standard of other teams in the relevant competition as determined by the Board from time to time.

“First Aid Officer” is a person trained to (and holding a current certificate of attainment) give basic medical help and nominated to administer this as required by the Association.

1. DELEGATE MEETINGS

- 1.1. Delegate meetings will be held on the dates determined by the Board and advised to Clubs from time to time.
- 1.2. All Clubs must be represented by at least one Delegate at all Delegate meetings. If the Delegate is not available to attend the Delegates Meeting, a proxy should be nominated to attend on their behalf. More than half of the Delegates shall be present to constitute a quorum of a Delegates meeting.
- 1.3. Clubs who do not provide a representative at the Delegates meeting will be deemed to have accepted the decisions made at that meeting.
- 1.4. Clubs who do not provide a representative at the Delegates Meeting, will have the Delegates Meeting Minutes sent to the Club Delegate. The Club Delegate must confirm receipt of the minutes.
- 1.5. Clubs who do not comply with Bylaw 1.2 and Bylaw 1.4 will be fined by the Board (with the amount of the fine to be determined by the Board).

2. CORRESPONDENCE

- 2.1. All correspondence sent by a Club to the Association must be sent in writing from the Club Secretary (or authorised person) to the Association Secretary (or authorised person).
- 2.2. All correspondence from the Association to a Club will be addressed to the Club Secretary or authorised person.

3. FINANCE

- 3.1. The Board shall determine the fees to be paid by each Club and Non Affiliated Team to the Association.

The fees shall be calculated to cover the costs of the Association and competition management activities.

All monies due to the Association must be paid by the nominated due date. Clubs or Non Affiliated Teams that have not paid by the nominated date will not be permitted to take the court in any competition until the outstanding debt is paid.

Any individual with outstanding debt to the Association shall not be permitted to participate for any Club or Non-Affiliated Team in any competition until the outstanding debt is paid.

Any individual who breaches Bylaw 3.1 will be subject to a fine (with the amount to be determined by the Board).

- 3.2. Reimbursements / Payments

Board members may be entitled to claim authorised expenses incurred whilst acting in an official capacity from the Association. Receipts must be supplied to the Association in order for any reimbursements to be made.

Umpires will be paid at the rate determined by the Board.

Other Association personnel may be entitled to claim authorised expenses incurred whilst acting on behalf of the Association as determined at the discretion of the Board on a case-by-case basis.

4. INFORMATION TO CLUBS

The Association shall provide information to all Clubs prior to the start of the season. This information may include:

- i. Association Contact Details;
- ii. Association venue address;
- iii. Association calendar of events;
- iv. Netball Australia National Code of Conduct;
- v. Fixtures; and
- vi. Details of courses, clinics, seminars etc.

5. CLUB, NON AFFILIATED TEAM AND PLAYER REGISTRATION

5.1. Registration of Clubs and Non Affiliated Teams

In order for a Club or Non Affiliated Team to be eligible to compete in the Association's competitions, the Club or Non Affiliated Team must complete team submissions via Netball Connect by and sign the BDNA Affiliation agreement by the due date. .

All Clubs and Non Affiliated Teams that submit valid team submissions and are subsequently registered by the Association shall receive information from the Association, which may include:

- i. Due date and amount of all fees and levies that are to be paid for the season, including Registration Fees, Court Fees, Netball Victoria Fees and any other fees that may be deemed necessary for that season;
- ii. A link to the Association Constitution and Bylaws;
- iii. Information regarding any meetings or other requirements of the Association; and IV.
- iv. Information provided in accordance with Bylaw 4.

No Club or Non Affiliated Team who submits a registration application to the Association is to be considered registered until the Association confirms the registration to the Club or Non Affiliated Team.

The Association reserves the right to reject the registration application of any Club or Non Affiliated Team applying to the Association for registration to participate in a competition.

All Clubs and Non Affiliated Teams will have access to relevant Netball Victoria and Netball Australia policies, procedures, regulations and Codes of Conduct via the Netball Victoria website.

5.2. Registration of Players

Eligible players named on the team registration sheet are deemed to be registered with a Club or Non Affiliated Team.

Players can only be registered with one Club or Non Affiliated Team registered with the Association each season.

All players registered with an Association Club or Non Affiliated Team must maintain up to date contact and residential address details via NetballConnect.

6. NETBALL VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP

6.1. The Netball Victoria membership fee is set annually by Netball Victoria.

In order to be eligible to participate in Association competitions or programs (including NetSetGo and All Abilities), as a player, coach or umpire, an individual must be a current financial Netball Victoria member. All Junior, Senior and All Abilities players, coaches and umpires must register through the appropriate online registration form as provided by the Association.

An off-the-court membership/registration (administrative roles e.g. President, secretary, game day coordinator) will be offered to those Association members that only have an off-court role.

6.2. No player, coach or umpire will be permitted to participate in the Association's activities in any capacity without a current Netball Victoria membership. Any breach of this Bylaw will be subject to sanctions to the individual, Non Affiliated Team or Club as determined by the Board.

6.3. Single Game Vouchers

Individuals may purchase a Single Game Voucher. Purchase of a voucher will allow the individual to participate as a player in the Association's activities only for the particular game or activity to which the Single Game Voucher relates.

An individual must purchase a Single Game Voucher through the Netball Connect Registration process prior to becoming eligible to participate in the relevant game or activity.

Single Game Vouchers are only to be used if the team has less than seven (7) of its registered players available to play. If a member of the registered team arrives late then the individual with the Single Game Voucher (Fill in Player) must leave the court at the next interval and not take the court again (other than to fill in due to injury). The full name of the Fill in Player/s must be added to the player list and their name and the registration number must be noted in Netball Connect.

The player may purchase a maximum of three (3) Single Game Vouchers before the player must become a Netball Victoria member for the year.

The use of Single Game Vouchers and the individual user must comply with all other Bylaws.

A team who breaches Bylaw 6.3 will be deemed to have lost the game at which the breach occurred regardless of the result.

7. AFFILIATION

- 7.1. Each Club and Non affiliated team shall affiliate with the Association by signing an Affiliation and Agreement Form and submit the Affiliation and Agreement Form to the Association by the due date.
- 7.2. A request for a refund shall be considered in accordance with the Netball Victoria Membership Refund Policy.

8. ASSOCIATION POLICIES

Our association upholds a **zero-tolerance policy** for any form of bad behaviour, including but not limited to abuse, harassment, discrimination, racial vilification, intimidation, or unsportsmanlike conduct from players, coaches, officials, parents, and spectators.

All members, participants, and visitors must adhere to these by laws, Netball Victoria/Australia codes of conduct and our domestic policies, which support these by-law including but not limited to :-

- **Code of Conduct** – Outlines the expected behaviour for all involved in our association.
- **Child Safety Standards related policies** – Ensures a safe and supportive environment for children and young people.
- **Complaints & Dispute Resolution Policy** – Provides a process for addressing concerns or grievances.

- **Conditions of Entry** – Establishes the behavioural expectations for all individuals attending our facilities.

Failure to comply with these policies may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or removal from club activities.

9. INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTS

- 9.1. The Association is committed to providing a safe, fair and inclusive sporting environment where all people can contribute and participate.
- 9.2. The Association will endeavour to provide opportunities for males to participate in mixed and male competitions.
- 9.3. The Association may conduct cultural awareness training & inclusive workshops to ensure your club is providing a welcoming environment and creating awareness around cultural views and barriers.
- 9.4. The Association supports participation in netball on the basis of the gender with which a person identifies. If issues arise, the Board will seek advice on the application of the Victorian discrimination laws for the particular circumstances.
- 9.5. All competitions will be clearly labelled in regard to age group and gender. This includes additional references to all genders that are permitted to play. All competition labelling will be clear and transparent.
- 9.6. The Association observes the Netball Victoria Gender Regulation in regard to male participation:

Males who are 13 years (and older) are not permitted to participate in female competition. This means that males must be less than 13 years of age (actual age) as at the first day of the competition or season; and

Males that turn 13 during that competition or season will be permitted to participate for the duration of that competition or season.
- 9.7. The Association observes the Netball Victorian Gender Regulation in regard to mixed competition:

Mixed competition for the 11 and Under and 13 and Under age groups will have NO restrictions applied on the basis of gender.

Mixed competition for the 15 and Under and older age groups will observe the following rules:

 - i. The minimum number of males in a team is zero, and
 - ii. A mixed team must only have a maximum of 3 males on court at any one time, and
 - iii. 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 Center, Wing Attack or Wing Defence, and
- One male is permitted in the goal third occupying the position of Goal Attack or GoalShooter.

10. TAKING IMAGES OF CHILDREN

- 10.1. The Association is committed to ensuring that all child participants are protected from indecent, inappropriate or illegal use of images while they are affiliated with the Association.
- 10.2. The Association is committed to complying with the Netball Australia Member Protection Policy (as adopted by Netball Victoria). The Association therefore requires that it, and every person who is bound by these Bylaws (where applicable and relevant):
- i. obtains permission from a child's parent/guardian before taking an image of a child that is not their own. They should make sure the parent/guardian understands how the image will be used;
 - ii. respects the privacy of others and prohibits the use of camera phones, videos and cameras inside changing areas, showers and toilets;
 - iii. when using a photo of a child, will not name or identify the child, publish personal information such as residential address, email address or telephone numbers without the consent of the parent/guardian;
 - iv. will not publicly provide or publish to any person or organisation, information about a child's hobbies, interests, school, or the like, as this information can be used by paedophiles or other persons to groom a child; and
 - v. will only use images of children that are relevant to netball and will ensure that they are suitably clothed in a manner that promotes participation in netball. Wherever possible, the person or organisation will seek permission from a child's parent/guardian before using the image.

11. AGE REQUIREMENTS

- 11.1. Generally, player age is determined as at the 31 December of the current playing year. Specifically, bylaw 8.6 must also be applied.
- 11.2. The Association will accept children at the same grade at school whose birthday is after December 31st but before May 1st of the following year. This applies to competitions within the control of the Association; it may not apply to competitions outside the control of the Association.
- 11.3. Participants must provide their correct date of birth at the time of registering and failure to do so will result in ineligibility to participate in the Association's activities. BDNA reserves the right to request proof of age, if required.

- 11.4. Participants aged in grade 2 and 3 are encouraged to join our under 9 competition. Participants in grade prep and one are encouraged to join our NetSetGo program.
- 11.5. Participants are only eligible to participate in certain age groups upon reaching the relevant age threshold (Minimum Age Requirements). The Minimum Age Requirements for each age group are:

Age Group	Minimum Age
9 and Under (9&U)	7 Years
11 and Under (11&U)	8 Years
13 and Under (13&U)	11Years
15 and Under (15&U)	12Years
18 and Under (18&U)	14 Years
Open	15 Years

- 11.6. A team who breaches Bylaw 10 will receive one (1) warning, second and subsequent breaches of Bylaw 9 will be subject to a penalty of the loss of four (4) premiership points to the offending team.

12. COMPETITIONS AND PROGRAMS

- 12.1. The Association offers the following competitions & programs:

NetSetGo	Mixed (females & males – no restrictions)
9&U	Mixed (females & males – no restrictions)
11&U	Mixed (females & males – no restrictions)
13&U	Mixed (females & males – Males must be 13 years of age or younger)
15&U Female	Males 13 Years or older are not permitted to participate
18&U	Females
Opens	Females

12.2. GRADING

The Association will implement a grading process, which will be determined by the Association (in its absolute discretion) to evaluate, grade and re-grade all teams.

The Association reserves the right to re-grade a team at any time of any season.

Re-grading requests submitted to the Association by a Club or Non Affiliated Team will be considered by the Association without any requirement for the Association to take any further action in relation to the grading.

The Association will be the ultimate adjudicator of all grading decisions.

The Association will determine the number of rounds for grading annually. After grading rounds, premiership points and goals for and against will be reset to zero. After this the competition rounds will commence.

If a team is re-graded within the competition rounds, premiership points and goals for and against, accrued will be transferred and apply in the new grade the team has been entered into for the remainder of the competition rounds.

12.3. PLAYER ROTATION

Each club will develop a player rotation policy for the U9 and U11 divisions. This policy ensures all players receive fair and equal playing time throughout the season.

Coaches are responsible for tracking player positions and implementing rotations during minor rounds to promote balanced team development and individual growth. All U9 and U11 players will receive equal court time and play all court positions throughout the regular season.

Failure to comply with Bylaw 11.3 will result in a fine as determined by the Board.

13. DRESS CODE

13.1. Players Dress Code

Each Club and Non Affiliated Team must submit the proposed uniform to the Association, for approval by the Association.

Each Club and Non Affiliated Team must have a registered playing uniform which allows individual players in each team to choose any combination of uniform items. Participants may choose the uniform option they are comfortable with.

Clubs and Non Affiliated Teams must notify the Association in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform for approval by the Association

The Association must approve all Club and Non Affiliated Team uniform colours and designs. Appropriate Club sponsorship logos for uniforms are to be approved by the Board. Size will

be limited to 8cm Square on either the left or right chest. An additional space is allowed on the back of the uniform 7cm high x 20cm wide.

Use of the BDNA logo must be approved by the Board.

All players must wear their Club or Non Affiliated Team nominated uniform including positional bibs and any sports briefs or shorts when participating in the Association's activities.

Shorts must be all the same colour and design and not have any pockets, buckles, belts, zips, buttons or velcro attached.

Suitable sports shoes/trainers should be worn for match play. Spikes are not permitted.

Any player may seek a variation to the uniform for medical, cultural, religious or other reasonable grounds and must submit a request to the Board, which may be granted or declined at the discretion of the Board.

Long sleeve tops may be worn under the dress or top in plain black or their Club or team uniform colour. Unless they are plain black, this variation to uniform must be submitted to the Association as part of the Club or Non Affiliated Team uniform approval.

Players may wear leggings in plain black or their Club or team uniform colour. Unless they are plain black, this variation to uniform must be submitted to the Association as part of the Club or Non Affiliated Team uniform approval process.

Tracksuit pants, tops with hoods, gloves and hard peaked caps are not to be worn during a match. Soft caps may be worn.

- 13.2. No jewellery or body piercing or other items deemed unsafe by the Association may be worn when participating in the Association's activities and players may be precluded from participating until such jewellery or body piercings or other items deemed unsafe are removed or covered.

Newly pierced earrings are accepted if the player provides the appropriate tape for 4-6 weeks. After this time all studs/earrings should be removed and it is the player's responsibility to remove all jewellery. Players will not be able to take the court if this requirement is not met.

A wedding band or medical alert bracelet may be worn but must be taped to the Association's satisfaction.

- 13.3. Fingernails must be short and smooth when participating in the Association's activities. Fingernails that would not be classified as short and smooth (by the Association) must be taped to the Association's approved standard,

Players will not be able to take the court if the requirements of Bylaw 12.2 and 12.3 are not met.

- 13.4. Players will receive one warning before a penalty is applied for incorrect uniform. A penalty of One (1) goal for each incorrectly uniformed player to the non-offending team will be imposed.

- 13.5. A Club or Non Affiliated Team who breaches Bylaw 12.1 will be subject to a fine as determined by the Board.

13.6. Umpires Dress Code

Umpires shall wear uniform as determined by the Board and outlined in the Umpire Uniform Policy. . Umpires may choose the uniform option they are comfortable with.

Suitable sports shoes/trainers should be worn for match play.

13.7. Representative Squad

The Board will determine the Association representative squad uniform.

14. CLEARANCES

14.1. A clearance is required if a player wishes to transfer to another Club or Non Affiliated Team at the start of a new season.

14.2. No player will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season.

14.3. Once a registered player has played in a match for a Club or Non Affiliated Team in a season, they will not be granted a clearance to another Club or Non Affiliated Team.

14.4. A player who is entering bottom age U13 through to top age U18 in the forthcoming year and has been a representative player or a member of an elite entry club playing in in a Rep competition in the past twelve (12) months cannot be registered in a domestic team that already contains three (3) or more representative players or elite club players.

14.5. For U13, U15 and U18 competition, the maximum number of Association representative players or elite entry club players allowed in a team, where a representative player or elite entry club player is seeking transfer into from another club/team is three (3) in total. The transferring player would make up the third (3rd) representative player in that team.

14.6. Teams may have as many “home grown” representative players in a team as they wish, however for U13, U15 and U18, no new representative players will be transferred to this team from other Clubs, Non Affiliated Teams or other associations, if it already contains three (3) or more representative players (including “home grown” players).

The term “home grown” shall refer to players who have grown up through the club and subsequently become representative players. A representative player who has been transferred from another Club, Non Affiliated Team or other association will not be considered “home grown” until they have completed a period of twelve (12) months with the relevant Club or Affiliated Team and will continue to be subjected to Bylaw 13.4.

The only circumstances where a representative player may be considered home grown by the receiving Club or Non Affiliated Team would be if either the Club or Non Affiliated Team where the representative player was “home grown” ceased to play at BDNA domestic competition level or the player is new to the Bayside area or the player has a strong history with the receiving Club or Non Affiliated Team . These cases would need to be reviewed by the Board on a case-by-case basis. However, even in these circumstances Clubs and Non-Affiliated Teams should not seek to create a Super Team” (see Bylaw 13.8).

14.7. Open age players will not be subject to all ‘home grown’ representative transfer by-laws. However the application must be forwarded to the Board for approval on a case-by-case

basis. Players still eligible for the 18 & Under competition seeking transfer to another Club or Non Affiliated Team in the Open age section will also seek case by case approval at the discretion of the Board.

- 14.8. Clubs should be wary about constructing Super Teams as it does not fit within the ethos of encouraging fair competition and sportsmanship within the domestic club competition. Clubs that have teams that dominate A grade in their correct age division should consider requesting placement in an older age division in subsequent years. Even if not requested, the Grading Committee process shall be used to ensure a team does not dominate a grade, particularly if that team has 3 or more representative or elite entry players. If the Board believes a Super Team is applying for entry into the domestic competition, then it may act in accordance with Bylaw 13.11.
- 14.9. Players who owe outstanding playing fees to the Association or are in possession of Club or Team property (uniform, equipment) are not eligible to be granted a clearance.
- 14.10. To obtain a clearance, a player must comply with all of the requirements as outlined by the Association. The player and receiving Club or Non Affiliated Team will notify the original Club or Non Affiliated Team of any transfer.
- 14.11. Failure to comply with Bylaw 13 will result in a fine as determined by the Board. Two (2) premiership points will be lost by the team in each instance a player takes the court without approved clearance as determined by the Board.
- 14.12. The Board will deal with any dispute arising from clearance restrictions.

15. CONDUCT OF GAMES

- 15.1. The Association is subject to, and must comply at all times with, the Rules of Netball as amended or revised from time to time. These Bylaws are subject to the Rules of Netball. To the extent of any inconsistency between these Bylaws and the Rules of Netball, the Rules of Netball shall apply to the extent of the inconsistency.
- 15.2. No team may take the court with fewer than 5 players; otherwise they must forfeit the game (game day forfeit fee and penalty applies).
- 15.3. The Board will determine the length of quarters for all matches governed by the Association prior to the start of the season.
- 15.4. If games are centrally timed there will be no injury time. However, the umpires at their discretion may stop matches at any stage as considered appropriate to ensure the safety of players and maintain a safe playing area.

16. SCORING

- 16.1. The Association uses the scoring function on the NetballConnect App (The App) for all games. 15.2
- 16.2. Each team must provide a scorer who is at least 16 years of age for all games.

- 16.3. It is the responsibility of the first named team to score the game in The App and the second named team to check the score for accuracy. The first named team will have the centre pass and the second named team will have a choice of ends.
- 16.4. The scorers must stand together for the duration of the game in the scorers box level with the centre circle.
- 16.5. It is the responsibility of the first named team to confirm player attendance from both teams are selected on The App prior to the commencement of the game.
- The officiating umpires will confirm that 15.5 has been completed before the commencement of the game.
- 16.6. Details of players who are borrowed from lower age groups or sections must comply with Bylaw 15 and the player's details must be completed on The App prior to the player taking the court.
- 16.7. Details of players who are playing using a Single Game Voucher must comply with Bylaw 15 and the player details must be completed on The App prior to the player taking the court.
- 16.8. At the conclusion of the game, to indicate their satisfaction that the information on The App is correct, the scorers must confirm that the score is accurate.
- 16.9. In the event that the siren and The App are not in sync, the siren will indicate the conclusion of the quarters and the game.
- 16.10. At the conclusion of the game the officiating umpires will confirm with the scorers that the score is accurate and completed.
- 16.11. It is the Club's or Non Affiliated Team's responsibility to inform the team managers and scorers regarding the scoring requirements.
- 16.12. One warning will be given to teams breaching Bylaw 15, after which two (2) premiership points will be deducted for teams with an incorrect or incomplete score or that have otherwise failed to comply with Bylaw 15.
- 16.13. If a scorer believes the score is incorrect, they must:
- Report the dispute to the umpires and the Association office in order to lodge a dispute.
 - The Board will advise the result of the dispute and this decision shall be final and binding on all parties.
- 16.14. The Board retains the right for its nominated person, to verify that scores are correct, before processing results in Netball Connect. Any change to the result will be communicated via email to both teams, prior to the next match, with an explanation.

17. COMPETITION LADDERS

Competition ladders will be made available by the Association during competition seasons, all sections

- 17.1. Premiership points are awarded during competition seasons as follows:
- 4 points for a win or bye or a team forfeited against;
 - 2 points for a draw;
 - 2 points for weather abandonment prior to half time; and
 - 0 points for a loss, abandonment or forfeits advised before game day and in accordance with Bylaw 19. Forfeits not in accordance with Bylaw 19 may attract a penalty of a loss of points.
- 17.2. In the event of teams being equal on points, positions shall be determined by the percentage of goals scored for and against each team. The team with the higher percentage will result in the higher position on the ladder. In the event of teams being equal in percentage, positions shall be determined by the team with the greater number of goals scored.

18. BORROWING PLAYERS

- 18.1. Players shall only be permitted to play in a higher section or age group within their registered club provided that:
- The team requiring a fill-in player (Second Team) has less than eight (8) of its registered players available to play. If a member of the Second Team arrives late then the fill-in player must leave the court at the next interval and not take the court again (other than to fill in due to injury). The full name of the fill-in player/s must be added to the player list.
- The Second Team must have a minimum of four (4) original registered players available to play unless there are extenuating circumstances for which written permission has been sought and obtained from the Board.
- The fill-in player is only permitted to play in three (3) matches on any given day.
- 18.2. Where there are two or more teams from the same Club or Non Affiliated Teams graded in the same section, players may be borrowed according to Bylaw 17.1. If the games are played at the same time, the player filling in is deemed borrowed for the entire match and they cannot return to play with their registered team.
- 18.3. Players may play a maximum of three (3) games in a team without transferring to that team for the duration of the season. Players may fill-in between teams until the player participates in their fourth game with the one team in one season. Once this occurs the player will be deemed to have transferred to that team.
- 18.4. A maximum of two (2) players may be borrowed to fill in for one (1) registered player for a game.
- 18.5. Failure to comply with Bylaw 17 will result in a fine as determined by the Board. Four (4) premiership points will be lost by the team in each instance a player takes the court without approved clearance as determined by the Board.
- 18.6. If an original player is replaced with a borrowed player due to injury the original player can not return to the court for this game.

19. FINALS

- 19.1. Finals will be played at the conclusion of the competition rounds of a season.
- 19.2. The Association will determine the format for finals for any given competition.
- 19.3. The ladder position of teams at the conclusion of the competition rounds of the season shall determine the teams that qualify to participate in the finals. Ladder positions are to be calculated in accordance with Bylaw 16.
- 19.4. Bylaw 14 applies to finals matches in the same manner as matches in the competition rounds.
- 19.5. If a final does not reach half time, it must be rescheduled.
- 19.6. Drawn games will be conducted and resolved in accordance with the Rules of Netball as amended or revised from time to time.
- 19.7. NetSetGO and 9&U teams may participate in a round robin instead of finals.
- 19.8. The Board will determine awards for premiers and runners-up in competitions.

20. PLAYER QUALIFICATION FOR FINALS

- 20.1. Players must play a minimum of 4 games and at least 8 quarters played in that team throughout the season to qualify to compete in the finals. If the individual does not play the number of 4 games and at least 8 quarters, as stipulated above, the player will be ineligible to participate in finals for that Team. Subject to bylaw 19.3, in the event of a team having less than 7 players due to extenuating circumstances within the last four rounds, the Board may, in its discretion, consider a player from the same Club or Non Affiliated Team to become a qualified member of the team, allowing the team to take the court with 7 players.

'Extenuating circumstances', in this case, relate to the sudden unavoidable absence of a qualified player. The determination of whether the extenuating circumstances warrant the inclusion of a player is at the discretion of the Board.

An application must be submitted to the Board prior to the players taking the court for the final.

- 20.2. In the circumstances described by Bylaw 19.1, the player becoming a qualified member of the team:
 - Must be registered within the same Club from a lower age division and similar or lower grade where an appropriate team is available.
 - Can only be a qualified member of one team at any time.
 - Must not be a player who has been a representative player (open, reserve or development squad) or a member of an elite entry club in the past twelve (12) months.
- 20.3. Teams or Clubs found playing an ineligible player during finals will be deemed to have lost that game.

21. FORFEITS

- 21.1. In the event that a team forfeits prior to the game clock starting, only players of the non-offending team will be deemed to have participated in that game. Players of the offending team will not be deemed to have participated in that game.
- 21.2. A forfeit fine will be imposed on any team that forfeits a match and must be paid before that team's next game.
- 21.3. If a Club or Non Affiliated Team notifies the Association Secretary before 5pm on the Wednesday before the competition of a team's intent to forfeit, no fine will be imposed on that team.
- 21.4. A forfeit fine of \$100.00 will apply to teams who forfeit a match after 5pm on the Wednesday prior to game day. Fines must be paid to the Association Treasurer before that team's next game.
- 21.5. A game day forfeit will incur a \$200 forfeit fine and a loss of two (2) premiership points. Fines must be paid to the Association Treasurer before that team's next game.
- 21.6. Two (2) or more forfeits, regardless of notification, will result in the loss of two (2) premiership points (per repeated forfeit) and may result in that Club or Non Affiliated Team's exclusion from entry into future competitions, subject to nomination of team availability per By-Law 5.1(d). In addition, the non-forfeiting team will be awarded 10 goals.
- 21.7. Notification of school camps

At the time of registration, Clubs and Non Affiliated teams can nominate a single case where a Non Affiliated Team or one or more teams in a Club will be unavailable to play for up to two (2) consecutive weeks due to school camp. The specific dates must be provided and cannot be adjusted subsequent to acceptance of the team registration. Where this nomination has been accepted by the Board the team will avoid penalties and will not be required to register forfeits under By-law 20 for the nominated weeks.

22. CANCELLATIONS

- 22.1. When games are cancelled on account of a factor beyond the control of the relevant Non Affiliated Teams or Clubs (e.g. power outage, weather or some other extenuating circumstances) the match will be deemed a draw. Both teams will be credited with two (2) points and five (5) goals each and the competition will continue as per the fixture.
- 22.2. Four (4) points can only be awarded to a Non Affiliated Team or Club for winning a fully completed game.

- 22.3. In the event that a game is cancelled due to a factor beyond the control of the relevant Non Affiliated Team or Club (as described in Bylaw 21.1) a maximum of twelve players for each Non Affiliated Team or Club can be deemed to have participated in the game.
- 22.4. Should circumstances occur which require successive rounds to be cancelled; the Board will consider the position and determine a suitable course of action.

23. TEAM OFFICIALS

- 23.1. The Team Officials shall consist of the following roles:

Coaches

All Coaches must have Netball Victoria Membership and a minimum Foundation Coaching Level Accreditation in order to coach a Team or Club.

Team Managers

A team manager must be appointed for each selected team for each Club or Non Affiliated

Team Scorer

A scorer must be appointed for each team participating in the match.

Each Team and Club is allocated a team bench where Team Officials and bench players are located during play.

- 23.2. All Team Officials over the age of 18 must have a current Working with Children Check clearance.

24. PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

- 24.1. All NetSetGO and 9&U participants will receive a participation award as deemed appropriate by the Association.

All players who participate in a grand final will receive an award to be determined by the Association.

- 24.2. The Association will hold a Presentation Event.

The Board will determine the date and format of the Presentation Event annually.

Presentation of all Association awards shall be made at the Presentation Event, as determined by the Board.

Recognition of achievements shall be made at the Association's Presentation Event.

25. FUNDRAISING

The Association shall conduct fundraising activities during each year.

The Board shall determine the specific fundraising activities to be conducted.

Individual Non Affiliated Teams or Clubs must seek approval from the Board for any individual fundraising activities they wish to conduct. Non Affiliated Teams or Clubs must apply in writing at least four (4) weeks prior to the event, providing details of and rationale for the fundraising activity. Information as to how the activity will be organised, including risk management and safety measures if relevant, must be provided.

All members are required to support the fundraising activities of the Association.

26. COURSES, SEMINARS AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

The Association shall provide notification of opportunities for all members to improve their skills by attending courses, seminars and other personal development activities.

The Association shall encourage members who wish to attend appropriate courses, seminars and other personal development activities.

27. ACCREDITATION

The Association shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that all Team Officials have the appropriate minimum qualifications.

Where minimum accreditation standards are not met, the Association shall encourage the member(s) to achieve the minimum accreditation standard.

The Association will not appoint any person to a Team Official position unless that individual has achieved the minimum standard accreditation, or is in the process of acquiring the minimum standard accreditation.

28. RISK MANAGEMENT

28.1. Injury Reporting

The Association shall maintain an injury register which records all injuries presenting to first aid during BDNA sanctioned events.

All Teams and Clubs are responsible for recording all injuries not presented to first aid of the injured player (or players' guardian for players under 18) on the Association Injury Report Form.

The Association shall maintain an injury register which records all injuries of injured players as provided in the Association Injury Report forms received.

28.2. Child Safety in Netball

The Association and all Teams and Clubs are responsible for the observance, promotion, enforcement and monitoring of compliance with the Child Safety Standards. the Child Safety in Netball Policy and Code of Conduct.

The Association and all Teams and Clubs are responsible for the management and administration of the application of the Netball Victoria Working with Children Check Regulation.

28.3. Game Day Checklist

A Game Day Checklist must be completed prior to all Association and Team and Club competitions, tournaments, games, programs and training.

Any hazards identified will be:

- Documented;
- Rectified if possible; and
- Reported to the Association's appropriate agency if major repair is required.

28.4. First Aid

The Association will provide a First Aid Officer for every match day, including tournament and BDNA sanctioned events.

The Association's First Aid Officer will maintain the Association's first aid kit supplies.

The Association will have a designated first aid room or area for the treatment of injuries. The room or area must be kept clean and accessible at all times.

Teams and Clubs must have a nominated First Aid responsible member and provide their own first aid kit on training days.

28.5. Emergency Procedures

Emergency phone numbers - ambulance, police and an emergency procedure plan is to be displayed at the Association venue

28.6. Weather

In the case of extreme weather conditions, the Association shall refer to the Association's extreme weather policy adopted from Netball Victoria.

28.7. Smoke Free

The Association adopts a smoke free policy.

Smoking is banned within 10 metres of an outdoor public sporting venue during organised underage sporting events and training sessions.

- 28.8. Restricted items: Bikes, scooters, roller blades or roller skates and animals (and any other items as advised by the Association from time to time) are restricted from within the boundaries of the netball courts.
- 28.9. Sun Protection
- The Association will adopt a sun smart policy.
- 28.10. Alcohol Management Policy
- The Association will adopt a responsible alcohol management policy.
- 28.11. Netball Australia and Netball Victoria Policies
- The Association has adopted all applicable codes, policies, procedures and regulations from Netball Australia and Netball Victoria as amended from time to time.

29. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 29.1. Where a member breaches a Bylaw, and that Bylaw prescribes a penalty for such breach, then the Board will impose such penalty. For any other breach of the Bylaws, the Board will impose any other penalty it sees fit in accordance with these Bylaws and the Constitution. To the extent that these Bylaws and the Constitution are inconsistent, the Constitution shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.
- 29.2. Any member, who does not agree with a penalty or action of the Board made under this Bylaw, may appeal to the secretary of the Association in writing within 14 days following the penalty or decision being made specifying the grounds of appeal. The Board will then convene a meeting of the Appeals Tribunal in accordance with the Constitution.
- 29.3. In the event of a dispute not being resolved, BDNA may refer the matter to mediation with a suitably qualified mediator appointed by the Association. BDNA may ask the parties to the dispute to pay some or all of the mediation costs.

30. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES/PROVISIONS CLAUSE

A decision can be made by the Board where these Bylaws do not expressly address the particular matter. In exceptional or extenuating circumstances, the Board may, acting reasonably, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in these Bylaws relating to the Association.

31. INDEMNITY

Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded, the Association and its respective employees, directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from death, injury or damage, however caused, arising from a person participating in the Association's activities.

APPENDIX - DIRECT ENTRY COMPETITION BYLAWS

This includes Spring Competition, Wednesday Mid Week Ladies Competition and Thursday Open Division of BDNA Winter Competition.

These Bylaws allow some exemptions to the BDNA bylaws and must be used in conjunction with them.

UPDATED AS OF JANUARY 2025

1. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) Eligible players named on the team registration are deemed to be registered with that team.
- (b) Players can only be registered with two teams per direct entry competition within our association.

2. CLEARANCES

- (a) Players may form teams with players from other clubs for direct entry competitions.

3. NETBALL VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP

- (a) All players must have Netball Victoria Membership either through registration or by purchasing a game day voucher for the game that they participate in.
- (b) The following penalties will apply for players participating in a game who do not hold a Netball Victoria Membership

Penalties:

- 1. The offending team will incur a 2 point penalty for any Game in which the player has participated and the team has won.***
- 2. The other team will be declared the winner and will receive 2 points for the win and the goals scored by the offending team will be deleted from the score. The other team will be deemed to have won by 10 goals to nil or the number of goals scored to nil, whichever is the greater.***

4. AGE REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age requirements are:

- (a) 9&U – 7 years
- (b) 11&U – 9 years
- (c) 13&U – 11 years
- (d) 15&U – 12 years
- (e) 18&U – Must be turning 14 years that year
- (f) Open Sections - 15 years

Penalty: After a team has received one warning, second and subsequent breaches will incur a loss of two (2) premierships points to the offending team.

5. BORROWING PLAYERS

- (a) Teams may only borrow players from other teams if they have less than seven (7) of the original players listed on the team sheet available.
- (b) During the Spring Competition players may only be borrowed from a lower or equal grade and must have their attendance recorded on Netball Connect. This does not apply to the Wednesday Open Ladies Competition.
- (c) Players may not play more than 3 games on any competition day and the player must play in the team/s they are registered with. (Exceptions: Bye or forfeit)
- (d) After the 4th game in another team, players are deemed to be a member of that team and can no longer play in their original team.

6. FINALS - PLAYER QUALIFICATION

- (a) Players must play at least two (2) games with their registered team throughout the season to be eligible to participate in that team's final series.

- (b) If a game is cancelled on account of a factor beyond the control of the Teams (e.g., weather, unavailable courts, or some other extenuating circumstances), all players registered with the team will be allocated the Game as played and this will be deemed to be one of their two (2) games to qualify for finals.

7. UNIFORM & DRESS CODE

- (a) All players must wear the team nominated uniform.
- (b) Positional bibs must be worn.
- (c) Uniform items should not constitute a danger or hazard to any other player on the court. They should be as neat and secure as possible.
- (d) Shorts (without pockets) and bike shorts are allowed but must be all the same colours.
- (e) Singlet tops are allowed but must be all the same colours.
- (f) A player may wear a soft hat or head covering. Hard brimmed or peaked hats are not permitted. If a hat is not secure it must be removed.
- (g) Fingernails must be short and smooth. Fingernails that would not be classified as short and smooth by the Association must be taped to the Association's approved standard. 1 piece of tape over the top of the nail and 1 piece of tape around the nail.
- (h) Body piercings must be covered. Piercings not considered concealed or safe by the Association must be taped to the Association's approved standard. Tape to fully cover ear, nose, eyebrow ring or any other pierced site.

8. FORFEITS & FINES

- (a) If a team notifies the Association (complete the form on the BDNA website) 3 days before competition of its intent to forfeit, no penalty will be imposed.
- (b) Spring comp - forfeit fine of \$45.00 will apply to teams who forfeit a Game after 9pm on the Tuesday prior to the Saturday Game. A game day forfeit will incur a \$100 forfeit fine. Fines must be paid to the Association Treasurer within seven (7) days.
- (c) Wednesday night Ladies - a forfeit fine of \$100 will apply to teams who forfeit a Game with less than 3 days notice. A \$250 fine will apply for game day forfeits
- (d) Repeated forfeits may result in that Club or Team being excluded entry into future competitions.

9. EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

- (a) Unless teams are advised otherwise, all teams must turn up to play, a decision is made at the start of each round as to whether a Game goes ahead or not. Each round is assessed individually.
- (b) In the event of extreme weather conditions, a BDNA executive committee member and the umpire coordinator will determine whether Games will proceed.
- (c) If the competition is determined to be a washout by the BDNA Executive and the Game is cancelled, Netball Connect will be updated to notify all team managers.

10. MIXED OPENS - SPRING COMPETITION

- (a) At all times no more than three (3) male players shall be on the court during play unless an exemption has been granted.
- (b) Male players may only play one in each third unless an exemption has been granted..

Note: This rule does not indicate that the male centre third player shall be the centre player; he may be WA or WD. It is not necessary for a male player to be opposed to a male player.

11. SUPER SHOT SCORES - SPRING COMPETITION

- (a) A high score system will be used.
- (b) Only goals shot by the GS and GA will be counted.
 - 3 points for a goal shot outside the circle,
 - 2 points for a goal within the outside circle and inner circle, and
 - 1 point for a goal shot inside the inner circle.

12. COMPETITION LADDERS

- (a) Competition ladders will be made available by the Association
- (b) Premiership points are awarded during competition seasons as follows:
- 2 points for a win or bye or a team forfeited against
 - 1 point for a draw
 - 2 points for weather abandonment prior to half time; and
 - 0 points for a loss, abandonment or forfeits advised before game day and in accordance with Bylaw 8. Forfeits not in accordance with Bylaw 8 may attract a penalty of a loss of points.
- (c) In the event of teams being equal on points, positions shall be determined by the percentage of goals scored for and against each team. The team with the higher percentage will result in the higher position on the ladder. In the event of teams being equal in percentage, positions shall be determined by the team with the greater number of goals scored.

13. CANCELLATIONS

(a) When Games are cancelled on account of a factor beyond the control of the Teams (e.g., weather, unavailable courts, or some other extenuating circumstances) the match will be deemed a draw. Both teams will be credited with **two (2)** points and five **(5) goals** each.

(b) Game cancelled before half time:

If a Game begins and is cancelled before half time, then it is deemed a cancelled Game and will be declared a draw. Both teams will be credited with two (2) points and five (5) goals each.

(c) Game cancelled after half time:

If a Game begins and is cancelled after half time the score will stand and the Team with the most goals will be declared the winner.

(d) Finals – Games cancelled before half time:

If a final Game is cancelled before half time, then it is deemed a cancelled Game. The final position of the teams as placed on the current ladder will determine the outcome of the game.

(e) Finals – Games cancelled after half time:

If a Final Game begins and is cancelled after half time the scores will stand and the team with the most goals will be declared the winner.

(f) If the entire finals competition is determined a washout by the BDNA Executive, Netball Connect will be updated to notify all team managers.

The final position of the teams as placed on the current ladder will determine the outcome of the competition. The team that was placed 1st on the ladder will be declared premiers and the 2nd placed team will be declared runners up.