

BANYULE & DISTRICTS NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 26 520 379 452

All Competitions **BY – L A W S** **As at 22nd April, 2009**

1. REGISTRATION:

All players, umpires and coaches including emergency players and umpires, must be current financial registered players, umpires and coaches of Netball Victoria (NV)

A yearly netball Victoria state registration fee must be paid to the office **before the above can take the court:**

- Procedure:**
- i. Completed Netball Victoria registration form and NV insurance payments are to be provided to the BDNA Administrator.
 - ii. Payment amount for Netball Victoria registration and insurance is set by NV annually and covers members for one calendar year:
 - ❖ Modified (11 years & Under) -)
 - ❖ Junior (12 years to 17 years) -)
 - ❖ Senior (18 years to adult) -)
 - iii. A stamped copy of the registration form must be obtained from the BDNA Administrator before a player is deemed a registered NV member and can take the court.
 - iv. Scorers must write the correct spelling of name, current address, NV registration number (if applicable) and date of birth of any new players to the team all on the back of Score Sheet before the new player plays their first match.
 - v. Proof of age for Junior Sections must be provided if requested by the BDNA Administrator or the Board
 - 9/u – no younger than 7 and no older than 9 as at 31/12 of that year
 - 11/u – no older than 11 as at 31/12 of that year
 - 13/u – no older than 13 as at 31/12 of that year
 - 15/u – no older than 15 as at 31/12 of that year
 - 17/u – no older than 17 as at 31/12 of that year
 - Open – no younger than 14 as at 31/12 of that year
 - vi. Where any **NV player registration** are not be completed and handed to BDNA :
 - a) by end of February in Winter Season
 - b) by end of July in Spring Season
 then the said players are classed as unregistered and can no longer take the court until payment & form is received, they will also not qualify for finals whilst unregistered, and if they continue to play rule 8 will apply and points will be deducted.

2. PLAYING RULES:

Unless stated in these by-laws, the BDNA playing rules are those of the All Australian Netball Association.

(Grade means – Age group – eg 13/u)

(Section means – Division in age group – eg 13/u Open, 13/u Res, 13/u Sect 1)

- a) All Players names that take the court for each team at anytime must appear on the official score sheet.
- b) All players will take the court when asked to by the umpires.
- c) There must be at least five players present at all times to take the court.
- d) If there are not five players present for the start of play:
 - the umpires will wait five minutes, and the non offending team will gain one point for each minute the game is held up.
 - If the match has not commenced after five minutes, it will be classed as a forfeit, and the team concerned will be liable for the BDNA forfeit fee, which is payment of both teams match fees and a 10 goal to nil loss.
- e) Players arriving after play has commenced will be classed as late arrivals, and cannot take the court until a goal is scored, or during an injury/illness or interval. The player taking the court while a match is in progress must take up the vacant position - unless it is mixed netball where positions must be changed to allow for mixed (men/boys) position rules.
- f) To play in any open competition the player must be 14 years of age.
- g) A player is eligible to play in a competition provided they are listed on the team/clubs' entry form at start of a season or score sheet once matches commenced for that competition, and is financial with NV (see 1 ii)
- f) A player may play for their registered club or team as many times during a day/night competition as they wish provided they play in a section above the one for which they are registered to play in. (However, please note rules 2i, 2j and 3a below which state that players cannot play in a lower section or for another team in their section. Please also note 2h and 3b where players can also only fill in three times for the same team in one season.)
- h) A club player can play three matches in a higher section or grade for juniors and seniors during a season. Once the player plays the fourth match they are then considered to be part of the new team and cannot return to the lower team for the remainder of the season.
- i) In the event that there is more than one team from the same club in the section, players cannot play or transfer between those teams during the season eg if a club has two teams in section 1, and two in section 2, the section 2 club team members can fill in for the section 1 team (higher team), but section 1 team members cannot go down to section 2.
The section 1 players in this scenario can only play up an age group – they cannot play down a Grade or section, and cannot transfer and fill in for another club or team in the same grade or section.

- j) As with club players, players from individual teams can play three matches in a higher section or grade for juniors and seniors during a season. Individual teams can also use players from other teams or clubs provided they wear that team's uniform and players are from a lower section or grade – therefore similar to clubs, individual teams cannot seek players from other independent teams or clubs in the same section, but they can seek them from independent teams or clubs in a lower section or grade.

3. GRADING:

- a) Clubs and teams have three weeks from the start of each season to finalise their teams
- b) After the three weeks, players can not transfer between two teams playing in the same section of a grade – either permanently or as a fill in. See 2h-j above (where there are two teams from the one club or affiliated team in the same section of a grade, they shall be treated as separate clubs and teams, meaning players **can not** transfer from one or the other).
- c) If a club or team enters two or more teams into the BDNA competition, the players **may** only fill in for another team playing in a higher grade, or section of a grade and can only do so three times. Once a player **has played three times in a higher grade or section, they have to choose whether to transfer to the higher team or remain with their existing team as once a player plays the fourth game up, that player automatically becomes a member of that higher team. (see 2h-j)**
- d) Teams will be graded into a new season's fixture on their ladder position from the previous season.
The grading process is:
- the top two teams of a section at the end of the previous season's home and away games (ie the team's placing before finals) will move up a section within that age group
 - the bottom two teams of a section at the end of the season (ie the team's placing before finals) will go down a section within that age group.
 - all other teams, ie those not placed in the top two or bottom two within the sections will **remain in the same section of their age group.**
 - Where teams go up an age group because of age restrictions, they will automatically be placed in the reserve section, unless we are advise otherwise by the club or team secretary.
 - Where new teams enter the competition, they will be placed in the lowest section of their age group. unless we are advise otherwise by the club or team secretary
 - Where a previous season's age section was joined (eg 15/u & 15/u Res), and is required to be divided into two new individual sections for the following season, grading will be:
 - top half teams (top 6 if required) are graded into the open section
 - remaining teams are graded into the reserve section
 - New teams entering these age group sections will be assessed according to BDNA bye-laws and players age - section requested may be considered.
 - This grading process will be adhered to unless a written request to the BDNA committee is received from the club or team secretary asking otherwise. This request must accompany each season's new entry form. The request will be considered, but not automatically accepted, and a written response provided to the club/team advising of the outcome.

- No consultation will be held on the grading process with any member of any team or club

- e) Once the season has commenced re-grading **will not occur.**
- f) It is the team/club responsibility to make sure their **entry form at the start of every season is filled in correctly**, and the correct playing section requested is circled. However, please note this does not guarantee the section requested will be given if it does not comply with the grading process. (see item 3d.)
- g) Clubs need to obtain the correct spelling of names, correct dates of birth and current address for their players, for Netball Victoria registration and insurance purposes, and grading. (see 1 iv)
- h) The Board authorises the Association Administrator to join or split grades into sections, and name all grades and sections prior to the start of each season. This rule can be altered by the Board at the start or within any season, after consultation with the Association Administrator.
- i) If the grades or sections are joined into one, the Board authorises the Association Administrator the right to decide if more than one finals series will be fixtured.

4. SPECIAL REQUESTS ON ENTRY FORMS

Due to amount of teams now competing in our competitions, we are unable to accommodate any special requests for match times or court allocation.

5. FINALS:

- a) A player must play a minimum of four games for juniors and three for seniors with her/his club or team before they are qualified to play in finals, and must be a financial member of Netball Victoria (item 1 & 1ii).
- b) Players of a team from the same club, but in a lower section/grade, are eligible to play in finals of the higher section/grade if required, providing the player has qualified to play in that team and plays in only **one final series**, (see 4a). **A player therefore can qualify to play in final series for teams from different sections. However, the player must choose which team they will play in and then remain within that team only for the whole of the final series. If the team they opt for is eliminated during finals, that player cannot then play with the other team they qualified for.** Penalty if occurs – match is forfeited and non offending team progresses.
- c) Final series means semi, preliminary and grand final.
- d) Names of players will be checked off before finals games commence.
- e) Teams are to report to the competitions office 15 minutes prior to fixtured finals match time to fill in the score sheet (see 4d).
- g) To qualify for finals each player must have a tick for every match they play next to their name on the score sheet, and be a Netball Victoria registered player. Players are eligible for match recognition provided they have taken the court for at least one quarter, and their name has been ticked on the score sheet.
- h) Players can qualify for finals on a bye and forfeit.
- i) Finals will be played in all grades except Netta, 9/u and 11/u sections. Dates of finals are listed on the season's fixtures and association web site.

- j) Ladder positions for finals is determined by total points and percentages obtained after the Home and Away matches are completed (including any byes and forfeits). If teams have equal points at the end of Home and Away matches on the ladder, then percentage determines the teams ladder position and where they are placed for finals.
- k) Teams playing in the finals series must be financial with the competition (ie all fees and fines paid in full) by the end of the Home and Away fixtured matches. Penalty: team or player cannot compete in finals until outstanding money is paid (see rule 1, 1ii & 4k).
- l) No Finals matches will be rescheduled, moved or played at another time. It is the teams responsibility to make sure that they can compete when scheduled, if not then the match is forfeited, and another team on the ladder could take their position in the finals series.

6. DRAWS IN FINALS:

In the event of a draw in the finals series, there is a two minute break during which time teams may make substitutions or team changes – from hereon no more substitutions or team changes can be made. At the end of the two minutes, play resumes with a further 2 x 3 minute halves played. If the game is still a draw, both teams continue to play until one team scores two consecutive goals, at which point this team is classed as the winner.

7. DURATION OF PLAY:

- a) All matches will be 4 x 10 minutes
- b) There is no break at quarter time, both teams change ends and the match re commences.
- c) Substitutions can be made between quarters - during $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ times it must be done expediently.
- d) All matches will be centrally timed.
- e) A bell will sound to end every quarter and to restart every quarter
- f) Due to central timing - no injury time is allowed – play continues
(see item 25. Injuries & 26. Blood Rule)
- g) Injury time is allowed in finals, and a stand alone clock will continue with the match timing.

8. POINTS:

- 4 points are awarded for a win.
 - 4 points are awarded for a bye
 - 2 points are awarded for a draw
 - 0 points are awarded for a loss
 - 4 points are awarded for a forfeit to non offending team
 - 1 goal deduction from score sheet for every player not in uniform after round 3.
 - 2 points deducted from ladder for every player that is on score sheet and plays that is not financial with Netball Victoria. (by end of March for Winter Season and end of July for Spring Season each year) (see 1 V1)
- Percentage determines ladder position if winning points are equal.

An official ladder will be displayed at venue and on association website, showing, wins, losses, draws, forfeits, byes, loss of points, percentage and position.

9. SCORING:

- a) Every match will have an official score sheet.
- b) Each team will supply a scorer, who will sit together at the designated score bench area.
- c) The Home team will score on the score sheet, and the Away team will use the electronic board if available.
- d) The score sheet is the official record, and will be the only match record that will be accepted.

- e) All playing players must be listed on the score sheet and all positions or attendance for every quarter must be marked (ticked) to qualify for finals. (see 4h)
- f) Any new player or players playing up a section must be listed on the back of the score sheet. (see 1 iv)
- g) Score sheet must be signed by both captains and umpires.
- h) It is the home teams responsibility to make sure the score sheet is completed fully before handing it into the office.
- i) Failure to comply with above will result in the loss of one premiership point, to relevant team and their players not being allotted match play towards finals.

10. DISCIPLINE:

- a) As per official Rules of Netball – Rule Book 2001 – Section V Rule 19 to 21.
Copies can be purchased from the office.
- b) As per NV Competition Regulations & Disputes – approved 21/11/05.
Copies can be obtained from the Netball Victoria Web Site.
- c) In the event that an umpire stops a game because of unduly rough play or behavior by players, officials or spectators, the offending person, team or both teams can be asked to leave the competition and or stadium. (BDNA & BLFM rule)
- d) If the (“F”) word is used, the player, spectator or official concerned will be asked to leave the court or stadium. (BDNA & BLFM rule)

11. COACHES:

Coaching is allowed only from the side line at the center third – coaches cannot use any other area of the court. Coaches cannot walk the court or sidelines coaching. BDNA recommends that all coaches be at least Level “O” qualified, registered with Netball Victoria and hold a current Working With Children’s Card.

12. UNIFORMS:

- a) When playing a team of similar colours the **HOME TEAM** must wear **Contrasting Bibs**.
- b) All players must wear their clubs/teams nominated uniform, including positional bibs and sports briefs.
- c) A playing uniform consists of a skirt, shorts, shirt or bodysuit for girls and shorts and shirt for boys. Shorts must be plain and cannot have pockets and if they do they must be sealed up.
- d) Any team wishing to wear shorts as their official uniform must firstly get approval from the BDNA Administrator.
- e) T-shirts must be tucked in so that the club skirt or shorts can be clearly seen by the umpire.
- f) Tracksuit pants cannot be worn if they can be seen below the skirt – unless special permission is obtained from the Association Administrator.
- g) Bike pants may be worn as long as they cannot be seen below the skirt.

- h) Players and teams will have three weeks from the start of every season to obtain the correct uniform, then a penalty will be applied for incorrect uniform. Penalty: loss of one goal point each week for every player out of uniform. (see rule 7)
- i) Any club/team wishing to wear singlet shirts as their official club/team uniform must get approval from the Association Administrator prior to the season's start.
- j) Shorts for men/boys must be in the same colours as female skirts, and shorts must not have pockets. Brief running shorts are not acceptable attire.
- k) Female players are permitted to wear skirts or shorts in competitions, so long as the whole team is in the same attire – see 11 j
- l) Finger nails must be kept short or taped. Tape must be sports tape and must be used around and over nail. Band-aids and cello tape are not acceptable. Umpires to check all players prior to taking court.
- m) Gloves can be worn, in senior competitions only. If gloves are worn a sweat band must also be worn at wrist and must be approved by the Competition's office prior to the start of the match. Junior players are permitted to wear gloves for medical conditions (a medical certificate is required as proof). Gloves should be cotton, and approved by the Competitions office prior to use.
- n) No jewellery may be worn – wedding rings must be taped with sports tape.
- o) Earrings must be taped if unable to be removed.

13. FEES and FINES:

- i. There is no admission charge at the front entrance to enter the venue
- ii. All players must be registered as per BDNA By Law 1.
- iii. All teams will pay the Association team entry fee every season on requested date with Team Entry Form.
- iv. All teams will pay match fees in full every week as determined by the competition. They will also pay any fees or fines incurred by the club or team in full prior to the next fixtured match/s. Any club or team not financial will also be fined as per item v.
- v. Fines will be \$50 for the first warning, \$100 for the second warning. For a third warning, the club/team will be instructed they cannot play within the BDNA Association competitions.
- vi. Club or teams that are unfinancial cannot take the court until all fines are paid in full. Any forfeits incurred during this period will incur further forfeit fines (payment of both teams match fees), until full payment has been made.

14. FORFIETS:

- i In the event of a forfeit, please notify the Association Administrator within 14 days prior to your match starting time. BDNA Association needs to notify Council within 14 days of non use of courts as per contract
- ii If unable to give 14 days notice, the team forfeiting is liable to a fine of the same price as their match fee plus the opposing team's match fee. All are payable to the Association Administrator prior to next allocated match, or the team will not be able to take to court and will be liable for further forfeit fees – as per 12 vi.
- iii In the case of a team forfeiting more than twice, except as provided for in the wet weather rule (outside venue), or heat weather rule (inside & outside courts), they shall be asked to show cause to the Association why they should not be disqualified from the competition.

- iv Any team incurring a forfeit as per By Law 2c & 4f will automatically have their team list qualified for finals.

15. PROTESTS:

All protests must be signed and approved by the club President or Secretary, or individual team equivalent, and lodged in writing within 48 hours of the match to the Association Administrator, for consideration by the BDNA Board. Protests will be responded to in writing within five working days.

16. WITHDRAWAL FEES:

The captain / club secretary are responsible for the team completing the season. If not a fee of \$100 exit fee applies, plus outstanding debts if teams withdraw after the fixture is printed or during the season. The BDNA solicitor or financial collector will recoup this money if not paid by the specified date. Special circumstances will be considered and such considerations should be put in writing to the Association Administrator. (see 4k & 4j)

17. UMPIRES:

- i. The Association will provide an Umpires Supervisor to oversee all umpires & or umpires queries.
- ii. Umpires will be provided for all competitions.
- iii. All umpires provided must be registered with the Association and Netball Victoria (see 1)
- iv. All umpires representing BDNA at a BDNA competition, tournament or event will wear the official Banyule umpires uniform or a clear white uniform at all times. No other Association, or competition or company's logos are to be worn.
- v. Trainee umpires will umpire matches allocated by the umpires supervisor, wear a coloured vest, (orange in 2009) and be accompanied by a badged trainer supplied by BDNA.
- vi. All spectators, players, and team officials are to respect the umpires. Any person found to be abusing umpires will be asked to leave the stadium by the Association Administrator or Board.
- vii. Any queries or questions regarding umpiring decisions are to be taken to the Umpires Supervisor or Association Administrator, during or after a match. Spectators and team officials are not to approach umpires.

18. UMPIRES COURSES:

The Association will be running umpiring courses, theory examinations, umpires training and badge testing for any umpires wishing to participate.

All umpires who do not hold an "A", "B", or "C" grade badge, and who have not already sat for the written theory examination in the last five years, must submit for an examination during the current year.

19. NET-SET-GO, FUN NET and SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM:

- a) These skill development programs are run if there is sufficient interest:
 - 5 to 7 year olds will participate in Fun Net
 - 7 to 10 year olds can participate in Net-Set-Go
 - 5 to 15 year olds can participate in School Holiday Program
- b) All fees for these programs are set down by the Association Administrator and program Supervisors, and submitted to the Board for approval. All participation fees are payable in full prior to starting the programs.

- c) All participants of these programs must be registered members of Netball Victoria for insurance purposes.

20. SPONSORSHIP:

- i. All teams displaying sponsorship must ask the Association Administrator first and obtain written permission prior to taking the court. This must be done in writing with a sample of the design and where you require to affix it.
- ii. No sponsorship can compete with the Venue or Association sponsors
(eg Association sponsor is Athlete's Foot and the Venue Sponsor is Coke).
- iii. All sponsorship logos must not be more than 8inch x 8inch square on playing uniforms
(as per Netball Victoria guidelines)
- iv. No sponsorship can appear on bibs as this is reserved for Banyule Representative teams only.

21. JUNIOR BOYS:

All junior sections will be offered in any one season but will only be conducted if sufficient entries are received.

- a) Boys aged 11 years old and younger may **play unrestricted** of playing position and or Section or Section Name in 9/u to 11/u age groups.
- b) Boys aged 12 to 13 years old **are restricted** in playing position to one boy per third of the court as per Mixed Adult Rules (see 20d)
- c) Boys that turn 12 to 13 years in the competition year **must play** in the 13/under age group. This age group section or sections if applicable are to be called Modified Mixed and will use the Mixed Adult Rules. (see 20d)
- d) Mixed Adult Rules - teams may have up to three boys on court at any one time. If three are on court at one time they must play in separate thirds of the court.
eg: If two or more boys are on court at one time they must play in separate thirds of the court, ie one as GS or GA, one as C, WA or WD, one as GD or GK as per Netball Victoria rules on boys in Netball.
- e) The BDNA association will endeavour every year to fixture a Boys Only or Mixed Separate Competition to cater for boys in netball in 15/u to 19/u age groups. This section will be called "Need 4 Speed", but will be dependent on a sufficient number of teams being entered to warrant a competition. . For these age groups, mixed adult playing rules apply as per 20d.
- f) Boys turning 14 years and older in the competition year can only compete with girls in a BDNA run competition where rule 20e is applicable and fixtured.

22. MEETINGS:

These meetings must be attended by at least one representative from each club / team:-

Annual General Meetings - mandatory

Special General Meetings – if called

Fixture Pick Up Nights – if called

23 COURT SUPERVISION & TIMING:

Will be the responsibility of the Banyule and Districts Netball Association.

24. EQUIPMENT:

All teams are to supply their own balls, bibs and first aid equipment

Where BDNA provides bibs or balls, we ask that a gold coin donation for each goes towards a charity of the Association's choosing - at present the Royal Children's Hospital.

If the Association provides an ice pack that is not returned the offending club or team will be charged to replace the item used.

25. INJURIES

All clubs/teams are to make sure they have their own first aid equipment and ice packs for each match. BDNA office staff cannot treat injuries, but a qualified First Aid officer will be in attendance at most matches if required. The BDNA office can provide ice upon request.

26. BLOOD RULE

As per Netball Australia Rule Book.

27. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

Where these By-Laws are silent, and a decision can not be made that ensures the integrity of the Banyule and Districts Netball Association is maintained, then the rules shall be those of the All Australian Netball Association.

The Board may in using its reasonable discretion to alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in these By-Laws relating to the Banyule & Districts Netball Association at anytime within an Executive Board Meeting. Such changes will be communicated to club and team contacts.

28. INDEMNITY:

Except where provided or required by law and as such cannot be excluded, the Banyule and Districts Netball Association and its respective directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage, however caused, arising whilst participating as a member.

29. DISPUTES & GRIEVANCES

(see the BDNA constitution)