

BY-LAWS

All By-Laws are subject to the Constitution of Lismore and District Netball Association Inc.

1. COMPETITION

- a. No official match shall be played without two umpires and a scorer. There shall be no substitution for umpires except in cases of illness or injury.
- b. Players may play in two games of a higher division than originally graded and still revert back to their original division, but on playing the third game they must stay in the division, which was the highest they have played in.
- c. When fielding more than one team in the same division any three (3) players may be allowed to interchange in that division as long as the teams are not playing at the same time slot. When a Club fields more than two (2) teams in the same division the Club must name the teams, which are to interchange, ie 1-2, 2-3, 3-1. This rule to apply throughout the season including finals series (semi-finals, final & grand finals).
- d. A player may subject to the restrictions contained in By-Laws 3(c) and 3(d) play a second game on the same day provided such second game is in a higher division or the same division if played at a different time slot. Any team can only have a maximum of three (3) players from the lower division – this includes interchanging players.
- e. The timing of games is to commence and finish on the hooter. The game will start and finish on the whistle. No extra time is allowed for a late start.
- f. In the event of an injury occurring during a game play may be stopped for up to 2 minutes. At the conclusion of two minutes if play cannot be restarted on that court then play shall be moved to another court. No time will be added to the game except in the event that the stoppage occurs in a Semi Final, Final or Grand Final in which case injury time must be added to the quarter in which the stoppage occurred.
- g. All games are to be played as set down by the Tournament Co-ordinator. No team will be allocated a permanent game time and, the starting time for all teams each week will be rotated within the roster set by the grading committee on a yearly basis dependent on number of teams nominated for that season's fixture.
- h. Any team wishing to play at a time other than that set out in the roster for a particular week must notify the Tournament Co-ordinator 10 days prior to the game. The Tournament Co-ordinator is to contact the opposing team to notify them that there has been a request to change the time that their game has been set down to be played. If the opposing team does not agree with this request, the game will be played at the time originally set down.
- i. Players are not allowed to take the courts wearing items of jewellery (except a wedding ring) or sharp adornments. If a wedding ring is worn, it shall be covered with tape. Fingernails shall be kept short and not covered with band-aids or tape. Earrings are not to be taped or covered; they must be removed and are not to be worn during games. Players shall not be permitted to play in a plaster cast, fibreglass cast or similar protective covering.
- j. **Coaches of all teams must have a minimum of a Foundation Coaching Accreditation no coach will be accepted for a team without the minimum accreditation.**

- k. Affiliated Clubs are responsible for ensuring all forms are filled in and returned as set down by the “Calendar of Events”.
- l. Intermediate players may second register in a senior team; only 2 intermediate players may second register as players in the same senior team. Intermediates second registering into senior teams must pay umpiring fees and the difference between intermediate to senior playing fees. Players second registering in senior teams must be of a standard to compete in the senior division they are second registering with. Players can second register with any club within the Association. Minimum age 13 years player must play first registered club all rules apply.
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 - a. Clubs are responsible for the control and conduct of their spectators, players and Club officials, which includes coaches, managers and umpires.
 - b. All members of the Association and spectators attending games and/or events controlled by the Association are required to adhere to the appropriate Codes of Conduct in accordance with the Member Protection Policy.
 - c. Where an Association member or a spectator is reported for a serious breach of the code applicable to that class of person, action may be taken in accordance with the Member Protection Policy.
 - d. After the first incident of any action involving spectator(s) who are not financial members of the Association, the Club will be sent a letter of warning.
- n.
 - a. The first-named team on the draw for the first game on any court is to collect the pole padding from the canteen area and attach them to each goal post. The winning team on the last scoresheet of the day is responsible for the return of the pole padding from that court. In the event a game is a draw, the team first named on the scoresheet will be responsible for their return.
 - b. The association is responsible for seeing that the courts are left in a clean condition. It is requested that Clubs make sure their teams place litter in the garbage bins provided and clean the area around the court after their game.
- o.
 - a. The Netball NSW Member Protection Policy is adopted and recognised as applicable to all members of the Lismore & District Netball Association.
 - b. All members of the Association and spectators attending games and/or events controlled by the Association are required to adhere to the appropriate Codes of Conduct in accordance with the Member Protection Policy.
 - c. Where an Association member or a spectator is reported for a serious breach of the code applicable to that class of person, action may be taken in accordance with the Member Protection Policy.
 - d. After the first incident of any action involving spectator(s) who are not financial members of the Association, the Club will be sent a letter of warning.
- p.
 - a. To be eligible to play in Semi Finals, Finals and Grand Finals each player must have played at least five (5) games with her club that is a fixture in the winter competition including trial games.

2. UNIFORMS

- a. Clubs upon affiliation shall register the uniform to be worn by their teams. Such uniform may be approved by the Association in its sole discretion.
- b. Players and reserves in club matches shall wear the uniform of the club to which they belong.

- c. No player or reserve shall be allowed to compete in any Association fixture unless wearing the registered uniform of their club except if the blood rule applies.
- d. The umpire shall have power to veto any article of attire she may consider dangerous. Hard brimmed hats are not to be worn.
- e. Pants shall not be transparent and shall not be below the hem of the tunic. Bikini pants/G Strings are not acceptable.
- f. Position Patches are compulsory and must be well secured.

3. GRADING

- a. Grading is to be done during pre-season games by the Grading committee. Following official grading all clubs will sign a disclaimer accepting the grading committee's decision. No correspondence will be entered into.
- b. The Grading Committee will allocate divisions in which Intermediate teams may substitute in Senior Divisions on a yearly basis. The Coach of the Senior Team involved must ratify use of intermediates in Senior Divisions.
- c. Players in twelve (12) years division and under are not eligible to play in senior divisions.
- d. Netta players may play up in ten (10) years division only.

4. REGISTRATION

- a. A team cannot consist of more than twelve (12) players at any one time. Any player, having played a game or not, and having left the club, may be deregistered by notifying the appropriate Recorder before any new registration is made. The player may be re-registered with another club before the end of the first competition round upon receipt of a written clearance from the previous club, or permission is granted by the Council.
- b. If in the opinion of the Grading Committee any late registered player(s) cause a change in the grading of the team, the Grading Committee may regrade that team.
- c. No registration form will be accepted with less than seven (7) players, listed with all details completed name, address and date of birth. All forms must include names of umpires of team. All payments must be made on the set date. All registration forms to be handed in as set down in the "Calendar of Events".
- d. No registration form will be accepted if a player, team or the Affiliated Club has any money owing to the Association until the outstanding money is paid.
- e. Any player seeking a late registration to play in the senior division must play in the same grade or higher as they have played in the previous two (2) years. A player affected by this rule may apply to the Grading Committee for an exemption, which may be granted by the Grading Committee in its sole discretion.
- f. A trophy will be given to each registered player in the teams winning the Major Premiership, Minor Premiership and to the team finishing Runners Up in each division. A maximum of twelve (12) trophies will be awarded to each team.

- g. Late registrations may be lodged until and including the 30th of June each year. The Executive may accept registrations after the 30th June but only in exceptional circumstances.
- h. No player shall receive a refund once they have been named on a registration sheet, if the player has not participate in any training sessions or taken the court, players may receive a refund of the Lismore Netball component of fees paid at the discretion of the committee. The players registered club must give written disclosure that player has not taken part in any training sessions and take full responsibility for ensuring that player has not participated at any level.
- i. During the pre-season competition all competing players must be registered. If a team is found to have played an unregistered or ineligible player in the pre-season competition, two competition points will be deducted from the offending team at the commencement of the regular season with the result that the team will commence the season with negative points.

5. AGE

- a. The age of all players shall be taken to be the age the player will turn between 1st January and 31st December in the year of play.
- b. All junior players must play in age division of the eldest player in the team, as at 31st of December in the year of play.
- c. JUNIOR: Up to twelve (12) years, minimum age six (6) years of age in the year of play. Boys under the age of twelve (12) years are to be permitted to play only three (3) boys are permitted in any one team.

INTERMEDIATE: Up to fifteen (15) years

SENIORS: Sixteen (16) and over

6. SCORESHEETS

- a. All Players First and Surname are to be legible on the scoresheet. Names are to be as registered on original entry form for the team. If names are not as registered on the original entry form for the team two (2) competition points shall be deducted from the team.
- b. All scoresheets must be fully signed by both captains and both umpires. All details filled in clearly.
- c. When a team plays an unregistered player, an ineligible player or has no names on the scoresheet the offending team will lose two (2) competition points, plus any competition points earned from that game. If a team loses a game against a team, which has breached this by-law, the non-offending team shall be awarded all competition points in respect of the game. The goals scored for the game are not to be awarded to the offending team.
- d. Total score section of the scoresheet must be completed by both umpires before signing.
- e. If an illegible scoresheets is submitted the offending team will lose two (2) competition points.
- f. All registered players names must appear on the scoresheet, teams found to be writing player's names on sheet that are not in attendance will lose two (2) competition points plus game points. Teams found not to be writing the names of all players including players from a lower division

or interchange players will lose two (2) competition points before the scoresheet is returned to clubhouse office..

- g. Where an ineligible or unregistered player is found to have played in a game in the final series the offending team shall be disqualified.
- h. If a player from a lower division is played a notation **must be** beside the players name as to the team and division in which the player is registered failure to do so shall result in the loss of two (2) competition points.

Definitions:

Unregistered Player: A player who is not listed on any original entry form or late registration form.

Ineligible Player: A registered player who, by her grading is not eligible to play in that game.

7. UMPIRES

- a. Umpires must at all times comply with the Umpires Convener's instructions.
- b. When a club is required to provide umpires at any match, it is the Club's responsibility to ensure that the umpires provided are capable of controlling the game.
- c. Umpires cannot be changed during a game without the consent of an Executive member.
- d. Any team failing to provide an umpire when appointed shall be fined \$20.00.
- e. The Umpires Committee or Umpires Convenor shall allocate umpires for the final series.
- f. One (1) representative from each Club must be available at each time slot to answer calls to courts where that Club is umpiring.

8. FORFEITS

- a. Teams have up to three minutes to take the court otherwise a forfeit will be given to the non offending team
- b. If at the expiration of the three (3) minute period neither team has five (5) players present and ready to play the game shall be declared abandoned and no points will be awarded to either side.
- c. Should a team be unable to compete in a competition match, they shall notify the Tournament Co-ordinator or another Executive member prior to 12 noon on the preceding Friday **Or** in the case of a midweek game prior to 12 noon on the day the game is set down to be played.
- d. Teams who forfeit game Saturday cannot take any further part in that round.

9. POINTS SCORE

- a. Points shall be awarded in competition games as follows:
 - Four (4) points for a win including a win by forfeit,
 - Two (2) points for a draw,
 - One (1) point for a losing team.
- b. In the event of there being a division which is to split after the first (1st) round of competition, the point score for the top division will continue to decide minor premiers, the point score for the lowest division will re-start.

10. SEMI-FINALS, FINALS & GRAND FINALS

- a. The Minor Premiers shall be the team scoring the highest number of points at the end of the last round of the scheduled regular competition and before divisions that may split.
- b. **Semi Finalists shall be the top four (4) teams in each grade with the highest number of points at the end of the last round of the scheduled regular competition.**
- c. To decide the Major Premiership in intermediate and senior divisions two (2) Semi Finals, one (1) Final and one (1) Grand Final shall be played. The winner of the Grand Final shall be the Major Premiers.

To decide the Major Premiership in junior divisions two (2) Semi Finals, and a Final series and one (1) Grand Final shall be played. The winner of the Grand Final shall be the Major Premiers.

- d. **Semi Finals, Finals & Grand Finals shall be played as follows:**
 - First Semi Final - One (1) plays two (2)**
 - Second Semi Final - Three (3) plays four (4)**
 - Final - Loser of the first Semi Final plays Winner of the second Semi Final**
 - Grand Final - Winner of first Semi Final plays the winner of the Final.**
- d. Should teams be equally placed on competition points at the end of the preliminary rounds, the Minor Premiers and semi final positions will be decided on a point for and against basis? In the event of there being a tied score for Minor Premiers, the Minor Premiership shall be decided on the first semi final. An exception to this rule is when two teams have the same goal average they will then play a full game on the first Monday night following the end of the last round of scheduled regular competition, weather permitting.

The Goal average for each team shall be decided as follows:

Total number of goals scored by the team, divided by the total number of goals scored against the team, multiplied by 100 and divided by the actual number of matches played by the team. ie.

$$\frac{\text{Goals Scored}}{\text{Goals Scored Against}} \times \frac{100}{\text{Matches Played}}$$

The number of matches actually played includes a match a team has forfeited, but does not include a match where the team has received a forfeit.

- e. If there is a draw in semi finals, finals or grand finals, a two (2) minute interval shall be taken. During the interval the score will be verified and the teams change ends. During the interval there may be substitutions and /or team changes.

The umpire will indicate which team has the next centre pass (this is determined the same as for intervals) and play will commence. Then the appropriate extra period as set down in f (ii) will be played to determine a winner. After the first half of the set down period the teams will change ends. No substitutions or positional changes shall be allowed during the changeover.

If still a draw at the end of the second half of the period set down a further full period of extra time is to be played following the same procedure (Change ends/centre pass follow on) and if at conclusion of the second full period scores are still tied, the game is to fully replayed on the following Monday, weather permitting. In case of Grand Final, if scores are tied at the conclusion of the game, no extra time will be played – both teams are to be Joint Premiers and no runner-up trophies will be awarded.

11. INJURY

- a. The Association takes no responsibility for any injuries sustained either during a competition match or training session.
- b. All injuries must be reported to the Association office on the day of injury and an injury report form filled out as soon as practicable possible following the incident. Injuries sustained at Association sanctioned training sessions or carnivals, must be reported on the day of the incident to the Insurance Officer or an Executive member. An injury report must be filled out regarding the injury as soon as possible after the injury has occurred.

12. WET WEATHER

- a. A decision regarding complete abandonment of play shall be made by the Secretary and Tournament Coordinator.
- b. In the event a decision is made to abandon play a message will be placed on the Association website lismorenetball.com as soon as reasonably possible and an announcement to that effect shall endeavoured to be broadcast on a radio station broadcasting in the local area as early as possible on the morning of play. Games shall be cancelled as follows;
Junior games will be cancelled at 8am Saturday Morning and Intermediates at 10am
All other games will be cancelled at 12 noon.
- c. Unless such announcement of no play is made, all players shall attend at their scheduled playing times.
- d. A decision regarding play on individual courts shall be made by the Executive after an appeal by one or both captains/coach that the playing surface is unsafe.
- e. Each team is to meet once in Round one (1) before commencement of Round two (2) of the competition.
- f. If games are unable to be played on Saturday as set down due to weather conditions catch up games are to be played during the following week Monday to Friday as per format set down (depending on number of teams). An exception to this rule is if it is week leading up to

State/State Age Championships or school holidays. The games are then to be played the week of the next round as long as it is not school holidays.

- g. During competition rounds, should wet weather cause games to be stopped at or after half time, games are considered to have been played. During the final series (semi-finals, finals & grand finals) should weather force the stoppage of a game at any stage then the full game is to be replayed as soon as possible with the exception of 10, 11 and 12 years who will not play catch up games.

13. CANTEEN

- a. Each affiliated Club shall be rostered to do canteen duty. The canteen is to be staffed by a minimum of three (3) workers at any one time.
- b. The minimum age for duty is an Intermediate provided that there is a least one Adult on duty and supervising.
- c. Any club not fulfilling their rostered duty shall be fined \$20.00. A Roster will be formulated and distributed to each club early in the season.

14. DISCIPLINE

14.1 WARNINGS

- a. A warning may be given to a player for any action or misconduct that is not in the spirit of the game. If a warning is to be given the umpire calls time, and informs the player, team captain and the other umpire that this player has been given a warning and if the player continues to offend she will be:
 - (i) Sent off the court for a period of time; or
 - (ii) Sent off the court for the remainder of the game

14.2 SEND OFF

- a. A player may be sent from the court for the remainder of the game following repeated misconduct following a warning or sent immediately from the court without warning for deliberate contact, punching, hitting, kicking, or threatening violence against another player or umpire.
- b. Any player sent from the court for the remainder of the game, must appear before the Judiciary Committee. The umpire concerned will also attend the Judiciary meeting.
- c. The umpires and player involved shall complete an incident report before leaving the courts on the day of the incident. The only exception to this shall be if either person is mentally or physically incapable of completing the incident report. In this situation it shall be completed at the earliest possible time. If any person involved is a minor the incident form must be completed with the guidance and supervision of a parent or guardian in the presence of a committee member.
- d. The Association Secretary will send the secretary of the players club a Judiciary Notice as soon as is reasonably possible. It shall be the responsibility of the club to ensure that the player is given a copy of the Judiciary Notice and any failure by a club to ensure that the player receives the Judiciary Notice shall not excuse the player from attendance at a Judiciary Hearing. Should a

player fail to attend a Judiciary Hearing after notice is served on their club, the Judiciary Committee may elect to determine the matter in the player's absence.

- e. The Judiciary Notice shall advise the place, time and date of the Judiciary Meeting, the reason why the player has been required to attend the judiciary, the player's right to be represented by an official from her club and if a minor is involved a parent or guardian, the club's right to be represented by a club official and that the player may be fined or suspended as a result of the hearing. All incident reports in respect of the incident are to be attached to the Judiciary Notice.

14.3 CITING

- a. A player may be cited by an umpire, any club or by any official of the Association for any conduct that breaches any Code of Conduct or other such similar policy ratified by the Association and distributed to clubs or for any conduct that is detrimental to the policy, interests or welfare of the Association regardless of whether:
 - (i) the player concerned has been warned by an umpire in relation to the conduct;
 - (ii) the player has been sent permanently from the court; or
 - (iii) the conduct complained of has occurred during a game or off the court.
- b. A citing shall be done by completing an incident report and delivering it to the Association Secretary within 48 hours of the conduct complained of occurring except if the citing is done by the Council following a complaint by a member of the general public in which case the citing shall be done within 48 hours of the Council meeting at which the complaint is reviewed.
- c. Should a club cite a player the club must lodge a \$50 citing fee with the incident report. If the complaint is found to be justified at the Judiciary Hearing the citing fee shall be refunded to the club.

14.4 JUDICIARY HEARING

- a. A Judiciary hearing shall be convened within 5 days of the incident and the Player must attend the hearing.
- b. In the event that a Judiciary hearing cannot be convened within 5 days of the incident it must be convened as soon as is practically possible. The Player shall be allowed to continue to play until the hearing has been completed.
- c. Following completion of a hearing the Judiciary Committee may dismiss the complaint, fine or suspend the player.
- d. In relation to a complaint against an Affiliated Club or any team of an Affiliated Club the Judiciary Committee may dismiss the complaint, impose a fine or require the Affiliated Club to lodge a bond with the Association.
- e. In the event the Judiciary Committee requires a bond to be lodged with the Association the Judiciary Committee must specify the amount of the bond, the date by which the bond must be paid, the period of time that the Association will hold the bond and the circumstances in which the bond will be forfeited.
- f. The Judiciary Committee must give written reasons for any decision made by it and in the event that a penalty or sanction is imposed must advise the affected person of their right to appeal the decision, the process for making an appeal and the time limit for making an appeal.

14.5 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

- a. The Judiciary will consist of the President, Secretary and one (1) registered member from each Affiliated Club.
- b. When a Judiciary hearing is convened a panel must be selected by the President & Secretary and shall consist of the President & Secretary and five (5) registered members from Affiliated Clubs not concerned with the incident with each Affiliated Club supplying no more than one member. The Judiciary Committee meetings will be held at the Netball Clubhouse or at such other location as may be advised to the player.
- c. Any player who is called before the Judiciary Committee for a 2nd (second) time in a season, with a proven case, will automatically be suspended for the remainder of the season.
- d. The Association may at its discretion refuse the nomination of any person who has previously been suspended.

15 APPEALS

- a. Any person who has been sanctioned by the Judiciary Committee and who is dissatisfied with the sanction may appeal the decision of the Judiciary Committee.
- b. An appeal must be in made in writing and lodged with the Secretary within seven (7) days of being notified of the decision by the Judiciary Committee.
- c. The appeal notice must specify whether the appeal is on the basis that the sanction was excessive or on the basis that no sanction should have been imposed.
- d. The appeal notice must specify the reasons for the appeal and make submissions as to why the decision of the Judiciary Committee was excessive or unwarranted.
- e. The notice must be lodged with a \$100.00 Appeal Fee, which shall be refunded if the appeal is successful.
- f. On receipt of an appeal notice the Association shall convene an Appeals Panel as soon as is practicable and give notice to the person who has lodged the appeal of the place, time and date of the appeal hearing.
- g. The lodging of an appeal notice shall have the effect of suspending the penalty imposed until after an appeal hearing has been conducted.
- h. The Appeals Panel shall consist of the Vice President and two other members of the Executive Committee who did not sit on the initial Judiciary Committee hearing and five (5) registered members from Affiliated Clubs not concerned in the original Judiciary Committee.
- i. The Appeals Panel shall conduct a new hearing and may confirm the decision under review or substitute a new decision.
- j. The Appeals Panel may increase a penalty under review if it feels that the decision of the Judiciary Committee was not sufficient in the circumstances.
- k. In this clause the word “person” includes an Affiliated Club or team.

15.1 SCHEDULE OF CHARGES

Offences of charged persons towards registered members of any Club (player, officials and spectators)

Penalties imposed will be served in the current season or should the season conclude before the full penalty has been served such penalty would continue over to the next season.

No.	Offence	Minimum Penalty (games)
1	Fighting/Striking with clenched fist	4 games
2	Strike with open hand	4 games
3	Kicking/Attempting to kick	4 games
4	Strike opponent with ball or other object	4 games
5	Deliberately trip an opponent	4 games
6	Deliberate elbowing	4 games
7	Racial/Discriminatory abuse	4 games
8	Undue rough play	3 games
9	Attempt to strike with clenched fist	3 games
10	Use abusive language including obscene	2 games
11	Unsporting Conduct	2 games

Offences of charged persons towards Umpires, Coaches and Officials

Penalties imposed will be served across all Lismore & District Netball Competitions should the competition conclude before the full penalty has been served such penalty will continue over to the next season.

No.	Offence	Minimum Penalty (weeks)
1	Striking, Kicking Elbowing	52 weeks
2	Strike with ball or other object	52 weeks
3	Racial, Discriminatory abuse	52 weeks
4	Attempting to strike, kick, elbow, fight	26 weeks
5	Use abusive, obscene and/or threatening language	26 weeks
6	Unsporting conduct including disputing decisions	12 weeks

16. COMMITTEES

- a. The Association may establish the sub-committees set out below to aid in the administration of the Association's affairs;

16.1 Selection Committee

- a. This committee shall select players for the Association's representative teams. It shall consist of three members of the Association elected in accordance with the Constitution.
- b. All persons elected or appointed to this committee shall hold a level one coaching accreditation in Netball for a minimum period of three (3) years.

16.2 Grading Committee

- a. The responsibility of this committee shall be to grade teams and allocate teams into appropriate divisions.

16.3 Umpires Committee

- a. This committee shall coach and mentor Umpires within the Association, provide courses and testing to prospective Umpires and issue Umpire gradings.
- b. This committee shall also allocate Umpires to all games each week. It shall consist of three members of the Association elected in accordance with the Constitution All persons elected to this committee shall hold at least a C grade badge or have in the opinion of the Executive Committee suitable umpiring experience.

16.4 Coaching Committee

- a. This committee shall mentor Coaches within the Association and provide coaching courses.
- b. It shall consist of three members of the Association elected in accordance with the Constitution. All persons elected or appointed to this committee shall hold a level one coaching accreditation in Netball.

16.8 Composition of Committee's

- a. The composition of the above Committee's shall be subject to these by-laws and the Constitution and in particular to the provisions relating to ex-officio members.