



COWRA NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC. BY-LAWS

October 2024

1. WINTER COMPETITION RULES

1. All competition conducted by the Association shall be played in Cowra and administered by the Associations' Committee according to the rules of the association.
2. The netball year shall commence at a date set by the Executive Committee of the Association.
3. All Grade Premiership Competition Matches shall be played on a Saturday, in the winter competition.
4. The Association shall conduct Grade Competitions to be agreed upon receipt of registrations.
5. Two playing Saturdays only shall be allowed for grading matches each season if required.
6. All matches shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Netball as registered by Netball Australia.
7. The teams having the best record in all matches played in the competition shall be deemed the Premier teams of the season. The best record shall be decided by competition points.
8. A win shall count as two (2) points, a draw as one (1) point and a forfeit as two (2) points to the team receiving the forfeit. A bye will count as nil (0) points.
9. No points will be awarded for the Net Set Go Under 10's competition. At the end of the season there will be a presentation for all Net Set Go teams. The age range for Net Set Go may change at the discretion of the Executive Committee based on registrations.
10. Net Set Go teams may borrow reserves from their own division to play competition matches.
11. Junior and Senior competitions are individual competitions that run independent of each other.

2. FINALS

1. Semi-finalists shall be those teams in each grade with the highest number of points. When two (2) teams have an equal number of points, the position shall be decided by goal average.
2. Before participation in semi-finals and finals, each player shall have played four (4) competition matches and the team shall be financial to be eligible.
3. In the event of a tied score at full-time, extra time will be played to determine a winner. The following procedure will apply:
 - a) There will be an interval of four (4) minutes at the end of full-time
 - b) Extra time will consist of two (2) halves of five (5) minutes each, with a half-time interval of one (1) minute. Teams change ends at half-time
 - c) The first centre pass in each half is taken by the team entitled to the next centre pass
 - d) In the event of a tie at the end of extra time, play will continue until one team leads by two goals

3. UNIFORMS

1. All team members will appear in proper uniform in all matches. The Executive Committee shall have the power to refuse to register any uniform which in their opinion does not meet standard requirements.
 2. The entire team must wear appropriate netball undergarments (shorts/scungies) at all times. All team members must wear the same colour netball undergarments.
 3. The Cowra Netball Association Representative uniform shall be that of the Cowra Netball Association Inc.
 4. No player shall be allowed to take the court unless wearing appropriate lace up netball shoes.
 5. Any player failing to comply with any of the above rules will not be allowed to take the court.
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4. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

1. Members of the Association may transfer from one affiliated team to another by obtaining a written clearance from the last team with whom they were registered. Such clearance must be presented in writing to the Executive Committee and noted in the meeting minutes. A member may only transfer once per season.
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5. SCORE SHEET

1. Each team member must ensure their presence is recorded on the score sheet prior to the start of each match.
 2. All score sheets must be signed by the Umpires.
 3. If the Captain considers a score sheet to be incorrect, they shall sign it on the back and give reasons for not accepting the score sheet as correct.
 4. The official score sheet signed by the Umpire and recording the result of the match and the names of every player taking part shall be handed to the canteen immediately on conclusion of the match.
 5. The score shall be recorded for each match by one (1) scorer from each team on the official score sheet.
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6. PROTESTS AND APPEALS

1. In the event of a team protesting, the Captain shall sign the score sheet on the back and give their reasons for not accepting the score sheet as correct.
 2. Teams intending to protest on any alleged breach must give notice of such intention to the Executive Committee member on duty as well as the Captain of the opposing team on immediate completion of the match and must specify officials, players or umpires involved.
 3. Protests against any match result or based on any breach of the rules and regulations of any nature must be lodged in writing and be received by an Executive Committee member no later than the Monday following the match in which the incident occurred.
 4. On receiving a protest or appeal, the Executive Committee shall follow the procedures as set out in the Netball NSW Member Protection Policy – Part C Complaint Handling Policy.
 5. Any protest being made must be accompanied by a fee of \$50 which is refunded if the protest is upheld.
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7. PLAYERS

1. Players may not play in more than one (1) competition match per division.
 2. All players must be registered before taking part in a competition match.
 3. A team cannot have more than twelve (12) players registered in a competition match.
 4. All teams must nominate a Captain upon registration.
 5. Teams infringing regulation regarding registration of players or change of players between teams shall be penalised for the first offence by forfeiting any points gained in the match that the breach occurred. In the case of further breaches of these regulations by the same team, as well as forfeiting points, the team and players involved shall be suspended for one (1) competition match.
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8. PLAYERS UNDER SUSPENSION

1. A team who plays a player who is under suspension or disqualified shall lose the match which said player took part in and be liable for team disqualification.
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9. UMPIRES

1. The umpires have sole control of the game and their decisions are final. The umpires shall umpire according to the rules as set down by Netball Australia and they may decide any matter not provided for therein.
 2. One official team warning will be given by umpires for inappropriate behavior, including spectators and players. If the behavior continues, the game will be forfeited and individual players and teams will be penalised at the umpires discretion.
 3. The umpire shall be appointed for each match by the Umpire Co-Ordinator. In the event of an umpire so appointed but not attending within five (5) minutes after the time fixed to commence, the matter should be notified to the Executive Committee Member on duty so that another umpire may be appointed.
 4. The Captain of a team is the only person who has the right to bring points of umpiring before the umpire, and may be done during intervals, not during the game time.
 5. No competition match shall be played without the services of an officially appointed umpire.
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10. STARTING TIMES

1. All competition matches must be played on the day and time specified in the draw. Any team unable to field a team on said day and time, for any reason, will automatically forfeit the match.
 2. No matches will be deferred due to inclement weather with the exception of finals.
 3. Times set down for starting all competition matches shall be decided at a meeting prior to commencement of the season.
 4. The Executive Committee can, if conditions warrant, alter times of matches.
 5. Play must commence at the times set down for the game, provided that each team has a minimum of five (5) players. This not being the case, the umpires shall allow five (5) minutes for players to arrive. After this time, should one (1) or both teams be unable to field the required amount of players, the game shall be a forfeit to the team with at least five (5) players and two (2) points awarded, or the game abandoned with no points awarded in the case of neither team being able to field the minimum number of players required.
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11. FORFEITS

1. If one (1) team forfeits to another team, the match shall be counted as played and shall be declared in the favour of the team receiving the forfeit.
 2. Teams forfeiting must notify the Association as soon as it is confirmed they will be forfeiting.
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12. WET WEATHER

1. A decision regarding abandonment of play shall be made by the Executive Committee. In the event of no play, an announcement will be made to that effect on the Association's Social Media platform (Facebook) as soon as the decision is made.
 2. Matches cancelled due to wet weather will have no points awarded.
 3. Should the game reach half-time or later, the match will be decided on the score at the time. If play ceases prior to half-time, each team will receive one (1) point.
 4. Final decision regarding abandonment of play shall be made by the umpires after an appeal by one (1) or both Captains playing.
 5. All games scheduled for a division must be completed until at least half-time in the Final timeslot as per point 3.
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13. REPRESENTATIVES

1. Cowra Netball Association Inc will call upon players when required for trials or games in representative fixtures.
 2. All financial members of the Association shall be eligible for selection in teams representing Cowra Netball Association Inc.
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14. COACHES AND MANAGERS OF REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

1. The coaches and managers of all representative teams selected by Cowra Netball Association Inc to play outside the Cowra District shall be able to make decisions on points concerning the well-being and conduct of the members of their team.
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15. FIRST AID

1. Basic First Aid equipment will be purchased and retained in the canteen. This equipment is to be available for use by players if injuries occur during the games.
 2. First Aid equipment will be supplied to all Representative Teams.
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16. SOCIAL COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. The Association may choose to run a social competition, separate to the competitive division if it wishes to do so.
2. A social competition will prioritise enjoyment over winning and will promote fun, participation and inclusivity, with the focus on enjoying the game rather than competitive ranking.
3. The Association reserves the right to alter the format of a social competition, with agreement by the Executive Committee.
4. A social competition may run in a variety of formats, consisting of one or many of the following:
 - a) Mixed gender with up to 3 males allowed on the court, per team, per game, with one male in each third;
 - b) If the social competition has finals, it will be played on a 1st vs 2nd basis at the end of the competition;
 - c) If the social competition does not have finals, the winner will be declared as the team first on the ladder of rankings;
 - d) There may be junior and senior divisions;
 - e) Flexibility of team roster will be up to the discretion of the Executive Committee;
 - f) The competition may utilise modified game formats such as shorter quarters, 2 halves and/or relaxed rule interpretations to enhance participation.
5. All players in the social competition are expected to demonstrate positive sportsmanship and respect towards all participants and officials.
6. Teams must supply an umpire for the duration of the competition.
7. Players must remove all jewellery prior to taking the court for all games.
8. Uniform will be suitable sporting attire with appropriate lace up netball shoes.
9. Bibs will be supplied by the Association.
10. The Executive Committee reserves the right to change any of the above points and rules of a social competition if needed to adjust for any changes to netball rules and/or legislation.