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1. ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY

- All teams must submit a team sheet at the start of the season and are responsible to ensure any updates/changes are communicated within 48 hours
 - No player may be registered to more than one team in a league; ie A player may not register for two teams in Foundation.
 - To safeguard the best interests and welfare of all players we ask you to respect the age bandings for each league;
 - » Foundation – school years 1-4
 - » Development school years 5-6
 - » Youth school years 7-9
 - » Youth Comp school years 9-13
 - » Ladies minimum age 14
 - » Social minimum age 18
- *This also applies to Guest Players.*
- Players who are outside of the required age band should ask the league for permission.
- *NB To play in a Ladies League a player must be turning 14 within the season except Social where the minimum age is 18 years.*

- Active Netball Leagues welcome both independent teams and club teams
 - No official school teams are permitted to play
 - Teams and Clubs should make player selections based on their own criteria
 - All teams will be seeded prior to league commencement
 - Teams will be placed in divisions and ranked within their division based on seeding results. Individual team ranking may change during the season depending on results
 - Clubs are encouraged to include players from a variety of schools
- *The Active Netball Leagues are not a replica of school leagues and every effort should be made to include a diverse mix of players in club teams. This is the responsibility of clubs and independent teams to manage.*

2. POINT DEDUCTIONS (1 POINT DEDUCTIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE)

COMPLIANCE

- In the event a team fields an illegal player (see eligibility to play above) the match points will be awarded to the non-offending team.
 - In the event of a no show/conceded game, the team present shall wait 5 minutes before claiming the points for the match and a score of 20-0 (Ladies Leagues), 10-0 (Social, Development & Youth), 5-0 (Foundation) will be recorded. No show.
- *The team conceding the match MUST message Active Netball so that all parties concerned are aware at the earliest opportunity. If a team has conceded twice in a season on the third occasion their withdrawal from the league will be considered*
- A team may use a player in a lower division to play “up” but no team may ask a player to guest for their team from the same division or lower division. Players must be within the required league age band and the team captain is required to register this player for the game on the night.
 - A player registered to a team may play up in a higher division but no player can play for another team in the same division or a lower division.
 - A player who is not registered to any team may be used as a ‘guest player’ A Guest Player may play a maximum of 4 times in a season for a team.
 - ALL Guest Players should be declared prior to taking to the court and must be within the required age band.
 - A team may only play 2 Guest Players per match across all leagues. If a team has insufficient players and cannot find eligible Guest Players they should concede the game. A friendly game is encouraged in this case.
 - Social League is a standalone league with a strict 18 plus policy and no team

may have more than one Prem or Comp player.

- A player may transfer to another team once during the season, however no transferred player may play for both teams in one week.

3. CAPTAINS/TEAM MANAGERS

- Team Captains/Managers must sign the score sheet at the end of the match as an agreement of the score and nominate an opposition Player of the Match.
- Team Captains/Managers are also responsible to add Guest Players or players playing up to the team sheet.
- Team captains must toss a coin or rock, paper, scissors, to determine first centre pass or choice of ends then inform the umpires before the game commences.

4. PLAYER OF THE MATCH (POM)

- Sunday League teams will be given a POM STAR when they check in before their games. Each team nominates a player from the opposition after the game to give the star to. The player with the star comes to the table with her star and her name is recorded.
- All other leagues need to nominate a player from the opposition. The captain should ensure the score sheet states the player nominated before leaving the court area.

5. KIT

- A full set of positional bibs (marked back and front), and team kit must be worn by all players, (these to be the same colour where possible). Should there be a clash of bib colour, the first named team should provide an alternative set of bibs if necessary.
- It is important that when rolling substitutions are permitted that the player subbing on has bibs front and back before entering the court. Umpires may delay or stop the game or not allow a player on court if players do not comply.

6. UMPIRES

- Active Netball provides appropriately qualified umpires in accordance with the standard of match play and league. They ensure trainee umpires are with a mentor for their umpire journey.
- Our leagues are a learning environment and games may be used to mentor trainee umpires and assessment of umpires at the leagues discretion.

7. INJURIES

- If an injury occurs, the injured player must be removed from the court as soon as possible, so that play can resume within 30 seconds. In the event of a serious injury the lead umpire will intervene to ensure everyone's safety.
- A substitution can be made if a player leaves the court due to injury, and the opposition will also have the option to make changes at this point.

8. PLAYERS

- Teams can take to the court with a minimum of 5 players
- Nails should be cut and filed short, and hair tied back
- No jewellery should be worn and taped jewellery is NOT permitted
- No watches/fitbits that could cause injury
- Trainers must be securely laced
- Players/teams are responsible for their own First Aid but ice will be available at the table
- Each team should have a qualified First Aider present for their game.

9. POINTS

- League Games:
 - » 5 points for a win
 - » 3 points for a draw
 - » 0 for a loss
- Bonus Points (applied only when losing team has scored a minimum of 5 goals):
 - » 2 points within 2 goals
 - » 1 point for half score

**Point deductions in line with compliance above.*
- Cup/Plate/Bowl Games:
 - » 2 points for winning a set
 - » 1 point for drawing a set
 - » 0 points for losing a set
- In the event of a tie on points goal difference (GD) will be applied (Goals For GF less Goals Against GA) will be applied. If still tied after goal difference GF will be used to rank the teams.

10. CONCEDED A GAME

- A team can and should take to the court with 5 players rather than conceding.
- Conceding should be a last resort.
- Team Captains/Managers should make sure all dates and times are circulated to players well in advance to avoid players being unavailable.
- Guest Players may be used (see Eligibility to Play).

11. LATE ARRIVALS/FAILURE TO TAKE COURT

- Late arrivals must be checked by the umpire and may only enter after a goal.
- If a team takes to the court within 3 minutes from the start of central timing the offending team will be penalised immediately but the game will be allowed to play.
- If a team does not take to the court after 3 minutes has lapsed the game will be awarded to the non offending team. The game can be played as a friendly by mutual agreement of the teams.

12. GENERAL

- Everyone is expected to read and share these rules with their players, coaches and/or parents. Please communicate with your opposition before games and at intervals to ensure that rotations are being followed where necessary, players on court are eligible and if, for whatever reason, your team cannot comply (due to player absence or injury for example) the game can be played as a friendly.
- Rules are necessary for the games to be fairly contested and enjoyed by all.
- All games will be played to the latest World Netball rules. You can download a copy for reference [HERE](#).
- The new Netball Rules as agreed at Congress by World Netball will be in force from September 2024 other than official international games for whom the new rules start January 2024.
- Players/umpires and spectators in ACTIVE NETBALL Leagues are expected to participate in the spirit of the game.

LEAGUE RULES review February 2023
Effective from August 2023

**IT IS EXPECTED THAT EVERYONE WILL DISPLAY
GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AT ALL TIMES.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON COURT!**

