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Banyule & Districts Netball Association INC

ABN: 26 520 379 452

ALL COMPETITIONS BY-LAWS

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1. ENTRY INTO COMPETITION

A Club applying for entry into the Competition shall;

- (a) Register for entry on the official Entry Form and pay the required Entry Fee.
- (b) The Entry Form and Entry Fee shall be submitted on or before the stated closing date and time.
- (c) No late entries will be accepted. (No correspondence will be entered into)
- (d) Additional relevant information may be submitted with the Entry Form.
- (e) Satisfy the Competition Coordinator that they are prepared to field a team for all fixtured matches and are in a position to meet the financial requirements of the Competition/s they are entering.
- (f) Ensure that all committee members, employees and volunteers who have direct, unsupervised contact with players under the age of 18 must complete a Member Protection Declaration and undertake a Working with children check.

All members of BDNA must abide by the Netball Australia Member Protection Policy available at <https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/memberhq/nv-clubhouse/post/MemberProtectionPolicy-1.pdf>

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.

Clubs need to obtain the correct spelling of names, correct dates of birth, mobile phone numbers and current address for their players, for Netball Victoria registration and insurance purposes, and grading.

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.

2. PLAYER REGISTRATION

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

2.1 All players participating in BDNA competitions must hold a current Netball Victoria (NV) membership.

2.2 Single game vouchers are available from the competitions office and will only constitute a current NV membership for the game issued.

- a. 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 the score sheet before the new player plays their first match.
- b. Proof of age for Junior Sections must be provided if requested by the BDNA Competition Coordinator or the Board.
 - 9/u – no younger than 7 and no older than 9 as the 31/12 of that year
 - 11/u – no older than 11 as at the 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

2.3 Players must be a minimum of 14 years old (or turning 14 in the calendar year) to be eligible to play in an U17 or Open competitions.

2.4 U17 and Open Women's' competitions are female only competitions

3. 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)

(Registered to play in means - played 4 games in one team refer 3 (f))

- 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 5 players present at all times on the court.
- d) If there are not five players present for the start of play:
 - The non-offending team will take the court and will gain one point for each minute the game is held up
 - If the match has not commenced after 10 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.
- 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/grade above the one they are registered to play in.(refer definitions) Players cannot play in a lower section or for another team in their section. Players can also only fill in three times for the same team in one season. Once the player plays a fourth game, they automatically are a member of the higher team and cannot return to their original team.
- g) In the event that there is more than one team from the same club in the same section, players cannot play or transfer between teams during the season.
- h) As with club players, players from individual teams can play three matches in a higher section or grade 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.
- i) Players cannot transfer from one club to another club on the same competition day during the season.

3.1 EQUIPMENT

All teams are to supply their own 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.

3.3 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 $1/4$ & $3/4$ 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 26. Injuries & 27. Blood Rule)

3.4 **BLOOD RULE** - As per Netball Australia Rule Book.

3.5 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 the non-offending team

1 goal deduction from score sheet for every player not in uniform after round 4 – This needs to be reported to umpire prior to taking the court in the third quarter.

2 points deducted per match per player for playing a player from another club on the same day. Independent teams are exempt (refer 3h).

2 points deducted from ladder for every player that is not insured with NV by the end of days play. Written notification will be sent to offending team/club within 48 hours of game day.

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.

3.6 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 competing players must be listed on the score sheet and all positions of attendance for ever quarter must be marked to qualify for finals.
- f) Any new players or players playing in a higher section must be listed on the back of the score sheet.
- g) Score sheet must be signed by both captains and umpires
- h) It is the Home team's responsibility to make sure the score sheet is completed fully before handing it in to the office.

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- 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.

3.7 COACHES

Coaching is allowed only from the side line at the center third. Coaches cannot use any other areas of the court. Coaches cannot walk the court or sideline coach. BDNA recommends that all coaches be at least Foundation level qualified, registered with Netball Victoria and hold a current Working with Children's Card.

4. UNIFORMS

- a) All players must wear their clubs/teams nominated uniform, including positional bibs and sports briefs.
- b) A playing uniform consists of a shirt, skirt or bodysuit (with appropriate bloomers) 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.
- c) Any team wishing to wear shorts as their official uniform must firstly get approval from the BDNA Competition Coordinator.
- d) T-shirts must be tucked in so that the club skirt or shorts can be clearly seen by the umpire.
- e) Long pants cannot be worn if they can be seen below the skirt – unless special permission is obtained from the Competition Coordinator.
- f) BDNA acknowledges religious requirements in relation to clothing and will use discretion to accommodate such requirements.
- g) Players and teams will have four 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 each week for every player out of uniform. (refer 3.5)
- h) Any club/team wishing to wear singlet shirts as their official club/team uniform must get approval from the Competition Coordinator prior to the seasons' start.
- i) Shorts for men/boys must be in the same colours as the female's skirts and shorts must not have pockets. Brief running shorts are not acceptable attire.
- j) Fingernails 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.
- k) Gloves can be worn in senior competitions only. If gloves are worn, nails must still be taped and 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 approved by the Competition's Office prior to use.
- l) No jewelry may be worn other than wedding rings which must be taped with sports tape.
- m) All exposed piercings must be taped if unable to be removed.
- n) If 2 competing teams have the same or a similar coloured uniform, the second named team is responsible for wearing contrasting coloured bibs. Alternate bibs may be borrowed from the BDNA office. The match umpires will have the final discretion as to whether alternate bibs are required.

5. GRADING

- 5.1 Sections at start of season will be determined on previous season's performance and age appropriateness of players.
- 5.2 Where new teams enter the competition, they will be placed in the section as determined by the Competition coordinator, in consultation with the Boards delegate(s) based on information provided by club/team.
- 5.3 This grading process will be adhered to unless a written request to the Competition coordinator 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 the outcome.

REGRADING

- 5.4 After the first 4 weeks regrading may occur based on performance and results of games played.
- 5.5 If sections are combined, the Competition Coordinator/ Boards delegate(s), have the right to decide if more than one finals series will be fixtured.

6. FINALS

- 6.1 A player must play a minimum of four games for with her/his club or team in one section before they are qualified to play in finals.
- 6.2 Once a player has played 4 games in a season, in one section, for their team/club, they are eligible for finals in any higher section for that club on that competition day. 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 any other team they qualified for. Penalty if occurs — match is forfeited and non-offending team progresses.
- 6.3 Final series means semi, preliminary and grand final.
- 6.4 Names of players will be checked off before finals games commence.
- 6.5 Teams are to report to the competitions office 15 minutes prior to fixtured finals match time to fill in the score sheet.
- 6.6 To qualify for finals each player must have a tick for every match they play next to their name on the score sheet as well as being 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.
- 6.7 Players can qualify for finals on a non-offending forfeit once the team sheet has been submitted before the next fixture round.
- 6.8 Finals will be played in all grades except Net Set Go 9/u and 11/u sections. Dates of finals are listed on the season's fixtures and association website.

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- 6.9 The ladder positions for finals are 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 team's ladder position and where they are placed for finals.
- 6.10 Teams playing in the finals series must be financial with the competition (i.e. 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. Refer 8.3.
- 6.11 On request, consideration may be given to reschedule finals matches. This will be at discretion of Competition coordinator/Board delegate(s).
- 6.12 It is the team's responsibility to make sure that they can compete when scheduled, if not then the match is forfeited.
- 6.13 BDNA will provide 2 official scorers for all Grand Finals

DRAWS IN THE 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 positional changes can only be made if an injury occurs. 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. Injury time is allowed in finals, and a stand-alone clock will continue with the match timing – refer to NV rule book 7.1

7. DISCIPLINE

- 7.1 As per official Rules of Netball –
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)
- 7.2 If any defamatory language/gesture (including racial and/or sexual) is used, the player, spectator or official concerned will be asked to leave the court or stadium. (BDNA & BLFM rule)

8. FEES & FINES

- 8.1 There is no admission charge at the front entrance to enter the venue
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 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.

9. FORFEITS

In the event of a forfeit, please notify the Competition Coordinator within 15 days prior to your match starting time and **no** penalties apply.

If notice is given between 3-10 days' notice, the team forfeit fee of \$45.00. If notice is given less than 3 days the team forfeiting is liable to a fine of their match fee plus **the opposing team's match fee.**

All are payable to the Competition Coordinator prior to next allocated match, or the team will not be able to take to court and will be liable for further forfeit fees (refer 8.3).

In the case of a team forfeiting more than twice in a season, they shall be asked to show cause to the Association why they should not be disqualified from the competition.

10. 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 next business day to the Competition Coordinator, for consideration by the BDNA Board. Protests will be responded to in writing within five working days.

11. 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 Competition Coordinator.

12. UMPIRES

- 12.1 The Association will provide an Umpires Supervisor to oversee all umpires & or umpires queries.
- 12.2 Umpires will be provided for all competitions.
- 12.3 All umpires provided must be registered with the Association and Netball Victoria.
- 12.4 All umpires representing **BDNA** at a **BDNA** competition, tournament or event need to be in white and well presented.
- 12.5 All coaches, 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 Competition Coordinator or member of the Board.
- 12.6 During the game, only the captain may approach umpires at an interval break or after the game for clarification of any rule.
- 12.7 If the coach requires clarification regarding a rule, they are to approach the umpire's supervisor only. They may not approach the court umpire at any stage.

TRAINEE UMPIRES

Trainee umpires will umpire matches allocated by the umpires' supervisor, wear a coloured vest, (orange from 2009) and be accompanied by a badged trainer supplied by **BDNA.**

12.8 To apply to become a trainee umpire, applicants must complete a form from the office or website and return to the Umpires Coordinator.

12.9 All Trainee umpires are to follow the Netball Victoria guidelines, which are available from the Netball Victoria website.

UMPIRES COURSES

The Association may run umpiring courses, theory examinations, umpires training and badge testing for any umpires wishing to participate.

All BDNA badged umpires are required to undertake a written theory examination every 5 years to remain current.

13. NET-SET-GO, FUN NET and SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

13.1 These skill development programs are run if there is sufficient interest:

- a) 5 to 7 year old can participate in Fun Net
- b) 8 to 10 year olds can participate in Net-Set-Go
- c) 5 to 15 year olds can participate in School Holiday Program

13.2 All fees for these programs are set down by the Finance Committee and program Supervisors, and submitted to the Board for approval. All participation fees are payable in full prior to starting the programs.

13.3 All participants of these programs must be registered members of Netball Victoria for insurance purposes.

13.4 Competition Coordinator to assign NV accredited personnel to run the program.

13.5 Competition Coordinator along with Board approval may assign additional assistants to the program

14. SPONSORSHIP

14.1 All teams displaying sponsorship must ask the Competition Coordinator first and obtain written permission prior to taking the court. This must be done with a sample of the design and where you require affixing it. Sponsorship is permitted on the Playing and Non Playing Uniform.

14.2 Sponsorship cannot compete with the Venue or Association sponsors.

14.3 All sponsorship logos must adhere to Netball Victoria guidelines.

15. JUNIOR BOYS

15.1 If sufficient entries are received the BDNA association will endeavour to fixture a Boys Only Competition each year.

15.2 Boys may participate in age group competitions that do not specify a minimum age.

16. MEETINGS

These meetings must be attended by at least one representative from each club/team, however it is strongly encouraged that 2 representatives attend: Annual General Meetings - mandatory
Special General Meetings – as required

17. INJURIES

All clubs/teams are to make sure they have their own first aid equipment and ice packs for each match. BDNA office staff may not be able to treat injuries. The BDNA office can provide ice upon request. If the Association provides an ice pack that is not returned the offending club or team will be charged to replace the item used.

For insurance purposes, injuries are to be noted on the back of the score sheet with player's name, team and injury details. No time is held for home and away games. In finals, refer to NV rule book 7.1

18. DRUG POLICY

BDNA does not support the use of performance enhancing substances and views any such use as detrimental to both the sport of netball and the spirit of the game. The Netball Victoria drug policy, August 1993 as amended from time to time, is implemented for BDNA Competitions.

19. CANCELLATIONS

18.1 When matches are cancelled by the association on account of a total strike (eg; power, or situation created by a prolonged petrol strike), both teams will be credited with two (2) points and five (5) goals each and the Competition will continue as per the fixture.

18.2 If games are cancelled at or after half time scores will stand.

18.3 Should circumstances occur in which successive rounds need to be cancelled, the Competition Coordinator/Board will consider the position and determine a suitable course of action.

20. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Where these By-Laws are silent, and a decision cannot be made that ensures the integrity of the Banyule and Districts Netball Association is maintained, then the rules shall be those of the Netball Victoria. The Board may in using its reasonable discretion alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in these By-Laws relating to the Banyule & Districts Netball Association Competitions or Rep Teams at anytime within an Executive Board Meeting, in consultation with clubs and teams.

21. 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, employees, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury, perceived discrimination or damage, however caused, arising whilst playing, trialing or participating as a member.

22. DISPUTES & GREVIENCES

(see BDNA Constitution, BDNA Rep Protocols, Netball Vic Competition Regulations)

23. REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

All Coaches, Managers, Players & Parents are to report and abide by the BDNA Constitution, Bylaws, Representative Protocols, Code of Conducts and or any directions/rulings made or implemented by Netball Victoria, VCAT, the BDNA Board or Representative Committee.

24. HOT WEATHER

When the temperature on competition day reaches 36 degrees in the stadium at any time all games in progress will be halted and all further games will be cancelled. If the game is halted before half time 2 points will be awarded to each team with a score of 5 all. If the game is halted after half time the score at that time will stand.

Notice of Cancellations will be posted on the BDNA website.