



STADIUM
34

34 Bell St. Moe 3825

Ph: (03) 5127 8300

Fax: (03) 5126 2622

Web: www.stadium34.com.au

Email: matt@stadium34.com.au

NETBALL BY-LAWS

Welcome to Stadium 34's Mixed Netball and Ladies Netball Competitions!

The purpose of this information is to ensure that **ALL teams and individuals** have full knowledge of our rules, regulations and by-laws, so that you will continue to enjoy your sports activities at Stadium 34. Should you require further information, we ask that you consult our staff.

General Information.

We offer Mixed Netball competitions on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 6:30pm. Both nights are completely separate competitions and we endeavour to offer three divisions per night, per season (subject to team numbers). We also operate three courts which allows us to minimise the number of 'late games' during a season. Our Ladies Netball competition is played on a Thursday night from 6:15pm and is currently played on court 3.

Entries.

A team registration form must be fully completed when entering a team into the competition. You can do this online at www.stadium34.com.au. This is particularly important to assist us in advising your team members of information (when needed) and it also ensures that you have made a formal commitment for the season. All players listed on the form are considered 'registered' to that team. The form must be updated whenever a new permanent player begins playing. Teams may enter the competition up until the end of the grading matches. After this date teams may only enter to take up a bye or take the position of a side that has withdrawn from the competition.

Fees.

All fees must be paid as a team and it is the captain's responsibility to ensure the team's full fee is collected and paid each week. No individual money will be accepted. **NO PAY, NO PLAY!** Teams are welcome to pay a few games in advance or pay the entire season up front. The total number of rounds differs slightly for each season due to public holidays. If you would like to pay for the entire season up front, please ask for the 'total amount' at the start of the season.

The following fees are applicable:

Team Registration: \$80.00 per team

Game Fee: \$60.00 per team

Teams must pay their game fee at the front desk (in full) prior to their match starting. Teams must pay their registration fee by the second week of grading. Any team withdrawing from the competition in the middle of a season is liable to a withdrawal fee of \$100.00. Any team asked to leave the competition due to the failure to turn up to games or aggressive/abusive behaviour will also be charged a \$100 fee. No team members will be permitted to play in another team until all owed fees have been paid.

Match Equipment.

We provide match balls, warm-up balls and bibs for our Netball competitions. All we ask is that you do not abuse the privilege of the use of this equipment. It is the captain's responsibility to ensure bibs are returned neatly to the hanging rack at the end of the match.

The Team.

Teams consist of at least seven registered players. There must be at least five players on the court to begin a match. In our mixed competitions, teams must have one male present to take the court. If a team does not have any male players they may ask the opposing team and the centre for compassion to ensure the game goes ahead. If the opposing team does not agree, the offending team will forfeit the match. Teams are allowed a maximum of three males on the court at any one time. Males can play any position, however only **ONE** male can play in each goal circle. For all Mixed competitions, players must be 14 years or older to take the court and for all Ladies competitions, players must be 13 years or older to take the court.

Insurance / Player Responsibility.

We do not offer player insurance for our Netball competitions. Players play Netball at their own risk. Stadium 34 accepts no liability for any injury that a player might receive during a match. All players **MUST** sign an Insurance Indemnity form prior to taking the court (this includes fill-ins). Teams that play players that have not signed an insurance indemnity form will be penalised two goals per player.

Grading.

At the commencement of a new season, teams will be graded so that the overall structures of the divisions are as equally competitive as possible. Grading matches take place for a maximum of three weeks. Currently there are no grading rounds for Ladies Netball as we play one division during the season, then split into two divisions for the finals.

Season Length.

Each season runs for approximately 15 regular rounds with a 3-week finals series. Games will not be played on public holidays but may be scheduled during school holiday periods.

Score Sheets.

Score sheets are located at the front desk before the commencement of your game. It is the team's responsibility to ensure that they are filled out correctly. Full names are important so that umpires are clear on names for seasonal awards and finals qualifications. The score sheet is the official scoring document and no other form of scoring will be deemed official. We strongly advise that a spare player or spectator from each team sits together during the game and aids with the scoring. This ensures that there is no bias to either team and that there can be no discrepancies to the accuracy of the final score. Management will not investigate any incidents relating to the final score if both teams have not provided a scorer. Nor will it be investigated if the two scorers have not sat next to each other for the entire duration of the game.

Matches.

Playing rules are as per the current Netball Australia rules. These rules can be obtained upon request and should be read and understood by all players before the start of the season. A game consists of four ten minute quarters. The clock will start at the scheduled time regardless of teams being ready to play. All teams must pay their game fee before the game at the front desk. We encourage teams to arrive at least ten minutes before the scheduled start time to ensure all fees are paid before the clock starts. Teams will be penalised one goal for every whole minute that the clock counts down, given that one team has taken the court and standing in position. Where both teams are not on the court, neither team will be penalised, but the clock will continue to run. Any team that isn't on the court within ten minutes of the game clock starting will be considered as forfeiting the match.

Players must be present by the halfway mark of the game and have their name recorded on the score sheet at the start of the match, otherwise the umpire may not permit them to take the court.

Forfeit Policy.

Once the fixtures have been set and issued, it will be deemed a forfeit should you not be able to play at the specified game time. A forfeit fine will cost your team a total of \$70.00.

Fines are in place to cover the costs of umpires and a portion of lost income for the centre from the offending team. Forfeits are also a major inconvenience for the opposing team.

Teams who forfeit will incur forfeit fines which must be paid the following week. Teams who do not pay will not receive premiership points for games played while the fines are still outstanding. If there are exceptional circumstances why a team cannot play a scheduled match, the game may be postponed or cancelled (at the centres discretion). If a team forfeits a match, they will be deducted two premiership points and credited as having ten goals scored against them for that game. Any team that is forfeited against will be awarded a win. They will be credited as having scored ten goals.

Competition Points/Standings.

Premiership points are accumulated for each match and recorded to form the ladder position for each team in each competition. Points are awarded as following:

WIN = 4 Points
DRAW = 2 Points
LOSS = 0 Points
BYE = 4 Points
FORFEIT = -2 Points (-10 Goals)
WIN ON FORFEIT = 4 Points (+10 Goals)

If two or more teams are equal on points, they will be separated by percentage.

If two or more teams are equal on points and percentage, they will be separated by wins.

If two or more teams are equal on points, percentage and wins, they will be separated by goals for.

Finals.

The finals format will be posted on the notice board at least one week prior to the season ending. At the end of each season finals are conducted based on the top four teams of each division. The finals series runs for three weeks with semi-finals, preliminary finals and grand finals taking place.

The games will be scheduled as follows:

Week 1:

F1: The team 1st on the ladder will play the team 2nd on the ladder (2nd chance).

F2: The team 3rd on the ladder will play the team 4th on the ladder (loser out).

Week 2:

F3: The loser of F1 will play the winner of F2.

Week 3:

GF: The winner of F1 will play the winner of F3

In the event of a drawn final, two periods of extra time will be played. Teams will play five minutes each way. If the game is still tied after extra time, then play will continue until one team gains a two goal lead.

Awards.

All awards are presented on grand final night.

Awards are presented to the winners and runners-up for each grand final. A grand final most valuable player is awarded for each grand final by the umpires. Seasonal male and female best and fairest awards (per division) are also presented.

Uniforms.

Players must wear appropriate footwear with non-marking soles. Umpires have the right to ask you to leave the playing surface if you do not have the correct footwear on. Uniforms are mandatory and must comprise of matching coloured **TOPS and BOTTOMS**. Clothing with stripes, patterns or logos must have at least 75% of the team's nominated colour, or they may be considered out of uniform. Pants or leggings may be worn under a player's skirt or shorts and must be of matching colour to the shorts or skirt. Players are not allowed to wear caps, hats or beanies on court and jewellery must be removed or securely taped during matches. Nails must be kept to a reasonable length whereas not to endanger fellow players. Appropriate netball gloves can be worn to cover long nails and are available for purchase at Stadium34. Teams who do not have matching uniforms by week four will incur a one goal penalty for every player who is out of uniform.

Rules of Sportsmanship and Conduct.

This is a friendly and timely reminder of our policies regarding Sportsmanship, Conduct and Fair Play.

- All teams are held responsible for the conduct of their members and supporters
- Players are to be neat, tidy and well presented
- Be courteous and respectful to all players and umpires
- At all times play within the spirit of the game which will earn you respect from your opponents and provide you with the satisfaction of taking part.

Professional fouls and behaviour deemed as time wasting towards the end of a game may be penalised with one week's suspension.

Behaviour.

Stadium 34 is a community facility for the enjoyment of all. Games are expected to be played in a sportsmanlike manner. Players wishing to use the centre will not be under the influence of any drugs or alcohol. Any umpire or stadium official may remove players from the court that are believed to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol that are posing a problem on the court (at any stage of a match). Stadium 34 enforces a zero tolerance towards fighting. Any abuse, gross misconduct or inappropriate conduct directed at umpires or other players will result in exclusion from the game and possible suspension of the individual and team from the competition.

Disputes with Umpires.

Each match shall be controlled by two umpires, who will have full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match to which they have been appointed to umpire. The decisions of the umpires regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final. Umpires will be happy to assist in any interpretation of a decision, if asked in a calm and respectful manner. This should be addressed by the captain only, either at half time or at the end of the game. At no time should an umpire be questioned during a game. Dissatisfaction with any umpire must be made in writing to the centre manager. Management welcomes any feedback on umpires, provided it is done in the correct manner. Stadium 34 goes through a great deal of effort to attract and retain umpires. Umpires make decisions based on their own personal interpretation of each situation. You may not agree, but you must always respect their decisions.

Cautions / Dismissals / Suspensions.

Conduct by a player or spectator which is not in the spirit of the game, such as bad or abusive language, rough play or unsportsmanlike conduct will result in players and spectators being ejected from the game or centre. Once sent off, players may be referred to management for suspension assessment. A player who is sent off the court by an umpire must leave the court immediately. Games where brawls or melees develop will result in automatic cancellation of the game. In minor cases management will assess and determine an appropriate outcome for the game result. In more

serious cases, points will not be given nor will the team be allowed to play until the centre managers have determined a suitable outcome.

Talking back to the umpires, foul language directed at another player/umpire or mild non-sportsmanlike behaviour will get you a one week suspension.

Attempting to strike or aggressive behaviour (either verbal or physical) toward any player or spectator is a minimum two week suspension.

Physical abuse towards a player or spectator will be an automatic minimum three weeks suspension. Physically touching an umpire in a threatening manner or extreme verbal abuse will be a minimum ONE SEASON SUSPENSION. Serious cases and repeat offenders will be suspended for LIFE.

Misconduct.

This includes abusive language either directly or indirectly, unsporting conduct (spitting, rude gestures etc), undue rough play (playing the player, not the ball), resisting, striking and attempting to strike. Continuous or repeated offences of misconduct will result in either the player(s) or team(s) concerned being removed from the competition for the safety of the other teams and the integrity of the competition. In the event of misconduct by anyone associated with that particular game, the umpires have the ultimate authority to abandon the game.

Disciplining by an Umpire.

There is a right and wrong way to approach an umpire if you are unhappy with a decision. The RIGHT way is to approach an umpire during the half time break or at the end of the game, talking to them in a calm and mature manner. Our umpires are more than happy to discuss their decisions with you but please remember that they are responsible for starting the following game or next half on time, so quick, timely discussions are always best. If you are not satisfied with the response, please consult a staff member at the front desk as they have a little more time to discuss incidents and situations with you. The WRONG way is to stop play during a game and argue with an umpire, swear or become verbally aggressive or physically abusive.

If you do this, umpires are instructed to do the following:

Warn Player – This indicates that the umpire is dissatisfied with your conduct on court. This may be due to verbal or physical abuse of a player, umpire or spectator or unduly rough play.

Send Off – Indicates an umpire has allowed you enough time to adjust your play and/or attitudes and therefore deems it necessary to remove you from the court for a specified time. Generally a player will be given a suspension (determined by the umpire) from play with no substitutes allowed to take the place of that player. In more serious cases, a player may be sent off for the duration of that match. This will automatically suspend that player for the following week or longer (in all grades) depending on the offence. Should a player be sent off for the duration of the game by an umpire more than 3 times in any one season, a suspension for the rest of the season will be given to the offending player. Should you be suspended from a game and continue to verbally abuse players/umpires you will be asked to leave the centre. Should you not leave, the police will be called to deal with the matter.

Fill-ins and Qualification.

All teams are reminded and must understand the following rules associated with player qualification and fill-in players.

- Players registered to a team playing within a division may not fill in for another team in the same division.
- Fill in players may come from a lower division team only.
- Players filling-in for a team may only do so a maximum of three times. If a player plays any more than three games, they will be considered registered to that team and unable to play in the division in which they come from.

- A player may quit any team and join another team in any division, provided that the player has not played more than four games in that season with the original team.
- To qualify to play finals with a team, a player must have played a minimum of 4 games during the season. A player is ineligible to qualify on a bye and forfeit. Grading matches do not count as games played. Forfeits against a team are taken into consideration.
- If a team is unable to field a qualified team in the finals, the next team down on the Premiership Ladder shall take their place.

Special circumstances may arise whereby a breach of the rules is requested. This is often due to extreme and unfortunate situations. The request shall be brought to the attention of all parties who will be agreeable on an outcome to the situation. This will eliminate any disputes occurring after the game. Management will not enter into any disputes where the special circumstance has been previously agreed on. The outcome of the game is final.

Protests and Appeals.

Any team wishing to lodge a protest or appeal must lodge the protest or appeal in writing to the centre manager within 48 hours of the conclusion of the match. In the case of a protest, notify the opposing team captain of their intention to do so within the 48-hour limit. Management will review such cases, and a decision will be reached within seven days. The centre may appoint a panel if they believe it's necessary to resolve the matter.

Conclusion.

Stadium 34 thanks you for your support of these by-laws and trusts that all of your team and supporters are aware of the rules and conditions relating to our sporting competitions. All competitions run by Stadium 34 are considered social by nature. All players need to act accordingly. Players have the right to discuss any issues (in an appropriate manner) with the centre manager and staff.

Note: The information contained herein is current at the time of printing, but may be subject to change from time to time. Management reserves the right to alter and change its by-laws and centre rules without notice.

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