

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA**15 AND UNDER NETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP****RULES AND GUIDELINES****1.0 COMPETITION RULES****1.1 Rules of the Game**

The rules for play shall be those of Netball Australia except where otherwise indicated in the By-Laws – 1.3.2, 2.4.1, 4.4.

- 1.1.1 The Championships shall be run for six (6) days with double headers on three of the days and the semi-final day and the final day scheduled as half days to allow for recovery and preparation.

1.2 Player Participation

- 1.2.1 Qualifications for selection in teams to compete at the Championship shall be 15 years and under on 31 December of the year in which the Championship is held. Age Dispensation may be granted to a State or Territory for these Championships as allowed through the School Sport Australia Sport Participation Policy.

Amended June 2019

- 1.2.2 All players are required to play a minimum of eight quarters unless prevented from doing so by illness, injury or misbehaviour which is reported to the National Secretary for determination. A full quarter is defined as 12 consecutive minutes and parts of quarters will not be accumulated. The quarters must be completed in the preliminary round. Failure to comply will result in loss of all preliminary round points. Where less than 8 teams compete the minimum numbers of quarters will be adjusted accordingly.
- 1.2.3 All students who participate in the School Sport Australia Netball Championship must remain in the host state/territory throughout the duration of the Championship and be bound by all Championship arrangements.
- 1.3 Team Size**
- 1.3.1 Each state/territory may enter a team. A team consists of twelve (12) players. Two (2) adult officials are to accompany the team. An apprentice/assistant coach may be appointed to the team. One additional student may accompany the team as a team assistant.
- 1.3.2 The team bench is per Netball Australia Rules with the student official/apprentice/assistant coach also permitted on the bench.

2.0 COMPETITION STRUCTURE**2.1 Fixtures**

- 2.1.1 The fixture for Championships is listed as an appendix. Each state should be allocated an equal number of time slots. Priority should be given where possible so that teams having the last game on one day should not have the first game on the following day.
- 2.1.2 At least twelve (12) weeks prior to the commencement of the Championship the Championship Convener shall submit to the states/territories a tentative program of matches. Any state/territory wishing to submit an alteration to the tentative program of matches must do so within two (2) weeks of receiving it. Any amendment to the program shall be circularised as early as possible to states/territories.
- 2.1.3 The format for the competition remains but the fixture is based on the previous years' final placings following the Netball Australia format (Appendix 1). In the advent of additional states/territories entering the competition after the Championship post-event meeting they shall be allocated the numbers 5, 6, 7 etc, as each nomination is received by the Championship Convener.

2.2 Points Allocation

- 2.2.1 Two (2) points shall be allotted for a win, one (1) for a draw. Teams shall play each other on at least one (1) occasion. There will be finals for the Championships.
- 2.2.2 Any state/territory playing a girl who is not 15 years or under (or the relevant age dispensation for Northern Territory and Tasmania) on 31 December of the year of the Championship shall forfeit all points gained for the Championship

2.3. Method of Determining a Winner

2.3.1 Final Positions during Championships

- a) For the final rounds teams shall be placed in descending order according to the number of points gained.
- b) i) In the event of two teams gaining the same number of points the respective position shall be decided by the result of the match during the Preliminary Rounds between the two teams concerned.
- ii) In the event of more than two teams gaining the same number of points the respective positions shall be determined by the goal percentages on matches between the drawn teams.
- iii) In the event of there being a draw for any placing at the end of the Preliminary Rounds which cannot be resolved by applying (i) or (ii) above, the following procedure (relevant to the number of teams participating) shall apply.

For positions

- 1/2 - % of top four teams be calculated collectively
- 2/3 - % of top four teams be calculated collectively
- 3/4 - % of teams placed 2nd, 3/4 and 5th be calculated collectively
- 4/5 - % of teams placed 3rd, 4/5 and 6th be calculated collectively
- 5/6 - % of teams placed 4th, 5/6 and 7th be calculated collectively
- 6/7 - % of teams placed 5th, 6/7 and 8th be calculated collectively
- 7/8 - % of teams placed 5th, 6/7 and 8th be calculated collectively.

2.4 Duration of Matches

2.4.1 6 teams 4 x 15 minutes

7 teams 4 x 15 minutes

8 teams 4 x 10 minutes

All matches are to have the following breaks: 3min/5min/3min

2.4.2 Procedure for extra time where a winner is required:

- (i) In the event of a draw at the end of Full Time, there shall be a two minute interval;
- (ii) Extra time shall consist of two halves of five minutes with an interval of one minute at Half Time;
- (iii) Teams shall swap ends at Half Time. The centre pass is taken by the team entitled to the next centre pass;
- (iii) During both of these intervals, substitutions and/or team changes may be made [refer Netball Australia Rule 6.1.1 (i)];
- (iv) During extra time, normal injury/ illness or blood procedures shall apply;
- (v) In the event of a draw remaining at the end of extra time, play shall continue until one team has a two goal advantage. A visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one team has a two goal advantage.

Based on the quarters are 10 minutes in each game, the halves should consist of 5 minutes each. If the competition changes to 15 minute quarters the halves would consist of 7 minutes each.

3.0 FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT

3.1 Courts

3.1.1 The venue should be indoors.

3.1.2 The first mentioned team shall use the bench on the left when facing the court.

3.1.3 Indoor Venue Requirements:

- a) Sprung wooden floor with appropriate ceiling height for lighting.
- b) The minimum distance between a court and obstruction shall be 3.05m. Safety of players and umpires to be the paramount consideration.
- c) Only netball lines to be visible (if possible) and all courts must be clean (playing surface and run-off).
- d) Goal posts to be suitably padded and shall start at the base of the goal post and extend the full length of the post.
- e) A suitable warm-up area with goalposts or clear 30 minutes to warm-up on playing court.
- f) Four change rooms are required, these to include showers and toilets. Separate change rooms for male and female umpires.
- g) Two benches (with 15 seats) on either side of the official's area and seating for umpires and reserve umpire (3 seats).

- h) Seating for spectators and players (on opposite side to the officials benches where possible).
- i) Sports medicine/physio room for rubdowns (if possible).
- j) A lockable storage area.
- k) Each state/territory to be responsible for supplying their ice baths. Host state to ensure that adequate ice is available for purchase by the state/territories.

3.2 Warm-Up Facilities

- 3.2.1 A warm-up court or the match court to be available for warm-up prior to the game. A 45 minute warm-up time should be allowed prior to the first match of play.
- 3.2.2 Practice courts are to be available for a training session prior to the Championship commencing if states require this.

3.3 Game Equipment

- 3.3.1 Host state provides the six match balls. States are to be advised as soon as possible of the type of ball that will be used during the Championships. It shall be a ball endorsed by Netball Australia.
- 3.3.2 Electronic scoresheets are available through Netball Australia. Photocopy facilities are needed as four copies are required at the end of the game - one copy goes to each team, one to the selectors and one stays in the scorebook.
- 3.3.3 Electronic team lists and substitute sheets are available through Netball Australia – manager to submit a team list including bench and officials in writing to the scorers' bench and selectors prior to the commencement of the game. Substitute sheets are to given to the scorers' bench and selectors as soon as a substitution takes place.

3.4 Uniforms

- 3.4.1 Australian Capital Territory - Royal Blue, Gold and Navy Blue
 - New South Wales - Navy Blue, Sky Blue and White
 - Northern Territory - Ochre, Black and White
 - Queensland - Maroon, White and Navy Blue
 - South Australia - Red, Navy Blue, Gold and White
 - Tasmania - Bottle Green, Yellow, Red and White
 - Victoria - Navy Blue and White
 - Western Australia - Gold, Black and White
- States must be notified of changes to uniform at the pre-event meeting.
- 3.4.2 Players must wear bibs in the colour of the uniform, showing position on court. Players' surnames must appear on the back of the uniform.
 - 3.4.3 All states/territories are to have two sets of bibs with alternative colours. The first named team is to decide which colour they will wear.

4.0 MATCH OFFICIALS

4.1 Umpires

- 4.1.1 Umpires will present as part of a Neutral Pool. These umpires will then be allocated to games by the Umpires' Coach based on performance at the Championship
- 4.1.2 The Umpiring Coach shall be appointed by Netball Australia.
- 4.1.3 The umpires are to be student umpires (where possible) nominated by their state/territory and be preferably at least 'B' badged or working towards this.

4.2 Student Officials

- 4.2.1 One additional student may accompany the team as a team assistant.

4.3 Bench Officials

- 4.3.1 There shall be two scorers for each game working independently with separate scoresheets. Scorer 1 shall be the official scorer for the game. Scorer 2 is responsible for calling for scorer 1 and completing the running scoresheet. The scoreboard must be visible to spectators.
- 4.3.2 There shall be two timekeepers. Timekeeper 1 is the official timekeeper and shall be responsible for scoring playing time, intervals and stoppages. Timekeeper 2 is the backup timer and is also responsible for recording injury/illness and other stoppages. The electronic timer/scoreboard may be operated by

timekeeper 2. The clock now counts to zero but the siren attached to the clock does not sound. The official time remains the role of the bench. The umpires are notified by the bench.

4.4 Judiciary/Appeals

- 4.4.1 A Judiciary Committee shall be appointed at the pre-event meeting of each Championship.
- a) The Judiciary Committee shall be established by each state/territory nominating one member. The Championship Convener is to select three members not involved in the dispute, to adjudicate on the issue.
 - b) The championship convener shall chair meetings of the Judiciary Committee. The National Secretary shall act as secretary of this committee.
- 4.4.2 A written report of any appeals and decisions arising from these appeals shall be provided to delegates of each state/territory.

5.0 ALL AUSTRALIAN TEAM

5.1 Team Definition

- 5.1.1 The team shall be named the School Sport Australia All Australian Netball Team and will be announced at the Closing Ceremony of the Championship. Any girl gaining selection in the School Sport Australia All Australian Netball Team may incorporate the wording "School Sport Australia All Australian Netball Team 20__" on appropriate clothing.

5.2 Selection Process

- 5.2.1
- a) Ten to twelve players shall be selected.
 - b) No captain or vice-captain shall be named.
 - c) The players selected shall be those who have given the best performances in the areas of skill, court play and understanding of the game.
 - d) Positions will not be taken into account in the final selection of the team i.e. there need not be the same number of shooters, centre court players and defenders selected.
 - e) A player need not have participated in every game to be included in selection.
 - f) Players selected must display a high level of sportsmanship and behaviour throughout the entire Championship.
 - g) In the event of an International Tour being conducted following the Championship b) and d) will no longer apply and a team of twelve (12) will be selected.

5.3 All Australian Selectors

- 5.3.1 The National Secretary shall act as Adviser to the Selection Panel for the All Australian Team (where applicable). The host state shall decide whether the National Secretary shall be a voting member of the panel. There must be a total of 3 selectors. If the National Selector is a voting member of the panel then there is only a need for 2 additional selectors.
- 5.3.2 It is recommended that the selectors hold the equivalent of an advanced coaching qualification.

5.4 Duties of Selectors

- 5.4.1
- a) The selection panel must watch at least three matches for each state.
 - b) There must be at least one selector present for the majority of the match for all other games.
 - c) The selectors must submit the names of the All Australian team to the National Secretary or her delegate prior to the Closing Ceremony.
 - d) The appointment of international tour officials be made prior to the championships each year.

6.0 TROPHIES, AWARDS

6.1 Major Trophy

- 6.1.1 The Howie Cup is presented to the winning netball team at the Closing Ceremony. The name of the winning team is to be engraved on the cup at the expense of the winning state.

6.2 Amy Safe (Gillett) Award

- 6.2.1 At the completion of each game each player is to individually (no team collaboration) vote for a player from the opposition using the following criteria:
- i) exemplary on-court behaviour
 - ii) competent execution of skills

- iii) outstanding contribution to the team
 - * positive attitude to team members and the opposition in all situations
 - * unselfish play
 - * high work rate

Each day the National Secretary will supply an appropriate form which the managers are to return to the National Secretary prior to the following days' games. Voting concludes after the minor round games and presentations will be made at the Closing Ceremony. A small plaque is to be awarded to the recipient of the award in memory of Amy. Currently OnTrack Sportswear sponsors this award by presenting the winner with a clothing kit. The National Secretary coordinates this sponsorship.

6.3 **All Australian Team**

6.3.1 All members of the All Australian Netball Team will receive a School Sport Australia plaque supplied by the School Sport Australia office. The cost of the plaque needs to be included in the budget. An official photo of the Australian team may be taken to send to sponsor (if applicable) and to have available for the players to purchase.

6.4 **Umpires' Award**

The 3 umpires allocated to the grand final game will each be awarded a medal acknowledging this achievement.

6.5 Netball Life Membership/Service to Sport Awards

NETBALL LIFE MEMBERS

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Nina Higgins	QLD	1991
Betty Bennett	VIC	1991
Doris Millar	VIC	1992
Jan Sutherland	SA	1994
Betty Sexton	SA	1995
Paula Nielsen	SA	1999

**SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA
SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Helen Black	NT	2001
Marie Kelly	NSW	2001
John Deany	VIC	2003
Joanne Kenny	NSW	2004
Karen Burton	ACT	2004
Margaret Smith	SA	2005
Julie Kellam	NT	2006
Bill Adams	NT	2006
Sue Brandenburg	NSW	2007
Pate Cooper	NSW	2009
Sandra Smith	WA	2009
Joanne Macdermid	NSW	2012
Kristy Keppich-Birrell	VIV	2012
Leesa Gallard	VIC	2014
Jenny McCann	VIC	2014
Kris Robson	SA	2014
Shane Fish	TAS	2015
Peta Trehair	NT	2016
Ros Natt	SA	2017
Karen Pettman	SA	2017
Peta Maher	SA	2018

7.0 LINKING SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA /STATE SCHOOL SPORTING ASSOCIATIONS WITH NETBALL AUSTRALIA/STATE NETBALL ASSOCIATIONS

MOU – A Memorandum of Understanding to be signed between Netball Australia and School Sport Australia.

7.1 At School Sport Australia/Netball Australia Level:

- 7.1.1 Inclusion of the School Sport Australia Netball Championship in Netball Australia's Junior Netball Policy.
- 7.1.2 Netball Australia to invite School Sport Australia National Netball Secretary to attend appropriate Netball Australia Coaching or Development meeting. School Sport Australia National Netball Secretary to invite appropriate Netball Australia personnel to the School Sport Australia Netball Championship.
- 7.1.3 School Sport Australia National Netball Secretary to liaise with Netball Australia's Sport Development and High Performance personnel (and vice versa).
- 7.1.4 Netball Australia's High Performance personnel to provide training and development for the coaches and managers at the National Championship (e.g. developments in coaching, recent events at Australian level etc.).
- 7.1.5 School Sport Australia National Secretary to approach the appropriate Netball Australia's Sport Development personnel to appoint the Umpires' Coach for the National Championship.

7.2 At State School Sporting Association/State Netball Association Level:

- 7.2.1 Contact your state Coaching Director who can assist with the following:
 - a) Appointing a representative from the State Netball Association to be part of the selection panel for the secondary school team.
 - b) Inviting specialist coaches from the State Netball Association and/or State Institute to provide alternative coaching session(s) for the selected team.
 - c) Ensuring the dates of selection does not clash with State Netball Association activities.
 - d) Contact the State Umpiring Director to suggest contact names of any 'B' grade student umpires who you can use for practice matches so that this level of umpiring can be experienced prior to the Championship.
- 7.3 **When conducting the Championships:**
 - 7.3.1 a) Contact the State Netball Association preferably the year prior to the event to organise appropriate venue and a good price.
 - b) Invite a representative from the State Netball Association to be part of or a consultant to the organising committee. They may have someone with the expertise that you do not have available or they may have better contacts.

8.0 MEETINGS

8.1 Managers' Meeting

- 8.1.1 A meeting of all team managers shall take place at the conclusion of the first day's play if needed.

8.2 Pre-Event Meeting

- 8.2.1 This is to be held the day prior to the Championships beginning. The pre-event meeting deals mainly with "housekeeping issues". This meeting is chaired by the Chairperson of the host state or his/her delegate and the National Secretary is available to take the minutes.

8.2.2 Agenda Items

- Judiciary Committee
- Acceptance of players' documentation
- Championship information
- Umpires' Coach member may like to speak
- Scorers' requirements/Selectors' requirements
- Opening ceremony details
- Revision of rules pertaining to Championships
- Morning tea/afternoon tea arrangements for officials during Championship
- Sports trainer/physio details
- Lunch order procedure and menu

Change room/team room facilities
Souvenir order arrangements
Officials' dinner
Civic reception details (if applicable)
Collection of trophy (from previous winner)
Try to list all of these details in a bulletin prior to the Championship beginning.

8.3 **Professional Development**

8.3.1 Team officials have recommended that some form of professional development be included in the program. Contact Netball Australia's High Performance department to provide this service.

8.4 **Post-Event Meeting**

8.4.1 This is to be held prior to the last day of the Championships. It is again chaired by the Chairperson of the Host State or his/her delegate with the National Secretary available to take the minutes. This is a more formal meeting (remind delegates of their voting rights each state member body shall be entitled to one vote). The School Sport Australia Executive Officer and any invited persons may attend and speak but cannot move or second a motion, or vote. The Chairman, the School Sport Australia Executive Officer and the National Secretary at all meetings shall have no power to vote except when they are also the nominated state delegates. The quorum at a post-event meeting shall be at least one voting delegate from every competing member body.

8.4.2 The National Secretary notifies Executive Officers in each state for agenda items and School Sport Australia Service Award nominations.

Agenda items should include:

- Minutes of the previous meetings
- Business arising from minutes
- Correspondence
- Notices of Motion
- The forthcoming Championships - dates and venue to be advised -
- Netball Championship Convener's report
- National Secretary's report
- The forthcoming draw
- School Sport Australia Service Award recipients
- General Business

9.0 **CEREMONIES**

9.1 **Opening Ceremony**

9.1.1 Advise states of venues and time prior to Championships. Usually a parliamentary figure or prominent official from the Ministry of Education is invited to open the Championships. Sponsors to be given the opportunity to speak. Official guests to include representatives from parent sporting bodies. National anthem to be played or have taped music. "Players Oath" to be read by the Captain of the host team. Advise managers of march on order, required dress (track suit or playing uniform) etc.

9.2 **Closing Ceremony**

9.2.1 Advise states of time and venue. Allow enough time for transport to airport (if applicable).

9.2.2 Presentations

- Umpires and selectors
- Announcement of final positions
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd placegetters presentation
- Players Player Award
- Australian team
- Organising committee
- Player speech - invitation to next year's Championship and thankyou's by Captain of the state hosting that event.

- Official closure

9.3 **Official Dinner**

9.3.1 Can be held at any time during the Championships. Attendance by:

- All state officials
- Sponsor's representative
- Host state committees
- Umpires
- School Sport Australia personnel
- Life members of School Sport Australia Netball Association

Advise states of cost, venue and dress standards prior to Championships. The Host State for the forthcoming Championships thanks the Host State for organisation of the Championship.
(Handover)

10.0 CHAMPIONSHIP EXCURSION

10.1 **Excursion**

10.1.1 The education excursion shall be compulsory for all states and officials and shall be for a half day (4 hours) duration. Advise states of cost per head (players and officials) as soon as possible. Also advise dress requirements (usually casual).

11.0 SOCIAL EVENTS

11.1 **Team Official Information**

11.1.1 The host state to provide information regarding suitable eating places for team dinners or if possible organise a social convenor to provide options for team official functions.

Appendix 1 8 Team Draw

The format of the competition remains but the draw is based on the previous years' final positions following the Netball Australia format.

Appendix 3 – 8 Team Draw			
Day 1			
8.30am	Opening Ceremony	Day 4	
9.45am	2 v 5	9.00am	4 v 2
10.00am	8 v 3	9.30am	6 v 8
11.15am	6 v 1	10.30am	7 v 5
11.30am	4 v 7	11.00am	3 v 1
1.30pm	2 v 3	12.30pm	6 v 4
2.00pm	8 v 5	1.00pm	8 v 2
3.00pm	4 v 1	2.00pm	1 v 7
3.30pm	6 v 7	2.30pm	5 v 3
Day 2		Day 5 - Semi	
9.00am	5 v 4	9.30am	Game A: 1 v 4
9.30am	3 v 6	10.00am	Game B: 5 v 8
10.30am	1 v 8	11.15am	Game C: 2 v 3
11.00am	7 v 2	11.45am	Game D: 6 v 7
12.30pm	3 v 4	Day 6 - Finals	
1.00pm	5 v 6	9.00am	Loser of B v Loser D For 7 th /8 th
2.00pm	2 v 1	9.30am	Winner of B v Winner of D For 5 th /6 th
2.30pm	7 v 8	10.45am	Loser A v Loser C For 3 rd /4 th
Day 3		12.00	Winner of A v Winner of C For 1 st /2 nd
9.00am	4 v 8		
9.30am	3 v 7		
10.30am	2 v 6		
11.00am	1 v 5		