

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA

15 Years & Under Netball Championships

RULES AND GUIDELINES

Section A – Championship Overview

- A - 1.** These Rules and Guidelines should be read in conjunction with School Sport Australia Policies, Championship Protocols and the Sport Championship Organisational Manual.
- A - 2.** The Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the Netball Australia Rules unless otherwise stated.
- A - 3.** The Championships shall be conducted in accordance with a current Memorandum of Understanding between School Sport Australia and Netball Australia.

A - 4. Championship Length

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 where 8 teams are competing. Where less teams compete the host state in collaboration with the National Advisor will determine the competition length.

A - 5. Team Size

- A - 5.1** Squads shall be limited to a maximum of 12 players.
- A - 5.2** Two (2) adult officials are to accompany the team. Apprentice/assistant coach may be appointed to the team. One additional student may accompany the team as a team assistant.
- A - 5.3** A team bench is per Netball Australia Rules with the student/apprentice/assistant coach also permitted on the bench.

A - 6. Eligibility

- A - 6.1** 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 unless age dispensation is granted to a member body as per rule A - 7.
- A - 6.2** All players are required to play a minimum of eight quarters (for 8 team competition), seven quarters (for 7 team competition) and six quarters (for 6 team competition), unless prevented from doing so by illness, injury or misbehaviour which is reported to the National Advisor for determination.
 - A - 6.2.1** A full quarter is defined as the entire consecutive minutes of a quarter and parts of quarters will not be accumulated. The quarters must be completed in the preliminary round.
 - A - 6.2.2** Failure to comply will result in loss of all preliminary round points.
 - A - 6.2.3** That time substitutions are allowed with all players required to play a minimum of quarters as per rule A – 6.2.

A - 7. Age Dispensation

Age Dispensation may be granted to a State or Territory for these Championships as allowed through the School Sport Australia Sport Participation Policy.

A – 8. Attendance at Championships

All students who participate in the School Sport Australia Netball Championships must remain at the Championship location throughout the duration of the championships and be bound by all Championship arrangements, except in exceptional circumstances as per School Sport Australia policy

Section B – Competition Structure

B - 1. Program / Schedule

B - 1.1 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.

B - 2. Draw

B - 2.1 The format of the competition remains but the draw is based on the previous years' final positions following the Netball Australia format. In the advent of additional states/territories entering the competition after the Championship post-event meeting they shall be allocated the numbers 7, 8 etc, as each nomination is received by the Championship Convener.

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		

B - 3. Duration of matches

B - 3.1 The following durations apply:

- 6 teams 4 x 15 minutes
- 7 teams 4 x 12 minutes
- 8 teams 4 x 10 minutes

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

B - 3.2 Procedure for extra time when a winner is required:

- B - 3.2.1** In the event of a draw at the end of full time, there shall be a two minute interval;
- B - 3.2.2** Extra time shall consist of two halves of five minutes with an interval of one minute at half time for 10-minute quarters, 6 minutes for 12-minute quarters and 7 minutes for 15-minute quarters;
- B - 3.2.3** Teams shall swap ends at half time. The centre pass is taken by the team entitled to the next centre pass;
- B - 3.2.4** During both of these intervals, substitutions and/or team changes may be made [refer Netball Australia];
- B - 3.2.5** During extra time, normal injury/ illness or blood procedures shall apply;
- B - 3.2.6** 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.

B - 4. Game Protocols / Specific Rules / Results

- B - 4.1** The first mentioned team in the fixtures shall be seated to the right of the centre circle, the second mentioned team to the left of the centre circle.
- B - 4.2** The time clock for the warm-up will start counting down at 20 minutes prior to the start of the game. With 2 minutes to go, teams will be called onto the third line in the following order: from GS through to GK, reserves, coach, manager and other officials.
- B - 4.3** After the announcement of teams and umpires, teams will shake hands and the exchange of badges will occur between the managers.

B - 5. Points Allocation

- B - 5.1** 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.
- B - 5.2** Any state/territory playing a girl who is not 15 years or under (or the relevant age dispensation) on 31 December of the year of the Championship shall forfeit all points gained for the Championship

B - 6. Method of Determining a Winner

- B - 6.1** Final Positions during Championships

- B - 6.1.1** For the final rounds teams shall be placed in descending order according to the number of points gained.
- B - 6.1.2** 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.
 - B - 6.1.2.1** 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.
 - B - 6.1.2.2** In the event of there being a draw for any placing at the end of the Preliminary Rounds which cannot be resolved by applying (6.1.2.1) or (6.1.2.2) 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

Section C – Facilities / Equipment

C - 1. Court facilities

- C - 1.1** The venue must be indoors and have at least 2 courts preferably 3 or 4 so that there are courts available for warm-up.

C - 2. Game Equipment

- C - 2.1** Host state provides six size 5 match balls. States are to be advised as soon as possible of the type of ball that will be used during the Championships. It is to be a ball endorsed by Netball Australia (recommend Gilbert Gripsure). Two balls are required per court, one for play and one as a back-up in case there is blood on the ball.
- C - 2.2** Electronic scoresheets are available from 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.
- C - 2.3** 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 be given to the scorers' bench and selectors as soon as a substitution takes place.
- C - 2.4** Other equipment to have at each bench includes: towels for spillages, 2 stopwatches and hand sanitiser.

Section D – Uniform

- D - 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.

- D - 2.** Players must wear bibs in the colour of the uniform, showing position on court. Players' surnames to appear on the back of the uniform.
- D - 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.

Section E – Injury Management

Refer to School Sport Australia Championship Protocols and Policy for the management of injuries. This policy will override any sport specific injury management Protocols.

[School-Sport-Australia-Injury-Management-Policy.pdf \(schoolsportaustralia.edu.au\)](https://schoolsportaustralia.edu.au/School-Sport-Australia-Injury-Management-Policy.pdf)

New Policy Dec 2023

Section F – Officials

F - 1. Umpires

- F - 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
- F - 1.2** The Umpiring Coach shall be appointed by Netball Australia.
- F - 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.

F - 2. Bench Officials

- F - 2.1** There is to 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.
- F - 2.2** There is to be one timekeeper responsible for scoring playing time, intervals, stoppages. 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.
- F - 2.3** Senior students can be trained by the State Sporting Organisation to take on these roles but a qualified Bench Convenor will need to oversee the scorers/timers.

Section G – Protests

N/A

Section H – Tribunal / Judiciary

- H - 1.** A Judiciary Committee is appointed at the pre-event meeting of each Championship.

H - 1.1 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.

H - 1.2 The championship convener shall chair meetings of the Judiciary Committee. The National Advisor shall act as minute taker of this committee.

H - 2. A written report of any appeals and decisions arising from these appeals shall be provided to delegates of each state/territory.

Section I – Trophies / Awards / Medals

I - 1. Major Trophy

The Howie Cup is presented to the winning netball team at the Closing Ceremony.

I - 2. Amy Safe (Gillett) Award

I - 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 - 2.1.1 exemplary on-court behavior

I - 2.1.2 competent execution of skills

I - 2.1.3 outstanding contribution to the team - positive attitude to team members and the opposition in all situations, unselfish play and high work rate.

I - 2.2 Each day the National Advisor will supply an appropriate form which the managers are to return to the National Advisor prior to the following days' games. Voting concludes after the minor round games and presentations will be made at the Closing Ceremony.

I - 2.3 A small plaque (included in budget) and sponsor gift is to be awarded to the winner in memory of Amy. A photo is to be taken of the winner to be sent to Amy's parents for the Amy Gillett Foundation annual report.

I - 3. Umpires' Award

The 3 umpires allocated to the grand final game will each be awarded a medal supplied by School Sport Australia acknowledging this achievement.

I - 4. All Australian Team

I - 4.1 All Australian Award

I - 4.1.1 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 is to be taken to send to sponsor (if applicable) and to have available for the players to purchase.

I - 4.2 Selection Process

I - 4.2.1 Twelve players shall be selected.

I - 4.2.2 No captain or vice-captain shall be named.

I - 4.2.3 The players selected shall be those who have given the best performances in the areas of skill, court play and understanding of the game.

- I - 4.2.4 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.
- I - 4.2.5 A player need not have participated in every game to be included in selection.
- I - 4.2.6 Players selected must display a high level of sportsmanship and behaviour throughout the entire Championship.
- I - 4.2.7 In the event of an International Tour being conducted following the Championship I – 4.2.2 and I – 4.2.4 will no longer apply and a team of twelve (12) will be selected. Shadow players will also be picked to cover all areas of the court.

I - 4.3 All Australian Selectors

- I - 4.3.1 There must be a total of 2 selectors. Netball Australia will appointed 1 selector.
- I - 4.3.2 It is recommended that the selectors hold the equivalent of an advanced coaching qualification.

I - 4.4 Duties of Selectors

- I - 4.4.1 The selection panel must watch at least three matches for each state.
- I - 4.4.2 There must be at least one selector present for the majority of the match for all other games.
- I - 4.4.3 The selectors must submit the names of the All Australian team to the National Advisor or her delegate prior to the Closing Ceremony.