

BY LAWS OF
WESTERN EYRE NETBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

DATED 10 November 2024

1 INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 In these By Laws Feminine includes masculine. Words importing singular include the plural and words importing plural include the singular where the text permits. "In writing" and "written" means and includes printing or other means of representing or reproducing words in visible form.

2 RISK

- 2.1 Anyone playing Netball in any competition organised by the Western Eyre Netball Association shall not hold the Association responsible for any accident or illness.

3 RULES

- 3.1 Rules of play will be governed by the Official Playing Rules of the International Federation of Netball Associations and the Interpretations there-of, determined by Netball Australia.

4 PROGRAM

- 4.1 Starting times for matches are to be set by The Committee, from time to time as it sees fit.
- 4.2 The duration of matches is to be set by the Committee, prior to the start of the season.

5 GRADES

- 5.1 The Association shall consist of such grades as determined by The Committee prior to the start of the season.
- 5.2 Each season clubs shall nominate their teams 28 days prior to the date of the first scheduled match. Each team must affiliate an A grade team. The submission of a minimum of three (3) senior Teams is encouraged.
- 5.3 Club's may request an exemption to not affiliate an A grade Team. This request will be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration.
- 5.4 The submission of an extra team in any grade must be approved by the Executive Committee.
- 5.5 To be eligible for underage competition a player must be 15 or Under at 31 December of that playing year.
- 5.5.1 Players eligible for Junior A must be 15 or Under at the 31 December of that playing year.
- 5.5.2 Players eligible for Junior B must be 13 or Under at the 31 December of that playing year.
- 5.5.3 Players eligible for Junior C must be 11 or Under at the 31 December of that playing year.
- 5.5.4 Requests for exemptions are required to be submitted in writing to The Committee for consideration.

6 REGISTRATION AND AFFILIATION

- 6.1 All players must be registered with the WENA prior to game commencement. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a technical forfeit.
- 6.2 All affiliation and registration fees must be paid to the Association Treasurer by the Thursday prior to the first match. Following the first match, all registrations and moneys owed by a Club shall be paid in full by Thursday following the last minor round match, before that Club can participate in Finals.

7 CLEARANCES

- 7.1 Each player in the Association shall be free to play for any Club provided she is not serving a current ban imposed by WENA, qualifies by age and does not owe money to another Club.
 - 7.1.1 An unfinancial player may be held by a Club until all money owed by the player has been paid.
 - 7.1.2 A person serving a current ban imposed by the WENA shall be refused membership from any club in the Western Eyre Netball Association until ban period has expired.
- 7.2 A player may only play for one Club in any one season.
- 7.3 Shortage of Players – With the agreement of the opposing team, Club's are able to "borrow" players from their opposition on game day, if they have a shortage of players.
 - 7.3.1 Opposing team has the right to decline the request to borrow players.
 - 7.3.2 Borrowed players will play for the opposing team for the entire game.
 - 7.3.3 Players will have the game recorded as a qualifying game with their normal (registered) playing club.
 - 7.3.4 Premiership points will be awarded to the winning team.
 - 7.3.5 Best & Fairest Votes will be awarded. "Borrowed" players will have their normal (registered) playing club listed on the voting card.

8 GENERAL

- 8.1 Score cards shall be completed recording both Christian and Surnames before commencement of match.
- 8.2 Prior to the commencement of a match, umpires shall initial the last player entry and any preceding blank lines on each score card.
- 8.3 Each club shall supply a scorer for each match. Scorers shall check with each other after each goal is scored. Scorers shall be at least 14 years of age.
- 8.4 Score cards shall be forwarded to the Records Officer by 9.00am following the day of play, submission can be electronic (picture or scan), with a Hard Copy of the Score card to be provided by Friday following the game.
 - 8.4.1 It is the responsibility of each Club to deliver their score cards to the Records Officer.
 - 8.4.2 \$20.00 fine shall be imposed on the Club responsible if score cards are not delivered by the designated time. Records Officer to forward notice of fine to offending Club.
- 8.5 No Club shall alter uniform colour except with the approval of The Committee.
- 8.6 Home Clubs shall provide two (2) digital timers for each minor round match & all finals matches. Only one (1) person is required to time both the game and injury time.
- 8.7 Each club shall have a well equipped First Aid Kit at all matches. Home Clubs must provide ice.

- 8.8 Each Club shall supply an umpire for each grade, except A grade, where Umpires Coordinator shall allocate umpires to these games. Umpires must be at least 14 years of age.
- 8.8.1 In the event that a scheduled match is played and a club has not supplied an umpire then a \$50 fine will be imposed on the non-complying club.
- 8.8.2 In the event that a schedule match is not played as a club has not supplied an umpire then a forfeit will be imposed on the non-complying club.

9 MATCHES

- 9.1 A Senior Player may only play in one Senior match per round, with the exception of Clause 11.
- 9.2 Junior Players are only permitted to participate (take the court) in two (2) matches on game day, which may include only one (1) Senior match.
- 9.3 Underage players playing Senior Grades shall qualify for their underage finals, providing that they play on separate days, a minimum of three (3) minor round games in their underage grade.
- 9.4 If a club has two (2) teams in the same grade, players cannot interchange between those teams after the first seven (7) A grade rounds.
- 9.5 Any player having played three (3) Senior matches in a higher grade, after the first seven (7) A grade rounds of the season, is not eligible to play in a lower Senior grade.
- A player may appeal to the Committee to play in a lower grade; if the appeal is successful she must remain in that grade for the rest of the season.

10 MERCY RULE

- 10.1 In the event of a Junior B or Junior C team leading by 30 goals or more at half time or three-quarter time (whichever occurs first), the game will be officially ended, score sheets and best and fairest votes need to be completed at this time.
- 10.2 The game will continue with umpires and timers but no official scoring. Players can swap between teams at the coaches discretion.
- 10.3 The Mercy Rule will only be enforced during minor rounds games.

11 SUBSTITUTE RESERVE (SR) RULE

- 11.1 A Player in a lower senior grade may sit reserve for a higher grade and take the court during the course of the game only in the event of an injury or illness during the match, and subsequently play in her usual grade.
- 11.2 A maximum of two (2) SR players can be listed.
- 11.3 The Player must be named as a Substitute Reserve (SR) on the higher grade card and start on the court in the lower grade.
- 11.4 If a reserve is named on the score card that player must be used prior to an SR, failure to comply will result in a forfeit.
- 11.5 The SR player is not deemed as having played the higher grade and is ineligible for the Best and Fairest votes in the higher grade.
- 11.6 Underage players playing Senior Grades cannot be named as an SR.

12 FORFEITS

- 12.1 All teams in a minor/major round match must be ready to play by the starting time specified by The Committee and Rule Book guidelines shall be adhered to.
- 12.2 A team shall be fined \$100.00 unless notification of forfeit is given to the opposing club by 7.00 PM on day prior to play
- 12.3 Any team which forfeits four (4) matches during the minor round is ineligible to play in finals, this excludes forfeits due to technicals.
- 12.4 In the event of a deferred match, Records Officer is to be notified of date of game, and then score cards are to reach Records Officer by 12 noon on the day following the match.
- 12.5 In the case of a forfeit
 - 12.5.1 the non-offending team must submit their completed score card to the Records Officer in accordance with Clause 15.4. Up to seven players may be listed on the score card and they shall be eligible for qualification.
 - 12.5.2 The unused WENA Best & Fairest Envelopes shall be forwarded to the Records Officer by Friday following the scheduled game day.
- 12.6 If a match is abandoned after it is started for any reason beyond the control of either team, the two teams can agree to either replay the game, or abandon the game which will be classed as a 20 goal draw.
 - 12.6.1 No player having played in a different grade during the round of the abandoned match, can play in a deferred match.
- 12.7 If a team should forfeit after reaching the finals, the teams below on the premiership table will move up a position.
- 12.8 In the event of one team forfeiting the opposing team shall receive 2 points and percentage calculated on 20 goals to nil, for under age games, and 40 goals to nil for senior grades.
- 12.9 Should it be necessary for a club to forfeit one match in a given round of matches, that club shall forfeit its lowest senior grade for that round. In the event of the lowest grade being played prior to the scheduled date, then that match shall be deemed a forfeit to enable the higher senior grade match/matches to be played.

In extreme circumstances an exemption can be requested. Approval for exemption is at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

13 CONDUCT OF PLAYERS

- 13.1 A club will be responsible for the conduct of its players and officials.
 - 13.1.1 Any player reported and found guilty by the Tribunal Committee for an offence on court is ineligible for any minor round player award in the season concerned.

14 PROTESTS AND REPORTS

- 14.1 All protests and reports by the Club or Person concerned must be lodged to the Association Secretary and Club President by phone within forty-eight hours of the incident. A written statement giving reasons for the protest must be forwarded to the Association Secretary within 48 hours of the game being played.
 - 14.1.1 The WENA Executive Committee will meet within 48 hours of receipt of incident report. Executive Committee will notify involved persons and respective Club Presidents by receipted mail.

- 14.2 All breach of conduct incident reports shall be reviewed by the WENA Executive Committee, if deemed necessary will be referred to Tribunal. The Tribunal must consist of a minimum of one female and one male with a panel of three. These members must be independent of WENA Committees and all affiliated club Committees. Should a Tribunal member have a conflict of interest, the Tribunal member will be replaced by proxy to be appointed by WENA Executive Committee. The tribunal to follow pre determined penalty guide attached to bylaws.
- 14.2.1 Any person called to give evidence by The Tribunal must attend, providing forty-eight (48) hours notice is given.
- 14.2.2 Any player, official or spectator involved in any report must be available to the Tribunal at the time of hearing, and may be accompanied by a representative of her/his Club to act as advocate. That person shall not be a member of the legal profession.
- 14.2.3 If the Tribunal Committee wishes to suspend a player for a longer period than four (4) matches, as a result of a gross misdemeanor, the approval of Netball SA must be obtained.
- 14.3 Umpires reporting a player must notify the player concerned at the end of the match, also the Captain of the team concerned. The report shall be in writing, signed by the Umpire and posted to the Association Secretary within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of the match and is to be heard by the Tribunal Committee within six (6) days of the match. Any umpire filing a report shall notify the Association Secretary by phone within forty-eight (48) hours after the match.
- 14.4 All decisions handed down by The Committee/Tribunal are binding.
- 14.5 A person who has had a ban imposed by the WENA shall not be permitted to assume any official roles and responsibilities for a period of one (1) calendar year from the ban expiry date.

15 PREMIERSHIP POINTS AND POSITIONS

- 15.1 The following shall be awarded for all minor round games:
- Two (2) points shall be awarded for a win.
One (1) point shall be awarded for a draw.
Zero points for a loss.
- 15.2 In the event of one (1) or more teams getting equal points, their relative positions shall be determined by percentage
- $$\frac{\text{Goals Scored} \times 100}{\text{total goals for and against}}$$
- 15.3 In the event of one team forfeiting, the opposing team shall receive two (2) points.

16 FINALS

- 16.1 Finals shall be played in each grade:
- First Semi Final between third and fourth teams.
 - Second Semi Final between first and second teams.
 - Preliminary final between winner of First Semi Final and loser of Second Semi Final
 - Grand Final between winner of Second Semi and winner of Preliminary Final.
- 16.2 Finals shall be played when & where the Committee directs.

- 16.3 In the event of a draw in any final, teams shall play extra time as set out in the official netball rule book.
- 16.4 Any player having played three (3) matches for her Club, in separate rounds, during the year, may play in those finals for which she is eligible.
- 16.4.1 During finals, a player may play one match in a higher grade and be eligible to return to her usual grade for subsequent finals.
- 16.4.2 During finals, Junior players may play in a Junior and Senior grade finals on the same day.

17 AWARDS

- 17.1 Best and Fairest awards shall be made in all official grades of the Association. Other awards may be determined by The Committee.
- 17.2 The voting for the Best and Fairest Awards is to be chosen by two (2) selectors, one from each Club.
- The selectors shall convene at breaks to discuss their preferences.
 - Clubs are to roster their Selectors on a rotational basis to grades.
 - Selectors are to be over the age of 16.
 - Umpires are able to be selectors.
 - Coaches & Scorers are not able to be selectors.
- Selectors shall agree on First (3 points), Second (2 points) and Third (1 point) preference.
- Best & Fairest votes are written on the official Best & Fairest voting sheet and then signed by both selectors and placed in the Association official envelope and sealed.
- 17.3 The Best and Fairest votes are to be counted by the Awards Committee. Votes shall be counted following the last minor round games.
- 17.4 Each year the Perpetual Trophies shall be presented to the winner of such.
- These are to be inscribed with the name and year and held by the winner for one (1) year.

18 TROPHIES

- 18.1 Any Club that fails to return a trophy in good order and condition shall be liable for the cost of repairs or the cost of replacement if deemed necessary by The Committee.
- 18.2 Finals shields or trophies, when full, shall be awarded to the Club which has won the shield or trophy the majority of times.
- 18.3 Perpetual Trophies
- (1) Best and Fairest 21 & Under A Grade, to be counted on Best & Fairest votes and players eligible must be 21 or Under at the 31st December of that playing year.
 - (2) Prudential - MGA shield shall be awarded to the Club gaining most premiership points during the minor round.
 - (3) WENA Best & Fairest A Grade Player – Donated by Bev Oats

19 ASSOCIATION SELECTION

19.1 Player Eligibility

For Players to be eligible for Association Team selection they are required to have played at least one (1) game for a Member Club within the current season. Exemption will be considered by the Committee on written application.

19.2 Coaches shall be approved by the Committee

Once selection is completed, coach shall have final placement of team members.

19.3 Selection is to be chaired by the President as necessary

Seniors

Coach and two (2) other persons appointed by the Committee.

Juniors

3 persons (including Coach if appointed prior to selections) per age group appointed by the Junior Development Committee.

19.4 Player selection

Junior Grades

All juniors are to trial and play in their relevant age level, with the only exceptions being:

19.4.1 A player may be selected on merit into a higher junior grade only when there is insufficient numbers available to fill a team in the next highest grade. Both the player and their parent/guardian must be consulted and their approval sought for this to occur, however Pedler Cup will be an exception to this.

Senior Grades

If a player has been chosen in the top 10 players within their respective club and invited to trial at senior selection:

19.4.2 If selected in the WENA A Grade team for a particular event, that player has the option to participate in A Grade, but must then withdraw from representing the association at the junior age level. The player's commitment must be to the A Grade team.

19.4.3 The junior may be chosen on merit in a senior WENA grade (below A Grade) only in the event that there is a shortage of numbers available for selection to fill the senior grades. The player is expected to still compete in their selected junior grade beforehand, but has the option to participate in a senior grade.

19.4.4 Both the player and their parent/guardian must be consulted and their approval sought for this to occur.

In summary: it is the intention that juniors represent the association in their respective age groups, unless there is a shortage of players in higher grades, or a player has been identified as being a potential WENA A Grade player.

20 ASSOCIATION UNIFORMS

20.1 Uniforms are to be returned to the Property Officer, who in turn shall return uniforms to the Association Property Officer within fourteen days of the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine of \$50.00.

20.2 Payable by the offending player.

20.3 If the fine is not paid or the uniform is damaged or lost, full replacement cost of the uniform will be paid by the player's club.

21 FINES

21.1 Any fines imposed by the Association must be paid within fourteen (14) days. If not, it shall become the responsibility of that player's Club, which shall then pay the fines within fourteen (14) days of notification.

22 HOT WEATHER POLICY

- 22.1 If the forecast maximum temperature at 9.00am is 34 degrees or higher modifications shall be implemented.
 - 22.1.1 Each quarter shall be reduced to 12 minutes.
 - 22.1.2 In junior matches the coach should use the entire bench. (Rotate players regularly)
 - 22.1.3 Lightning/Thunder/Hail – Guidelines
 - 22.1.4 Our lightning safety code is based on the 30/30 rule which calls for all play to be stopped when the lightning/thunder ratio reaches 30 seconds or less (ie. The time between when the lightning is seen and the last thunder is heard is 30 seconds or less).
 - 22.1.5 The umpires of the game should be the persons to decide if the game is to be ceased or not – remember – duty of care to the players.
 - 22.1.6 When the 30 second ratio has been reached, this means that the lightning seen is 10km away and the next strike has a “significant risk” of hitting the people who have seen the lightning and heard the thunder. All participants must be aware that in the event of lightning, play must not resume until a least 10 minutes after the last lightning strike and thunder at the discretion of the umpires.
 - 22.1.7 All play must cease immediately if there is hail. All players, officials and spectators should seek cover immediately.

Amendment History	
25/03/2013	
07/09/2015	Clause 15.8.1, 15.8.2, 16.5, 16.5.1, 16.6, 16.6.1, 16.6.2, 16.6.3, 19.1.3, 19.1.4, 19.1.5, 19.1.6, 19.1.7
30/10/2017	Clause 9.4.3
29/10/2018	Clause 4.3 - Additional wording Clause 4.4 - Removed Section 16 - Addition of Player Eligibility Clause 16.4.1 - Removed Clause 16.4.2 - Removed
28/10/2019	Clause 4.5 – Changes to Junior Age Groups Clause 7.1 – Reworded for Online Registrations Clause 11.5 - Renumbered Clause 12.3 – Reworded Clause 13.3 – Reworded Clause 15.10 – SR Rule Clause 15.10.5 – Addition
29/03/2021	Clause 7.1 – Player Registrations amended Clause 8.3 – Removed & Replaced with Shortage of Players Clause 9.4.3 – Removed Clause 11.5.1 – Reworded Clause 11.5.2 – Time removed Clause 13.3 (1) – Betty Schwarz removed Clause 15.4 – Additional wording
18/10/2021	Changes to Western Eyre Netball Association Changes, additions or deletion of the follow: Clause 3, 4, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17
21/03/2022	New Logo Additional of Mercy Rule – Clause 10
17/04/2023	Clause 11.2 – revised to maximum of 2 SR's
19/02/2024	Clause 8.6 – reworded
10/11/2024	Clause 17.2 – reworded to include umpires as selectors, coaches & scorers can not be selectors