



ORANGE NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

COMPETITION POLICY

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1 SEASON

All competitions shall commence and finish on dates to be decided by the Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee).

The Saturday Winter competition shall commence no earlier than March and finish as determined by the Committee.

Special event dates and any other competitions including Midweek netball shall also be determined by the Committee.

2 REGISTRATIONS

Registration fees for all competitions of Orange Netball Association (ONA) shall be determined by the Committee and confirmed by the first Council Meeting in the calendar year.

ONA will open registrations for each competition in accordance with the published calendar. Registrations will be valid from the date of registration until the end of the competition.

ONA is an affiliated association of Netball NSW (NNSW) and players must be a financial member of NNSW and Netball Australia to take part in the ONA competition. NNSW offers annual and six (6) months' membership registration during the calendar year from January 1 and December 31. It is the players' responsibility to ensure they are financial members of NNSW while participating in ONA competitions.

2.1 Team Registrations

- 2.1.1 Clubs will be responsible for the online registration of teams, players and non-playing members of their clubs.
- 2.1.2 All teams must register at least five (5) players before grading night. No team may have more than twelve (12) fully registered players at any point in time during the competition.
- 2.1.3 The competition secretary is to be notified in writing of the removal/replacement of a player from a team list. The addition of a player to a team list is to be made in consultation with the competition Secretary and Registrar and confirmed in writing.
- 2.1.4 Team registrations must be submitted by the advertised closing date for team nominations. The Committee may accept late entries prior to the draw being finalised to minimise competition byes in each division.
- 2.1.5 Late registrations will be processed by the Association Registrar.
- 2.1.6 Registration fees are paid online at the time of registering and remitted to the appropriate recipient.

Clubs may seek the Association to assist with collection of fees using vouchers and the Association will invoice the club. This is a special consideration at the discretion of the Committee.

2.2 Individual Registrations

- 2.2.1 New players may be registered by a club at any time during the season provided that such registration together with the registration fee is made prior to participation in any competition match.
- 2.2.2 A player registered with one club in any one season may not transfer to any other club until the following season except in the case of school transfers, and in special circumstances that must be referred to the Committee in writing.
- 2.2.3 A player seeking a transfer from any club mid-season must seek written approval from their registered club to ensure any outstanding commitments have been fulfilled. Approval is required by the Association Executive prior to any transfer and the competition Secretary and Registrar must be informed of any transfers between clubs or teams.
- 2.2.4 Players joining ONA from other associations, and already affiliated with NNSW, will pay relevant ONA registrations.
- 2.2.5 A player must be turning twelve (12) years of age by 31 December of the current year to be eligible for registering in a team playing in the senior competition.
- 2.2.6 A player must be turning eight (8) years of age by 31 December of the current year to be eligible to register in a team playing in the junior competition. A player turning eighteen (18) years of age or older by 31 December of the current year is not eligible to play in the junior competition.
- 2.2.7 A player must be turning six (6) years of age by 31 December of the current year to be eligible to register in the Non-Competitive Net Set Go (NSG - 8/9s) competition. If a player is turning six (6) or seven (7) in the year of competition they must have completed at least one (1) year of the NSG skills program to be eligible to play in the NSG Non-Competitive competition.
- 2.2.8 All individual players have to complete a PCYC Orange registration form.
- 2.2.9 Players withdrawing without playing a game may have their competition fees refunded.
NB – NNSW maintains its own refund policy and ONA is not responsible to refund any fees paid by an individual to NNSW.
- 2.2.10 Any player who has played and withdraws after the start of the competition forfeits their registration fee.

2.3 Reduced Registration

ONA will consider reducing competition fees for the Winter Competition from the first round of the second session. Players are required to ensure member registration with NNSW is paid prior to participating in ONA competitions.

2.4 Non-Playing Members

- 2.4.1 Associate and non-playing members may join the Association on payment of a fee as set by the Committee each year which covers insurance. Clubs shall be responsible for processing these memberships within their club through the online registration system.
- 2.4.2 All non-playing members must complete the NSW and PCYC registration forms.

3 GRADING OF TEAMS

- 3.1 The winning team in each senior grade must play in a higher grade the following season is five (5) players of the original team are still registered with that team. Appeals must be received in writing to the Committee.
- 3.2 Team grading will be determined with a delegation of club delegates (2 delegates per club and 1 delegate for individual teams). Final grading will be shared with club delegates and teams will have seven (7) days to appeal.
- 3.3 Runners up in a senior grades will be considered by the Committee to be graded in a higher division the following year.
- 3.4 Junior teams with five (5) or more representative players must play in the top division in a higher age group.
- 3.5 The Committee reserves the right to promote or demote any team according to performance at the completion of round 6. Team points will be determined by the Committee at an average of team points in the grade where the re-graded team is placed.
- 3.6 For semifinal placing goal percentages will be taken from the first game played after re-grading.

4 CLUB DUTIES

4.1 Meetings

- 4.1.1 There will be a minimum of four (4) council meetings held through the year. Meetings will usually be the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm at Sir Neville Howse Stadium, Anzac Park or at an alternate location deemed by the committee.
- 4.1.2 Clubs/Teams must nominate their delegate/s at least seven (7) days prior to the first Council meeting each year. Delegates must be financial members of the Association.

- 4.1.3 Clubs must have two (2) delegates present. Clubs with up to two teams must have one delegate in attendance. Failure to attend a Council meeting will incur a fine per delegate. The fine will be determined by the Committee on an annual basis. The fine is payable before any team from that club takes part in any competition matches after notification has been given.
- 4.1.4 Only financial and life members of Orange Netball Association will have voting rights at Council meetings. Each registered club shall be entitled to have two (2) registered members vote and each individual team will be entitled to have one (1) registered member vote at Council meetings.
- 4.1.5 An apology exempts a club/team from receiving a fine. An apology will only be accepted on two (2) occasions in any one (1) season from any one (1) club/team. Thereafter a fine is incurred for non-attendance. (Definitions)

4.2 Uniform

- 4.2.1 Players shall wear full club uniform in all games unless otherwise approved by the executive committee.
- 4.2.2 Players shall wear full sport briefs, bike pants or leggings under the skirt of their uniform. Briefs, bike pants or leggings must be black or the same colour as the uniform skirt.
- 4.2.3 Players may wear fitted long sleeve tops under their playing uniform. They must be plain black or the same colour as the uniform. Tops with hoods, zips, cords or toggles are NOT permitted to be worn.
- 4.2.4 Positional bibs or patches must be worn front and back.
- 4.2.5 Sunglasses may be worn at players own risk. Where possible, sunglasses must be close fitting and must have no sharp edges.
- 4.2.6 Religious garments or head dresses are permitted. These should be as closely fitted as possible.
- 4.2.7 Players may not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players, specifically:
 - a) No adornment or jewelry may be worn other than a wedding ring which must be covered by tape.
 - b) A medical alert bracelet may be worn provided it is covered with tape.
 - c) Fingernails must be short and smooth.
 - d) Hair will be securely tied.
- 4.2.8 A club or individual team seeking change of uniform must submit a request to the Executive for approval of the new uniform.
- 4.2.9 A new club seeking admission into the Orange Netball Association Winter competition is required to submit proposed uniform details in their initial submission to ensure there is no clash of uniform colours with existing clubs. Upon approval from the Executive teams are permitted to order uniforms.

4.3 Umpiring

- 4.3.1 All teams taking part in the competition matches conducted by the Association are to supply umpires as per the draw. The umpire shall take no part in the play on court.
- 4.3.2 Failure to supply umpires will incur a fine (financial and loss of competition points) for the team, per umpire not attending to duty. The fine is payable **before the next round of competition** after receiving the fine. The fine will be determined by the Committee and published in a Fines & Penalties document.
- 4.3.3 **All teams involved in forfeits must provide umpires as shown in the draw for that day.**
- 4.3.4 Clubs must appoint an Umpires Convenor/Delegate who is responsible for managing all umpiring matters for their club each competition round. Clubs must notify the Junior and Senior Competition Secretaries who their umpire delegate is each round.
- 4.3.5 **The committee will not organise umpires for any club/team.**
- 4.3.6 The association will offer a junior umpiring scheme at the beginning of each season if possible. This will be advertised on the website.
- 4.3.7 All clubs taking part in the competition must have at least one (1) person to complete the online Level 1 umpiring course. Clubs that fail to complete this course will attract a fine as determined by the Committee.
- 4.3.8 Two (2) players from each Senior team will be required to attend the Umpire rules night organised by the Orange Netball Association. Exemptions may be applied for to the Committee.
- 4.3.9 All umpires seeking to be mentored are required to complete the Netball Australia Umpires exam prior to taking the court. All club umpires are recommended to complete the Netball Australia Umpires exam, Clubs are expected to monitor the completion of these exams.
- 4.3.10 All accredited umpires officiating in games must adhere to the following uniform requirements. Females Umpires – white skirt, white top and appropriate footwear. Males umpires – white shorts, white top and appropriate footwear. A white shirt over a playing uniform is acceptable during competition rounds with full white uniform required for finals. Umpires are permitted to wear a white all weather jacket and trackpants in cold/inclement weather.
- 4.3.11 Club umpires are permitted to wear a club top/bottom and club tracksuit whilst undertaking umpiring duties. Appropriate footwear **MUST** be worn.
- 4.3.12 All umpires participating in semis, finals and grand finals must wear full whites. The Association will allocate umpires to all games in the semis, finals and grand final games.

5 COMPETITION

5.1 Matches

- 5.1.1 All competition matches will be conducted in accordance with the rules of netball.
- 5.1.2 The Association will run one main Winter competition, divided into three (3) divisions: NetSetGo, Junior (11-15 years) and Senior. Competition matches between registered teams shall be controlled by the Committee.
- 5.1.3 A Midweek competition will also be run at the discretion of the Committee on a Wednesday evening. The divisions of the secondary competition will be advertised prior to its commencement. The midweek competition has its own competition policy.
- 5.1.4 Game times for the main Winter competition shall consist of: a) NetSetGo – 4 x 10 minute quarters with a two minute break at quarter and three quarter time and three minutes at half time b) Juniors – 4 x 15 minute quarters with a two minute break at quarter and three quarter time and three minutes at half time c) Seniors – 4 x 15 minute quarters with a break of three minutes at quarter and three quarter time and five minutes at half time
- 5.1.5 The committee will endeavour to ensure the Winter competition shall consist of a minimum of games to ensure that every team plays an opposition at least twice.
- 5.1.6 No stoppage time for injury is added during competition rounds, however throughout the finals series any stoppage time shall be played at the end of the game for all centrally timed games. Normal stoppage allowance for injury applies as per Netball Australia rules.
- 5.1.7 All finals series games are to be played on the days allocated in the draw. Players must have played a minimum of three (3) competition games with the same team to be eligible to play with that team in the finals series.
- 5.1.8 The draw for the semi-finals, finals and grand finals will be determined by the Committee at the conclusion of the competition rounds and will be played as follows: a) Semi-finals 1 v 2 and 3 v 4 b) Finals Loser of 1 v 2 will play the winner of 3 v 4 c) Grand-final Winner of 1 v 2 will play the winner of final
- 5.1.9 In the event of a drawn match in the finals series (semi-final, finals and grand-finals), there shall be a two (2) minute interval at the end of full time, team substitutions and changes are permitted. The teams will change ends and extra time each way is played, which will be: five (5) minutes for juniors and seven (7) minutes for seniors. Teams will change ends at half time with a one (1) minute interval and team changes and substitutions are allowed. If at the completion of extra time, the game is still drawn play will continue until one team holds a two goal advantage.
- 5.1.10 NetSetGo grades (under 8 and 9 years) are non-competitive and all participants will receive an award of recognition of participation.

5.2 Scoring

- 5.2.1 The scoreboards for all scheduled games will be placed in the center circle prior to the commencement of the first timeslot of NetSetGo, Junior and Senior games.
- 5.2.2 Points will be awarded for competition matches as follows:
 - a) 3 points for a win or a win on forfeit
 - b) 2 points for a drawn game, including abandoned or cancelled game due to weather
 - c) 1 point for a loss
 - d) 0 points for a bye
- 5.2.3 All players must sign/tick the scoreboard, including any borrowed players. Borrowed players must write their name on the scoresheet. At least five (5) registered team members need to sign the scoreboard before the start of the game, if this does not occur the team will lose competitions points as deemed by the Committee.
- 5.2.4 Each team must provide a scorer and both scorers must score together for the whole game. Both scorers are to sit or stand in a central position on the sideline.
- 5.2.5 If scoring is not performed as per this competition procedure, no objections will be entered into.
- 5.2.6 The winning team is responsible for providing the scoresheets to the umpires to sign and for returning it to the ONA office.
- 5.2.7 The point score shall be kept by the Competition Secretary and shall be the official record. The point score will be published on the ONA website.
- 5.2.8 In the event of tied point score at the completion of the competition rounds, a percentage will determine the placings for semi-finals: Goals for/Goals against x 100 / no. games played

5.3 Players

- 5.3.1 All players must sign the scoresheet as a record of their participation in any competition match. Signatures must be the same for each round.
- 5.3.2 Borrowed players must sign the scoresheet and list from the team/grade from which they came.
- 5.3.3 No player shall play in a lower grade or across a grade to that which they are registered. Division two (2) of an age group is considered a lower grade.
- 5.3.4 A player may only play for one team in any one time slot. Ie. Once the player has taken the court in one time slot they may not change and take part in any other match in the same timeslot. This does not include forfeits.

- 5.3.5 Teams may not borrow players from other clubs, but players from within the same club/affiliated teams can play higher grades. Registered players turning 12 or older, may play senior games if they register to play in the Senior competition and pay the registration fee as set down by ONA.
- 5.3.6 A borrowed player may only play in two (2) games. They must register as a team member and pay full fees prior to taking the court for a third game.
- 5.3.7 A borrowed player must wear the same registered uniform as the team for which they are playing.

5.4 Forfeits

- 5.4.1 Teams forfeiting must notify the Competition Secretary, opposing team contact person and the umpires before 9.00pm on the day preceding the competition. Teams forfeiting must notify the competition Secretary via text message, NOT via facebook or email.
- 5.4.2 Any forfeit received after 9.00pm on the day preceding the competition will be deemed an unnotified forfeit. The team deemed an unnotified forfeit will incur a fine – monetary and loss of competition points. The fine is payable before the next round of competition after receiving the fine. The fine will be determined by the Committee annually.
- 5.4.3 The team forfeiting is still required to carry out umpiring duties that may have been allocated to the team on the day of the forfeit.
- 5.4.4 An unnotified forfeit requires the scoresheet to be returned to the Competition Secretary, clearly marked as a forfeit, during the set time slot. The scoresheet needs to be completed by the team claiming the forfeit.
- 5.4.5 When a team receives a notified forfeit, all players fully registered at the time of the forfeit are deemed to have played in that game. When a team forfeits a game all players are deemed to have not played that game.
- 5.4.6 A team which forfeits three (3) competition matches during any one (1) season will be disqualified from the competition, but may appeal the decision. Appeals are to be received by the Competition Secretary in writing within seven (7) days of the third forfeit.
- 5.4.7 The Competition Secretary will notify teams after two (2) forfeits.
- 5.4.8 Teams forfeiting will receive no competition points. Opposition teams will receive three (3) points.

5.5 Postponements

- 5.5.1 Teams unable to play matches at the time specified in the draw must arrange a time suitable to both teams prior to the following round in the draw or a forfeit will result.
- 5.5.2 The team wishing to alter the time of a competition match is responsible for the collection of the scorecard from the Competition Secretary. Each team is responsible for arranging one umpire each for the match. Umpires originally set down must be notified and invited as a matter of courtesy.
- 5.5.3 The winning team shall return the official scorecard to the Competition Secretary before the next competition match. Points will not be awarded if the scorecard has not been returned.
- 5.5.4 If a postponed game cannot be played by the specified date because of players involvement in ONA's representative commitments or school requirements, application for deferment must be made in writing to the Committee at least seven (7) days prior to the scheduled match.
- 5.5.5 All postponed games can be played at Anzac Park on the outdoor courts unless the game was set down on an indoor court in the original draw, or a mutually agreeable venue. Any postponed games that are played on the indoor courts, it is the responsibility of the team wishing the alteration to book the court. Court hire fees are to be paid by the teams at the time of the game.
- 5.5.6 If no suitable time can be arranged, the team wishing the alteration will have to forfeit the match.

6 ADVERSE AND DANGEROUS WEATHER

- 6.1 A decision regarding play due to adverse weather prior to the commencement of a game on any one (1) particular court may be made by mutual agreement of both teams, and the game shall be deemed a draw with each team receiving two (2) competition points.
- 6.2 If teams mutually agree to abandon play on a particular court, players that have signed the scoresheet shall be deemed to have played.
- 6.3 If rounds commence, all games will continue for the full four (4) quarters. If the weather deteriorates during the games and play is considered dangerous by the Competition Secretary, the Umpires Convener and the President, or their respective delegate, play will be abandoned.
- 6.4 If the Association abandons play before half time, all games will be deemed a draw for that round and each team will be awarded two (2) competition points.

- 6.5 If the Association abandons play after half time the team with the most goals will be declared the winner and will be awarded three (3) competition points and the team with the lesser goals will be awarded one (1) competition point.
- 6.6 If one team decides to cease play during a game, that team will be deemed to have forfeited the game and shall receive no competition points.
- 6.7 No games shall be called off by the Association unless in the opinion of the respective Competition Secretary , the Umpires Convenor and the President, or their respective delegate, one (1) hour prior to the commencement of play, the courts are considered unsafe for play.
- 6.8 In the event of no play a post will be made on the ONA Facebook page and the ONA website once a decision has been made.
- 6.9 Games abandoned due to adverse weather shall be classed as drawn games and two (2) competition points will be awarded to each team.
- 6.10 All fully registered team members at the date of the abandoned game shall be deemed to have played on that day.
- 6.11 In the event of lightning, all games will be postponed for 30 minutes from the time of the lightning strike.
- 6.12 A round is considered to be all timeslots for that day.

7 INSURANCE, INJURIES, COURT INSPECTIONS AND BEHAVIOUR

- 7.1 All registered players and officials are insured through Netball NSW.
- 7.2 All injuries are to be reported to the ONA office and recorded on the scoresheet and the ONA injury book as soon as possible. The injury record shall include the date and location of the incident, a description of the incident, nature of the injury and any treatment provided so far, details of any witnesses and signed by the person giving the report.
- 7.3 The Executive Committee members on duty shall inspect the courts and surrounds at the commencement of each playing day and determine if the courts are safe for play. Games may be relocated to different courts or postponed if conditions require and all teams shall follow the instructions of the Executive Committee in that regard.
- 7.4 If there is any change to court conditions during the playing day which create a new hazard (eg. Broken glass, obstruction on the court or surrounds), teams should cease play and notify a committee member immediately to carry out a new inspection.

- 7.5 All players, coaches, officials and spectators shall be bound by the Netball NSW Code of Conduct.
- 7.6 The umpires shall be the controllers of on and off court behaviour in the first instance and may impose penalties provided by the International Netball Federation Netball Rules book, which may require officials or spectators to leave the court area and may impose on court penalties for behaviour off the court.
- 7.7 In addition, any unsporting behaviour, misconduct or disputes on or off the court maybe reported to the Executive Committee by the umpires, coaches, players or managers. If possible, issues should be reported to the Executive Committee as soon as they occur, while the game is in progress. Any formal reports are to be made in writing to be dealt with in accordance with the Netball NSW Member Protection Policy.
- 7.8 Bikes, scooters, skateboards and footballs must not be used on the courts and surrounds while games are in progress. All sidelines must be kept clear of bags and chairs for the safety of players and umpires.
- 7.9 Balloons, streams, noise makers etc. are not allowed inside the PCYC complex.
- 7.10 Pets are not permitted on the indoor or outdoor courts.
- 7.11 Smoking is not permitted at the courts and surrounds while games are being held in line with the NSW Smoke-Free Environment Act 2000.

8 PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS

- 8.1 In 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic required significant changes to the way the ONA competition was conducted. ONA will observe directions from the NSW Government and Netball NSW as required to keep the ONA Community safe.
- 8.2 At times, ONA may need to modify competitions to comply with directions from NSW Government or Netball NSW to maintain public health and safety.
- 8.3 ONA maintains affiliation with Netball NSW and observes Netball NSW policies.

9 APPENDIX – ANNUAL FEES, FINES AND PENALTIES

Annual fees will be set by the Committee each year. This will be after the Netball NSW Council Meeting the year prior.

Penalties

| Action | Penalty |
|---|--|
| Playing an unregistered player | Loss of game points |
| Notified forfeit | No game points awards |
| Unnotified forfeit | Loss of game points \$70 fine (payable prior to next round) |
| Scorecard incorrectly completed | One game point deducted |
| Failure to provide club duty roster (eg. set up/pack up) | 1 st offence - \$55 2 nd offence - \$110 3 rd offence - \$330 |

Fines

| Action | Penalty |
|--|---------------------------|
| Failure to attend Council meeting | Fine of \$33 per delegate |
| Failure to attend Umpires Lectures | Fine of \$22 |
| Failure to supply an umpire to rostered duty* | \$80 |
| <p><i>*Umpires MUST be at the courts and start the game within 30 seconds of the hooter sounding.</i></p> <p><i>Fines will be enforced regardless of umpires arriving after this time.</i></p> <p><i>If there is a complete failure of umpires to turn up at a rostered game, one (1) point for each umpire failure to show will be removed from the rostered umpiring teams competition points total in addition to the fine.</i></p> | |