

**RAVENSTHORPE NETBALL
ASSOCIATION**

BY-LAWS

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MC - Management Committee Who makes this up ? President/secretary/treasurer?

RULE 1 - PLAYING RULES

- a) All competitions or games conducted by the Association shall be conducted in accordance with the Official Rules of Netball as adopted by the All Australian Netball Association.
- b) Variations or modifications to suit any particular set of circumstances must be with the full approval of the Management Committee.

RULE 2 - RULES INTERPRETATION

- a) In any instance where a ruling is required as to the intent or purpose of any rule as included in the Official Rules of Netball, or in the event of a dispute arising as to the interpretation of any rule, then the matter shall be determined by the official rules interpreter as from time to time by the Association.
- b) It shall be the duty of the rules interpreter to report to the Management Committee the nature of all matters referred to her for determination together with her decision regarding the matter.
- c) In any instance where the decision of the rules interpreter is not acceptable to the majority of the Management Committee, then the matter shall be referred to the National Rules interpreter for final decision. Copies of all correspondence to be submitted to the Committee.
- d) Any interpretation supplied by the National Rules interpreter shall become the accepted interpretation and shall be complied with by the State Rules interpreter and the Referees Association.

RULE 3 - TEAM NOMINATIONS

- a) Affiliated Clubs or Teams desirous of participating in any competition or game conducted by the Association, shall complete the entry forms/requirements as prescribed by the Management Committee.
- b) Such forms/requirements shall be in the hands of the Management Committee on or before the due date as prescribed by Management Committee. Nominations received after the due date shall be invalid, except in special circumstances when the Management Committee may, by a two-thirds majority accept such nominations as valid.
- c) All nominations shall be approved by the Management Committee, or a duly appointed sub-committee of the Committee, and such approval shall be given before any affiliated Club or Team may participate in any competition or game conducted by the Association.

RULE 4 - GRADING

- a) All competitions conducted by the Association shall be conducted on a grade basis, such grades to be decided by the Management Committee, or a duly appointed sub-committee of the Management Committee.
- b) It shall be the responsibility of the Management Committee, or duly appointed sub-committee of the Management Committee, to determine the relative merits of competitor teams, and to allocate such teams to the respective grades as determined by the Management committee or sub-committee.
- c) The Management Committee or sub-committee shall have power to call for such evidence as it may require for the purpose of allocating teams to grades and if considered necessary the Management Committee or sub-committee may conduct a series of grading games.

(3)

- d) The Management Committee or sub-committee shall have power to alter or amend teams grading from time to time.
- e) The decisions of the Management Committee or sub-committee shall be final with regard to the grading of teams.

RULE 5 - COMPETITION FIXTURES

- a) The Management Committee, or duly appointed sub-committee, shall be responsible for the compilation and publication of an official fixture list to cover all grades of any competition conducted by the Association.
- b) **Such an official fixture list once** approved by the Management Committee or sub-committee shall not be altered or amended in any way, except by the Management Committee or sub-committee.
does this make sense?
- c) Where any team, because of extreme circumstances, requires to postpone or defer a scheduled fixture, application in writing must be made to the Management Committee or sub-committee to consider such application.
- d) Any competition game played in a place or at a time not in accordance with the official fixture list as approved or amended by the Management Committee shall not be taken into account when compiling the points table for the grade. Neither team shall be allowed points and all goals both for and against shall be forfeited by both teams.

RULE 6 - COMPETITION POINTS

- a) Competition points shall be allocated for each game completed in accordance with the official fixture list as follows:
 - Win 2 points**
 - Draw 1 point** *Do we need to adjust for round robin fixtures?*
 - Loss Nil points**
- b) In the event of two or more teams being level on points at the end of the qualifying round, eligibility to compete in the final series shall be on a basis of percentage of points scored for as compared with points scored against in the qualifying rounds between the teams involved.
- c) In the event of any team having forfeited a game or games during the qualifying rounds, all points for the season both for and against, in relation to the team responsible for the forfeit, shall be omitted from the calculations of percentage.
- d) For the purpose of this rule, a game played at a time and a place not authorised by the Management Committee or sub-committee shall be considered as a forfeit, as provided in Rule 5(d).

RULE 7 - FINAL SERIES

The final series shall be played at the conclusion of the qualifying rounds, and the following method shall be used:

1st Semi Final	Teams as shown No. 3 and No. 4 on the points table
2nd Seme Final Semi-Final	Teams as shown No. 1 and No. 2 on the points table
Final	Winner of the 1 st Semi Final versus loser of the 2 nd Semi Final
Grand Final	Winner of the 2 nd Semi Final versus winner of the Final

RULE 8 - INTERCHANGE OF PLAYERS BETWEEN GRADES

- a) Players may play in both A & B Grades in any one week.
- b) When a player has played 3 games in the higher grade of her club, then the player shall not be permitted to play in a lower grade. **This needs to be amended to: If either grade can not fill a side then players maybe used from either a higher or lower grade.**
- c) In any instance where two teams from any one club are included in the same grade, movement of players between the teams shall be subject to such rules as determined by the Management Committee. **Eg. If souths have 2 teams, we can swap players??? Further discussion required**
- d) A player will be considered to have participated when her name is entered on the score sheet and has been substituted onto the court.

RULE 9 - ELIBILITY OF PLAYERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FINAL

- a) To be eligible to participate in the final series of any competition conducted by the Association, **players must have played at least three (3) games during the qualifying rounds and grade eligibility shall be determined as follows:**
1. Where a player has played in one grade only she shall be eligible to participate in the final series in that grade or any higher grade.
 2. Where a player has played in two or more grades during the qualifying rounds she shall be eligible to participate in the final series only of the **higher** grade if she has played 3 games in that grade. If a player has played less than 3 games in the higher grade she will be eligible to play in either grade.
 3. Where a player qualifies for and participates in a final series for any one grade, she shall not be permitted to change from one grade to another during the series, except when the change is from a lower to a higher grade. **During finals series, the higher grade is to have 7 qualified players, but may bring up players from the lower grade. No limit on lower grade players.**
- b) For the purpose of the above rule, it shall be the responsibility of all affiliated clubs or teams to carefully assess the eligibility of players before permitting them to participate in a final series.
- c) Any protest or dispute concerning the eligibility of a player to participate in a final series shall be referred to the Management Committee and dealt with as a matter of urgency.
- d) Players name on score sheet shall be sufficient proof that she has represented that team for that game, providing said player has been substituted onto the court.

players must have played 1/3 of total number of games within the years season.
1. If circumstances have arisen during the season that a player was unable to play in reason accepted by the MC they can be exempt from exclusion in section 9a)

Secretary to inform club coaches of qualified players prior to finals, if this is not communicated correctly, consequences may apply?

RULE 10 - FIXTURES NOT COMPLETED

- Re-word - If Lake King's names on round robin fixtures however dont have a team ???
- a) **Should a team listed to take part in an official fixture fail to appear at the stipulated time, or for any reason indicate that is not prepared to commence the game at the stipulated time, then the opponent team, providing that the official rules have been complied with, shall be awarded the game on a forfeit.**
- b) Any team which forfeits three or more games during the qualifying rounds may be disqualified by the Management Committee.
- c) In the event of a team being disqualified, then each game in which the disqualified team should have participated shall be considered as having been won by the opponent team. It shall not be necessary for the opponent team to appear at the place set down for the playing of the fixture.
- d) In the event of a forfeit by any team, the score for the fixture in question shall be considered 2 – 0 in favour of the team awarded the game.

- e) In the event of a game being played at the time and place not authorised by the Management Committee, or duly appointed sub-committee, the score shall be considered 0 – 0 neither team being awarded points for the game. In the calculation of percentages Rule 5(d) shall apply.

RULE 11 - ELLIGIBLE PLAYERS

2 options of wording:

In the circumstances of a team having to forfeit due to lack of numbers, the players must be shared and must do so of equal shared numbers across the remainder of the non-forfeiting playing teams. The shared players must be chosen at random and split evenly.

If an affiliated team is unable to be made. The council must agree at an ordinary council meeting that the team can play for the non-terminated teams. These shared players must be randomly assigned by even numbers split by the council at an ordinary meeting to the remaining affiliated teams.

- a) To be an eligible player within the meaning of these rules, a player shall be a registered member of an affiliated Club or Team in accordance with Rule 13 of these By-Laws. Perhaps this needs to be looked at and changed, allowing players of another association to play for a club/team if they need to fill a side. But these players are not eligible to play in finals.

- b) All instances concerning the alleged participation of an ineligible player in a competition game shall be reported in writing to the Management Committee within 48 hours of the incident concerned, by the referee of the game in question, or may be brought to the notice of the Management Council by any elected member of the Association or member of the Management Council. Such reports, which in all cases must be in writing, shall be referred to the Judiciary Panel/MC for decision.

- c) It shall be the responsibility of affiliated Clubs or Teams to ensure that ineligible players do not participate in competition games. In any instance where it shall be proved that an ineligible player has so participated, then the MC shall be empowered to take such action as it may think fit against the offending Club or Team. Fines???

- d) An eligible player shall be a female of any age over 8 years of age (The year they turn 8). Junior males those under 16 years of age are eligible as players. There is no limit to the number of junior male players in the junior competition or senior competition.

RULE 12 - PLAYERS UNIFORMS

- a) Each affiliated Club or Team shall select a distinctive uniform which shall be registered with the Association.
- b) The pattern and colour scheme of the uniform shall be approved by the MC or sub-committee prior to registration.
- c) Each player on the court shall wear a bib describing her playing position as prescribed in the official rules of netball.
- d) After the first playing day of each Club or Team any player who does not fully comply with this Rule 12 shall be ineligible to play unless fully uniformed as prescribed.

RULE 13 - REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

- a) Affiliated Clubs or Teams shall take steps to register with the Association every playing member of the Club, by supplying to the Association Secretary, from time to time, a complete list of all players within Club or Team. Registering of Club or Team members is now sent to the Treasurer for affiliation with Netball WA.
- b) The Association shall maintain a register of all registered players, showing the players name, address and Club or Team. Such register shall be available at each and every meeting of the MC, and at the Courts.

RULE 14 - CLEARANCES

No person may transfer from one club to another during the playing season without the unanimous approval of the council at an ordinary meeting.

- a) A registered playing member of an affiliated Club or Team shall not transfer from that Club or Team to any other affiliated Club or Team or Association during the playing season or at the completion of a playing season unless approval is given by the MC.
- b) The Association shall not refuse to grant an Inter-Club or Team or Inter-Association clearance within the State, except where it can be proved that the player concerned is unfinancial with the Club or Team with which he is registered or where it can be proved that the clearance would not be in the best interest of the Club or Team with which they are registered.
- c) In any instance where an affiliated Club or Team shall refuse to grant a clearance to a registered member of such a Club or Team the player concerned may refer the matter to the MC, or sub-committee, for decision. The MC or sub-committee shall have power to instruct the Club or Team concerned to issue a clearance, except where Rule 14(b) is applied.
- d) In the event of an affiliated Club or Team disbanding or failing to re-apply for affiliation, registered members of that club or Team shall be free to transfer to any other affiliated Club or Team without first applying for a clearance, except where such a Club or Team is unfinancial with the Association, the individual member shall pay to the Association a proportion of the outstanding amount before being eligible for membership with any other Club or Team.

RULE 15 - REFEREES AND UMPIRES (Referees are Basketball. We need to take this word out)

- a) The appointment of referees and umpires to officiate at the competition games conducted by the Association shall be the responsibility of the Umpires Advisor.
- b) In the event of a Club or Team failing to comply with the official Umpires Rostered Fixture List (ie fails to officiate the game as rostered), then a Penalty of one (1) point shall be deducted from the Club or Team concerned. Do we want to change to fines or leave as points?

RULE 16 IS MISSING. TIMEKEEPERS AND SCORERS Something needs to be written or remove section**RULE 17 - SCORE SHEETS AND EQUIPMENT**

- a) Score sheets in all grades shall be supplied by the Association and it will be the team captains responsibility to complete the necessary team details thereon at least ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled commencement time of the game.
- b) All score sheets shall be retained by the Association but in the event of any team requiring to record game scores, this can be done in a separate score book. This does not relieve Clubs or Teams of responsibility under Rule 16(a). Rule not available, need to change or write something up
- c) It shall be the responsibility of the Association to provide the necessary court equipment, as specified in the rules of Netball, for all grades conducted by the Association.
- d) Match balls in all grades shall be supplied by the Association. Warm up balls shall be provided by Clubs or Teams concerned. Each playing team to provide a game ball?

RULE 18 - DUTY TEAM

- a) The MC or sub-committee shall be empowered to allocate duties, as required, to any Club or Team participating in any competition or game conducted by the Association.
- b) Any Club or Team not carrying out the duties as prescribed by the MC or sub-committee shall be considered in default and subject to such penalties as may be decided by MC.

RULE 19 - FINANCIAL STATUS

- a) All affiliated Clubs or Teams shall remit to the MC such team nomination fees as may be prescribed from time to time by the MC.
- b) Such fees shall be in the hands of the Association Secretary/Treasurer on or before the end of the third qualifying round.
- c) An unfinancial group, Club or Team shall not be permitted to participate in any competition conducted by the Association.

RULE 20 - CHARGES, PROTEST AND DISPUTES

- a) An Affiliated Club or Team shall have the right to lodge a report in the nature of a charge or protest, or giving notice of dispute in relation to the conduct of any competition match, the behaviour of any player taking part in the match, or the result of any competition match.
- b) Such a report shall include a comprehensive account of the incident or happening giving rise to the charge, protest or dispute, shall name the Teams or players concerned and the referee and umpire in control of the game and shall be in the hands of the Association Secretary within 48 hours of the completion of the game in question.
- c) Any report lodged by a referee or umpire, which alleges unsportsmanlike conduct, on the part of any player or team, or member of an affiliated Club or Team shall be considered as a charge against the player, team or member concerned.
- d) In the event of any referee or umpire recording a report of any untoward incidents in any fixture conducted by the Association, the report shall be handled as prescribed in Paragraph (e) of this rule.
- e) Upon receipt of any report as referred to in this rule, the Association Secretary shall immediately refer the matter to a Judiciary panel, as hereinafter described, for decision.

RULE 21 - JUDICIARY

- a) A Judiciary Committee shall be appointed by the MC at the first meeting after the Annual General Meeting in each year. do we still do this?
- b) The committee shall consist of three members as follows:
 1. An Independent Chairman
 2. Two Independent MembersShould an Independent Member be non available both positions on Judiciary Committee may be filled from MC.
- c) Association Secretary shall act as convenor for all meetings of Judiciary Panel
- d) The Judiciary Panel shall have the power to enquire into all reports submitted by affiliated Clubs, Teams, members, referees or umpires in accordance with Rules 11 and 20 of these By-Laws
In any instance where the eligibility of a player is questioned, or where a decision required as to the Amateur status of a player or official, or group of players or officials, the matter shall be referred to the Judiciary Panel. After investigation the Judiciary Panel shall report its findings to the Committee, except where the matter falls within the scope of Sub Paras (e), (f) and (k) of this rule.
- e) In the event of a protest or dispute, the Panel shall be empowered to resolve the matter, and in the event of a decision affecting the result of a competition game, to order the necessary adjustment of the points table or a replay of the game concerned.
- f) In the matter of a charge against a player for alleged unsportsmanlike conduct or any other action the panel shall be empowered to impose such penalties as may be considered necessary.

- g) Verbal notice by referees or umpires at the conclusion of any fixture, involving an incident to be referred to Judiciary Panel, shall be considered as sufficient advise to the player, member, club or team and the Panel shall ensure that, prior to the hearing, all parties to a protest, dispute or charge shall be supplied with a copy of the report. This should contain full details of the protest, dispute or charge.
- h) No penalty should be imposed without the player, Club, team or member concerned being given a reasonable opportunity of appearing before the Panel. Should circumstances preclude the attendance of the player or member concerned he or the club concerned may nominate an advocate to appear in his stead.
- i) Player, member, club or team involved in any, protest or dispute may be accompanied by counsel or advocate, but appearance and participation by counsel or advocate, shall be at the discretion of the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee.
- j) Judiciary Committee, as required, shall meet within seven (7) days and shall conduct hearings of all charges, protests and disputes lodged during the proceeding seven (7) day period. Non availability of player or member concerned in the charge, protest or dispute shall not defer the hearing. Player or member may appoint advocate as provided in Para (h).
- k) Any player, club, team or member whom has incurred penalty as a result of a Judiciary hearing shall be entitled to right of appeal. Such appeal shall be in writing, addressed to the Chairman of the Judiciary committee and shall contain full detail of new or additional evidence supporting the appeal. Chairman shall determine acceptance or rejection of appeal and his decision shall be final.
- l) Any player receiving suspension as a result of Judiciary proceedings shall be rendered ineligible to receive any Fairest and Best awards during the playing season in which the offence occurred.
- m) Any player under suspension shall be precluded, during the term of suspension, from participating at a State or International level, or in any feature events conducted at said level, but suspension shall not prejudice his inclusion as a State Representative in any team participating in any event or series conducted after the termination of suspension period.
- n) Reports of all proceedings of Judiciary Committee meetings shall be prepared for submission to the Committee. Reports shall be in writing and signed by all members of the Judiciary Committee.

RULE 22 - TROPHIES AND AWARDS

The MC, or duly appointed committee, shall have power to allocated trophies to various grades and to decide upon awards for meritorious performances during competitions conducted by the Association.

RULE 23 - JURISDICTION

- a) For the purpose of these By-Laws, members of affiliated Clubs or Teams are considered to be within the jurisdiction of the Association whilst they are in the precincts of any court or building being hired or used by the Association for the purpose of conducting any match or competition, or any other business of the Association.
- b) Members of any team selected to visit other States, or to participate in games in country centres, whether such games are organised by the Association or the Club concerned, are deemed to be within the jurisdiction of the Association from the time the team departs from Ravensthorpe until such time as all members return to Ravensthorpe.

RULE 24 - LIQUOR RESTRICITONS

A member of an affiliated Club or Team shall not convey liquor into any building or premises being used by the Association for the purpose of conducting any match or competition, neither shall any person as aforesaid consume liquor on the premises mentioned in this rule except with express permission of the MC such permission having been previously obtained in writing.

RULE 25 - INFRINGEMENTS

The MC shall have the power to impose such penalties as may be decided upon by a majority of members present at a meeting of Committee members, upon any affiliated Club or Team, or Association member or official, or member of an Affiliated club or Team, in the event of an infringement of these rules

RULE 26 - AMENDMENTS

The MC shall have power to alter or amend these By-Laws provided that notice of motion of such amendment or alteration shall be supplied to the Association Secretary at least 28 days prior to any meeting of the Committee and providing that a copy of such notice is supplied to all members of the Committee at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting at which the notice will be debated, and provided that the resolution embodied in such a notice shall obtain a two-thirds majority when put to the vote.

RULE 27 - ITEMS NOT PROVIDED FOR

Any matter not covered by the scope of these By-Laws, provided that it comes within the objects of the Association shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.

RULE 28 - LOCAL VARIATIONS

- a) Number of Players to Commence Game
A Team may commence a game with a minimum of five (5) players.
- b) Starting the Clocks
All clocks on all courts to start at advertised time as per official fixture list, regardless of whether teams and /or officials are on the court.
- c) Drawn Games
Points shall be evenly distributed between the two teams.
- d) **Game Timing For Seniors** Game timing for round robins will need to be discussed and added
There will be four (4) Quarters each of fifteen (15) minutes duration. The break at quarter time and three-quarter time will be three (3) minutes, while the half time break will be five (5) minutes.
- e) Game Timing For Juniors
There will be four (4) quarters each of ten (10) minutes duration. The break at quarter time and three-quarter time will be three (3) minutes, while the half time break will be five (5) minutes.

f) Addition to Rule 11 - Minimum Age:

The minimum age to commence play in the Senior division shall be set at fourteen (14) years of age by the end of the qualifying rounds. This rule shall apply until such times as players and teams are graded.

This was amended on 25th April 1995 from fourteen (14) years of age down to twelve (12) years of age. They must have parent/guardian permission to play.