

LOWER CLARENCE NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.



GRADING AND COMPETITION POLICY & PROCEDURES

Lower Clarence Netball Association
Grading and Competition Policy & Procedures

1 Grading

1.1 Competition Entries

All entries for Competitions must be lodged on the official Team Entry form by clubs, by the published date for close of entries and accompanied by all nominated fees.

1.2 Clubs shall register teams on the approved player entry form together with full details of a minimum of seven (7) and up to twelve (12) players' names and their relevant experience, including previous year's team name, division played and place in the division, by the closing date for the relevant competition as notified in the 'Calendar of Events'.

1.3 All grading shall be based on names submitted on the official entry forms and previous playing experience.

1.4 The club nominates the preferred grade for their teams, with the Grading Committee having final assessment of the grades.

1.5 Where a player's name appears on more than one team entry form the player will be contacted by the Grading Committee and the player must then nominate the team that they will be playing with. The Grading Committee will then advise all clubs concerned.

1.6 On completion of grading all official team entry forms together with final player grades are to be updated and maintained by the Registrar. The records are to be made available for further grading changes and appeal purposes as required.

1.7 The Grading Committee will convene a meeting prior to grading day.

1.8 If the Grading Committee decide grading changes need to be made after the competition has started any changes to the division will be made after the 3rd game and before the 4th game.

1.9 A team cannot consist of more than twelve players at any one time. Any player, having played a game or not and having left the Club, may be deregistered by notifying the appropriate Recorder before any new registration is made.

2 Registration

2.1 A family who has more than two (2) players in the Association are eligible for half price for the third and subsequent playing members of that immediate family. The eldest players will be registered first.

Lower Clarence Netball Association
Grading and Competition Policy & Procedures

- 2.2 No team will be allowed to late register more than three (3) players except under circumstances accepted by the Executive as exceptional.
- 2.3 A de-registered player may only be re-registered in the same grade or higher for the duration of the competition.
- 2.4 Any change to the name of a player already registered is to be advised in writing by a Club official to the Registrar within seven (7) days. Failure to confirm the change shall result in a forfeit against that team.
- 2.5 Late registrations are to be submitted on the appropriate form by a Club official to the Registrar, Recorder or Executive member before playing.
- 2.6 After a team has been graded, any late registration should be of an equal playing standard. The Grading Committee may reject a late registration or re-grade the team where it considers the inclusion of the player would affect the grade of the team.
- 2.7 If a team records the name of an unregistered player on the score sheet, the Club will be required to prove within seven (7) days that the person who played under that name is registered with that team.

This proof shall be in the form of Statutory Declaration to the Registrar or Recorder. Failure to submit such proof within seven (7) days of notification shall result in forfeit against that team.

- 2.8 Registered players from a withdrawn team, still wishing to play, may have their registration transferred to another team or Club as long as they play in the same or higher division. To be eligible to play in the final series the transferred player must have played at least three (3) games with the team to which they have transferred.

3 Format

- 3.1 The format for each competition shall be divisional, if possible, according to the number of entries received.
- 3.2 Not more than eight (8) teams shall participate in each division, except in special circumstances.
- 3.3 Competition dates will be decided at the Council meeting immediately following the AGM.

4 General Rules

- 4.1 Competition Rules and Procedures are available on the association website.
- 4.2 Matches will be played on hard courts.

5 Draws

- 5.1 Copies of Draws for each team taking part in the competition are available on the LCNA website.

6 Uniform

- 6.1 All club/team uniforms must be approved by the Association. Players must play in their identical club/team uniform except where prior approval has been given. Clubs upon affiliation will register their club colours. It is the responsibility of each club to provide uniforms prior to commencement of the competition. Unless proof is provided that uniforms are on order, players out of uniform will not be allowed to take the court.
- 6.2 Clubs with more than one team in any grade must supply different coloured position patches. Where clubs of a similar colour are playing each other, the first named team in the draw are to supply different coloured position patches.

7 Competition

- 7.1 A player may play in their registered team and play one extra game in the division directly higher on a Saturday. Any further games played on that day will result in a forfeit against the team in which the substitution was made.
- 7.2 A player cannot substitute in another team in the same division, the penalty will be a forfeit against the team in which the substitution was made.
- 7.3 A player may substitute in a higher division 5 times during the regular rounds of the season. However, the player must only play in their original registered team during the final series.
- 7.4 A team may use up to two (2) substitutes in any one game from a lower division within their own club as long as five (5) of their registered team players are on court. If a team is found to have less than five (5) of their registered team players the game will result in a forfeit against that team.

Lower Clarence Netball Association
Grading and Competition Policy & Procedures

- 7.5 All players who are registered in a Net Set Go team may play up one division during the season in a team within the same club if they pay the extra fees.
- 7.6 Timing of Competition round games will be controlled by the control office (hooter). The game will start and finish on the umpire's whistle. No extra time is allowed for a late start.
- 7.7 The competition shall be conducted on a point score basis as below:
- 3 points for a WIN (whether through a game played or through a forfeit)
 - 2 points for a DRAW
 - 1 point for a LOSS
 - 3 points for a BYE
 - 0 for LOSS by forfeit
 - 1 point per team lost from total – failure to attend meeting.
- 7.8 If in the opinion of at least two (2) of the Executive Committee, games are unable to be played due to inclement weather or the condition of courts each team will receive two (2) points. Games which have completed more than half of the playing time will result in the score at that time as the final score. If less than half of the playing time is completed each team will receive two (2) points. Points shall be awarded for all other games played on that day.
- 7.9 In the event of no play the decision will be conveyed to clubs as soon as possible. It is then the clubs' responsibility to relay the information to their teams.
- 7.10 Each game is to have an approved match ball, supplied by LCNA.

8 Forfeits

- 8.1 A team may claim a forfeit one (1) minute after the time set down for the commencement of the game, if the opposing team does not have (5) players in full uniform on court ready to play.
- 8.2 If neither team has five (5) players present and ready to play, the game will be declared abandoned and no points will be awarded to either side.
- 8.3 Any team forfeiting three (3) consecutive games will be excluded from the remainder of the competition.

9 Injury or Illness

- 9.1 For injury or illness, the first stoppage for each team in each quarter or half shall be up to two (2) minutes from when time is held to decide whether an injured or ill player is fit to continue. This decision shall be left to the Primary Care Personnel.
- 9.2 For each subsequent stoppage for each team, the injured player must leave the court and has 30 seconds to do so. The injured or ill player may be substituted or the position maybe left vacant.

10 Scoresheets

- 10.1 Each team shall provide a scorer for competition round games. The scorers must sit together.
- 10.2 A score sheet having been signed by both captains and umpires and lodged with the Control office will not be returned to any team for any correction. No disputes will be entered into regarding score sheets.
- 10.3 Full given and surnames to be printed on scoresheets. Names are to be as registered on original entry form.
- 10.4 All scoresheets must be fully signed by both captains, umpires, scorers and all details filled in clearly.
- 10.5 Names of Players taking the court must appear on the scoresheet, substitute's name/s only to appear when coming on to play. If not indicated first seven players will be taken as team.

11 Umpires

- 11.1 Umpires must at all times comply with the Umpire Conveners instructions.
- 11.2 Umpires for games will be allocated by Umpire's Convenor and/or Umpires Committee. All team umpires must sign on before taking the court to play their own game. If teams do not fulfil their umpiring duty where appointed the team's game will result in a forfeit against them.
- 11.3 When a club/team is required to provide Umpires at any game it is the club/team's responsibility to see that such Umpires are capable of controlling that game.
- 11.4 Umpires cannot be changed during a game without the consent of the Umpire's Convenor.

Lower Clarence Netball Association
Grading and Competition Policy & Procedures

- 11.5 Teams involved in a forfeited game must still fulfil their umpiring duties.
- 11.5 Umpires for final series will be allocated by Umpires Convenor.
- 11.7 The Umpire's Convenor has the right to replace any Umpire she/he feels is incapable of controlling a game.
- 11.8 The umpires shall be responsible for forwarding score sheets to the Control office ensuring all details are completed.

12 Final Series

- 12.8 The finals series games will be timed and scored individually. Timers and scorers will be allocated by the Competition and Carnival Convenor. Injury time must be added to the quarter in which the stoppage occurred.
- 12.9 If two or more teams finish on equal points after the final round games, positions for semi-finals shall be decided on goal averages. The goal average for each team shall be decided as follows:

Total number of goals scored by the team, divided by the total number of goals scored against the team, multiplied by 100 and divided by the actual number of games played by the team.

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \frac{\text{goals scored}}{\text{goals scored against}} \times \frac{100}{\text{matches played}}$$

The number of matches actually played includes a match a team has forfeited, but does not include a match where the team has received a forfeit.

- 12.10 Players need to have physically played three (3) games with the relevant team, to qualify for the final series. Games abandoned due to heat or wet weather conditions do not count as played games. Games where a team has forfeited or received a forfeit shall not be considered played games.
- 12.11 The final series are to be played on dates set in the calendar.
- 12.12 The finals series will be set as follows. Semi-finals – 1st place getter plays 2nd place getter; 3rd place getter plays 4th place getter. The winner of first semi-final will proceed straight to the grand final. Final – the loser of first semi-final will play winner of second semi-final, and the winner of that game will proceed to the grand final.

Lower Clarence Netball Association
Grading and Competition Policy & Procedures

- 12.13 In the finals series extra time must be played if equal at full time. There shall be a two (2) minute interval at the end of fulltime. Substitutions are permitted. Five (5) minutes each way is played with no substitutions permitted. In the event of a tie remaining, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one team has a two (2) goal advantage.
- 12.14 Any team found playing an ineligible player (see clause 13) in the final series will be considered to have lost that match in which the ineligible player has taken part.
- 12.15 Any player found to be ineligible to take part in the final series will not be permitted to take any further part in the final series.
- 12.16 A trophy/medal shall be presented to the winning and runner-up team in each division.

13 Coaches

- 13.1 All Club Coaches must be financial members of the Association and have completed as a minimum the online Community Coaching General Principles course. Until a copy has been submitted to the coaching convenor for recording, the coach will be unable to coach or train any team.