



netball
NEW SOUTH WALES

Masters State Titles

Competition Rules

Association Representative Teams

Social Teams

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MASTERS STATE TITLES – COMPETITION RULES

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1. EVENT INFORMATION

1.1 General Information

1.1.1 The Netball NSW Masters State Titles are conducted under the authority of Netball New South Wales, in partnership with the Host Association.

1.1.2 The Netball NSW appointed Competitions Manager has the overall responsibility for the day to day operation and management of each Event.

1.1.3 Netball NSW staff will work with the Host Association to manage the format, structure and conduct of the event.

1.1.4 Netball NSW has the power to waive compliance with the Masters State Titles Rules when satisfied that extenuating circumstances exist.

1.1.5 Any request to waive compliance with the Masters State Titles rules must be submitted in writing, addressed to the Netball NSW Competitions Manager or their appointed delegate.

1.1.6 Netball NSW may impose a fine on or deduct points from any team if they are found to have contravened or disregarded any of the Masters State Titles rules of the competition.

1.1.7 Masters State Titles are conducted in the following Divisions:

Over 35 Association Representative Team - Competitive
Over 40 Association Representative Team – Competitive
Over 35 Social Female only
Over 40 Social Female only
Over 35 Social Mixed

An Association Representative Team, is a Team where the players have been selected by the Association to represent the Association at the Masters State Titles.

A Social Team is where players have formed a team of their own making to play together at the Masters State Titles.

1.1.8 All matches shall be played on all weather hard courts or a combination of indoor courts and all weather courts.

1.2 Venue

1.2.1 Netball NSW appoints Netball NSW Affiliated Association venues to host the Masters State Titles, with the overall management of the event falling under Netball NSW.

1.2.2 Up to two (2) venues may be used for the Masters State Titles.

1.3 Uniforms and Equipment

- 1.3.1 All teams must play in identical playing uniform unless extenuating circumstances exist in which case, a letter of request must be sent to the Netball NSW Competitions Manager providing an explanation and giving as much notice as possible. If the difference in uniform is due to a medical issue, a signed letter from the Medical Practitioner must be attached or advice from medical support during the event provided to verify the need for an alteration to uniform.
- 1.3.2 Each team is to have available two sets of position patches, of different colours.
- 1.3.3 Each team is to provide an approved match ball.
- 1.3.4 Teams may identify a sponsor's logo on the playing uniform up to a maximum length of 16cm and maximum height 16cm. Sponsor logos may only appear once on any one (1) garment. It is not permitted to display a sponsor's or other name on positional patches.

1.4 Appeal on a Grading decision – Association Representative Teams only

- 1.4.1 Appeals will only be accepted from Associations entered in the Over 35 Association Representative Division or the Over 40 Association Representative Division.
- 1.4.2 An Association may request a review of their provisional grading that has been actioned as per clause 2.3 of this policy, by submitting a request for an appeal including the grounds for a review to the Netball NSW Competition Manager within five (5) working days of the announcement of the relevant grading decision.
- 1.4.3 The request for the appeal must state the grounds for review, or why the grading decision should be changed. It must specifically address issues regarding how the team was evaluated under situations that put them at a distinct disadvantage to other teams being evaluated.
- 1.4.4 The Netball NSW Competition Manager shall appoint an Appeals Panel to determine the appeal.
- 1.4.5 All requests for appeals must be submitted in writing by email to the Competitions Manager at competitions@netballnsw.com.
- 1.4.6 It should be remembered that in general an appeal will only be considered if clause 2.3 or of the Masters State Titles Competition Rules was not adhered to.
- 1.4.7 An Association can only lodge an appeal regarding a decision made which directly affects their Association. An Association cannot lodge and appeal for or on behalf of another Association or Associations.

1.5 Complaint Handling

- 1.5.1 All complaints lodged with Netball NSW in relation to the Competition will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures of the Netball NSW Member Protection Policy.
- 1.5.2 All registered Players, Umpires, and Team Officials are required to abide by the Code of Behaviour, as published from time to time within the Netball NSW Member Protection Policy.
- 1.5.3 All participants of the Competition including but not limited to Players, Umpires, and Team Officials, who have breached the Code of Behaviour or Netball NSW Member Protection Policy may be subject to disciplinary action as listed within the Member Protection Policy.

2. COMPETITION STRUCTURE – ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

2.1 Eligibility – Association Representative Teams

- 2.1.1 Except for clause 2.1.2 of this policy, only Netball NSW affiliated Associations are eligible to enter the, Association Representative Divisions of Masters State Titles conducted by Netball NSW.
- 2.1.2 Any grouping of Netball NSW affiliated Associations can be admitted to enter the Association Representative Divisions of the Masters State Titles subject to approval of Netball NSW. For the purpose of these Rules, Association means Netball NSW affiliated Associations and any other teams admitted to the various competitions in accordance with clause 2.1.1.
- 2.1.3 An Association or Grouping of Associations may only enter one team per age category in the Association Representative Divisions.
- 2.1.4 All players and team officials entered into a Netball NSW competition must show as a financial registered member of Netball NSW or relevant State or Territory in the MyNetball database prior to the commencement of that competition, or their participation in that competition.
- 2.1.5 The age of the players shall be determined by their age as at December 31 in the year of play.
 - a) Over 35s – the minimum age to qualify for an Over 35s Division is turning 35 in the year of play.
 - b) Over 40s – the minimum age to qualify for the Over 40s Division is turning 40 in the year of play.

2.1.6 The Masters State Titles, Over 35 Association Representative and Over 40 Association Representative teams are Divisions for female players only.

2.2 Team nomination and entry – Association Representative Teams

2.2.1 The closing date for the Masters State Titles will be notified, on the relevant entry form and on the Netball NSW website.

2.2.2 The entry fee for the Masters State Titles will be notified at the November Council meeting.

2.2.3 All entries for competitions must be lodged as directed by Netball NSW and must be received by Netball NSW by the published time and date for close of entries. Late entries will only be accepted as detailed in clause 2.2.4 below.

2.2.4 Where an entry is not received by Netball NSW by the published closing time for entries, upon the payment of the prescribed fee, a late entry will be accepted provided that the late entry is received by Netball NSW by 5.00pm on the next Tuesday after the close of entries for the relevant competition.

2.2.5 The late entry fee for the Masters State Titles shall be \$500.00 for all Associations.

2.2.6 Where an Entity withdraws a team from the Masters State Titles within three (3) weeks of the commencement of the Competition the offending body will be fined \$500.00.

2.2.7 Associations are to register teams as directed by Netball NSW, the entry will include details of a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of twelve (12) players' names and must include their relevant experience by the closing date for the Masters State Titles.

2.2.8 For Association teams nominating to compete in the Association representative Division, the following needs to be completed:

- a) The team Nomination is lodged through MyNetball – you must login as your Association and follow the instructions on the “How to” document provided.
- b) The team entry form completed and submitted along with the MyNetball Grading report.
- c) The Umpire information on the nomination form needs to be completed.
- d) All players and team officials are to be registered on MyNetball.

2.2.9 Where a player's name appears on more than one team entry form the player will be contacted by Netball NSW personnel prior to grading and the player must then immediately nominate the team they will be playing with. The Association concerned will be advised accordingly. The Association not nominated by the player will be given 48 hours from the time of advice to replace the player without penalty.

2.2.10 Association Representative Team lists will be displayed on the Netball NSW website, one week prior to the commencement of the Competition and it is the Association's duty to check all players are listed.

2.3 Competition Grading – Association Representative Teams

2.3.1 Entries will be graded as per as per the age group nominated on entries received, being Over thirty fives (O35s) and over forties (O40s).

2.3.2 Where more than fourteen (14) entries are received in each Age Category, entries will be graded into Divisions, being Championship Division and Division 2.

2.3.3 Where divisions apply, Associations may submit a request for their preferred division. Grading will be done using the player history provided on the entry form and if needed in consultation with Associations.

2.3.4 Where divisions apply, each year at least the two bottom teams will be relegated to the lower division and at least the two top teams promoted to the next higher division. Placing for relegation and promotion shall be based on final point scores and where teams finish on equal point scores then goal averages will be used to determine both promotion and relegation.

2.3.5 Netball NSW will endeavour to divide teams equally as far as possible to ensure equal number of teams across all divisions, therefore clause 2.3.3 may be overridden. Netball NSW needs to take into consideration the number of entries received, new team entries and non-returning teams when grading each year.

2.3.6 An Association may submit a request to have their grading for the upcoming Titles varied where it can show that the team under contest has less than 5 players from the previous year's competition. The Association recommendation is to be by written submission detailing player experience and must be provided at the time of the team entry submission.

2.3.7 The final grading decision will be made at the discretion of Netball NSW.

2.3.8 Where a team did not enter in the previous year's Masters State Titles for the purposes of grading, the Association can make a recommendation as to the preferred division for participation. The final grading decision will be made at the discretion of Netball NSW.

2.3.9 Netball NSW will, based on the number of entries received be responsible for determining the format of the competition.

2.4 Invitational Teams – Association Representative Teams

- 2.4.1 Invitational teams admitted to the Competition as per clause 2.1.3, may make a recommendation as to the preferred division for participation, final grading will be at the discretion of Netball NSW.
- 2.4.2 Points from games contested against Invitational teams will be allocated as per clause 3.3.1. Invitational teams will be removed from the final ladder placings and the ladder will be re-ordered as required.

2.5 Late Registrations – Association Representative Teams

- 2.5.1 At no time is a team permitted to have more than 12 players registered. Any team playing a non-registered player will be disqualified.
- 2.5.2 A maximum of four (4) players may be late registered in an Association Representative team. Late registrations and de-registrations for an Association Representative team will be accepted from one week prior to the commencement of the competition up until 8.00am on the first day of play where it can be lodged with Event control.
- 2.5.3 Following the close of entries, players listed on an original team registration form are not permitted to de-register and re-register with another team or another Association.
- 2.5.4 Late registration requests are to be completed on the designated form as published on the Netball NSW website by an Association official and submitted to Netball NSW. The player must be a registered member of Netball NSW or relevant State or Territory.

3. COMPETITION STRUCTURE – SOCIAL TEAM ENTRIES

3.1 Eligibility – Social Team entries

- 3.1.1 Any grouping of athletes may enter in the Social Divisions of the Masters State Titles. All players are subject to clause 3.1.2.
- 3.1.2 All players and team officials entered into a Netball NSW competition must show as a financial registered member of Netball NSW or relevant State or Territory in the MyNetball database prior to the commencement of that competition, or their participation in that competition.
- 3.1.3 The age of the players shall be determined by their age as at December 31 in the year of play.

- c) Over 35s – the minimum age to qualify for an Over 35s Division is turning 35 in the year of play.
- d) Over 40s – the minimum age to qualify for the Over 40s Division is turning 40 in the year of play.

3.2 Team nomination and entry – Social Team entries

- 3.2.1 The closing date for the Masters State Titles will be notified, on the relevant entry form and on the Netball NSW website.
- 3.2.2 The entry fee for the Masters State Titles will be notified at the November Council meeting and on the Netball NSW Website.
- 3.2.3 All entries for competitions must be lodged as directed by Netball NSW and must be received by Netball NSW by the published time and date for close of entries.
- 3.2.4 Late entries will not be accepted.
- 3.2.5 The entry will include details of a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of twelve (12) players' names and must include their relevant experience by the closing date for the Masters State Titles.
- 3.2.6 Participants are only permitted to register and compete in one team throughout the Competition.
- 3.2.7 For Social teams nominating to compete in the Over 35 Social Female only, Over 40 Social Female only and the Over 35 Social mixed Divisions, the following needs to be completed:
 - a) The team entry form completed and submitted along with the player information.
 - b) The Umpire information on the entry form needs to be completed.
 - c) All players and team officials are to be registered on MyNetball.

3.3 Competition Grading – Social team entries

- 3.3.1 Entries will be graded as per the age and division nominated on entries received, being over thirty fives (O35s) and over forties (O40s) Social Divisions.
- 3.3.2 Netball NSW will, based on the number of entries received be responsible for determining the format of the competition.
- 3.3.3 The final grading decision will be made at the discretion of Netball NSW.
- 3.3.4 No appeals will be entered into in the Social Divisions.

3.4 Late Registrations – Social team entries

- 3.4.1 At no time is a team permitted to have more than 12 players registered. Any team playing a non-registered player will be disqualified.
- 3.4.2 Late registrations and de-registrations for Social Teams will be accepted up until 5.00pm on the Wednesday prior to the commencement of the competition.
- 3.4.3 Late registration requests are to be completed on the designated form as published on the Netball NSW website by and submitted to Netball NSW. The player must be a registered member of Netball NSW or relevant State or Territory.

4. COMPETITION RULES

4.1 General Rules

- 4.1.1 All teams will play each team in their division during Masters State Titles.
- 4.1.2 Playing times of matches is at the discretion of Netball NSW provided there is a minimum of one (1) minute half-time break and a minimum of two (2) minutes between games.
- 4.1.3 Substitution of players is permitted in accordance with official rules.
- 4.1.4 Injury time may be taken according to official INF rules, but no additional time shall be added to the match.
- 4.1.5 The umpire's whistle shall start and finish games on the indication from the central timing device.
- 4.1.6 A team may claim a forfeit one (1) minute after the umpire's whistle to indicate commencement of play on the indication from the central timing device and if the opposing team does not have five (5) players in full uniform on court and ready to play. The umpires will sign the official score sheet attesting to the forfeit.
- 4.1.7 The winners of the Championship Division in the O35 and O40 Division of the Association Representative Teams shall be declared the Masters State Title Champions.
- 4.1.8 There shall be no finals or joint placing. To determine the final individual placing point scores will be used and then if required to separate one or more teams on the same points score goal averages will be used.

4.2 Match Points

4.2.1 Points Table

Masters State Titles Points Table

Win	Loss	Draw	Forfeit	Bye	Abandoned
2	0	1	2	0	1*

* If game abandoned prior to half time - 1 point each team

* If game abandoned at or after half time - result as per score sheet

4.2.2 Goal Average

- a) If two or more teams finish on equal points after the final round of matches, positions shall be decided on goal averages.
- b) 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 matches played by the team.

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

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.

4.3 Cancellation

- 4.3.1 If, in the opinion of Netball NSW games are unable to be played due to severe inclement weather or adverse court conditions, each team fixtured to play will be awarded one (1) point. No points will be awarded for teams having the Bye.

4.4 Scoresheets

- 4.4.1 The method of distribution of score sheets will be determined Netball NSW.
- 4.4.2 Score sheets are to be returned to Event Control by the winning team immediately after each match.
- 4.4.3 One (1) official from each team is to sign the score sheet.
- 4.4.4 In circumstances where team officials of both teams involved testify that the score sheet submitted to Netball NSW is incorrect and further they agree on the correct score then Netball NSW has the discretion to vary the official scores.

4.5 Awards – Association Representative Teams

- 4.5.1 A trophy shall be presented to the winning and runner-up Association in each division.
- 4.5.2 Embroidered patches shall be awarded to the Manager, Coach, Assistant Coach, Primary Carer and players of the winning and runner up teams in each division.

4.6 Awards – Social Teams

- 4.6.1 Medallions shall be awarded to the Coach, Manager and Players of the First (1st), Second (2nd) and Third (3rd) place getters in each Social Division.

5. OFFICIALS

5.1 Team Officials

- 5.1.1 Team Officials must be a current registered financial member of Netball NSW prior to the event.

5.2 All Umpires

- 5.2.1 The minimum qualification to umpire at the Masters State Titles is a National 'C' badge. Umpires must have received the C badge prior to being included on the submission.
- 5.2.2 The minimum age to umpire at Masters State Titles is 16 years of age. Unless prior permission is given.
- 5.2.3 Nominated umpires must be a current registered financial member of Netball NSW prior to the event.
- 5.2.4 Nominated umpires may not play, coach or manage a team during the Masters State Titles.
- 5.2.5 All umpires must be dressed in white.

5.3 Umpires – Association Representative Teams

- 5.3.1 Each Team entered must provide one (1) non-playing badged umpire per team, per day.
- 5.3.2 At the time of lodging team nominations the Association is to provide the appropriate number of qualified umpires for the duration of the competition. This is to be lodged on the official form with umpires names and current qualifications.

- 5.3.3 Twenty eight (28) days prior to the competition, umpires names and current qualification are to be submitted by all Associations. Where umpires are not submitted by this date the Association will be fined \$500.00 and must nominate umpires as per clause 4.3.1 within 24 hours.
- 5.3.4 Associations, withdrawing umpires after submitting names will be fined \$200.00 per umpire withdrawn unless a medical certificate is produced that certifies the umpire's unavailability due to illness or injury or other extenuating circumstances. If an umpire is not replaced with a badged umpire a further fine of \$200.00 is enforced.
- 5.3.5 Where an umpire withdraws on the day for other than medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances, or does not show that Association will incur a fine of \$200.00 per allocation per day.
- 5.4 Umpires – Social Teams**
- 5.4.1 One non-playing badged umpire for each team entered per team, per day.
- 5.4.2 Teams must nominate their umpire twenty one (21) days prior to the competition.
- 5.4.3 Umpires will be allocated to matches on a cross draw. Teams who fail to supply an umpire for an allocated match/es will be fined \$50.00 per match.