



netball
NEW SOUTH WALES

Night Inter-district League

Competition Rules

23 July 2019

NIGHT INTER-DISTRICT LEAGUE – COMPETITION RULES

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1. EVENT INFORMATION

1.1 General Information

- 1.1.1 The Netball NSW Night Inter-district League is conducted under the authority of Netball New South Wales.
- 1.1.2 The Netball NSW appointed Competitions Manager has the overall responsibility for the operation and management of the Competition.
- 1.1.3 Netball NSW has the power to waive compliance with the Night Inter-district League Rules when satisfied that extenuating circumstances exist.
- 1.1.4 Any request to waive compliance with the Night Inter-district League Rules must be submitted in writing, addressed to the Netball NSW Competitions Manager or their appointed delegate.
- 1.1.5 Netball NSW may impose a fine on or deduct points from any team if they are found to have contravened or disregarded any rules of the Night Inter-district League Competition Rules.

1.2 Venue

The Night Inter-district League will take place at Netball Central, 2 Olympic Boulevard, Sydney Olympic Park.

1.3 Uniforms and Equipment

- 1.3.1 All Association 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.
- 1.3.2 Each team is to have available two sets of position patches, of the different colours.
- 1.3.3 Associations 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 Grading Decision

- 1.4.1 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.
- 1.4.2 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.
- 1.4.3 The Netball NSW Competition Manager shall appoint an Appeals Panel to determine the appeal.
- 1.4.4 All requests for appeals must be submitted in writing by email to the Competitions Manager at competitions@netballnsw.com.
- 1.4.5 It should be remembered that in general an appeal will only be considered if clause 2.3 of the Night Inter-district League Competition Rules were not adhered to.
- 1.4.6 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

2.1 Eligibility

- 2.1.1 Except for clause 2.1.2 only Netball NSW affiliated Associations are eligible to enter the Night Inter-district League conducted by Netball NSW.
- 2.1.2 Any grouping of Netball NSW affiliated Associations can be admitted to enter the Night Inter-district League 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 Netball NSW may admit teams to various competitions on an invitation basis as required. Invitational teams will be charged a Netball NSW invitational fee of two hundred (\$200.00) in addition to the Competition entry fee to enter the Competition.
- 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 minimum age for any player to play in the Night Inter-district League is turning 15 in the year of play.
- 2.1.6 The age of the players shall be determined by their ages as at December 31 in the year of play
- 2.1.7 A player can only participate in the Night Inter-district League where they meet the respective age requirement as above.

2.2 Team nomination and entry

- 2.2.1 The closing date for the Night Inter-district League will be notified, on the relevant entry form and on the Netball NSW website.
- 2.2.2 The entry fee for the Night Inter-district Competition will be notified at the November Council Meeting. All entry fees are non-refundable.
- 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 Night Inter-District Development League shall be \$500.00 for all Associations.
- 2.2.6 Where an Entity withdraws a team from any Netball NSW competition within three (3) weeks of the commencement of the Night Inter-district League the offending body will be fined \$500.00.
- 2.2.7 If an Association Team withdraws from the Competition prior to the draw being finalised at the commencement of the Minor Round Matches, the draw will be reconstructed. This may provide an opportunity for an Association to be invited to submit a team to replace the withdrawing team. If an Association Team withdraws from the Competition after the draw has been finalised and released to all participating Associations, the withdrawing Association Team will be replaced with a bye in the draw.
- 2.2.8 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 Night Inter-district League.
- 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 Association that they will be playing with. The Associations 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 Where a player's name is removed from a team entry form by Netball NSW personnel prior to grading the Associations concerned will be advised accordingly. The Association will be given 48 hours from the time of advice to replace the player without penalty.
- 2.2.11 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

- 2.3.1 The Night Inter-district League is a sporting activity for female players only.
- 2.3.2 Each Association may enter a maximum of two (2) teams in the Night Inter-district League.
- 2.3.3 An Association is permitted to have one team only in each division of the Night Inter-district League.
- 2.3.4 A maximum six (6) teams will be graded in each division of the Night Inter-district League. Teams who are unable to be graded into a division will be balloted out.
- 2.3.5 Where there is less than twenty four (24) nominations for entry to the Competition, an Expression of Interest (EOI) period will be called to canvass the interest of additional Teams to enter into the Competition. This may provide the opportunity for affiliated Associations to nominate up to three (3) teams. This would overrule clauses 2.3.2.
- 2.3.6 All grading will be based on names submitted on the official entry and taking into account a players highest level played in the same year across competitions such as:
- Premier League
 - Metro League
 - Senior State Titles
 - Junior State Titles
 - 2018 Night Inter-district.
- 2.3.7 All decisions relating to grading will be made at the discretion of Netball NSW.
- 2.3.8 Netball NSW will, based on the number of entries received be responsible for determining the format of the competition.

2.4 Late Registrations

- 2.4.1 At no time is a team permitted to have more than twelve (12) players registered.
- 2.4.2 There shall be no registration of Players accepted between the close of entries and one (1) week before the commencement of the Competition.
- 2.4.3 A maximum of four (4) Players may be “late registered” in each team any time from one week before the commencement of the Competition until the end of the Competition. A “late registration” is defined as follows:
- a) Where a Player has not been registered in the current competition or has been deregistered and is to be re-registered in the same team in the same grade. A late registration fee is payable.

- b) Where a Player transfers from one Division to a higher Division by virtue of playing three (3) Matches in the same higher graded team that Player is counted as a “late registration” in that higher graded team. A Late registration fee is not payable.
 - c) It is the responsibility of the Association to manage team lists and advise Netball NSW when a player is transferring to a higher division by virtue of playing three (3) matches. Refer to 5.6 for player eligibility. Should the team the player is transferring to, already have twelve (12) players registered in this team, a player will need to be de-registered to allow for the transfer.
- 2.4.4 Late registrations are to be submitted to Netball NSW prior to the commencement of the Match in which they are to play, and:
- a) The Player must be a registered member of Netball NSW or relevant State or Territory.
 - b) A re-registered Player is counted as a late registration.
- 2.4.5 Where Netball NSW rejects an application to late register a Player, the Association or Player concerned has the right of appeal to Netball NSW.
- 2.4.6 A de-registered Player may only be re-registered in the same Association team in the same grade.
- 2.4.7 Players may not play in a division lower than the division in which they were originally graded.
- 2.4.8 After a team has been graded, any late registration should be of an equal playing standard. Netball NSW may reject a late registration where it considers the inclusion of the player would affect the grade of the team.
- 2.4.9 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.
- 2.4.10 Late registration requests are to be completed on the designated form as published on the Netball NSW website and signed by an Association official and submitted to Netball NSW.

3 COMPETITION RULES

3.1 General Rules

- 3.1.1 The Night Inter-district League shall be conducted under the International Netball Federation Official Rules of Netball and International Netball Federation Regulations (INF Rules) as published by the INF from time to time, unless where modified in these Competition Rules.
- 3.1.2 The Night Inter-district League shall be conducted on a point score basis with the team scoring the highest number of points at the conclusion of the Competition being declared the winner.
- 3.1.3 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.
- 3.1.4 All teams will play each team in their division twice in the Night Inter-district League.
- 3.1.5 The fixture for all divisions of the Night Inter-district League will be posted on the Netball NSW website at least one (1) week prior to the commencement of the Competition where possible.
- 3.1.6 Playing time of matches will be as follows:
- a) A match shall be played for a period of sixty (60) minutes divided into four (4) quarters, each of fifteen (15) minutes duration.
 - b) Three (3) minute interval at quarter and three-quarter time.
 - c) Five (5) minute interval at half time.
- 3.1.7 Players may play in two (2) matches in any given week subject to the following conditions:
- a) Games must be in alternate time slots if played on the same night.
 - b) One game must be in the team in which the player is registered.
 - c) Additional game must be in a higher graded team from the same association as the player is currently registered in the Competition.

3.1.8 A player may only be a member of a team in a maximum of two (2) divisions in one season. Where a player plays three (3) matches in a division higher than that originally graded, on playing the third game in the same higher graded team the player will transfer to that higher graded team for the remainder of the competition and cannot participate in any other game in any higher graded division for the remainder of the competition.

3.1.9 If an Association records the name of an unregistered or ineligible player on the score sheet, the Association 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 a Statutory Declaration to Netball NSW. Failure to submit such proof within seven (7) days of notification shall result in the following penalty:

- a) The team playing the ineligible player will be considered to have lost the Competition match in which the ineligible player has taken part in.
- b) The points for winning the Competition match will be awarded to the opposing team (provided the opposing team itself has not played an ineligible player).
- c) The Team playing the ineligible player will lose two (2) competition points.

3.1.10 Each team will be allowed only one (1) forfeit throughout the competition without penalty. On the second occasion the forfeiting team will be fined \$250.00. Each subsequent forfeit the fine will increase by \$100.00. A team that withdraws from the competition after the commencement will be classed as forfeiting each match after this date.

3.1.11 A team may claim a forfeit one (1) minute after the time set down for the commencement of the match, if the opposing team does not have five (5) players in full uniform on court and ready to play.

3.1.12 Where a team abandons a match after the commencement of the scheduled match, the team will have deemed to have forfeited the match. Any score recorded at the point that the match was abandoned will be void.

3.1.13 Injury time will be applied in accordance with INF rules.

3.1.14 At no time is a team permitted to have more than twelve (12) players registered.

3.2 Team List

3.2.1 All Players included on the Team List must also be included on the original Team registration form submitted, or must be a late registered player to the Team registration (refer to clauses 2.1, 2.2, 2.4).

- 3.2.2 No less than fifteen (15) minutes before the commencement of the Match, a Team Official must submit to the Score Bench the Team list which will commence the Match.
- 3.2.3 The Team List must include the seven (7) Players and their “on court” positions, and up to five (5) Player reserves
- 3.2.4 Upon submission of the Team List as detailed in clauses 3.2.2 and 3.2.3, no change to the Team List can be made, except in the event of an injury and/or illness to a Player listed on the Team List prior to the commencement of the Match which deems that Player to be unable to commence and/or take the court for the Match.
- 3.2.5 Upon receipt of the Team List from both Association Teams, a Team Official may request from the Bench Officials the starting line-up of the opposition Association Team.
- 3.2.6 Player substitutions at the end of each quarter or during a Match are to be recorded on the Team List and provided to the Bench Officials as soon as possible after the substitution has occurred.

3.3 Match Points

3.3.1 The official score sheet is the only true record of the match.

3.3.2 Points Table
Night Inter-district League 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

3.3.3 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.

3.4 Cancellation

- 3.4.1 When matches are cancelled due to an event which Netball NSW determines was beyond its control or beyond the control of either Team (including, but not limited to, a strike, power loss, wet weather that causes stadium or court damage or extreme weather conditions), the Match will be deemed to be a draw and each Team will receive one (1) competition point each.

No points will be awarded for teams having a scheduled Bye.

- 3.4.2 Where a team has already submitted a forfeit prior to the cancellation of matches, the forfeit will remain.
- 3.4.3 Games abandoned or cancelled by Netball NSW are considered as games played by all players registered prior to that date.

3.5 Scoresheets

- 3.5.1 Score sheet, Team List, countdown clocks and a Match Ball, will be supplied by Netball NSW and should be collected from Event Control by the home team prior to the commencement of the match.
- 3.5.2 Score sheets are to be returned to Event Control by the winning team immediately after the match.
- 3.5.3 No disputes will be entered into regarding score sheets.
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 Netball NSW has the discretion to vary the official scores.

3.6 Awards

Awards will be presented to the Winner and Runner up of each Division.

4 OFFICIALS

4.1 Team Officials

- 4.1.1 Coaches Must:
- a) Head Coaches must hold or be working towards a 'Development' Coaching Accreditations by way of completion of the on-line module.
 - b) Assistant Coaches must hold or be working toward a 'Foundation' Coaching Accreditation by way of completion of the on-line module.
 - c) Hold a current Working with Children Check with Associations are responsible for verifying.

- d) Be a current registered financial member of Netball NSW prior to the competition.

4.1.2 Managers and Primary Carers must:

- a) Hold a current Working with Children Check, which Associations are responsible for verifying
- b) Be a current registered financial member of Netball NSW prior to the competition commencing. .

4.1.3 A maximum of five (5) Team Officials may sit on the Team bench for any Competition Match and those so entitled in priority to any other Team Official are the Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager and Primary Carer.

Netball NSW may appoint an observer or assessor who is assessing or observing a coach for training or selection purposes, and they may sit on the bench in addition to the five (5) Team Officials.

4.2 Bench Officials

4.2.1 Each Team is to provide up to two (2) approved Bench Officials who have completed the online Bench Officials Education Course and the Netball NSW practical training workshop.

4.2.2 Where an Association fails to provide the appropriate number of approved Bench Officials a fine of \$50.00 will be imposed.

4.2.3 Netball NSW will remove any person who has not completed the online Bench Officials Education Course and the Netball NSW practical training workshop from the bench and a fine of \$50.00 will be imposed on the offending Association.

4.3 Umpires

4.3.1 Each Association is to provide a National badged umpire for each team entered.

4.3.2 The minimum qualification to umpire in the Night Inter-district League is a National 'B' badge.

4.3.3 All umpires will be allocated to matches by Netball NSW.

4.3.4 If an umpire has not arrived 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match, a replacement umpire may take the court.

4.3.5 Associations whose umpires fail to fulfil their allocation by a non-attendance will be fined \$500.00 for each duty not fulfilled except in extenuating circumstances.

- 4.3.6 Any qualified umpire may apply to Netball NSW to be allocated to matches
- 4.3.7 Nominated umpires must be a current registered financial member of Netball NSW prior to the event.
- 4.3.8 All umpires must be dressed in white.