



**VICTORIAN
NETBALL
LEAGUE**

VICTORIAN NETBALL LEAGUE

OPERATIONS MANUAL

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BUPA VICTORIAN NETBALL LEAGUE CONTACTS

	POSITION	NAME	CONTACT
	General Manager – High Performance	Rebekah Webster	03 9321 2218 rebekah.webster@netballvic.com.au
	Competitions Manager	Stacey O’Neill	03 9321 2240 stacey.oneill@netballvic.com.au
	Competitions Coordinator	Cassy Cayzer	03 9321 2261 cassy.cayzer@netballvic.com.au
	Umpire Development Coordinator - HP	Cathy Gallop	03 9321 2243 cathy.gallop@netballvic.com.au
	Coach & Umpire Development Manager	TBC	
	VNL Court Supervisor (competition nights only)	Jenny Doll	
	SNHC Competition Office (Wednesday nights only)		03 9321 2226

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

	NAME & NV POSITION	AREA OF SUPPORT	CONTACT
	Ben Fuller General Manager Commercial Development	Sponsorship; contracts inc. assets & their value	03 9321 2224 ben.fuller@netballvic.com.au
	Naomi Barter General Manager Marketing & Events	Marketing	03 9321 2230 naomi.barter@netballvic.com.au
	Jordie Browne Media & Communications Manager	Social media and connecting with local media	03 9321 2225 jordie.browne@netballvic.com.au
	Steven Gatt General Manager Finance & IT	Finance; budgeting	03 9321 2205 steven.gatt@netballvic.com.au

BUPA VICTORIAN NETBALL LEAGUE CLUB PRIMARY CONTACTS

VNL CLUB	NAME	CONTACT
Ariels	Nicole O'Hare	vnl@ariels.com.au
Boroondara Express	Sue Reddish	boroondaranetball@iprimus.com.au
Casey Demons	Rebekah Bogos	caseydemons@caseynetball.com.au
City West Falcons	Jason Woolley	jason.woolley@dhhs.vic.gov.au
Geelong Cougars	Lisa McFarlane	cougarscoordinator@geelongnetball.com.au
Hawks Netball	Amanda Molony	hawksnetballhnc@gmail.com
Melbourne University Lightning	Andrew Esh	melbourneuniversitylightning@gmail.com
North East Blaze	Eleonore Costello	nebnetball@gmail.com ; ecos@unimelb.edu.au
Peninsula Waves	Trish McLachlan	trish@fdna.com.au
Wilsons Storage Southern Saints	Karren Saddleton	karren.netball@gmail.com

1. Background Information

The announcement by Netball Australia that a Trans-Tasman competition would replace the Commonwealth Bank Trophy competition in 2008 changed the landscape of elite netball in Australia.

Victorian teams have always excelled at the national level, but with the conclusion of Commonwealth Bank Trophy it was necessary for Netball Victoria to review its pathways. The Netball Victoria Board appointed an Advisory Group to review the State League competition and develop recommendations for a new competition structure. The review highlighted the need to develop an underpinning structure at the state level which would ensure that the pathways for players, coaches, officials and administrators lead to the Tasman Trophy and other national programs.

Following this 2007 review of State League and consideration of the recommendations of the Advisory Group, a new three-tiered state-wide competition for the peak of elite netball in Victoria was instituted. Replacing the State League competition, the new competition known as the Victorian Netball League (VNL) includes ten Licensees that will compete in each of three divisions: Championship, Division 1 and 19&Under.

Netball Victoria wishes to ensure this competition structure creates the strongest state-based competition in Australia and therefore the competition undertook another review in 2017/18. It was imperative a higher standard of service that will provide increased opportunities for netballers to train and play in an elite environment was available from each license.

The license application was open in 2018 for all existing and new license holders to apply. In 2019, we see the inclusion of a new license, Casey Demons, for the first time in five years. Each license will be responsible for providing opportunities and representing netball players, coaches, officials and supporters for a selected community.

2. Admission into the State Netball Hockey Centre

Patrons entering the State Netball Hockey Centre will be charged the following Entry Fees:

Adult (18+)	\$4.30
Junior (12-17 yrs.)	\$2.15
Children (11&U)	Free
Concession	\$3.50 (Health Care/Seniors Card)

Prices are set by State Netball Hockey Centre Management and are subject to change.

3. Affiliation

All Bupa Victorian Netball League Licensees, not affiliated with a Netball Association, are required to pay an annual affiliation fee to Netball Victoria, separate to the court fees. Court fees assist in paying the weekly expenses associated with running the Bupa VNL. The affiliation fee affiliates the Licensee with Netball Victoria and recognises the Licensee as a member of Netball Victoria, providing benefits such as voting rights.

Payment is due on 1 November each year.

4. Awards - Bupa VNL

The BUPA VNL awards are as follows:

MVP – Awarded to the player who received the most votes (3, 2, 1 system) throughout the home and away season. Votes are awarded by the umpires of each match (one award per division)

Hot Shot – Awarded to the player who scored the highest number of goals throughout the home and away season (one award per division)

Coaches award – Awarded to the premiership winning coach of each division

Team of the Year – Awarded to 12 players in each division (4 defenders, 4 mid-courtiers, 4 goalers) as selected by each Head Coach (cannot select from own team)

Umpire of the Year – Awarded to one umpire selected by the Bupa VNL Umpire High Performance Coaching Panel

The awards will be presented at the conclusion of the Bupa VNL season.

5. Bench Allocation

When standing on the same side of the court as the team benches facing the court, the first named team shall be allocated the team bench on the right.

The bench will consist of 17 people; 12 players and 5 team officials as per team list, submitted to the Competition Manager/Supervisor.

A Scholarship coach, approved by NV, will be an allowed as an additional person to the bench.

6. Clearances

Clearances will be required for any Bupa VNL players wishing to change teams. Clubs must complete the clearance on MyNetball.

Further information is available in the Competition Regulations.

7. Club Administrator/Primary Contact

Each License must designate one administrator who liaises with Netball Victoria. The Competitions Manager should be advised in writing of any changes to License Administrators during the season or between seasons. It is essential that contact details are accurate to ensure all communication is received.

8. Coach Requirements

Licensees accepted into the competition shall ensure that all coaching staff adhere to the following:

- They are current full members of Netball Victoria.

HEAD COACHES

- Championship division coaches must hold a current National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) Advanced netball accreditation or above.
- Division 1 and 19 & Under Coaches must hold a current NCAS Intermediate netball accreditation or above.

ASSISTANT COACHES

- Assistant coaches in Championship Division must hold a current NCAS Intermediate netball accreditation or above.
- Division 1 and 19 & Under Assistant Coaches must hold a current NCAS Development netball accreditation or above.

Appointments of all coaching positions or changes to coaching positions mid-season must be provided to Netball Victoria in writing.

9. Competition Regulations

Competition Regulations are available and outline all the rules relating to the competition.

10. Composition of Games

- 4 x 15 minute quarters
- 3 minutes $\frac{1}{4}$ time and $\frac{3}{4}$ time break
- 5 minutes $\frac{1}{2}$ time break (may be extended to 10 minutes for “home games”)
- Injury Time as per the “Official Rules of Netball” revised 2018

The Bupa Victorian Netball League will be predominantly played on Wednesday evenings at the State Netball Hockey Centre (SNHC), Brens Drive, Parkville. Some Friday/Saturday/Sunday matches will be allocated to Licensees to host home games. For further information on home games refer to the Home Games Manual.

11. Correspondence & Queries

All Bupa Victorian Netball League correspondence should be directed to Cassy Cayzer, Competitions Coordinator at Netball Victoria.

- Street Address: 487 King St WEST MELBOURNE 3003
- Postal Address: PO Box 60 NORTH MELBOURNE 3051
- Phone: 9321 2261
- Email: cassy.cayzer@netballvic.com.au
- Website: vic.netball.com.au/bupa-vnl

12. Fees

COURT FEES

Court Fees have been set at \$1650 per team (Inc. GST).

Invoices will be forwarded to all Licenses. Cheques/Money Orders should be made payable to Netball Victoria.

Court Fees must be forwarded to: Netball Victoria, PO Box 60, North Melbourne, VIC, 3051

ENTRY FEES

All teams will be charged a \$135 (Inc. GST) entry fee per Championship, Division One and 19 & Under team.

Invoices will be forwarded to all Licences.

13. Eligible Player List

All players who will participate in the Bupa Victorian Netball League will be required to complete an online VNL Standard Player Agreement (VNL SPA) as provided by Netball Victoria.

A License Eligible Player List is formed when the VNL SPA is completed by players.

Players can be added to the Bupa VNL Eligible Player List at any time during the season by completing an online VNL SPA by 12 noon on the Wednesday match day or 12 noon Friday prior to a Friday/Saturday/Sunday match.

All Licensees must submit a 19 & Under – Female squad (up to 15 players) and Open squad (up to 24 players) by 10 December the year prior to the competition. Additional players may be added at a later date

14. First Aid

As part of its Risk Management Plan, Netball Victoria provides a Physiotherapist/Senior First Aider for all Bupa Victorian Netball League matches played at the State Netball Hockey Centre on Wednesday evenings.

The Physiotherapist/Senior First Aider will be available for;

- injury management
- post-game treatment (i.e. ice down)

Players will be required to supply their own tape for strapping.

15. Fixture

The Bupa VNL Competition Manager will endeavour to cater to the fixture requests of Licensees but cannot guarantee that all requests will be met.

The fixture is available at vic.netball.com.au/bupa-vnl/ website.

16. Grand Finals

The Championship, Division 1 and 19 & Under Bupa Victorian Netball League Grand Finals will be held at the State Netball Hockey Centre on Wednesday 14 August 2019. Match times will be dependent on participating clubs.

17. Home Games

Licensees are encouraged to list up to three (3) dates for home games; this does not entitle a Licensee to three (3) home games – rather an indication of dates that are available at your venue.

Some Licensees may be allocated two or more home games dependent on how many Licensees take up the initial offer of a Home Game, subsequent Home Games will be randomly allocated.

Please note all three divisions will play a home game should you be successful in securing a home game. Special requests to have one division play at a home game may be considered.

The 'Home Game Manual' should be read prior to requesting a Home Game.

18. Incident Report Form

Incident Report Forms will be made available to all people participating in the Bupa Victorian Netball League. This allows a coach, player, manager, umpire or supervisor who wishes to report an incident, to put it in writing so that it can be read and acted upon by Netball Victoria. A copy of the Incident Report Form is available upon request from Netball Victoria or the Court Supervisor on Bupa Victorian Netball League match nights.

19. Incorporation

All Licensees competing in the Bupa Victorian Netball League must be incorporated. It is the responsibility of each Licensee to ensure their incorporation remains current.

20. Match Balls

Netball Victoria will supply the official match ball for all Bupa Victorian Netball League matches. Each club will be provided with eight (8) training balls per team of the same make for training purposes.

21. Netball Victoria Membership

All players, coaches, umpires and officials participating in the Bupa Victorian Netball League must hold a full Netball Victoria Membership. 2019 Netball Victoria Membership costs are;

- Senior \$76
- Junior (17&Under) \$56

Queries relating to Netball Victoria Membership should be directed to the Netball Victoria Member Services Team, phone 9321 2605.

22. Match Delay or Postponement

Netball Victoria has contingency plans in place for Bupa VNL matches in the event of match delay or postponement due to incidents such as weather conditions, poor field of play conditions, equipment failure and serious injury.

PROCEDURES FOR MATCH DELAY OR POSTPONEMENT

All matches must be completed up to the agreed full time. Only the officiating umpires may stop play during a match (temporarily or definitely) because of poor field of play conditions, equipment damage or failure, a seriously injured player or any other reason deemed necessary by the match umpires.

The Court Supervisor, in consultation with the NV Competitions Manager will determine if the match may proceed or if the match must be delayed or postponed.

In the event that a match is delayed, interrupted or postponed, the match must be resumed as soon as is conveniently possible under the following conditions;

- On resumption, the match shall be continued from the spot where the ball was when play was stopped as per IFN Rules of netball (2018) rule 9.3
- On resumption, Rule 9.1, relating to the substitution of players shall apply as though there had been no interruption to the match.

The score on resumption of the match being that at the time the interruption took place.

DEFINITION OF DELAY AND POSTPONEMENT

Delay: A match is considered delayed if it does not start at the scheduled start time or is interrupted after the scheduled start.

Postponement: A match is considered postponed when it cannot be completed within the scheduled session (or an extended session) and is rescheduled to another session on the same day or another day.

RESCHEDULING MANAGEMENT

The Bupa VNL Competitions Manager will determine when delayed or postponed competition will resume based on recommendations from the Court Supervisor and Venue Operator.

The following regulations must be observed when rescheduling matches:

- If circumstances arise which are not provided for in the Rules of Netball, the Competitions Manager will determine the necessary action to be taken as to when a match shall resume or be rescheduled.

23. Player Re-signing and Recruitment

The primary role of each Licensee is to manage the three teams in the Bupa Victorian Netball League.

A re-signing period will occur following the completion of the grand finals. It will be open for a defined period of time with the recruitment window to immediately follow.

The purpose of the Player Recruitment Window is to regulate the movement of players between Licensees. It is a period of time in which Licensees are permitted to approach potential new recruits.

Licensees should have open and transparent policies and practices for the recruitment of players, coaches and team officials and administrators.

24. Primary Care Personnel

Names of the Primary Care personnel and their qualifications must be submitted to Netball Victoria on the Primary Care List. The Primary Care person will be required to report to the Court Supervisor's office prior to their team's matches starting and sign in to receive a medical band to identify their role in the team.

The Primary Care person must be qualified to diagnose and/or treat injury or illness (minimum Level 1 Sports First Aid). Subject to approval from Netball Victoria of the above four (4) mentioned mandatory fields up to two (2) other Team Officials will make up the team bench compilation.

25. Scoring & Timing

Each licensee will be responsible for providing bench officials for all matches. There must be one bench official per division with at least two back up scorers.

Each licensee must provide a non-participating Bupa VNL accredited Scorer or Timekeeper for all matches

- a) The first named team to provide the official scorer. The second named team to provide the timekeeper
- b) These people must sit together for the duration of the match at the official score bench
- c) No bench official can score for three matches in a row
- d) All bench officials must be a Netball Victoria member
- e) All home game bench officials must be approved by Netball Victoria

26. Season Dates

Pre Season – Sunday 17 March 2019

Rounds – Wednesday 27 March 2019

Semi Finals – Wednesday 31 July 2019

Preliminary Finals – Wednesday 7 August 2019

Grand Finals – Wednesday 14 August 2019

27. Sponsorship

Further information regarding sponsorship will be outlined in the Bupa VNL Commercial Guidelines.

Should you wish to service/entertain sponsors or club officials, the potential is there when your matches are allocated on Court 1 to utilise the facilities of the SNHC.

If you require any advice or assistance with sponsorship, please contact our General Manager – Commercial Development, Ben Fuller on 9321 2224 or at ben.fuller@netballvic.com.au

28. Team Name

For the purpose of accurate records and fixtures, we require the correct name of your License/Club. If a name change has occurred since your Bupa Victorian Netball League application was submitted, please notify the Bupa VNL Competition Manager at Netball Victoria in writing as soon as possible.

29. Team Personnel

Each Licensee is permitted to have up to five officials on their team bench, in addition to the twelve players. The team officials (Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager and Primary Care personnel) must be current financial Netball Victoria members.

Of the five officials – the following officials are mandatory – Coach, Manager and Primary Care, other positions may be filled by assistant coach and statistician.

All team officials on the team bench are required to be easily identifiable in team uniform.

Netball Victoria will be running a Scholarship Coach Program which will allow for a 6th team official to be on the bench. Further information in regard to this will be sent to clubs by Netball Victoria's Coach Development Manager and the Bupa VNL Competition Manager.

30. Uniform Registration

Licensees must submit preferred colours for team uniforms and once approved by Netball Victoria these will become the registered team colours for that License.

Netball Victoria reserves the right to reject or request changes to colours. If your Licensee is planning to change the design or colour of your uniform - do not place orders prior to gaining approval from the Competitions Manager. Register your uniform with Netball Victoria first!

31. Umpire Feedback

High Performance Umpire Coaches attend all Bupa VNL competition matches, both at the SNHC and the home games.

The High Performance Umpire Coaches are available for Bupa VNL coaches to approach to discuss rules, issues with umpiring interpretations and relevant queries on the game being played.

Coaches who wish to discuss umpiring interpretations, rules or issues with the officiating umpire/umpires on their court should notify a High-Performance Umpire Coach of this request, no longer than 15 minutes post-match. Arrangements will be made for a meeting with the coach and the umpires in a designated room at the stadium after the umpires have fulfilled their official duties.

No discussions with the officiating umpire/umpires are to be undertaken courtside or in the walkways of the stadium.

32. Website

Netball Victoria has developed a web page exclusively for the Bupa Victorian Netball League. Log onto <https://vic.netball.com.au/bupa-vnl> for the latest news and information on the Bupa Victorian Netball League. Information is updated regularly during the season, so make sure you visit frequently.