



NORTHERN GOLD COAST NETBALL ASSOCIATION

2024 WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMPETITIONS MANUAL

CONTACT INFORMATION

Competition Coordinator

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SECTION 1: CONDITIONS

Competition Conditions

- Games will be played and umpired under the official International Netball Federation (INF) "Rules of Netball" 2024 Edition and set by Northern Gold Coast Netball Association (NGCNA).
- It is the responsibility of the Team Contact to ensure that team members are fully aware of the Rules of Netball as well as the information written in this Competition Manual.
- Any alterations to the official Rules of Netball and applied to NGCNA Netball Competitions are specified in this Competition Manual.
- NGCNA has the right to change and update any ruling within this Competition Manual to ensure the best possible competition for its members.
- Any changes to these conditions will be communicated to umpires and players in a timely manner prior to implementation.
- These conditions will apply to both Ladies and Mixed NGCNA Wednesday Night Competition and across all divisions.

SECTION 2: GENERAL INFORMATION

Competition Outline

- Season 1 & 2 2024, NGCNA Wednesday Night Competition will comprise of the following competition nights.
 - Wednesday Night Ladies and Mixed Divisions
- The minimum playing age for Ladies AND Mixed competitions is 15 years.
- Players turning 15 years of age in the calendar year of the Competition are eligible to play.
- Players can play in both the Ladies and Mixed Competition so long as they are registered separately for each team and meet age requirements.

Competition Structure

- Ladies Division 1 Competitive Social
- Ladies Divisions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Social
- Mixed Division 1 Competitive Social
- Mixed Division 2 Social
- Ladies Competition will be graded into appropriate divisions from Division 1 to Division 6. (The number of Divisions will be dependent on team nominations and level of performance during grading).

Venue Information

- NGCNA Wednesday Night Competition is played at the Coomera Indoor Sports Centre, 35 Beattie Road, Coomera.
- Parking will be available at the venue for players and spectators.

Team Contact

- Teams must have one designated Team Contact for the season.
- Team Contact must be 18 years or over.
- They are the Primary Contact for all on and off-court matters for their team.
- The Team Contact responsibilities also include:
 - Conducting the initial team nomination
 - Ensuring team fees are paid in full by the due date/time.
 - ALL players (including themselves) are registered through Netball Connect by the due date.
 - ALL players have played the minimum number of games to qualify for finals.
 - ALL players meet the age requirements as per the competition conditions.
 - ALL players acknowledge and abide by competition conditions as outlined in this Manual as well as Netball Queensland Code of Conduct and Integrity.
 - ALL players are informed of game times and/or game changes.

Team Communication

- The Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator will direct all important communication to the Team Contact and/or players via email and/or phone.
- Information regarding court allocations and season dates will also be communicated with all players through the NetballConnect app (free to download).
- All relevant documents including this Competition Manual, NQ Member Protection Policy, Code of Conduct & Integrity, Injury Insurance Claim and Individual Players can be accessed on the NGCNA website <https://www.ngcna.com.au/wednesday-night-competition>
- Inappropriate, condemning and/or unwanted content WILL NOT be tolerated. NGCNA has the right to remove any member from the NetballConnect app if he/she communicates within this manner.

SECTION 3: COMPETITION FORMAT

Competition Dates

WEDNESDAY LADIES AND MIXED COMPETITIONS

Season 1 2024

- Grading Games: 2 weeks starting Wednesday 31st January 2024.
- Fixture Round Games: 14 weeks starting Wednesday 14th February 2024.
- Finals Series: 2 weeks. Semi Final Wednesday 12th June 2024 and Grand Final Wednesday 19th June 2024.
- NO GAMES PLAYED Wednesday 3rd and 10th April and Wednesday 5th June 2024.

WEDNESDAY LADIES AND MIXED COMPETITIONS

Season 2 2024

- Grading Games: 2 weeks (Mixed Competition's grading is TBA) starting Wednesday 24th July 2024.
- Fixture Round Games: 14 weeks starting Wednesday 7th August 2024.
- Finals Series: 2 weeks. Semi Final Wednesday 20th November 2024 and Grand Final Wednesday 27th November 2024.
- NO GAMES PLAYED Wednesday 25th September 2024.

Game Format

Grading – All Divisions

- 10-minute halves with a 2-minute break between half and 3 minutes between games.

Competition Rounds – Division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and Mixed

- 10-minute quarters with 2-minute quarter breaks, 2-minute half time break and 3 minutes between games.
- Ball for each game to be supplied by each team.
- Umpire/s for each game will be supplied by NGCNA
- Rolling subs for all Divisions.
- No tactical time outs as these games are centrally timed

Game Times

- Games will be run at the following time slots:
 - 6:30PM – Division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and mixed
 - 7:20PM – Division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and mixed
 - 8:10PM – Division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and mixed
 - 9:00PM – Division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and mixed
- During Finals Series these times will change to allow for drawn games to be played out.

Grading Rounds, BYEs and Draw Grading (Ladies only, Mixed TBC)

- Upon Team Nomination, teams will be able to nominate a preferred division in which they wish to play in.
- A grading draw will be available prior to commencement of the competition.
- Grading will occur for the first 2 weeks of the competition.
- Teams are not guaranteed to be placed in their preferred divisions. The Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator will consider team preferences as well as teams performance during the grading games to grade each team appropriately in the context of the competition.
- Teams can request a regrade, however this should be done no later than 48 hours BEFORE Round 1 fixture. Requests after this time will not be considered.
- NGCNA reserves the right to refuse and/or alter grades at any point throughout the season.

Byes

- NGCNA cannot guarantee an even number of teams across all grades and divisions. As a result, byes may be necessary to fulfil the draw.

Draw and Ladder

- The full season draw will be made available after the 2nd and final grading round and prior to the Round 1 fixture.
- The season draw and premiership ladder will be available online on the NetballConnect app using the player's login details.
- The following points system will be used during the Grading games as well as the regular season fixtures:
 - Win = 3 pts
 - Loss = 1 pts
 - Draw = 2 pts
 - Bye = 0 pts
 - Forfeit Loss* = 0 pts
 - Forfeit Win = 3 pts

*subject to the nature of the forfeit see 'Forfeits' for further details

- Grading points will NOT be carried over to the regular season fixtures.

Withdrawals

- Any team who withdraws after taking the court in the first grading game are liable to pay the full balance of their remaining competition fees or if already have done so they will not receive any refund for competition fees.
- No refunds to players can be made if a player decides to leave the competition. It is up to the Team Contact as to how payments are received and/or transferred amongst players.
- Draws and ladders will be appropriately adjusted by the discretion of NGCNA for any team who has withdrawn from the competition by choice or by expulsion.

Forfeits

- To take the court a minimum of five (5) players from the original team are required.
- If a team fails to have 5 players on court by the start of the game, the opposition will be awarded one (1) goal for every full minute that elapses until the minimum player requirement is met.
- If after ten (10) minutes the team cannot meet the minimum of five (5) players, they will forfeit the game. The offending team will be penalized with a Late Forfeit.
- If a team needs to forfeit their game, they MUST contact the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator.
- The following Forfeit penalties will apply:
 - The forfeit fee includes the offending teams weekly game fee and the opposing teams weekly game fee. The offending team cannot take the court until the forfeit fee is paid.
- Teams given the Late Forfeit penalty for the third time in a season will be removed from the competition and will not receive any refund on competition fees.

Early Forfeit

BEFORE 3pm on the day of the scheduled game will receive no competition points.

Late Forfeit

AFTER 3pm on the day of the scheduled game will be deducted three (3) competition points.

Finals Series Finals Format

- The Finals Series will be played after the conclusion of the regular season fixtures.
- The top four (4) teams with the most competition points in each division will compete in the final series.
- If teams are tied for competition points, the finals positions will be determined using the following steps:
 - Team with the highest goal percentage during the regular season rounds (goals for divided by goals against multiplied by 100).
 - If teams are still tied:
 - Team in whom won the match between the 2 teams concerned during their last fixture round.
 - If teams are still tied:
 - Team with the better For and Against (the difference between goals for and goals against)
 - If teams are still tied:
 - Most Goals during the full regular season rounds
- The format for each division's final series is as follows: Semi Final 1 1st vs 4th
Semi Final 2 2nd vs 3rd Grand Final Winner SF1 vs Winner SF2
- The draw for the Finals Series will be determined at the conclusion of the regular fixtures.
- NGCNA has the right to alter Finals format to best suit the competition needs.
- A team may make themselves unavailable for finals however they must do so before the finals draw has been released.
- If a team does withdraw from finals before the draw is released a subsequent team below them on the ladder can be eligible to take their place.
- If a team withdraws after the finals draw has been released, the team in which they were scheduled to play will win on forfeit and automatically move through to the next Finals Round.

Finals Eligibility

- Players must be registered through NetballConnect and listed on the team sheet.
- For BOTH Ladies and Mixed Competitions, players must have played a minimum of 5 games for that team during the season.
- Team attendance will be required for the Finals Series before their game to take the court.

Drawn Finals Games

- In the event of a draw during the Grand Final the following will take place

- At the completion of regular time there will be a one (1) minute break
- After the one (1) minute break, teams will change ends and two (2) halves of five (5) minutes extra time will be played.
- After the first five (5) minute half teams will change ends and continue their 2nd (5) minute half with no break.
- If the game is still drawn at the end of the 2nd five (5) minute half, play continues until one team gains a two (2) goal advantage.
- Unlimited substitutions during extra time are permitted.

Awards

- Presentations for the Winners and Runners-up will be held at the venue after each Division's Grand Final.

SECTION 4: COMMENCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION

Team Nominations

- Team Contacts must nominate in their chosen competition to the Competition Coordinator
- Teams must submit a "Team Name". Those proposing a name that has already been taken, or that is deemed offensive will be asked to select an alternative.

Nomination Period

- The Team nomination period for the Season 1 Competitions will be:
 - Open Monday 1st January 2024.
 - Nominations will close Friday 26th January 2024.
- The Team nomination period for the Season 2 Competitions will be:
 - Open Monday 20th May 2024.
 - Nominations will close Friday 19th July 2024.
- Late nominations will only be accepted at the discretion of NGCNA.

Fees

- The total team fee for Season 1 2024 is below:
 - Division 1 and Mixed Teams \$1520.00 incl GST which covers a full season of 2 grading games, 14 regular season rounds. This can be paid weekly at \$95 per week.
 - Division 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Teams \$1360.00 incl GST which covers a full season of 2 grading games, 14 regular season rounds. This can be paid weekly at \$85 per week.
- The total team fee for Season 2 2024 is below:
 - Mixed Teams \$1520.00 incl GST which covers a full season of 2 grading games, 14 regular season rounds. This can be paid weekly at \$95 per week.
 - Division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Teams \$1408.00 incl GST which covers a full season of 2 grading games, 14 regular season rounds. This can be paid weekly at \$88 per week.

- Finals series are not included in these Team Fees and will be charged weekly to teams that qualify for finals. These fees will be the same cost as the team weekly fees.
- This team nomination fee also includes NQ insurance coverage for all players registered to that team.
- Player registration fees are below and payable when registering:
 - Netball Queensland Fee \$37.00 (For new players with no current NQ registration)
 - NGCNA Fee \$11
- Teams must pay their invoiced fees BEFORE the specified date. Weekly fees will be paid through Teampay. The team contact will be responsible for receiving payment of team fees prior to taking the court that day.
- Failure to pay the fee by this due date or prior to the start of the game may result in competition penalties for the un-financial team/s. Penalties could include but are not limited to, suspension of competition points or suspension from taking the court until fees are paid, deduction of competition points and/or removal from the competition.
- There will be NO refunded fees for BYEs or Win on Forfeit.
- There is a team bond required to be paid prior to the season starting. For Mixed Division the bond is \$190 and for Division 1,2, 3, 4 and 5 the bond is \$176. If you have paid a bond in previous seasons and it has not been used to cover a forfeit game then it will be rolled over into the new season.

Player Registrations

- All players, including Team Contacts, must conduct a Player Registration each season to be registered to their team/s.
- If a player wishes to play in both the Ladies and Mixed team, they must register separately as part of both teams.
- For a player registering in both a Ladies and a Mixed team, only one NGCNA registration fee is payable. The player is to request a discount code from the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator prior to registering in the second team.
- Teams can register up to 12 players.
- Any players who are not registered may not be covered by insurance and may not be eligible for finals.
- Player Registrations are made through NetballConnect upon registration. Team contacts are responsible for ensuring all players are registered. If any players are not listed on their team lists, the team contact must approach the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator to add these players.
- Team Contacts will be provided with further information about player registrations once team nominations have been made.

Individual Players

- Individual players who do not have a team may contact the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator to express their interest to play. Appropriate teams/divisions will then be contacted with the individual's contact details and the Team Contact will be responsible for further contacting the player.
- Past individual players have found success utilising our Facebook Group called 'NGCNA Wednesday Night Comp'. This is a private group and an admin will approve your request to join.

Fill in Player's

- Fill-In players must hold a Netball Queensland Player Registration for that year prior to taking the court. Playing an unregistered player will result in the loss of competition points.
- Fill-In players must be approved and sign in at the Competitions Desk prior to taking the court.
- If a player is registered to a team they can only fill in for another team if they are from a lower division team. Players cannot fill in for a lower division or the same division to what they are registered in.
- Fill-In players must still be recorded in NetballConnect– under the team in which they are playing.
- A Fill-In player may fill in for one team twice, after that they become a member of that team.

SECTION 5: TEAM REQUIREMENTS

Team Uniform

- Uniforms will consist of a dress or a shirt/singlet and skirt/shorts. Shorts can be worn in the and all team members must wear the same coloured bottoms. Shorts must not have any zippers. No bike pants, bummers or tights allowed.
- Suitable indoor sports footwear is required (spiked soles are not allowed).
- All players **MUST** play in matching uniforms. This means that shirts/tops must be similar in colour and skirts/shorts must be similar in colour.
- Players are permitted to wear skins or other compression/sportswear type pants.
- All teams should supply their own team bibs/positional patches.
- If by the umpire's discretion teams must change their bibs (i.e. colour clash amongst the two teams playing) then the team will be able to borrow bibs from the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator for no further fee.
- If a team needs to borrow bibs without any appointment from the umpire, they will be required to pay a \$5 fee to the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator on the night as well as leave an item of personal value with the Coordinator to ensure bibs are returned.
- No item of jewellery, except a medical alert bracelet or wedding band, may be worn.
- If a medical adornment is worn, a medical certificate must be supplied to the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator before any commencement of play.
- The medical adornment must be taped to prevent the risk of injury to the wearer or any other person on the court.
- The player can then continue to play however they do so at their own risk of injury and may not be covered by NQ insurance.
- Fingernails will be short and smooth to the umpires' satisfaction. Netball gloves are permitted.
- If glasses are worn, they must be properly secured to the umpires' satisfaction.

- No game will be delayed beyond the scheduled commencement time to permit any uniform offence to be rectified. The offending player will not be allowed on the court until uniform requirements are satisfied. Late player rules apply.

Scorers

- Teams will be required to provide a scorer for their games.
- Only one (1) scorer per game is required and this is alternated between teams throughout the season. The team providing the scorer will be the designated home team for that game as seen on the draw (listed first on the NetballConnect app).
- For Live Scoring games, the scorer will be required to download the designated app and use their own device to score the game.
- If a scorer is not provided, this will result in a player being removed from the court to undertake scoring duties.
- All scorers must be at least 15 years of age.
- The final score on the NetballConnect app for all Live Scored games and the Official score sheet for all other games is deemed to be final.
- Umpires, Captains of both teams, and the Scorer for the game will be required to confirm the scores at the completion of the game.
- During the Finals series both teams are required to supply a scorer.

Team Attendance

- Team attendance will be taken for each team through NetballConnect for all live score games or on the official score sheet for all other games by the scorer prior to the game starting.
- For all live score games only, registered players will be available to select for team attendance.
- For all live score games, if a player cannot be selected for team attendance, they can be added to the team by the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator if they have registered prior.
- If a player fails to register, their game will NOT be counted towards their Finals Eligibility
- Insurance can only be guaranteed for players who are registered through NetballConnect.

SECTION 6: OTHER COMPETITION RULES

Mixed Competition Rules

- There are no restrictions on the number of female or male players per team.
- A mixed team can have up to 3 male players on the court at one time and can only have one male player playing in each third at any one time (Shooting, mid court, defence)
- There are no restrictions on positions permitted by either male or female players.
- The team must start with atleast one male player on the court.

Rolling Substitutions

- Rolling substitutions are allowed in the Competition.
- Unlimited substitutions can be made during the game.
- Substitutions may be made during play, (as well as during stoppages and intervals).

- There is no limit to the number that can be made during a game, and more than one substitution may be made at any time.
- Play will not be held up for substitutions (umpires do not need to be notified if a player wishes to complete a substitution).
- Players must enter/exit play in permitted areas for their position (without being offside) and must do so out of the way of the umpire.
- Players can only enter the play once the subbing player has completely exited the court and the player coming on is wearing the correct bib.
- Players CANNOT change positions whilst on the court. Any changes to positions require a player to sub off and return to the court in the desired position.

Injury Time

- There will be no time outs during grading and fixture round games. The timing will continue, and games will conclude at the scheduled time.
- An injured player can take up to 30 seconds to leave the court. This player may be replaced once they have left the court.
- Injury time will be played during finals only.
- During a stoppage for injury or illness both teams will be allowed to make substitutions and/or team changes if desired.
- If an injured player cannot be removed from the court, then the game will be moved to another court if available.
- If the game cannot be moved, then the following will occur:
 - If the game has reached half time, then the scores at the time of stoppage will be the official scores of the game.
 - If the game has not reached half time, then the game will be deemed a draw and the points for a draw will be rewarded.

Blood Policy

- Players sustaining bleeding injuries will move or be removed from the court as soon as possible.
- Any blood marks on the court, clothing/bib or the ball must be removed and disinfected immediately by the bleeding player or First Aid Officer at the venue.
- Players will not take the court with bleeding wounds or wounds that are not adequately covered.

First Aid

- A certified First Aid Officer will be supplied at the venue by NGCNA during all games.
- It is the responsibility of the NGCNA First Aid Officer to provide immediate assistance to the injured player with on court injuries or to continue treatment of injuries after the player has been removed from the court.
- They are authorized to provide the appropriate medical advice/treatment (including ice bags and calling for an ambulance).
- Injury Report Forms will need to be completed on the night of which the injury occurred and a copy will be required to be handed into the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator.

Personal Injury Claim

- Only players who are registered through NetballConnect as a NQ player are covered under the NQ insurance policy.
- The NQ Personal injury claim form through Howden Group can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.ngcna.com.au/policies>
- Players are required to complete all relevant sections of the paperwork.
- The declaration by association/club will require the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator's signature.
- Once all areas of the paperwork are completed the player must return it to the Howden Group.

Complaints, Protests and Suspensions Behaviour of players/spectators

- NGCNA requires all Players, Umpires and Parents/Spectators to comply with the General Code of Behaviour Policy (as outlined in the Netball Queensland Code of Conduct and Integrity) and to be read upon player registration.
- Team Contacts are responsible for the behaviour of all team players and spectators on and off the court.
- Inappropriate behaviour, disrespect and foul language will not be tolerated.
- This behaviour and any other behaviour deemed to not be in the good spirit of the game will result in players being sent from the court at the discretion of the Umpire. Spectators will also be removed.
- Players who are sent off from the game will receive an automatic two-week suspension. Further disciplinary action may be applied at the discretion of the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator.
- Players who are repeatedly reported for foul language or aggressive behaviour will be removed from the competition at the discretion of the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator.
- Submitting a protest/complaint
 - A player or umpire may submit a complaint/protest report form to the Wednesday Night Competition Coordinator or NGCNA at any time.
 - Any protest or complaint made relating to that specific game must be submitted within 48 hours after the completion of that game.
 - NGCNA aims to provide a simple, confidential, and trustworthy procedure for resolving complaints based on the principles of procedural fairness.
 - The complaint will be reviewed initially and if NGCNA deems there is a need to investigate further, the complainant will be required to pay a fee of \$100. If the complaint is successfully appealed, the fee will be refunded.
 - A protest or complaint must include a team name, opposition team name, division, time, nature and details of protest or complaint, and the names of people involved.

****PLEASE ALSO FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH THE NORTHERN GOLD COAST NETBALL ASSOCIATION BYLAWS WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON THE NORTHERN GOLD COAST WEBSITE www.northerngoldcoastnetball.com.au.**