

F.D.N.A By laws

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FDNA

FRANKSTON DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

**PO Box 4102
Frankston Heights, 3199
85 Hillcrest Road Frankston.**

**Ph: 9776 5155
www.fdna.com.au
E: netball@fdna.com.au**

1. COSTUME AND COLOURS

- (a) Costume and colours must be registered with the Association. No Club/Team shall make any change in its costume or colours without the consent, in writing, of the Association. Clubs/Teams unaffiliated for twelve (12) months or more shall relinquish their 'original' colours.
 - (i) Players are not permitted to take the court unless in correct uniform after the first two (2) weeks of relevant competition.
- (b) Matching to skirt or black / navy waisted full briefs shall be worn.
- (c) Matching or black / navy full length tracksuit pants or full length leggings may be worn by females. Females must wear netball Skirt over the top of tracksuit pants.
- (d) Positional bibs are compulsory at all times, initials to be not less than 10cm (4") and no more than 15cm (6") high.
- (e) Uniforms for men / boys shall include tracksuit pants or shorts matching the registered Club colour or black / navy.
- (f) Bike shorts that do not exceed the length of the skirt are permitted.
- (g) A Club/Team Sponsor's name and/or logo may only appear once on any article of the playing uniform (which consists of skirt, shirt, socks, briefs or bodysuit). It may not exceed 6.4 square centimetres. There are no restrictions on size of sponsor's name and/or logo on non-playing uniform.
- (h) All uniforms shall be sporting attire of an acceptable standard.
- (i) Females competing in Ladies or Mixed competitions may wear ALL skirts, ALL skorts or ALL shorts of uniform style and color.
- (j) Shorts worn by Males and Females must be of sporting style with NO pockets, zips or loops.
- (k) Three quarter pants of any style including leggings will NOT be permitted.
- (l) Gloves are not permitted.

- (i) Special permission for gloves may be considered with a current medical certificate.
- (m) Long nails shall be padded with cotton wool before being taped.
- (n) All body jewellery shall be removed or padded and taped.

2. REGISTRATION AND CLEARANCE

- (a) Players, Umpires, Coaches and Officials are to be registered annually and the relevant Official shall keep a record of it. All Players are considered unregistered as at 1st January each year.
- (b) No player shall be registered without his / her permission.
- (c) Clubs/Teams must submit players' full name and date of birth, where applicable, for registration with the Association. New registrations must be submitted to Score Secretary, with first name and surname, DOB, (where applicable), and VNA number, prior to playing the first match.
- (d) VNA registration must be paid prior to playing first match.

PENALTY for 2 (c) and 2 (d): A fine will be imposed for each unregistered player

- (e) No inter-Club transfer/s of players will be permitted during a competition, unless confirmed in writing by the Club. Only one transfer per player will be allowed in any one competition. No transfer/s will be permitted after the first full round of competition unless the Club withdraws from the competition.

PENALTY for 2 (e): If player is found to be ineligible, if match won or drawn, four (4) points together with a score of ten (10) goals to nil shall be awarded to the opposing team, if match lost, a fine will be imposed.

- (f) *Clearance to be obtained from Club player is registered with, before going to new Club for Saturday Competition and Junior Competition.*
 - (i) *Clearance may be refused due to outstanding fees, possession of uniform, equipment or Club property.*
- (g) A Central Register is to be kept of unfinancial players.

3. GRADING OF TEAMS

(a) GENERAL

- (i) Minimum of seven (7) players must be submitted on official entry forms prior to closing date thereon and include name of badged umpire, where required, together with entry fees as set annually. Late or incomplete entries will only be accepted when required to fill a draw. A fine will be imposed on any team withdrawing, after commencement of grading, and shall be payable together with any outstanding fees. Grading will be prepared by Score Secretary Co-ordinator and her/his nominees and ratified by the Board.
- (ii) In the event of a player playing four (4) games in an eighteen (18) weeks or more season, three (3) games in an eleven (11) week to seventeen (17) weeks season, two (2) games in a ten 10 week season, in higher grades than originally registered, said player automatically becomes a member of the higher team.

<i>Number of Weeks in Season</i>	<i>Number of games that tie to a Team</i>
18 weeks	Four (4)
11 - 17 weeks	Three (3)
10 or less weeks	Two (2)

(1) Where Clubs have more than one team in any one grade or section, players are tied to that team in which they play their fourth, third, or second game (whichever is applicable to the length of season)

(iii) *A player may play a second game on any given day only to enable the team they are filling in for to field seven (7) Players, providing:*

- 1. The player may only play for their registered grade or higher.*
- 2. The player who plays a second game must also play for their registered team on the same day.*
- 3. A player may not play a second game in the same grade as the team to which they are registered.*
- 4. The player must cease playing as soon as practicable if the team they are filling in for is able to field seven (7) registered players after the start of play.*

(iv) *A player can fill in for a higher grade if released by the Coach of the player's registered team (in writing) or if their registered team is on a bye.*

PENALTY for 3 (iii) 1, 2, 3 & 4 & (iv): If a player is found to be ineligible, if the match won or drawn, four (4) points together with a score of ten (10) goals to nil shall be awarded to the opposing team, if the match lost, a fine will be imposed.

(b) PROMOTION & RELEGATION - SENIOR GRADES

- (i) Where possible, the lowest team/s and the Premiership and/or Runner Up team of the grade exactly below will change places unless regraded by the Grading Committee. Three (3) qualified members of a Premiership team may remain in the Premiership grade. The remaining qualified players must go up, unless regraded by the Grading Committee.
- (ii) Grading will also take into account the teams overall performance during the season. Teams who have performed strongly during the season but have failed to make the Grand Final due to unforeseen circumstances concerning their players (players who may become available for the new season) may not necessarily remain in their current grade.

(c) GRADING OF TEAMS - JUNIOR GRADES

- (i) Age grouping will be decided annually. Competing players must turn seven (7) years of age during that year.
- (ii) In conjunction with the Junior Policy and general grading (3(a)), teams shall be assessed and graded on age (players to be said age or under on 31st December of that year), capability and experience of individual players and teams. The Saturday Committee reserves the right to regrade.
- (iii) *Except for 'A' grades, teams so graded must play any four (4) players registered on official entry form (Original Players). If a team finds it has only four (4) Original players for the remainder of the season, the Club may apply for permission to make a regular team player an Original player. Such application must be made by the Club, in writing, and signed by the Club Official, stating reasons, and be acceptable to the grading committee. The remaining players and emergencies, as registered, may play in a higher or lower grade until tied, unless regraded by the grading committee.*

PENALTY for (iii): If a player is found to be ineligible, if match won or drawn, four (4) points together with a score of ten (10)

goals to nil shall be awarded to the opposing team, if match lost a fine will be imposed

(d) GRADING OF TEAMS - MIXED

- (i) Mixed male / female teams shall include no less than two (2) and no more than three (3) males on the court at any one time.
- (ii) There shall be no more than one (1) male in either goal circle at anytime. Being either G.S. / G.A. or G.K. / G.D.
- (iii) It shall not be necessary for male players to play against male players.
- (iv) If a team takes the court at the commencement of the match with less than seven (7) players, a late player may take the vacant position. If this contravenes (ii), the team must rearrange positions to comply.

4. GRADING OF PLAYERS IN OPEN COMPETITIONS

- (a) Players who have played at the following level of netball in the current year will not be permitted to play lower than the top section in any FDNA competition:
 - (i) Australian or State representation;
 - (ii) Victorian Netball League (VNL)- Championship, Division One or 19/Under.

These players will be required to play the following minimum amount of games to qualify for finals:

- (i) 18 week season - six (6) games
- (ii) 11 - 17 week season - four (4) games
- (iii) 10 week or less season - three (3) games

PENALTY: If a player is found to be ineligible, if a match won or drawn, four (4) points together with a score of ten (10) goals to nil shall be awarded to the opposing team, if match lost, a fine will be imposed.

- (b) Players competing in open competitions must be at least fourteen (14) years of age.

PENALTY: If a player is found to be ineligible, if a match won or drawn, four (4) points together with a score of ten (10) goals to nil shall be awarded to the opposing team, if match lost, a fine will be imposed.

5. CONDUCT OF MATCHES

- (a) The rules shall be those of All Australian Netball Association.
- (b) All matches shall be played according to the fixture, unless cancelled or altered by the committee, and all matches must be completed for points to be awarded, except for forfeits, or if match is abandoned, or by mutual agreement. In the event of a competition/section being cancelled, all notices of forfeits received on that day/night shall be considered invalid.
- (c) No player is eligible to play in two matches in the same competition in one day or night, except where Clause 3(a)(iii) applies.

PENALTY for (c): If a player is found to be ineligible, if match won or drawn, four (4) points together with a score of ten (10) goals to nil shall be awarded to the opposing team, if match lost, a fine will be imposed.

- (d) If a team fails to take the court at the commencement of the match, it shall be penalised one (1) goal per minute after the umpire has officially notified the timekeeper. The late team must be notified of the penalty prior to taking the court. If a team has not taken the court by quarter time, it is considered to have forfeited the match. The opposing team of five (5) or more players shall be awarded four (4) points together with a score of ten (10) goals to nil, and the forfeiting team will pay court fees and a fine.
- (e) If unable to field a team, the Club Secretary must give the relevant Score Secretary sufficient notice (minimum six (6) hours prior to the beginning of relevant competition) of the intention to forfeit. In the event of a team forfeiting two (2) consecutive matches in the one competition, the Club shall show just cause why that team shall not be deregistered.
 - (i) In the case of Sunday night competition, notice to forfeit must be received by 5pm on the Friday prior to the forfeited match to claim notified status.

- (ii) In the case of Monday morning competition notice to forfeit must be received by the end of business on the Sunday prior to the forfeited match to claim notified status.

- (f) Four (4) points shall be awarded for a win.
Four (4) points shall be awarded for a bye.
Two (2) points shall be awarded for a draw.
Two (2) points shall be awarded for cancelled matches.
Abandoned matches before half time, teams awarded two (2) points each, abandoned matches at or after half time; the team leading shall be awarded the four (4) points.

- (g) Teams must report for matches unless Clubs are officially notified of cancellation by the committee (ref Clause 5b). If games are to be cancelled, Clubs will be notified one (1) hour prior to first time slot of competition. If circumstances warrant, the Association shall have the right to cancel at any time during a competition. Score sheets may be submitted for cancelled or unplayed matches providing that five (5) or more players are present, including any player/s to be qualified for finals. Cancelled matches will be rescheduled.

- (h) Any notice of protest must be submitted on the official FDNA report form and lodged with the supervisor with the required fee and signed by the team captain. Official protest must be submitted in writing, and signed by the Club/Team Official, within forty-eight (48) hours of notice. Protests to be settled by the Board. If protest is upheld, the fee shall be refunded.

- (i) Matches shall be controlled by a central timekeeper. Score sheets to be handed in, up to 24 hours after the completion of the last time slot of that day/night. Score sheets to bear Club name in corner, grade, date and name of competition, players' names, signatures of both captains and at least one (1) umpire. First named team on fixture is 'Home Team'. Home team score sheet is considered official score sheet.

- (j) Each team shall provide a responsible scorer. They shall stand together in a central position. Incorrect or absent score sheets shall incur a fine. Umpires to be provided as per fixture, or as directed by the Association.

- (k) Clubs to provide responsible person/s for duties as per fixture. Failure to do so will incur a fine.

- (l) No time is allowed for injuries, except for finals matches, then time is allowed as in All Australian Netball Association Rule 7, (Stoppages (the maximum time allowed before play must resume is two (2) minutes)) provided that supervisor is notified immediately of stoppage.
- (m) Blood Policy / Finals
Based on the premise that there is a bleeding player and no-one else has noticed/called time:
- i. Umpire directs the timekeeper to hold time and the bleeding player are attended to.
 - ii. Because it is an umpire directed time out it is not an injury time but a carrying out of legal/health responsibility by an umpire.
 - (a) It is a maximum of 2 minutes
 - (b) No substitutions/positional changes may be made
 - (c) Clean up/taping to be done as efficiently as possible
 - (d) Blood stained clothes to be removed or cleaned player may leave the court.
 - iii. If it becomes injury time then all the rules relating to substitutions/team changes become operable.
- (n) *During the Saturday Competition for all 11/Under and Netta Competitions, one member is to be appointed coach of each team. This individual must wear an identification band to indicate to all officials their position. Complaints and issues regarding the team should be sought by or through this individual only.*
- (o) Should a player be in severe breach of the Players' Codes of Behaviour, they will receive an automatic one (1) week suspension (without warning) and that the player will be requested to leave the court for the remainder of the match. Depending on the severity of the breach, the matter may also be referred to the FDNA tribunal.
- (p) Any person reported by an Umpire of FDNA Official for abuse of, threatening behaviour towards or physical contact with an umpire should be referred directly to the FDNA Tribunal.
In the event of a player being found guilty by the tribunal of verbal abuse toward an Umpire, a minimum three (3) week suspension will apply.
In the event of a player being found guilty by the tribunal of threatening to harm an Umpire, a minimum six (6) week suspension will apply.

In the event of a player being found guilty by the tribunal of deliberately endangering the physical health and safety of an Umpire, a minimum twelve (12) month suspension will apply.

Any tribunal sanction applies to all FDNA competitions.

Consideration should also be given to Netball Victoria Rules & Regulations framework: <http://vic.netball.com.au/support/assoc/rules-regulations/>

6. FINAL MATCHES

- (a) At the conclusion of scheduled matches, finals shall be played according to the Page system, unless otherwise determined by the Association.
- (b) In the event of teams being equal on points, the position shall be determined by percentage of goals for and against.
- (c) In the event of a drawn game:-
 - (i) Senior teams to play four (4) minutes each end. If the score is still equal, the team to throw two (2) consecutive goals shall be the winner.
 - (ii) 13/U, 15/U & 17/U teams to play three (3) minutes each end. If the score is still equal, the team to throw two (2) consecutive goals shall be the winner. If there is still no result, after 8 minutes, the game is to be rescheduled for a later date at the convenience of both teams.
- (d) Number of matches for a team to qualify any player for final series shall be:
 - Eighteen (18) weeks or more season - Four (4) games.
 - Eleven (11) to Seventeen (17) week season - three (3) games
 - Ten (10) weeks or less - two (2) games.
 If unable to field a full team of eight (8) players for a finals match, application may be made by the Club, signed by the Club/Team Official, to play a qualified player who is acceptable to the Association from a lower grade team in the same Club. A qualified player is one who has played at least four (4), three (3), and two (2) matches with a particular team from the same Club in relevant Competition. Eighth player may only replace ill or injured player.

- (e) Outside umpires are to be used for all Senior Top Grade finals matches, wherever possible.

7. UMPIRES

- (a) Umpires must be wearing predominantly white or cream, which constitute a skirt for females, shorts for males or white/cream track-suit pants are acceptable for both.
- (b) Assistant umpires shall be at least twelve (12) years of age to assist on games and are required to undertake the Introduction to Umpiring Course.

8. AMENDMENTS

- (a) Existing By-Laws may be added to or altered annually.
- (b) New By-Laws and/or amendments must be submitted by Clubs to Secretary in writing, prior to, or tabled at, the Pre Annual Meeting.
- (c) All Affiliated Clubs shall be notified of such proposed new By-Laws and/or amendments twenty one (21) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

9. OBJECTS

If a By-Law becomes detrimental to the objects of the Association, an Extraordinary meeting may be called by the Board of Management, or two thirds of Affiliated Clubs, to prevent implementation of same, until such time that it can be amended or removed.

10. REMEDIES

- (a) Breach of Rules or any By-Laws results in loss of points or fine. All fines must be paid within twenty eight (28) days of notice.
- (b) Continual breach of Rules and/or By-Laws, or misconduct of person/s involved with the Association in any respect, may result in Clause 14 of the rules being enforced.

- (c) (i) All outstanding monies from previous competition must be paid before a team's entry will be accepted.
- (iii) *If outstanding fees or fines are owed to the Association through any indoor competitions, clinics, Representative Squad or Peninsula Waves Netball Club; by a member of an Affiliated Club; that member will be ineligible to take the court in any FDNA competition, including Saturday competition, until outstanding fees are paid in full.*
- (f) A Club shall have the right of appeal on behalf of a player or team against a decision or penalty of any committee. Such intent to appeal shall be lodged by the Club, in writing and signed by the Club President and/or Secretary, within two working days of notification of the decision or penalty, with the appeal to be resolved within 7 days of the notification of the decision or penalty.

11. MEETINGS

- (a) *It is compulsory for every Club playing the Saturday season to attend ALL delegates meetings including the Pre Annual and AGM. Non-attendance of any Club will incur a \$55.00 fine (GST Included).*

12. OTHER

- (a) *All By-Laws particular to Saturday Competition are to appear in italics.*
- (b) *In order to compete in the Saturday Winter Competition a Club/Team must be an incorporated body.*
- (c) *To be eligible to represent Frankston District Netball Association in the 11U, 13U and 15U age groups, a player must participate in the Saturday competition for the duration of the season in which the player represents FDNA and be a financial member of Netball Victoria.*
- (d) *To represent Frankston District Netball Association in the 17U age group, a player must:*
- (i) *participate in the Saturday competition for the duration of the season in which the player represents FDNA; or*

- (ii) *participate in a FDNA conducted female competition on any other day for the duration of the season in which the player represents FDNA; and*
- (iii) *Be affiliated with a Saturday Club and wear the Club uniform in the competition in which they compete;*
- (iv) *Be a financial member of Netball Victoria.*

13. Indemnity Clause

Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded, The Frankston and District Netball Association and its respective directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage, however caused, arising whilst participating as a member.

14. Special Circumstances Clause

Where these By-laws are silent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of the Frankston and District Netball Association is maintained at all times.