

Netball Victoria Gender Regulation

This Regulation has been made by the NV board of directors (**Board**) under Rule 35 of the Netball Victoria Constitution on 30 August 2018. It is effective from 1 January 2019 and will operate until replaced. NV may amend or update this regulation from time to time and such amendments will be effective from the time from which they are communicated.

When conducting competitions, tournaments or similar activities, Affiliates (and other bodies which organise netball competitions) must comply with this Regulation.

Introduction

Netball Victoria and its Affiliates welcome the opportunity for females and males to participate in netball. Opportunities should be available for mixed-gender competitions as well as single-gender female and male competitions.

The Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic) permits the exclusion of boys from participating in female competitions where:

- a. the strength, stamina and physique of competitors is relevant; or
- b. the exclusion is intended to facilitate participation by girls and is reasonable.

Transgender

NV supports participation in netball on the basis of the gender with which a person identifies. If issues arise, NV and its Affiliates will seek advice on the application of the applicable Victorian discrimination laws for the particular circumstances.

NV is committed to providing a safe, fair and inclusive sporting environment where all people can contribute and participate.

Regulation:

1. Males who are 13 years of age (and older) are not permitted to participate in a female competition. To avoid any doubt:
 - a. males must be less than 13 years of age (actual age) as at the first day of the competition or season; and
 - b. males that turn 13 during that competition or season will be permitted to participate for the duration of that competition or season.
2. For all competitions, the gender permitted to play must be clear and transparent. Clarity and transparency will be reflected in the labelling or title of competitions as well as in by-laws, promotions, advertising and general communications including fixturing and ladders of all competitions.
3. Where mixed competitions are offered up to and including the 13&U age group:
 - a. there can be no restrictions applied on the basis of gender.
4. For all other mixed competitions above the 13&U age group:
 - a. the competition administrator can determine if the minimum number of males in a team is zero, one or two; and
 - b. a mixed team must only have a maximum of 3 males on court at any one time; and

- c. a mixed team must only have up to one male in each third on court at any one time.
For the avoidance of doubt this means:
 - i. one male is permitted in the defence third occupying the position of Goal Defence or Goal Keeper, and
 - ii. one male is permitted in the mid third occupying the position of Centre, Wing Attack or Wing Defence, and
 - iii. one male is permitted in the goal third occupying the position of Goal Attack or Goal Shooter.
5. NV and its Affiliates will endeavour to provide opportunities for males to participate in mixed and male competitions.