



FLEXIBLE UNIFORM POLICY

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Introduction

We acknowledge that some uniforms and uniform policies can exclude members of our community from participating.

Frankston & District Netball Association Inc (FDNA) promotes the wearing of a uniform which provides a sense of belonging for players and creates a positive identity for the netball community.

Participants shall have the opportunity to wear any traditional uniform or other attire in which they feel most comfortable. Uniform requirements will consider the diverse nature of the netball population.

Purpose

This Inclusive Uniform Policy seeks to accommodate and support netballers' individual needs and to encourage participation and involvement in netball at all levels.

The purpose of this document is to establish acceptable uniform items and standards. The focus shall be on player safety and uniform appearance (across a team) to ensure that each team can be easily distinguished.

It will provide established procedures to communicate expectations and manage processes and practices in all competitions within the Association.

Policy

FDNA commits to accepting a uniform standard which supports the inclusion of all members of the community within proven limitations that may exist concerning the safety of participants. For example, consideration will be given to modifications that support positive body image and religious and cultural beliefs, and also to flexible uniform arrangements to support reducing uniform expense.

We will consult with participants, administrators, and relevant governing bodies.

The Association's response to a participant not wearing approved uniform will be educative, fair, and consistent. We will be respectful and understanding of each person's circumstances.

Decisions about uniform requirements must be inclusive and comply with anti-discrimination legislation (Equal Opportunity Act, Sex Discrimination Act, Disability Discrimination Act and any other relevant governance) and should promote the health and safety of participants (for example, jewellery, nails, pockets in shorts).

Uniform requirements should include items that are affordable and appropriate for all participants.

The Association's uniform requirements should be reviewed when the need arises.

Procedures

Participant responsibilities

It is the responsibility of participants to ensure that the following processes are adhered to:

- Uniforms must be registered with the Association at the time of team entry. No team or club shall make changes without consent from the Association.
- Any Club who has not been affiliated for a period of more than 12 months shall relinquish their right to "Club colors"
- Positional bibs are always compulsory and initials should not be less than 10cm high.
- Team members must all wear identical colors.
- A Club/Team logo may only appear once on any article of playing uniform. Logos should not exceed 6.4cm square without prior approval from the Association.
- Sponsor name/logo must be approved by the Association prior to inclusion on items of playing uniform.

ACCEPTABLE OPTIONS FOR OFFICIAL TEAM UNIFORM:

- Netball dress or bodysuit
- Skirt/skort and top
- Shorts/leggings/tracksuit pants(no pockets) and top
- Teams may wear any combination of dress/skirt/skort/shorts/leggings and/or T-shirt/singlet provided the design/color on all items are matching design & color.
- Bike shorts
- Leggings/tracksuit pants(no pockets) beneath skirt/skort/shorts in color matching to uniform or black.
- Traditional head scarf or turban (ties but not fastened with pins or sharp objects)

Club teams should ensure that all uniform items consistently represent the official club color/logo/design as identified with Affiliation process.

SAFETY:

- All pants must be of sporting style with no zips, pockets or loops
- Gloves are only permitted with the provision of a current & detailed medical certificate
- Long nails shall be padded and taped. Tape shall be of appropriate sporting material and applied in both directions, to the first knuckle.
- All jewellery shall be removed or padded and taped with tape of appropriate sporting material.
- Hair ties and clips should be of soft material. No hard plastic or metal is allowed.
- Shoes should be of a sporting standard. Slip ons, ballet flats or shoes not designed for sport pose a hazard.

COMPLIANCE:

- Participants in incorrect uniform for the first time will be privately & sensitively educated on what should be corrected and will be allowed to play (unless the incorrect item presents a safety risk).
- Participants arriving out of uniform for a second time may be asked to change the incorrect item before taking the court (some items are available to borrow from the canteen).

- Participants who continue to arrive in incorrect uniform may be refused access to the court or asked to pay a nominal fine. This will be at the discretion of the Supervisor.

Participants are encouraged to:

- Read this Policy
- Approach Umpires/Staff in advance of the game to discuss any concerns and/or address any known 'out of uniform' matters.

Umpire attire and responsibilities

- Umpires must wear white or cream tops and may wear black or navy bottoms (skirt/skort or shorts or leggings/trackpants)
- Traditional head scarf or turban (ties but not fastened with pins or sharp objects) should be white/cream or navy/black
- A range of optional FDNA branded Umpire uniform is available for sale from the Stadium
- Umpires and/or Supervisors will take note of players out of uniform and report to venue/competitions staff to follow up (unless a safety issue in which case the Umpire will address)

VNL and development pathway program uniforms

Peninsula Waves:

- Waves VNL on court uniform requirements are governed by Netball Victoria and will be communicated to players at the beginning of a season, and in the player handbook.
- Waves development teams' uniform requirements may be set by the venue/competition host. Requirements will be communicated to players at the beginning of a season, and in the player handbook.
- When training at FDNA all Waves athletes are encouraged to be comfortable. Generally, players are required to wear branded tops and can wear whatever pants in which they feel comfortable(considering safety, re pockets etc).

Peninsula Development Academy and FDNA Squad:

Waves Academy and FDNA Squad uniform requirements are governed by FDNA and this policy.

- On court compulsory items are stipulated in the guidelines which are communicated at the beginning of each season. All athletes are expected to wear the appropriate branded uniform items. Families facing financial hardship may be supported to obtain second hand uniforms, or offered payment plans to reduce financial barriers to participation.
- Academy and Squad athletes are encouraged to train in safe and comfortable items, suited to the weather conditions. Generally, players are required to wear branded tops and can wear whatever pants in which they feel comfortable(considering safety, re pockets etc).

FDNA Staff responsibilities

- Participants are treated with dignity, fairness and empathy in respect to individual differences and circumstances.
- Policies and procedures are applied fairly and consistently across all competitions.

Procedures

If any participant is out of uniform they can be asked by Staff, Supervisors or Umpires to correct the issue.

Some uniform items are available for loan from Reception.

Inclusive focused education should be provided in a private and respectful manner.

Participants will be advised of the procedure for repeat offences: Fine and/or refusal to take the court.

Related Documents

- FDNA By-Laws 2024