NETBALL OFFICIAL BYLAWS

Blackwood Community Recreation Centre

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1. PREAMBLE

The rules of the game shall be those adopted by the International *World Netball Rules of Netball 2024*. They will be applied in conjunction with the following Bylaws.

The Blackwood Community Recreation Centre reserves the right to make judgements based on fairness and for the betterment of the competition on issues that arise and are not covered in the Team Sport Policy or in these By-Laws.

All persons attending the Centre must abide by the Code of Conduct as outline in the *Blackwood Recreation Centre Team Sport Policy*.

Interpretation – The bylaws shall be interpreted by the responsible match umpires. Appeals against interpretation may be lodged with Sport Coordinator and must be in writing.

IMPORTANT! ALL PLAYERS PLAY AT THEIR OWN RISK.

Any person who participates whilst pregnant accepts full and sole responsibility of any injury they sustain or the unborn child sustains. Participants shall not make any claim against the Blackwood Recreation Centre or any of the officials, staff or any other player.

2. TEAMS

2.1. Players must be at least fifteen (15) years of age in all competitions.

2.2. Players must be only registered with one primary team per competition.

2.3. Each player must be listed on the score sheet at the start of the game, by full name.

2.3.1. Fill in players must also be clearly added on the scoresheet. The Umpire may suspend play (with the clock running) at any time that they realise the scoresheet has not been filled in correctly.

2.4. Players are allowed to fill in for other teams throughout the regular season. Players are allowed to play a maximum of 3 games per night.

MIXED COMPETITIONS:

Combinations – A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) men are to be on court at any one time.

Male Player Court Distribution: Male players must be split across the thirds.

- There is NOT to be two male players from the same team in either of the circles; OR
- At any given time, there is NOT to be three males from 1 team in either the attacking or defensive third
    - e.g. GK/GD, WD and C or GS/GA, WA and C combinations are not allowed

If the correct number start the match and due to injury only one (1) male is left on court, the match will not be a forfeit. The injured player may be replaced by a female if no male player available.

3. ELIGIBILITY

3.1. To qualify for finals, a player must have played 3 games for a team during the regular season.

3.2. A player may only participate in the finals series for one team per competition.

3.2.1. Once a player takes the court in a semi-final or grand final for a team, they are deemed committed to that team for the remainder of the finals series and are not eligible to play finals for any other team in the same competition.

3.2.2. A player who participates in a semi-final for one team is therefore ineligible to participate in a semi-final or grand final for another team in the same competition.

3.3. If a team is found to have played finals with ineligible or unregistered players the game will be classified as a forfeit.

4. GAME PLAY

4.1. Regular season games will consist of 4 x 10-minute quarters. At each quarter time the timer will be set to 11 minutes, giving teams a one-minute break between quarters.

4.1.1. Time is not held for any reason.

FINALS

4.2. In the event of a draw after full time in finals, an extra period of 5 minutes will be played each way with teams shooting in the same direction as in the last quarter of the match. Substitutions and positional changes are allowed at the start of the extra period but not in the change of ends.

5. SCORERS

5.1. Each team is to provide a scorer for their match.

5.2. A scorer must be at least 14 years of age.

5.3. The penalty for not having a scorer is 3 points being awarded to the opposition, by the umpires, at quarter time.

6. CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1. The team captains are the contact person for each team. They pass on any information from the centre to the players, and act as a spokesperson for the team. This person must be over 18 years of age. If there is no member of the team of this age, the team must allocate a parent or another person to be the point of contact for the team to take the following responsibilities:

6.1.1. Ensure all players are ready to take the court at the start of their allotted game time.

6.1.2. Ensure the team/players are registered and financial for the season/game

6.1.3. Ensure that the score sheet is filled in correctly including fill-in players.

6.1.4. Ensure adherence of the centre's policies. Most importantly the Centre's Code of Conduct as outlined in the Team Sport Policy.

6.1.5. Organise the team to assist with the set up and pack up of the courts where required.

6.1.6. If issues or enquiries arise during the game, only the Captain is to approach the referee.

7. DISCIPLINE; DURING GAMES

(a) A player may be sent off for:

i. Abusive, threatening or foul language towards umpires, players or spectators

ii. Dissent towards umpires or persistent questioning of umpiring decisions. ONLY Captains may approach the umpires during a break to discuss rules and interpretations.

iii. Unduly rough play or continual rough play, which includes deliberate contact, obstructions or breaches of the rules.

iv. Any actions, gestures or behaviour which in the opinion of the umpire or supervisor is not in the spirit of the game or could bring the game or stadium into disrepute, or may endanger or intimidate persons in the stadium

(b) Players will be given only one official warning by an umpire for infringements, any further breach of the rules will result in the player being sent off the court for 3 goals. If further infringements occur larger penalties may occur. For serious or major infringements players may be sent off for the remainder of the match. A player sent off for the remainder of the match, a minimum one-week suspension will be incurred. A player sent from the court cannot be replaced.

(c) IN AN EXTREME CASE, an umpire may send a player from the court without an official warning; i.e Any player striking, tripping, kicking and playing in a violent or dangerous manner will be sent off without any warning and may not return to the court. This requires an umpire to report the incident to the Sports Coordinator

(d) Spectators may be removed from the stadium by an umpire or supervisor for any actions, gestures or behaviour which in the umpire's opinion is not in the spirit of the game or could bring the game or stadium into disrepute, or may endanger or intimidate persons in the stadium.

(e) Any major misconduct must be reported by umpires to the Sports Coordinator in a written statement.

BLOOD RULE:

During the match, should a player bleed, they must inform the official and leave the court immediately and will not be allowed back on until:

(a) All bleeding is stopped or the wound is securely covered
(b) Blood is removed from person
(c) Clothing with blood has been replaced

8. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Complaints procedure for all sports are outlined in the Blackwood Recreation Centre Team Sport Policy.

9. FINANCE

9.1. LATENESS, FORFEITS AND FORFEIT FINES

9.1.1. It is the team's responsibility to ensure that they are financial before the beginning of the match
9.1.2. To ensure that matches run to a scheduled time, the clock will be switched on at the scheduled match time, whether or not teams are ready and in position.
9.1.3. A team has five (5) minutes to have the correct number and gender of players on court after which time the match will be considered a forfeit
9.1.4. A *forfeit match* may be played; with both teams paying their normal match fee and a forfeit fine will not be imposed
9.1.5. A forfeit fine applies to all other unplayed forfeited matches
9.1.5.1. All forfeit fees must be paid at the time of forfeiting
9.1.6. Forfeited match results will be 20-0.

10. UNIFORM

10.1. Teams must wear tops of a uniform colour and players must wear preferably dark coloured shorts, skirts or leggings.

10.1.1. Registered players must ensure they are in correct team colours. A penalty of 2 goals per registered player not in uniform will be incurred, up to a maximum of 6 goals. Goals are applied to the opposition team, at quarter time.
10.1.2. Where applicable, there will be a grading period at the start of every season (approx. 5 Weeks) where uniform penalties will not be enforced. New teams entering mid-season will have 2-weeks' grace period to coordinate their uniforms.
10.1.3. Teams must supply their own set of bibs. Bibs are available to purchase or hire at reception.
10.1.4. Regulation netball gloves are permitted.

JEWELLERY

ALL JEWELLERY THAT CAN BE REMOVED MUST BE REMOVED!

**EXCEPTION*

Where jewellery cannot be removed due to medical, religious reasons or due to the nature of the jewellery, it must be properly secured by sports tape only (band-aids will not suffice).

Sports tape must be supplied by the player and will not be supplied by the Blackwood Recreation Centre.

Additionally, players requiring glasses are to wear contact lenses or prescribed sports goggles approved by umpires while on court. *DISCLAIMER: If players want to wear their glasses on court they may do so at their own risk.*