



Gerringong Netball Club Inc. Grading Policy.

Rationale

This policy outlines the annual grading process undertaken by Gerringong Netball Club Inc. (GNC) to ensure that all players are placed in teams in a fair and equitable manner. Grading will be conducted by the GNC Grading Committee in alignment with Kiama Netball Association (KNA) policy. This document is intended to promote transparency and accountability and is made available to all GNC members and the general community.

Aims

To provide players and GNC with a clear and transparent team placement process that will:

- Accurately reflect each player's skill and ability, ensuring they are placed in a team that best represents their current skill level.
- Maximise opportunities for skill development and improvement, allowing players to grow within a supportive team environment.
- Foster enjoyment and a love of the game, by placing players where they can engage, compete, and thrive.
- Ensure fairness and equity in team placement, through the use of independent assessors and selection criteria.
- Enable the Club to appropriately nominate team gradings (divisions) for the upcoming season, based on a thorough and objective assessment process.

The Grading Committee:

- Is comprised of members elected through the Club's official nomination process, in accordance with the GNC Constitution.
- Members must be formally approved by the GNC Executive Committee.
- Will elect a Convenor, who will act as the representative of the committee and communicate its views as required.
- Is responsible for submitting team placement recommendations for review by the GNC Executive Committee.
- Members can be privy of discussions regarding their immediate family members but may not vote on their placement within a team.

The Grading Process:

In accordance with KNA Grading Policy, GNC players will be graded to ensure players are placed in the most suitable team according to their ability. Subsequently, GNC teams will be graded and numbered in order of standard.

Players will be graded based on a range of factors, which may include:

- previous playing experience
- the previous years playing observation evaluation sheet
- coach's evaluation sheets
- face to face grading sessions

Information:

- There is no guarantee that a player will play in the same team or with the same players as the previous year
- A player's age on 31st December in the year of play will determine their division. Players must grade in their own age group
- Players may be considered for a higher age group at the discretion of the Grading Committee
- Grading criteria will be used as the basis for grading
- Playing positions to be submitted to the club during the registration process
- New players to the club should advise the club of their previous playing history during the registration process
- Additional grading days will be added at the discretion of the Grading Committee
- Communication between the Grading and Executive committees is to be facilitated by the Convenor and Secretary. All discussions regarding the grading process are held in confidence.

Grading Day:

In the event a grading day occurs for any age or division:

- Grading is compulsory
- Players will play a minimum of 2 grading games. Where possible players will play at least once in their preferred playing position/s as specified at the time of registration.
- Players may be required to play in their non-preferred position to allow all players have an opportunity to play in their preferred playing position.
- Games may be paused at times to make positional changes
- Players unable to attend must notify the GNC Secretary in writing prior to the grading day.
- No notification of absence will result in the player being placed in a team at the discretion of the GNC Grading Committee

When assessing players, the grading committee will consider the following criteria:

- Understanding of the game
- Footwork/movement skills
- Ball handling skills
- Attacking skills
- Defending skills
- Fitness
- Sportsmanship, attitude and teamwork
- Potential for development and improvement

Player Notification

- Players will be notified of all team allocations by GNC.
- Initial team notifications are subject to change at the discretion of GNC or may be required post submission to KNA grading

Appeals and Disputes

All grading documents are the confidential property of GNC. Any dispute or appeal regarding grading must be received within 48 hours of player notification, this must be in writing to the GNC Secretary. All correspondence received will be acknowledged. Appeals will not be discussed by phone or in person. The appeal will be heard at a specially convened meeting of the Grading Committee and members of the GNC Executive Committee and an outcome/response will be determined at that time and communicated in writing. The decision made by this committee is final.

Deregistration

Players who choose to deregister after grading day will not be eligible for a refund. Refunds may be issued on a case-by-case basis in extenuating circumstances as deemed by the GNC Executive Committee if received in writing before the commencement of Round 1.

Kiama Netball Association Team Placement: Team Placings/Divisions in the KNA Competition are determined by the KNA Grading Committee. Any appeals regarding this placement must be made to GNC Secretary by the team coach or manager for appeal to KNA by GNC.