



Player Participation, Positions & Behaviour Policy

Purpose

This policy outlines the club's expectations regarding court time allocation, positional development, training attendance, and player behaviour.

Swan Christian Netball Club aims to provide a positive environment that supports participation, development, enjoyment and team performance, while ensuring fairness, transparency and respect across all teams.

This policy applies to all players, coaches, team managers and families involved in the club.

Development Competitions (Set & Go/Beginner Levels)

At the introductory level of netball, the focus is on participation, enjoyment and skill development.

- All players will receive equal court time across the season where possible.
- Players will be rotated through a variety of positions to support skill development and understanding of the game.
- Parents and players are asked not to request positional restrictions during these development stages.

Coaches and team managers may record player positions and court time to ensure fair participation throughout the season.

Parents or guardians must notify the coach as soon as possible if their child is unable to attend training or games, as this impacts team planning.



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Junior, Senior & Competitive Teams

Equal court time is not guaranteed in every match, but coaches will aim to provide reasonable participation across the regular 15-week season where team expectations are met.

Court time is a privilege linked to meeting team expectations, including training attendance, effort, attitude and commitment to the team environment.

Court time may be influenced by:

- Training attendance
- Commitment and effort
- Player attitude and behaviour
- Team balance and positional combinations
- Match situations and strategy

Where team expectations are not met, court time may be reduced at the discretion of the coach. Coaches and team managers may record court time, positional rotations and attendance during the season.

Position Development Expectations

Netball is a team sport that requires players to develop a range of skills across different positions. Players may be asked to train and compete in multiple positions throughout the season to support:

- Individual skill development
- Understanding of the game
- Team balance and combinations

While player preferences may be considered, positional decisions remain at the discretion of the coach and will be made in the best interests of the player's development and the team.



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Position Development Expectations cont...

Parents and players are asked to support the development process and avoid restricting players to a single position, particularly during junior development stages.

Finals Series

Players must meet competition eligibility requirements to participate in finals. To qualify for the finals series, a player must have played a minimum of three (3) competition games during the regular 15-week season.

Players must also comply with any eligibility requirements set by the association or governing body.

During finals matches:

- Eligible players will receive a minimum of one quarter (25%) court time where possible
- Court time allocation during finals is at the discretion of the coach

When determining line-ups during finals, coaches may consider:

- Player performance
- Team combinations
- Positional requirements
- Fitness and readiness
- Attitude, commitment and training attendance

Borrowed players must not receive more court time than registered team members during finals.



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Training Expectations

Players are expected to:

- Attend scheduled training sessions consistently
- Arrive on time and prepared to participate
- Demonstrate effort, focus and willingness to improve
- Communicate with coaches if they are unable to attend training

Regular unexplained absence from training may influence team selection, positions and court time allocation.

Behaviour Expectations

All players are expected to demonstrate:

- Respect towards coaches, teammates, umpires and opposition
- Positive sportsmanship both on and off the court
- A supportive team attitude
- Adherence to the club's Code of Conduct

During games, the coach is the only person responsible for providing instructions to players. This ensures players receive clear direction and prevents confusion caused by multiple voices from the sideline.

Parents and spectators are encouraged to support players by promoting positive sideline behaviour: **Cheer Loud – Coach Quiet – Respect Umpires**

Behaviour that negatively impacts the team environment may result in reduced court time or further action in accordance with club policies.



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Player Availability & Communication

Players or parents must notify the coach as early as possible if a player is unable to attend:

- Training sessions
- Games or competitions

Timely communication supports team planning, player rotations and match preparation.

Borrowed Players

Where borrowed players are used in accordance with association rules:

- Borrowed players must not receive more court time than registered team members.
- Borrowed players are used to support team numbers and participation.

Coach Authority

Coaches are responsible for making decisions that support:

- Player development
- Team culture
- Competitive performance

All decisions regarding court time, positions and team combinations remain at the discretion of the coach, and are supported by Swan Christian Netball Club.



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Policy Approval

Swan Christian Netball Club Committee

Policy: Court Time, Positions, Training & Behaviour Expectations Policy

Effective: 2026 Netball Season

Applies to: All players, coaches, team managers, parents and guardians of Swan Christian Netball Club.

This policy supports the club's commitment to a positive, respectful and development-focused netball environment.