



# AFL OUTER EAST

## NETBALL

## BY LAWS





TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. NAME/CONTROLLING BODY/CLUBS/PHOTOGRAPHY ..... 3

2. START TIMES ..... 4

3. VENUES ..... 5

4. REGISTRATION ..... 5

5. PLAYERS ..... 6

6. UMPIRES ..... 8

7. OFFICIALS ..... 9

8. CLEARANCES ..... 11

9. MATCH PAPERWORK ..... 11

10. EQUIPMENT ..... 12

11. UNIFORMS, JEWELLERY & PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT ..... 12

12. TIMEKEEPERS/SCORERS ..... 13

13. TEAMSHEET/TEAMLISTS ..... 14

14. DRAWN GAME ..... 15

15. FINALS 16

16. REPRESENTATIVE GAMES ..... 17

17. BEST & FAIREST VOTES ..... 17

18. REPORTS ..... 18

19. RISK MANAGEMENT ..... 18

20. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES/PROVISION CLAUSE ..... 21

21. INDEMNITY ..... 21

22. GAME CANCELLATIONS/WEATHER CONDITIONS. .... 21

23. DELAY/CANCELLATION OF MATCH ONCE STARTED ..... 22

24. COACH ACCREDITATION/REGISTRATION ..... 22

25. CHILD SAFETY POLICY. .... 23

26. ALCOHOL-UNDER AGE PLAYERS ..... 23

27. CYBER SAFETY ..... 23

28. LODGEMENT OF ANNUAL REPORTS ..... 24

29. MEETINGS ..... 24

**1.0 NAME**

The name of the competition shall be Outer East Netball. Established 2005.

**1. CONTROLLING BODY**

- a) The controlling/administering body is the AFL Outer East Commission. These By Laws should be read in conjunction with the Senior Football By Laws on matters regarding League & Club procedures.
- b) Where a dispute arises between the AFL Outer East and Clubs or any player or between Clubs within the AFL Outer East, please refer to AFL OUTER EAST SENIOR FOOTBALL Rule 56.0 DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE.
- c) Child Safe Standards. The AFL Outer East & its affiliated clubs (including Netball) will solely operate under AFL Outer East Child Safe Policy, which may be altered/updated from time to time by AFL Outer East or AFL Victoria.
- d) Failure to comply with By Law 1.1 (f) will result in that person not being able to hold any position at a club until the regulations in By Law 1.1 (f) are met and may also be subject to any other penalty as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.

**2. THE CLUBS**

- 2.1. All Clubs intending to join the AFL Outer East must be approved by the AFL Outer East Commission.
- 2.2. All players, coaches, officials and umpires are to be registered with Netball Victoria (VNA) on My Netball.
- 2.3. All clubs must field teams in A, B, C and D Grade. Penalty: \$200 fine per team not represented. Should a club be unable to field a team in any of these sections, a letter requesting exemption from the lowest open Grade must be sent to AFL Outer East at least one month prior to the start of the season AFL Outer East will then decide on the request. Clubs must field teams from A Grade down. In the event that a senior team can't be filled, then D Grade should be dropped after permission from AFL Outer East.
- 2.4. Affiliation fees per team will be determined annually.
- 2.5. All uniforms shall carry any AFL Outer East & AFL VIC Country logos, as specified by the AFL Outer East & AFL VIC Country respectively.
  - 2.6. All Clubs have the option & are encouraged to enter Junior teams in the age groups of 9&U to 17&U. Up to 2 teams in each age group may be entered.
- 2.7. Agreeing to be a member of an affiliated club with the AFL Outer East grants permission for the AFL Outer East to video and take photos of all netball & football games and promote that information on all available communication and information mediums (e.g. Internet, TV, newspapers etc.). The information will only be used for the promotion, development and betterment of Australian Rules Football and Netball.



### 3. PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO

Most people taking photos at sporting events are doing so for acceptable reasons and are using appropriate methods, for example, a parent videoing their child at a sports presentation or photographing their child on the field during play or a professional photographer taking photos for a Club. Where a sporting event is held on a Club's private property, privately owned land, a school or council owned facilities, the owner of private property or venue is able to restrict, ban or require permission of photography/videoing anywhere in their venue. (Reference: Australian Sports Commission Website)

- (a) Photography: AFL Outer East employs photographers to attend various ground locations and these photos are placed in the weekly record and on the AFL Outer East website and Social Media. These photos are available to all clubs and players for purchase. Where a player does not want to have their photograph taken or published, the onus is on the player to wear red tape on their upper arm which is visible.
- (b) Videography- Clubs wishing to video a game for training purposes should notify the opposition club prior to the game and a copy of the video will be made available to the opposition club at the conclusion of the game, or another time as agreed by both clubs. AFL Outer East also employs

Videographers to attend various ground locations to record Senior Football, B or A Grade Netball matches & all Grand Finals of the AFL Outer East. These videos are placed on the AFL Outer East website and occasionally Social Media. These videos are also available to all clubs and to players for purchase. All videos are published, for the promotion of the AFL Outer East competitions & no player names are used for such purpose excepting where a match is classed as the match of the day & commentary of said match is made.

## MATCH RULES

### 2.0 STARTING TIMES

2.1 All Outer East Netball matches shall be conducted according to Netball Australia Rulings, unless otherwise stated in these bylaws, however Outer East Bylaws should be referred to before any other rules.

2.2 Starting times and match duration times will be set each season by the AFL Outer East.

**Length of Matches:** All matches shall be conducted as follows:

Grade	Quarter	Length Breaks
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## AFL OUTER EAST NETBALL BY LAWS

A Grade	4 x 15mins	3,5,3
B Grade	4 x 15mins	3,5,3
C Grade	4 x 12mins	2,3,2
D Grade	4 x 12mins	2,3,2
17 & Under	4 x 10mins	2,3,2
15 & Under	4 x 10mins	2,3,2
13 & Under	4 x 10mins	2,3,2

Start Times: Will be decided each year prior to the first match of the season & may differ between divisions and include allowances for each club's court availability.

Finals commencement times may vary and will be decided by the Operations Manager each year.

- 2.3** AFL Outer East reserve the right to change starting and match duration times from season to season. If a club wishes to alter the starting time of a match during the Home and Away season, then the club must notify the opposing Club's netball Coordinator and Coach. If the opposing Club agrees to a re-schedule of starting time all changes must be put in writing by clubs involved at that venue on that match day, to the Operations Manager a least 5 days prior to match day to be approved, before the time change is considered.
- 2.4** For the purposes of promotion of the game, a Live Scores app may be used for Netball Matches if the AFL Outer East determines so. If Live scores are to be used it will be the responsibility of the Home club to enter them.
- 2.5** Failure to comply with By Law 2.0 will result in a Loss of match points &/Or a Fine as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.

### 3.0 VENUES

- 3.1** Each Club will endeavour to play their home matches within the confines of, or as close as possible to, the ground where their Football teams are playing.
- 3.2** Each home Club will be responsible for providing a court in fit condition, which must be approved by Netball Victoria & the AFL Outer East.
- 3.4** All Clubs courts are to be situated outdoors. This does not preclude the AFL Outer East from conducting finals indoors, or a club playing indoors where no other facility is available.
- 3.5** All clubs affiliated with the AFL Outer East must have an Automated External Defibrillator in sound operating order at each venue. This Defibrillator must be accessible by all participants when the venue is in use.

### 4.0 REGISTRATION

- 4.1.1** All players must register themselves on the My Netball System with their Club, Outer East Netball & Netball Victoria and have a VNA (Victorian Netball Association) registration number. A registration administration fee for each player registered will also be charged to clubs after June 30<sup>th</sup>. The fee amount will be determined annually as will the VNA fee by Netball Vic.
- 4.1.2** A new player throughout the season must register with their competing club Prior to taking the court.



- 4.1.3 A player may choose to register with Netball Victoria via a single game voucher. The voucher must be completed prior to the match via the My Netball system. A fee will be charged for a SGV & is to be paid by the participant upon completion of the voucher. Such fee will be determined annually.
- 4.1.4 ONCE a player has signed a registration form with a club, they are bound to that club for the remainder of the current season. If the player requires a clearance, please refer to By Law 8.
- 4.2 Failure to comply with By Law 4.0 will result in a Loss of match points &/Or a Fine as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.

## 5.0 PLAYERS

### 5.1 Age Requirements

- a) To compete in any Open age team, players must be turning 14 years of age in the year of competition.
- b) Junior teams will comprise: 13 & Under, 15 & Under and 17 & Under. Age is determined as at 31st December in the year being played.
- c) Documents verifying proof of age may be requested and shall include, birth certificate, extract of birth entry, passport or any other official document acceptable to the AFL Outer East.
- d) Minimum age requirements are:
  - I. A, B, C & D Sections - must be turning 14 years of age in the year of competition
  - II. 17 & Under - 14 years
  - III. 15 & Under - 12 years
  - IV. 13 & Under - 10 years

If a player is found to have played and is not turning the minimum age of that competition in the year of competition the club will be fined \$50 and forfeit all match points for that game, unless special consideration was made prior to the commencement of the game by the AFL Outer East commission.

2. A player may fill in, in a higher/lower grade on any day, BUT not 2 Grades higher or 2 grades lower. No restriction for 17&Under or 15&Under division players who wish to also play in an Open grade.
3. Player movement between grades must be consecutive from week to week, a player can't jump two grades one week to the next. No restriction for players in any Junior age grade. Variations to these rules may apply in special circumstances and will be at the discretion of the AFL Outer East.
4. Any team may list up to 12 players in any one game, and there will be no limit on the number of substitutions made.
5. All players must be listed on the team sheet prior to the start of the game. Players named on the team sheet must have had court time during the match to be registered as a game played and placed their initials next to their name before taking the court. Players who have not had court time must be removed from the on-line team sheet by midnight the following Monday.
6. A player is ineligible to play in a lower grade throughout the season once they have played 8 games in a higher grade.
7. In the event of two (2), or more teams from the one club competing on the same weekend, no more than two (2) players per team are eligible to play in a maximum of 2 games.



## AFL OUTER EAST NETBALL BY LAWS

8. Players who are playing in the 17&U, 15&U or 13&U competitions can play in a Maximum of two games on a match day. Either two Junior games, or One Junior game & One Open grade match if age eligible.

### 9. PREMIUM PLAYERS and restrictions:

5.9.1 A Premium Netball Player is defined by the highest level of Netball they are playing at in the year of competition and the year preceding it. A player is classed to have played once they have taken the court in a competition match.

5.9.2 For the avoidance of doubt, players who are playing or were playing at the following 19&U or Open levels of competition will be classed as a Premium Player: VNL (Victorian Netball league), ANL (Australian Netball League), SSN (Suncorp Super Netball), State &/or Australian Representative teams (Female or Mixed). Excludes: Indoor Netball (with Nets) representatives.

5.9.3 Only 4 Premium Players are allowed from each team on the court at any given time of the A Grade match.

5.9.4 Premium players may play in B grade matches. These games will NOT count toward Finals Qualification.

5.9.5 No Premium Players are eligible to play in the C or D grades in our competitions.

5.9.6 Players who meet the Premium Player definition are to be clearly identified on the match scoresheet in the space provided.

5.9.7 Player exclusions from Premium Player status: If a player has played 40 or more 17&U or lower age games at their current club prior to the commencement of the current season.

5.9.8 Clubs can apply to the Region General Manager or his/her appointee for an exemption on a players Premium Player Status in writing. Such submissions will be considered, and responses given within 3 weeks of receipt of the submission. All Clubs will be informed of successful applications.

### 10. Two teams in an age group - Junior Netball

10.1. Where a club fields more than one (1) team in the same age grade a player is permitted to move between teams. However:

- I. Once a player has played five (5) matches in the higher graded team (Blue), that player may not move to the lower graded team (White) for the remainder of the season.
- II. Players in the lower rated team are free to move to the higher rated team during home and away
- III. Matches, subject to 5.10.1 (i).
- IV. The first team a player plays 5 games in is the only team that player is eligible to represent in the
- V. finals series.
- VI. Where a bye is fixtured in the higher graded team, no player is permitted to move to the lower
- VII. graded team (White) during the week of the bye.
- VIII. If a club with multiple teams in one age group forfeits a match, the forfeit can only occur in the lower rated team.



11. Gender Classifications of Competitions - As per the table below (Blue is the higher division):

AGE GROUP	CLASSIFICATION
13&U (Blue)	Mixed (females and males – no restrictions on the amount of males that can participate) (Males aged 13 years or under as of the 31st of December of the competition year may participate)
13&U (White)	Female Only (Males < 13 years of age as at the first day of the competition or season may participate)
15&U (Blue)	Mixed (females and males: restrictions apply - Minimum males = 0, Maximum Males 1) (Males aged 14 years or under as of the 31st of December of the competition year may participate)
15&U (White)	Female Only (Males < 13 years of age as at the first day of the competition or season may participate)
17&U (Blue)	Female Only
17&U (White)	Female Only
D Grade	Female Only
C Grade	Female Only
B Grade	Female Only
A Grade	Female Only

12. Exemptions/Variations to By Law 5.2, 5.3 & 5.7 may be granted in extreme circumstances upon application to the RGM or his/her appointee by 9am the Friday before a match,

13. Failure to comply with By Law 5.0 will result in a Loss of match points &/Or a Fine as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.

**6.0 UMPIRES**

6.1 All club and panel umpires shall have a working with children check and a copy of this must be supplied to clubs and the Operations Manager by the 31<sup>st</sup> of March of the current season.

6.1.1 Any club umpire that does not have a working with children check and or has failed to supply the League with a copy, the club may incur a fine of \$100 and the Umpire will not be able to Umpire any AFL Outer East game.

6.1.2 All Club and Panel umpires must have a current VNA.





- 6.1.3 Club umpires are not permitted to coach the team for which they are umpiring. Club umpires may only wear white top (league approved) and white skirt / shorts. No other attire can be worn by the club umpires.
  - 6.1.4 Club umpires must complete a Theory Exam/Introduction to Umpiring throughout the season.
  - 6.1.5 Panel umpires shall be appointed by the Director of Umpiring and the Operations Manager.
  - 6.1.6 Umpires must clearly sign the scoresheet and clearly initial any correction or alterations to it. Umpires must also complete the League B&F cards for the match they umpired.
  - 6.1.7 Panel umpires will be supplied for all A and B grade games and payment set by the AFL Outer East per game is required on match day. Additionally, any game that panel umpires are required to officiate, payment will be set by AFL Outer East annually.
  - 6.1.8 The League shall supply the following to appointed panel umpires
    - a) A shirt which shall have the approved league sponsor logos printed on them
    - b) Entry Passes - One home and away season only, excluding finals.
  - 6.1.9 Each panel umpire must attend a rules discussion session as nominated by the AFL Outer East.
  - 6.1.10 Any panel umpire that does not attend the rules discussion session as nominated by the AFL Outer East may incur a fine of \$50.
2. In the situation where an umpire is late, or does not attend the game,
    - a) The home team has the opportunity to supply an umpire in a reasonable time, if not;
    - b) The away team has the opportunity to supply an umpire in a reasonable time, if not;
    - c) A team that fails to supply an umpire in a match where only club umpires are to be appointed will forfeit the match.
  3. All appointed umpires shall have the power to warn, suspend, order off and report players according to the Netball Australia Official Rules of Netball.
  4. Any player or official deemed to act in unbecoming conduct or bringing the game in disrepute will be reportable by both officiating umpires. Any report is to be recorded and submitted to the Operations Manager. AFL Outer East will consider any report. Offenders may receive any or all of the following penalties as deemed suitable by AFL Outer East Tribunal. Fine up to \$100. Loss of Premiership Points for their team. Suspension from YRN home and away games, finals and/or Interleague.
  5. The Home Club shall be responsible for the provision of drinks to umpires at Quarter time, Half time, Three quarter time and shall, where necessary, provide medical assistance.
  6. Umpires are not permitted to umpire more than 2 matches on the one day, unless prior approval has been granted by the RGM or his/her appointee.
  7. Each participating club is to supply one umpire per game of C, D and 17 & Under grades. Payment for C, D and 17 & Under will be capped at \$30 per game per umpire.
  8. Clubs who breach By law 6.6 and are found to be paying overinflated rates to its club umpires will be subject to a fine as determined by the AFL Outer East commission and may also lose match points from its A grade



team for each week of the offence.

## 7.0 OFFICIALS

- 7.1. The match officials are Umpires, Scorers, and Timekeepers. The Team officials are Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager, Captain and up to three personnel, one of whom must be a Primary Care Person who is qualified to diagnose and treat injured or ill players.
- a) All Coaches, Team Managers, Umpires must have a current VNA Registration and be registered with Outer East Netball.
  - b) IN addition, the maximum of five players not on court at start of play, shall constitute the Team Bench.
  - c) Team Officials and Bench players **MUST NOT** engage in any inappropriate comments or any form of inappropriate behaviour; including moving up and down the side lines or along the goal lines, during play.
  - d) Club Coaches and Team Officials must stay in the designated bench area during all Home & Away and Finals matches.
  - e) The appointed specified Coach is the only member of the club that is allowed to Coach on Match Day.
  - f) **Working with Children Checks:**

This is applicable to all persons over the age of 18 who are working with juniors up to the age of 18. It is a mandatory by law as of January 2007 for coaches and volunteers to obtain this check if they undertake any of the following roles.

Club personnel including but not limited to: Committee Members, Coaches, Umpires, trainers etc.

The Working with Children Check Application Guide and Form is available from all Australia Post outlets or for further information see website: <http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren/>

All clubs will need to have a copy sent to the Operations Manager prior to the commencement of Round 1 in each season of play.
- 7.2 Primary Career: Each team must provide a suitably trained and competent Primary Carer who is identified by wearing a first aid armband. A Team Manager may be a Primary Carer. Only Primary Carers are permitted on the court to treat an injured or ill player and/or assess the player's medical condition. The Primary Career is to be identified as such by wear the appropriate arm band.
- 7.3 Court Supervisor: Home listed teams must supply a Court Supervisor who will act as the primary contact for Umpires & Coaches for any match day issues regarding Officials, Supporters, or match conditions. Court Supervisors will wear an identifiable league approved bib. The Court Supervisor will also assist the Umpires in ensuring that the match officials are completing their tasks as prescribed.
- In Finals matches the AFL Outer East will allocate Court Supervisors to each match/venue.
- 7.4 Failure to comply with By Law 7.0 will result in a fine according to the fine schedule or such other penalty as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.
- 7.5 Failure to comply with By Law 7.1 (f) will result in that person not being able to hold any of the mentioned positions at a club until the regulations in by law 7.1 (f) are met.



## 8.0 CLEARANCES

It should be noted that the intention of this by law is not to restrict player transfer, but to enable clubs to keep records of player activity in and out of their club.

- 8.1 For any player wanting to leave a club and join another club within the Outer East during the season, or from any of the past 3 seasons to the current season, they must complete a clearance form and submit a clearance through My Netball. No player will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season.
- 8.2 Clearances close at Midnight June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. Additions to the playing list, apart from those being cleared from another Outer East Club, can be made at any time of the season.
- 8.3 No player shall be denied a clearance unless they are in possession of a club uniform or in some way owe the clearing club money. If requested to do so by the AFL Outer East, the clearing club **MUST** provide proof as to why a clearance has been denied. Clearing clubs must respond to the clearance request within 5 working days of it being placed.
- 8.4 Any dispute concerning clearance shall be dealt with by the AFL Outer East commission or the designated official whose decision shall be final. A player must be registered with the new Club before taking the court.
- 8.5 In the event of a club playing players registered with an AFL Outer East club other than their own, a fifty-dollar (\$50) penalty will be issued and the offending club may lose four (4) Premiership points for any game in which the uncleared players participate.
- 8.6 Best & Fairest votes will transfer with the player should they be cleared to another club within AFL Outer East. The number of quarters/games played & Goals scored will not transfer with the player when they begin with the new club. The Annual player administration fee will also be charged to the club the player has been cleared to.
- 8.7 Players who have not played in the AFL Outer East in the past 3 seasons will be free to register with any AFL Outer East club and will not require a clearance.
- 8.8 Failure to comply will constitute a breach of the By Laws and will be subject to a fine according to the fine schedule or such other penalty as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.

## 9.0 MATCH PAPERWORK

- 9.1 The home team must input onto the Website/Database the match results (final scores, best players and goal shooters) no later than 6.00pm, on the day of the match.
- 9.2 It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that all netball team/scoresheets are handed to the football field umpires within 30mins of the conclusion of the Senior Football match, for inclusion with the match day paperwork and sent to the AFL Outer East.
- 9.3 Where matches are played at times other than Saturday afternoon, the home Club shall make prior arrangements with the Operations Manager for the transmission of scores.
- 9.4 Failure to comply will constitute a breach of the By Laws and will be subject to a fine according to the Fines Schedule or such other penalty as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.



9.5 Clubs must provide correct team lists for the Grapevine Record before the first match of the season, then to be finalised By Round Four (4).

9.6 Failure to comply will constitute a breach of the By Laws and will be subject to a fine according to the fine schedule or such other penalty as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.

## 10.0 EQUIPMENT

10.1 The AFL Outer East will supply all relevant score cards, substitution form & voting cards.

10.2 Each club shall provide a scoreboard, which shall be operational for each game with legible numbers for scores.

10.3 All Clubs must supply nets on their goal rings that are in good condition.

10.4 Home clubs are responsible for providing Ice.

### GOAL POST PADDING

10.5 All netball goal posts must be padded prior to the start of first match of the competition day.

10.6 All netball goal posts padding shall be a minimum of 3m high x 23cm wide.

10.7 Failure to comply will constitute a breach of the By Laws and will be subject to a fine according to the fine schedule or such other penalty as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.

## 11.0 UNIFORMS, JEWELLERY & PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

11.1 All players shall be responsible for providing their own uniform.

Long sleeve tops are appropriate as long as they are the same colour as the dominant colour of the team's uniform. Long bike shorts and gloves are only allowed in the event of a player's medical condition (medical certificate required as proof). If gloves are worn, they shall be cotton.

11.2 All Netball Teams will wear uniforms, which will be the same colours as their clubs Football Teams, approved by the commission and purchased from an AFL Outer East approved supplier/s. Designs must be registered with the AFL Outer East and cannot be altered without consent.

All Netball players must wear AFL Outer East socks purchased from AFL Outer East approved supplier/s - unless in the event of a medical condition/Doctor's approval, and a submission of such is made to the RGM.

11.3 No player shall be permitted to play in a match with apparel or protective equipment, which may cause injury to the player or her opponents. This shall include:

- A ring or any other jewellery
- Any form of solid body protection
- Knee braces
- Arm Guards/Shoulder Pads



- 11.4 Sports glasses may be worn as long as the player has written approval to wear them by the RGM. The RGM will determine the requirements for such approval as he/she sees fit.
- 11.5 Umpires will inspect players' hands, guards and surgical appliances prior to the commencement of play or at any time prior to the conclusion of the match. The Umpires shall have the sole prerogative to determine whether apparel or protective equipment has the potential to cause injury and shall instruct the player to remove such apparel or protective equipment.
- 11.6 Fingernails shall be short and smooth.
- 11.7 Any player refusing to follow the Umpires' Instructions will be ineligible to play.
- 11.8 Failure to comply will constitute a breach of the By Laws and will be subject to a fine according to the fine schedule or such other penalty as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.
- 11.9 Any player incorrectly attired without prior league permission will be unable to take the court to play.

## **12.0 TIMEKEEPERS / SCORERS**

- 12.1 The Home club will be responsible for providing a scorer + 2-time clocks.  
The Away Club will be responsible for providing a timekeeper.  
Scorers and timekeepers must sit together for the duration of the match and shall be of an age to carry out their duties effectively and conscientiously, not younger than 15. They must perform their duties together in order to verify scores. The home team is the official Scorer.  
No Children are permitted in the timekeeper/scorer's area. All timekeepers and scorers must be focused on the umpires at all times. Including breaks in play.

### **12.2 SCORER**

- AFL Outer East official scoresheet is to be used for every match.
- Ensure that Scoresheet is correct
- Centre passes are recorded.
- Players are listed for both Home & Away sides (prior to the start of the game)
- Captains are identified on Scoresheet
- All substitution/changes are to be indicated on the scoresheet after each quarter time break and or injury time.
- Scoresheet is signed by both Scorer & Timekeeper at conclusion of match
- Scoresheet is signed by Captains and Umpires. (Fully signed Scoresheet indicates that the score/result is correct)
- Scorers are under no circumstances to correct an Umpire on centre passes.

### **12.3 TIMEKEEPER**

- Responsible for all game time and injury time.
- Sound Siren to indicate the end of each quarter in standalone matches.
- In matches that are NOT standalone, when there is ten (10) seconds to go in a quarter, **MUST FOLLOW THE NEAREST UMPIRE** and notify him/her when time is up.
- Must notify umpires when there is 30 seconds and then 10 seconds remaining at end of each quarters break time or injury breaks.
- Must have 2-time clocks (one for normal game time & one for injury time)



## 12.4 SIRENS

- Home clubs to supply and use Sirens/Air horn for all standalone games.

12.5 Clubs that don't supply any item listed under By Law 12 will be subject to a fine as per the Fine schedule.

## 13.0 TEAMSHEET/TEAMLISTS

13.1 The official team/score sheet shall include the full name in block letters (with the captain named first then the following players in positional order) prior to the commencement of play of each captain, player, scorer/timer and umpire.

13.1.1 All players must be named on the scoresheet prior to the start of the match and individually place their Initial next to their name in the space provided prior to taking the court.

A. Names on score sheet are not to be abbreviated.

B. Players who marry throughout the season are to play under the same name as registered with Netball Victoria at the beginning of the season.

13.1.2 Any player who takes the court without having been named on the scoresheet, must be removed immediately and cannot participate in the rest of the match. Any goals scored by that player must also be removed. Scorers should note the Quarter & match time when the player leaves the court on the back of the scoresheet. Refer By Law 5.10 for penalties.

13.1.3 The Outer East official scoresheet must include all players' positions per quarter, any positional substitutions, goals scored, centre passes taken, and progressive team scores.

13.1.4 The match starting time must be recorded on the scoresheet.

13.1.5 At the match conclusion, to indicate their satisfaction that the information on the official scoresheet is correct, it's to be signed by

- the captains of both competing teams,
- the officiating umpires, and
- the scorers

13.2 The original copy is to be provided to the AFL Outer East along with the football match day paperwork within 30 minutes of the completion of the Senior Football Match.

The Home club is responsible for entering the match day results onto the internet program My Netball by 6pm on match day and is to include:

- Player positions by Quarter.
- $\frac{1}{4}$  by  $\frac{1}{4}$  scores and Final score.
- Best players 3,2,1 (3 being the Best) as adjudged by each team.
- Player Goals scored.

## 14.0 DRAWN GAME

14.1 In the event of a drawn home and away game, the premiership points shall be shared.

## 15.0 FINALS



- 15.1** The AFL Outer East shall operate under either a Final Four or Final Five system for the finals series, based on the number of teams competing in each division. This decision will be at the discretion of the General Manager or his/her appointee.
- 15.2** Drawn matches for finals.
- a) There is a (2) minute time allowance to enable teams to change ends and scores to be verified on the official score sheets.
  - b) Positional changes and substitution may be made during change over time.  
2 x 7-minute halves (A & B Grade) & 2x 5-minutes halves (C & D Grade) will be played.  
At the end of the first half, teams change ends.
  - c) Should there still be a draw at the end of the second half of extra time, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one team has a two-goal advantage.
  - d) In the event of injury or illness during extra time, Injury or Illness rule 19.2 will apply.
- 15.3** No player can play in two (2) netball finals on the same weekend. (Exception of Junior competition players, who can play in a maximum of 2 games, one of which must be their Junior age group)
- 15.3.1** Variations to these rules may apply in special circumstances and will be at the discretion of the AFL Outer East commission.

**15.3.2** Clubs can have two (2) players from the lower grade named on the team sheet for a higher grade as Substitute players (Sub listed after their name on the teamsheet).

(For example: Two (2) D grade players can be named on the team sheet as substitutes for C Grade, Two (2) C Grade players can be named on the team sheet as substitutes for B grade and two (2) B grade players can be named on the team sheet as substitutes for A Grade).

The application of this rule will only be applied to increase your team numbers to nine (9). (For example: If you have one (1) substitute in your team (who has not played in a lower grade on that day/weekend) then only one (1) additional substitute player can be named who has already played in the lower grade on that day/weekend.

**15.3.2 A) Substitute players can only be used to replace an injured or ill player. The player they have replaced may NOT return to the court.**

## **15.4 Finals Qualification**

**15.4.1** Players must have played at least 5 Games for their team in the current season to qualify for finals.

**15.4.2** Players cannot qualify for finals by playing only the last 5 rounds of the home & away season. At least one match must have been played prior to the 5th last round.



**15.4.3** A player is ineligible to play in a lower grade if they have played 8 games in a higher grade.

**15.4.4** Players classed as Premium players will not have any matches played in B Grade count towards finals qualification.

**15.4.5** An Open grade player may play up a grade at any time providing they have played the minimum amount of Games in the lower grade team. Such players will be considered “Substitute players”.

**15.4.5 A)** A substitute player can only be used to replace an injured or ill player. The player they replace may NOT return to the court.

**15.4.6** Junior competition Players who are age eligible to play in Open grades may play up into any Open grade if they have played the required amount of games in their age group team. These players will NOT be subject to By Law 15.4.5 A).

**15.5** Failure to comply with By Law 15.0 will constitute a breach of the By Laws and teams will be considered to have lost that match and may be subject to a fine set by AFL Outer East commission.

## 16.0 REPRESENTATIVE GAMES

**16.1** The method of selecting players to represent the AFL Outer East shall be decided by the appointed selection committee. \*\*\*\*

The AFL Outer East will appoint a Senior and Junior Interleague/Association Championship Coaches on a minimum term of one year for all representative games involving the AFL Outer East.

Selection Process for Interleague/Association Championship Side

- i. The Interleague/Association Championship Coach and Selection Committee will nominate players they believe should be included in the netball representative squads. They will be notified by email as to their nomination. A squad/team will then be chosen from that list.
- ii. Players must be notified of training venues & dates at least 7 days prior to the date of the first training session
- iii. Any player that makes themselves unavailable for inter-league/association championships may incur a penalty at the AFL Outer East discretion.
- iv. If a player can't attend training, they must contact the Operations manager to inform them, failure to do so may result in a penalty.
- v. All decisions made by the AFL Outer East will be final.
- vi. Training venues shall be determined by the AFL Outer East.

## 17.0 FAIREST AND BEST VOTES





**17.1** Fairest and Best votes shall be awarded in each game, as 3-2-1 votes, jointly by both umpires after consultation. Umpires are to print both the Christian and Surname clearly of the player receiving votes and the club they played for in the match.

**17.2** Fairest and Best votes shall be forwarded immediately to the Operations Manager and kept in strict secrecy.

Voting for Best & Fairest shall be as follows

- i. The match umpires shall award votes of the three players in each game, Voting shall be 3 votes for the best player, 2 votes for the second-best player and 1 vote for the third best player.
- ii. Votes shall be placed in a sealed envelope and included in the Match Day paperwork. It is to be clearly signed by both umpires on the card and also sealed once the card is enclosed. One vote card per envelope.
- iii. Penalty: \$20 fine to those umpires/clubs who do not comply.

## **18.0 REPORTS**

**18.1** Umpires have the ability to report a player or official of a team outside of the sanctions that can be applied under the Rules of Netball.

Any conduct of a player or team deemed to be unbecoming or bringing the game into disrepute will be reportable by one or both officiating umpires. Any report is to be recorded on the official report sheet supplied to clubs and submitted to the Netball Administrator by 10am of the Monday after the match has been played. The RGM or his/her appointee will consider any report and convene an Independent Tribunal, if necessary. This tribunal hearing will take place on a Tuesday evening where possible.

**18.2** Reported teams/players will appear before the AFL Outer East Independent Tribunal who will have jurisdiction to impose penalties on players or officials in the AFL Outer East.

**18.3** Players may receive penalties as deemed suitable by the AFL Outer East Independent Tribunal.

**18.4** Appeals - Any appeal against a Tribunal decision can be made in writing within 24 hours of the Tribunal's decision and directed to the RGM. Such appeals will be heard by the AFL Outer East Commission.

## **19.0 RISK MANAGEMENT**

### **19.1 STOPPAGES**

- i. The umpires hold time for injury/illness upon appeal from an on-court player or for blood and may hold time for an emergency or such other circumstances as they consider appropriate.  
During a stoppage:
  - a) For injury/illness of a player or blood: all players not affected remain on the courts.
  - b) In an emergency or other circumstance: the umpire decides whether the players leave the court or not.
- ii. Play restarts from where the ball was when play was stopped:
  - a) If the ball was out of court play restarts with a throw in.
  - b) If an infringement was signalled before play was held play restarts with a sanction awarded.
  - c) If the ball was on the ground or the umpire is unable to say which team had possession of the ball, play restarts with a tossup between any two opposing players allowed in the area.
- iii. In extreme circumstances and in consultation with the event organiser, the umpire may decide to abandon a match if the safety of players and/or officials is considered to be at risk.

## **2. INJURY/ILLNESS OR BLOOD**

- i. The umpires hold time for blood when noticed or for injury/illness when requested by an on-court player (in extreme circumstances the umpires may hold time without a request being made).
- ii. The player concerned must leave the court within 30 seconds and receive any treatment off the court. The timekeepers advise the umpires when 10 secs remain.
- iii. Only primary care person/s are permitted on the court to assess the player's medical condition and to assist the player from the court.
- iv. In the event that the primary care person/s advise the umpires that the player concerned cannot be removed safely within 30 seconds, the umpires will extend the time for the player to leave the court. Note: the time allocated for the match to be completed will not be extended, except A grade re By Law 23.0
- v. The umpire may authorise other persons (including team officials) to assist the player to leave the court if needed.
- vi. Any blood on the ball or the court must be cleaned before play re starts and any blood-stained clothes replaced.
- vii. During the stoppage both teams may make substitutes and/or team changes, provided these are completed within the time allowed for the stoppage by the umpire.

- viii. If no substitution is made for the injured/ill player, or for a player who is bleeding, play may resume with the position left vacant. If the player is the Centre and no substitution is made, one player must move to play Centre to allow the match to continue.
- ix. If the position is left vacant the player concerned or a substitute may subsequently, after advising the umpire, take the court immediately after one of the following:
- x. A goal has been scored (in this case the player or the substitute must play in the position left vacant)

**Sanction:** *Free pass where the ball was when play stopped - the player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry*

- a. A Stoppage for injury/illness or blood
- b. An Interval

### **2.1. First Aid Kit**

- a) Each Club shall provide a First Aid Kit complying with Netball Victoria Infonets RM2 - First Aid for Netball.
- b) The First Aid Kit will be stored in an easily accessible location and all appropriate personnel (court supervisors, primary carers, umpires and coaches) will have access to it.
- c) Each Club shall nominate a person to be responsible for maintaining the first aid kit supplies. An inventory is to be completed on a weekly basis.

### **3. OTHER STOPPAGES:**

- i. The umpires may hold time or extend an interval if considered appropriate. Examples for which time may be held include (but are not limited to):
  - a. Emergencies such as serious injury/illness of an umpire or technical official/s, the equipment, the court, the weather or technical equipment
  - b. Retrieving the ball
  - c. Disciplining a player, team official or bench player.
- ii. The umpires decide the length of such a stoppage and ensure play restarts as soon as possible.
- iii. Team officials are not permitted on the court during a stoppage other than specified in Rule 19.2 (iii) and (v).

### **4. INJURY REPORTING**

- (a) All Clubs are responsible for recording all injuries at the discretion of the injured player or players' guardian (player under 18) on the back of the scoresheet.
- (b) All players in AFL Outer East representative teams are responsible for recording all injuries at the discretion of the injured player or players' guardian (player under 18) on the back of the scoresheet.

### **5. BLOOD POLICY**

An umpire is required to hold time when an "on court" player has called time and the umpire observes that a player is bleeding or there is blood on the court, ball or any other player. Play may be stopped for up to 30 seconds and the rules regarding stoppages shall apply. Before any player may retake the court:



1. The flow of blood must be stopped.
2. Any wound must be cleaned and adequately covered.
3. Any blood-stained clothing must be cleaned or removed.
4. If necessary, the ball and court must be cleaned before play restarts.

6. Infectious Disease - AFL Outer East adopts Netball Victoria Infonets RM6 relating to infectious diseases.

#### 7. Pre-Match Checklist - Netball Australia Match Day Checklist and Guidelines

- (a) A pre-match checklist will be completed prior to the first Netball match on each match day.
- (b) Any hazards identified will be:
  - i. Documented
  - ii. Rectified if possible.
  - iii. Reported to the appropriate agency (local council, reserve committee) if major repair is required.
  - iv. Any home club that fails to provide a Match Day Checklist and Guideline will be subject to a fine.

#### 8. Pregnancy

As per Netball Victoria Infonet RM1 - Pregnancy & Netball

9. **Smoke Free** - AFL Outer East adopts a smoke free policy. This includes indoor venues and outdoor court surroundings.

10. **Drug Policy** - AFL Outer East does not support the use of performance enhancing substances and illicit drugs and views any such use as detrimental to both the sport of netball and the spirit of the game.

Refer to Netball Australia Anti - Doping Policy  
Refer to Netball Australia Anti - Illicit Drugs in Netball

#### 20.0 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES / PROVISION CLAUSE

20.1 Where these By-Laws are silent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of the AFL Outer East is maintained at all times.  
The AFL Outer East commission, may, in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in the By-Laws relating to the AFL Outer East.

#### 21. INDEMNITY

21.1 Except where provided or required by law and, as such, cannot be exclude and add, the AFL Outer East and its respective directors, officers, members' servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage, however caused, and arising whilst participating as a member.

#### 22.0 GAME CANCELLATIONS / WEATHER CONDITIONS

22.1 If a game has commenced, but weather conditions then change, and the umpires are of the opinion that it would be unsafe for play to continue. An AFL Outer East Region General Manager, Operations Manager or Court Supervisor & Umpires (if the RGM & Ops Manager is uncontactable) will be the



controlling body and will be responsible for all decisions regarding continuation of play.

- i. “inclement weather” for the purposes of this By-Law includes, but is not limited to, conditions of extreme weather such as very heavy rain, snow, sleet and conditions of extreme heat.
- ii. A court is not fit for play in the event that lightning is visible at the venue of the court or its immediate vicinity. Play must be suspended in such circumstances. Umpires and Court Supervisor shall endeavour to resume play as soon as possible but must not be within 25 mins of the last visible strike of Lightning.
- iii. Whether a court is fit for play pursuant to this By-Law includes consideration of the court’s surface and also the conditions surrounding the court, including weather conditions.

**22.2** If a team is not in attendance at the scheduled starting time, that team shall be penalised one (1) goal for every minute the team is late, up to a maximum of ten (10) minutes, after which the game will be forfeited by that side and all points awarded to the side in attendance.

**22.3** If a team wishes to forfeit, they must notify the opposing team, umpires and the General Manager/ Operations Manager, at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time. A fine of \$100 per team will be imposed.

**22.4** If a team wishes to forfeit, failure to notify the said authorities 24 hours prior shall result in a \$200 fine per team, plus all pool umpire’s costs.

**22.5** A team may submit a team sheet on the day of a scheduled game in the case where the opposing registered team forfeits.

### **23.0 DELAY / CANCELLATION OF MATCH ONCE STARTED**

1. In the event that a game does not reach its conclusion, due to factors which may include:

- 1.1. An invasion of the playing arena and the umpire/s consider it unsafe to continue, and are not able to resume play after a reasonable time
- 1.2. A player or umpire is so seriously injured that it is deemed inappropriate to play on.
- 1.3. That if, in the course of a night match, the power supply fails.

**23.1.4** If in the opinion of the umpire/s that it is unsafe for play to continue. An AFL Outer East Region General Manger, Operations Manager or Club Official (if the RGM & Ops Manager is uncontactable) will be the controlling body and will be responsible for all decisions regarding continuation of play.

2. Where a match has been delayed due to factors as in By Law 22.0 or 23.0, play may only continue, until the scheduled start time of the match following. Or in the case of an A Grade match only thirty (30) minutes past the scheduled finish time (A Grade Matches are scheduled to run for 71 minutes).

2.1. The minimum amount of playing time to be completed for a match to be considered ‘completed’, shall be one half.

2.2. If the match is deemed to be abandoned prior to the completion of the first half, both teams shall be awarded two (2) Premiership points and will receive the points scored for and against at the abandonment of the game.



- 2.3. If a match is deemed to be abandoned after the completion of one half of the match, the Premiership points shall be awarded to the team leading at the time of the abandonment of the game. Notwithstanding, the AFL Outer East commission, shall retain the right to over-rule, reverse or amend the result, following an investigation into the abandonment of the game.
3. Umpires shall award votes for the Best and Fairest Award where a game has completed one half. No votes shall be awarded where a game is abandoned prior to the completion of the first half.

## **24.0 COACH ACCREDITATION/REGISTRATION**

- 24.1 Any player or person desiring to be appointed as a Coach (including Assistant Coaches) of a team in any grade must, as a minimum, have successfully completed the Foundation Coaching Course (be an Accredited Coach) or be enrolled to participate in a Course in the current year
- 24.2 All coaches (including Assistant Coaches) of a team are required to obtain coaching Accreditation prior to the commencement of the season. The penalty to be imposed if a coach continues to coach not having obtained accreditation are disclosed in the penalty section of these by-laws and the loss of match points for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach. In the event of no match points the fines will be applied. In the instance where coaches are not accredited and commit to completing the next available (or otherwise agreed upon) Coach Accreditation Course a \$200 bond will be applied. Where a coach fails to complete agreed course, the club will forfeit the bond.
- 24.3 All coaches shall be registered with Netball Victoria via VNA as a coach.
- 24.4 Coaches/Umpires Meetings: Meetings will be convened as required by the AFL Outer East Community Bank Football & Netball competition. A FINE per coach for non-attendance will be imposed on the offending club.
- 24.5 First Meeting shall be at the commencement of the playing season for all First and Second Division Netball grades and will be compulsory for all to attend. A FINE per coach for non-attendance will be imposed on the offending club.
- 24.6 Compulsory meetings may be called by the commission. Failure to attend may result in a fine for the Coach and Club at the commission's sole discretion.
- 24.7 All Coaches shall have a current Working with Children's Check and a copy of this must be supplied to the AFL Outer East by the 31<sup>st</sup> of March of the current season.
- 24.8 Failure to comply with By Law Ten (10) will constitute a breach of the By Laws and will be subject to a fine according to the fines schedule or such other penalty as determined by the commission.

## **25.0 CHILD SAFE POLICY**

- Refer the yearly policy published on the AFL Outer East Website: [www.afloutereast.com](http://www.afloutereast.com) named Schedule 11 - Child Safe Standards Policy.
- 25.1 Each club participating in an AFL Outer East competition shall appoint a Child Safety Officer who complies with the AFL Outer East requirements from year to year, for each year of competition.



## AFL OUTER EAST NETBALL BY LAWS

**25.3** Failure to comply with By Law 25.0 will result in a fine according to the fine schedule or such other penalty as determined by the AFL Outer East commission.

### **26.0 ALCOHOL - UNDER AGE PLAYERS**

The AFL Outer East may disqualify for up to four (4) matches any player who is under 18 years of age who drinks alcoholic beverages within the precincts of Clubrooms and grounds, either on match days or at League functions. Their club may also be sanctioned with a Fine to be determined by the Commission.

### **27.0 CYBER SAFETY**

Refer to Netball Victoria Cybersafety Policy

### **28.0 LODGEMENT OF ANNUAL REPORTS**

(a) All Affiliated Clubs and Associate Members shall forward to the League no later than 1st December each year, one copy of their Annual Report.

(b) No later than 1st December, all Affiliated Clubs shall forward to the league:

- i. a Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for the immediate past year,
- ii. a list of all club office bearers and their contact details for the coming season are to be loaded into the online competition management system as stipulated by the league. The office bearers that are required to be loaded as a minimum are as follows;
  - President
  - Secretary
  - Registrar
  - Treasurer

Clubs may load other roles into the competition management system as they see fit.

NOTE: Clubs must advise the Operations Manager of changes made throughout the season to the club office bearers and their contact details within 7 days of the change. The club must update their contact details in the competition management system within the above time frames.

**Penalty:** as per Fine Schedule

### **29.0 MEETINGS**

#### **29.1 Compulsory**

The AFL Outer East may convene compulsory meeting(s) for Club officials as stipulated by the league from time to time, these meetings shall include, but are not limited to AGM's, Club Administrator Courses, Coaches Forums, Presidents Meetings, and Finals Participants Meetings.  
**Penalty:** as per Fine Schedule

#### **29.2 Representatives**



## AFL OUTER EAST NETBALL BY LAWS

- a. Two representatives of clubs must attend all Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings of the League. Such representatives shall be the President and/or Secretary and/or one other member of the club.
- b. Representatives may, with the prior approval of the league, appoint another person to attend Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings in their place.

Penalty: as per Fine Schedule