



(Founded 1927) Reg No: A0002593D ABN: 18 181 102 050  
**Postal Address:** Gippsland League Inc, 75 Princes Way Drouin VIC 3818  
**Fax:** 03 5625 1044 **Mobile:** 0488 626 645  
**Email:** gippslandleague@ymail.com **Web:** www.g.l.vcfl.com.au  
**Netball Committee**



BY-LAWS  
EFFECTIVE: April 2012

**These By-Laws are the rules governing the internal affairs of the Gippsland League Netball. They are the operating procedures that determine the conduct and direction of the organisation.**

“Bylaws” are additional rules, which apply to members, which generally deal with internal and administrative matters. The Bylaws are made under the Constitution. Accordingly, the Bylaws are subordinate to the Constitution and must not be inconsistent with the Constitution.

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## 1. CLUB DELEGATE MEETINGS

- (a) At least 3 Club Delegate Meetings will be held each year.
- (b) All Clubs must be represented by at least two delegates one of whom maybe an executive member or a penalty applies without a legitimate excuse.

## 2. REGISTRATION

- (a) The Committee shall nominate a due date for team registration each season that shall be at least one week prior to the start of the competition. if forms are not submitted by the due date a penalty applies.
- (b) Clubs failing to register 6 teams (A, B, C, 17/U, 15/U, and 13/U) by the due date need to appeal to the GL in writing.

## 3. GRADING AND AGE REQUIREMENTS

- (a) Participant age is determined as at 31st December of that year.
- (b) The playing grades shall consist of A, B, C, 17/U, 15/U & 13/U.
- (c) Minimum age requirements are:
  - (i) Open Sections - 14 years
  - (ii) 17/Under – 12 years
  - (iii) 15/Under – 12 years
  - (iv) 13/Under – 10 years
- (d) Each club starting with the highest grade first shall provide A, B and C Grades and 17/U, 15/U, 13/U or a combination of these teams agreed to by all of the netball committee.
- (e) Open aged players currently playing State League Div 1, Championship or who have been selected in the open or 19&U Victorian state team will be permitted.



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## **4. CONDUCT OF MATCHES**

(a) Game rules shall be those of Netball Australia, except:

(i) Timing of matches is as follows;

13/U & 15/U matches will be timed as follows:

- 4 x 12 minute quarters, 2 min ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$  time), 5 mins ( $\frac{1}{2}$  time)

17/U & C Grade matches will be as follows

- 4 x 12 minute quarters, 2 min ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$  time), 5 mins ( $\frac{1}{2}$  time)

A grade & B Grade matches will be as follows

- 4 x 15 minute quarters, 3 min ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$  time), 5 mins ( $\frac{1}{2}$  time)

(b) Fixtures will be arranged for all Clubs. Copies will be forwarded to Clubs prior to the season commencing. The "home" team is the first-named team in the fixture and the Score sheet is to be filled out accordingly.

(c) Games times will normally be as follows or as negotiated between clubs (e.g. night games) or determined by the association (e.g. finals):

13/U – 9am

15/U – 10am

17/U – 11am

C Grade – 12noon

B Grade – 1pm

A Grade – 2.15pm

## **5. DRESS CODE**

(a) Each Club must register its uniform on Club Registration Day or due date.

(b) The GL must approve all uniform colours and designs.

(c) Clubs must notify the GL in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform. The GL must approve all changes.

(d) Bike pants/tracksuit pants worn underneath playing uniform may be permitted for medical reasons, cultural or religious beliefs or in wet/cold weather conditions. Pants must be a club colour as nominated on the uniform registration sheet.

(e) Players will not be permitted to take to the court unless they are in full uniform, as nominated on the uniform registration form.

## **6. CLEARANCES**

(a) A clearance is required if a player wishes to transfer to another Club within GL during the current season. The relevant paperwork must be completed by no later than 30th June of each season.

(b) No player will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season.

(c) Players who owe outstanding playing fees or are in possession of Club property (uniform, equipment) will not be granted a clearance.

(d) A player must have received notification in writing from the Association before playing for a new Club.



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- (e) The player must complete all details on the top section of the clearance form and send to the GL Secretary/Administrator.
- (f) The GL to forward the clearance request to the existing Club for approval.
- (g) The existing Club has 7 days to complete the clearance or the GL will automatically clear the player to the new Club.
- (h) If the Club refuses to clear the player (refer: conditions of clearance), the GL will write to the player advising the reason why and forward a copy to both Clubs. Any dispute arising from clearance restrictions will be dealt with according to the grievance procedure outlined in the Constitution.
- (i) The existing Club to advise the GL when clearance is approved.
- (j) The player will then receive a letter advising that the clearance has been approved and copy is forwarded to both Clubs.
- (k) A clearance is not required between seasons.

## 7. SCORING

- (a) Each team must provide a non-participating scorer for all matches.
- (b) These people must sit together for the duration of the match.
- (c) The home team shall provide a timekeeper, to also sit with the score persons.
- (d) The GL will provide the Official Score sheet and electronic team lists will be available on our official website
- (e) One Official Score sheet and one supplied by the away team will be used for each match. These Score sheets will list the complete names (both given and surname) of all players intending to take the court, **prior to the commencement of play**
- (f) Team lists are to be downloaded from the Official website of the league for each score sheet/game.
- (g) The Score sheet shall record a running match score, centre passes taken and indicate the positions played each quarter by each player.
- (h) At the match conclusion, to indicate their satisfaction that the information on the Official Score sheet is correct, the Official Score sheet is to be signed by;
  - (i) The captains of both competing teams, and
  - (ii) Officiating scorers, and
  - (iii) Officiating umpires
- (i) At the conclusion of match day the 6 Score sheets are to be entered online with NMAS competitions. Juniors by 3pm and Seniors by 5pm on match day.
- (j) The home team must send original scoresheets and vote cards to the GL Netball Operations Manager as soon as possible after match day.



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## 8. EIGHT GAME RULE

(a) Once a player has played eight (8) games in a particular senior grade throughout the home and away and finals series, the player in question is no longer eligible to play in any lower senior grade but is eligible to play in a higher grade

(b) Junior players who play in the senior grade are also subject to this rule but are still eligible to play in their own age grade

## 9. QUALIFYING PLAYERS

(a) Where senior players play in two grades in the same day only the game in the highest grade will count towards their qualifying quota of games.

(b) A minimum of six (6) club games is required for a player to be deemed eligible to play finals for her club subject to the following:

(i) Senior players must play a minimum of six (6) games in their respective senior grade to qualify for that grade's finals and higher.

(ii) Registered junior players must play four (4) out of the six (6) club games in their junior age grade to be eligible for that junior age grade's finals.

(d) All players may only play up to eight (8) quarters of netball in any one given day.

(e) Any additional players need to be registered on NMAS membership module and a copy of the registration form stapled to the home team score sheet and sent in with score sheet and vote card to Netball Operations Manager.

## 10. FINALS

(a) GL will play top five finals series.

(b) The number of points gained during the season shall determine teams qualifying for finals. In the event of teams being equal on points, positions shall be determined by the percentage of goals scored for and against. In the event of teams being equal on percentage, positions shall be determined by the greater number of goals scored for.

(c) Drawn matches in finals:

(i) There is a one (1) minute time allowance to enable teams to change ends, make substitutes or changes and scores to be verified on the Official Score sheet.

(ii) Two (2) x five (7) minute halves will be played for all matches.

(iii) At the end of the first half teams change ends. Positional changes may be made at this time. There is a one minute break at half time of the extra time period.

(iv) Should there still be a draw at the end of the second half of extra time, play continues until one team has a two-goal advantage.

(v) In the event of injury or illness during extra time, positional changes and/or substitutions may be made.



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## 11. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

Ineligible players who participate in games either deliberately or inadvertently have an unfair affect on the result of a game or if unregistered are an unacceptable insurance risk. In these instances the match in which the breach occurred will result as a forfeit to the offending team.

## 12. FORFEITS

(a) Where a match results in a forfeit prior to the match clock starting, the non-offending team will:

- (i) be awarded the four premiership points with a match score of twenty to zero (20-0);
- (ii) credit games to only seven (7) nominated players on a official score sheet for finals qualifications.
- (iii) No games shall be credited to players of the offending team
- (iv) In the event of a forfeit in a senior grade, a lower team from the club must be forfeited before a higher team.

Also see "Forfeit Arrangements" in Appendix

(b) Where a match results in a forfeit after the commencement of the match clock starting:

- (i) the result of the match will be twenty to zero (20-0) if the forfeiture is caused by the winning team.
- (ii) the score of the winning team or 20-0 (whichever is greater) will stand if the forfeiture is caused by the losing team. The losing team will be stripped of its score and credited with zero (0).
- (iii) No games shall be credited to players of the offending team.

## 13. CANCELLATIONS

(a) When matches are cancelled on account of a total strike (e.g.; power, or situation created by a prolonged petrol strike), weather or some other cause, both teams will be credited with two (2) points and five (5) goals each and the competition will continue as per the fixture.

(b) Four (4) points can only be awarded for fully completed games.

(c) In the event that a match is cancelled due to weather, games can only be awarded to seven nominated players or quarters can be awarded to a maximum of twelve players totalling 28 quarters, for each team.

(d) Should circumstances occur in which successive rounds need to be cancelled, the Committee will consider the position and determine a suitable course of action.

## 14. PROTESTS

(a) A team wishing to protest must Lodge the protest in writing with the GL Netball Operations Manager within 48 hours of the match being played.

(b) A Club shall have a right of appeal to the Executive within 48 hours of notification of a penalty.

(c) Prescribed penalties have been agreed to by the clubs at the start of the season but may be protested on the grounds they were unfairly applied or ambiguous.



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## 15. UMPIRES

Each club is responsible of the supply and payment to umpires during the home and away season. Minimum payment will follow the recommendation of Netball Victoria.

- (i) Umpires should not officiate more than two games in any one given day.
- (ii) All Clubs must supply a NV Current Badged umpire for all 'A' Grade Games

## 16. PRE MATCH CHECKLIST

(a) A pre-match check will be completed prior to all GL matches, programs and training by the home club and officiating umpires.

(b) GL has a minimum standards/safe environment policy to be adhered to.

(c) 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.

## 17. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES/PROVISIONS CLAUSE

Where this By-law is silent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of the GL is maintained at all times.

The Committee may in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in this By-Law relating to the GL

## 18. INDEMNITY

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

## 19. JUNIOR BYLAWS

In the 13&U grade teams may have up to 1 boy on court at any one time.

## 20. PENALTIES

- Fines need to be paid within 14 days of receipt, late payment incurs \$25 fine
- Failure to attend delegates meetings, incurs \$25 fine per person
- Failure to submit registrations by due date, incurs \$50 fine
- Failure to provide 6 scoresheets, votes and match results as per section 7, incurs \$25 fine
- Failure to provide badged umpire for A Grade, incurs \$50 fine



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## 21. APPENDIX - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### INFORMATION TO CLUBS

(a) The GL shall provide the following information on the website to all Clubs prior to the start of the season.

- (i) GL contact details
- (ii) GL venue address
- (iii) GL Constitution and By-Laws
- (iv) Registration information
- (v) Fixtures
- (vi) GL calendar of Events, Closing Dates
- (vii) Codes of practice
- (viii) Details of Courses, Seminars etc

### PLAYER VOTES

Players in senior and junior grades are awarded votes (1, 2 and 3) from third best to best on court by the official umpires at the completion of games during the home and away season.

Votes are placed in the sealed envelopes provided by the GL and returned to the Netball Operations Manager with the team sheets by the home team.

### AWARDS

An annual awards dinner is held at the completion of the home and away season prior to the grand finals. Awards are given for best and fairest and runner up in each grade based on the umpires votes during the home and away season. A club championship award based on the total number wins in all grades and a best administered club award may also be presented.

### TEAM OF THE YEAR

The GL selects a senior netball Team of the Year annually in consultation with each of the clubs. Players are presented at the annual awards dinner.

### INTERLEAGUE

The GL will endeavour to find interleague games during the season to enable its best players to participate at the highest level for the honour of representing and promoting the association. Clubs are also encouraged to represent their areas in the regional state championships.

### NETBALL VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Netball Victoria membership fee is set annually by the Victorian Netball Association Inc.
- (b) All players, coaches and umpires participating in the GL season must be a current Netball Victoria member.
- (c) Single Game Vouchers may be used. The voucher must be purchased prior to participating.





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## UNIFORMS

The GL recognises that uniform modifications may be required such as (but are not restricted to) the wearing of traditional Muslim headscarf. Headscarves can be tied but not fastened with any pins or sharp objects, the wearing of long sleeve top to cover arms. The colour of headscarves and other garments to be in accordance with the teams club colours. (As per Netball Victoria)

## FORFEIT ARRANGEMENTS

Where a foreseen lack of players may result in a possible forfeit, the club concerned should contact the opposing club to ascertain whether an alternative arrangement can be made. (also see section 10 Bylaws)

## ACCREDITATION

The GL shall ensure that all officials have current appropriate minimum qualifications.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

### 1. 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 Injury Reporting sheets provided and kept by the club.

(b) Major injuries should also be recorded on the back of the score sheet.

(c) All players in GL representative teams are responsible for recording all injuries at the discretion of the injury player or players' guardian (player under 18) on the Injury Reporting Sheets provided.

### 2. First Aid

(a) Each club will provide a First Aid Kit complying with Netball Victoria Infonet RM2 – First Aid for Netball.

(b) The GL will ensure that a qualified first aid person is present at finals.

### 3. Emergency procedures

Local Emergency phone numbers - Ambulance, Doctor, Physiotherapist, Health Clinic and Police and an Emergency Procedure Plan is to be displayed by the phone and in the First Aid Kit. The home club is to assist the away club in an emergency.

### 4. Weather

In the case of extreme weather conditions the GL will follow Netball Victoria Infonet RM3 and RM5.

### 5. Blood Policy and Infectious Diseases

The GL will adopt Netball Victoria Infonet U4 and RM6 relating to blood policy and infectious diseases.

### 6. Pregnancy

As per Netball Victoria Infonet RM1 – Pregnancy & Netball

### 7. Pre-participation Screening/Medical Indemnity

(a) All personnel involved with the Gippsland League will be required to complete a medical indemnity form (Netball Victoria Infonet RM7)

(b) A designated club official will store all forms and bring them to all events.

(c) All forms will be destroyed at the conclusion of the season.