

Perry Park Recreation Centre

Netball Competition By-Laws

All players participating in Perry Park Recreation Centre ("the Centre") sports competitions do so at their own risk, with the understanding and acceptance that injury insurance is not provided by the Centre, as specified in Section 3.5 of this document.	1. Registration	2
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All players participating in the Centre's sports competitions must abide by the Centre's <i>Conditions of Entry, Indoor Court Rules</i> and the <i>Netball Competition By-Laws</i> (this document).	3. Policies	6
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All participants are required to read in acknowledgement and agree with the following *Indemnity and Release* clause and agree to comply with the Centre's *Code of Conduct*.

Indemnity and Release

To participate in the Centre's sports competitions, you must acknowledge and accept the risk associated with the activity and release the City of Sydney Council of liability related to the activity.

While the City of Sydney Council (Perry Park Recreation Centre) will endeavour to provide a safe playing environment, the activities undertaken in this program will expose participants to inherent risks or dangers which cannot be eliminated. These can include but are not limited to bodily injuries, strains, fractures, concussion, and/or death. The Participant releases and holds harmless the City of Sydney Council from and against any injury, loss, cost, expense, demand or liability (to the extent not caused or contributed to by the negligent act or omission of the City of Sydney Council), directly or indirectly arising out of or in any way connected with the Participant's participation in the Centre's sports competitions.

Code of Conduct

To participate in the Centre's sports competitions, you must acknowledge and accept the Code of Conduct outlined by the Centre. Non-compliance may result in you forfeiting your right to participate in the program.

Participants must always abide by the Centre's Code of Conduct when participating in the sports competitions. Participants must:

- a. Follow all reasonable instruction, direction and requests given by Centre staff.
- b. Be respectful to all people participating in the sports competitions, including other participants, officials and Centre staff.
- c. Read and comply with the Centre's relevant sports competition by-laws.
- d. Read and comply with the Centre's Conditions of Entry.

The following by-laws address all non-Netball NSW affiliated games.

Team registration fees do not include personal accident or injury insurance cover. Individuals are encouraged to consider private health insurance options.

1. Registration

1.1. Registering a team

- a. To register a team into the Centre's sports competitions, a team captain (or manager) must:
 - i. Submit a complete *Team nomination form* to the Centre in person or via email to pprcadmin@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au; and
 - ii. Pay a \$320 team deposit (deductible from balance of competition fees) in person or via phone on (02) 9288 5651.

1.2. Team nomination form

- a. The complete *Team nomination form* can be submitted by email to pprcadmin@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au or in person at the Centre reception as per 1.1.a.
- b. For the purpose of clarification throughout this document, registered player(s) refers to players whose name and other personal details have been completed on their *Team nomination form* and occupy one (1) of the twelve (12) available positions on the team
- c. Teams can have a maximum of 12 players on the *Team nomination form*. Team captains (or managers) must consult with Centre reception if they wish to have more than 12 players.
- d. Teams can add players throughout the season. However, the Centre retains the right to reassess the skill level of the newly formed team and make any required divisional changes as per 2.5.d.
- e. Team registrations after the start of a season are subject to availability.

1.3. Team captain (or manager) responsibilities

- a. Team captains (or managers) will be the team's main point of contact for the Centre.
- b. Team captains (or managers) are responsible for:
 - i. Communicating to their team the Centre's *Conditions of Entry* and *Indoor Court Rules*;
 - ii. Communicating with their team on behalf of the Centre; and
 - iii. Completing and updating the *Team nomination forms* throughout the season. This includes change of player details and/or team roster.

1.4. Fees and payment

- a. Team fees are paid in full by the third week into the competition, either in person or via phone as per 1.1 above.
- b. The Centre will remove a team from existing fixtures if a team fails to promptly pay any outstanding fees.
- c. There is no discount or refund if a bye and/or forfeit occurs in the competition. However, friendly games may be organised and played in lieu of a bye and/or forfeit where possible.

2. Rules and regulations

2.1. Senior netball rules

- a. The Centre's netball competitions follow rules and regulations outlined by The International Netball Federation (INF), Netball NSW and Netball Australia.
- b. The Centre's senior netball competitions are for participants aged 18 and over (at the time of competition). Players under the age of 18 are only permitted to participate in senior competitions provided they are at least 16 years old, of a suitable playing standard (to be determined by the Centre), and the Centre receives written consent (form provided by the Centre) from a parent or legal guardian. Centre staff may request for identification if they believe a player or team to be under the age of 18. The Centre reserves the right to refuse the under aged player(s) from participating, and deem the game as abandoned as per Section 3.4a.
- c. Teams must have a minimum of five (5) registered players on the court at any time, and a player must be playing in the C position.
- d. Mixed teams must have a minimum of one (1) male and are allowed a maximum of three (3) males on the court at any time.
- e. Only one (1) male from each team is permitted to play in each goal circle per quarter.

2.2. Junior netball rules

- a. Competition rules are the same as seniors and will be adjudicated as such.
- b. Age groups are defined by the age at which players turn in the calendar year and are grouped as follows:
 - i. 10-12 years
 - ii. 13-15 years
- c. Players may play up an age group upon request provided the Centre determines they are of suitable playing ability and a written consent form (provided by the Centre) is received from a parent or legal guardian.

2.3. Game structure

- a. Length of games are as follows:

Senior netball = 4 x 8-minute quarters, running clock

Junior netball = 4 x 7-minute quarters, running clock
- b. Game time may be reduced if a team fails to arrive on time or fails to comply with the player sign on procedure as per Section 2.7 of this document.
- c. Late teams will be penalised one (1) goal for each one (1) minute the game is delayed. After one (1) quarter has lapsed past the original start time the game is considered a forfeit loss for the late arriving team.
- d. Game structure is subject to change should it be determined by the Centre that adjustments would better suit the time available for each game and the general skill level of the competition.

2.4. Game points for result

- a. Game points allocation are as follow:

Win = 3 Points

Draw = 2 Point

Loss = 1 Point

Bye = 3 Points

Forfeit Win = 3 Points

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Forfeit Loss* = -1 Point

*Please see section 3.2 for additional information regarding the Centre's forfeit policy.

- b. Teams can download the free SportFix App to view the fixtures and results. Alternatively, teams may go onto www.sportfix.net/PerryParkRecreationCentre.

2.5. Grading

- a. To ensure fairness to all participating teams, the competition may start with grading rounds to allocate teams into divisions according to their skill level.
- b. The Centre determines the number of grading rounds based on the number of teams registered into the competition and the number of rounds the competition will run for.
- c. The match results from games specifically classified as grading rounds are used solely to allocate teams into the most appropriate division and will not be reflected on the competition ladder.
- d. The Centre retains the right to re-grade a team if management believes a team has been incorrectly placed into a division, or if a change has been made to a team's roster.
- e. The Centre retains the right to increase the number of grading rounds if it will help with the accurate grading of teams. The number of competition rounds will be decreased accordingly.
- f. The Centre retains the right to decrease the number of grading rounds if the Centre believes they are not required. The number of competition rounds will be increased accordingly.
- g. Teams may request a review of grading prior to week four (4) of the competition (including grading rounds) by contacting the Centre on pprcadmin@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.
- h. Should a team be regraded and reallocated to another division after competition rounds have commenced, the team's current competition points, including goals for and against, will be carried over on the ladder.
- i. If a team enters the competition after competition rounds have commenced, they will receive one (1) competition point for each round they have missed, and zero (0) goals for and against.

2.6. Borrowing players

- a. Team captains (or managers) are responsible for notifying Centre staff if they wish to borrow players.
- b. Teams are permitted to borrow two (2) players from another team provided:
 - i. The team has the minimum number of players required, as outlined in Section 2.1 of this document;
 - ii. The borrowed player is registered to play at the Centre; and
 - iii. The player is borrowed to fulfil the minimum number of on-court players, not to substitute for the team.
- c. Teams may not borrow players if they have seven (7) players to start a game.
- d. Players borrowed from a higher division may only play in the WA and/or WD positions.
- e. Players borrowed from the same or lower division or age group may play in any position.
- f. Teams may only borrow players during the regular competition rounds, not during finals series.
- g. Borrowed players must follow the player sign on procedure outlined in Section 2.7.
- h. Unregistered players can fill-in provided they follow the player sign on procedure outlined in Section 2.7.
- i. Teams playing with unregistered or non-rostered players may see their game result in a forfeit loss.

2.7. Player sign on procedure

- a. The team captain (or manager) is required to provide the full names of all registering players, including new players registering throughout the season.

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- b. Prior to their first round of competition, all players must sign next to their name on the *Team sign on sheet* to indicate they acknowledge and agree to abide by the *Netball Competition By-Laws*, the Centre's *Conditions of Entry*, *Code of Conduct* and *Indoor Court Rules*, and accept the *Indemnity and Release* clause outlining inherent risk of injury and/or death associated with participation in the sport competition.
- c. All players, including those arriving after a game has commenced, must sign their initials off on the round in which they are participating on the *Team Sign on sheet* before taking the court.
- d. Games will not start until all present players have signed on as specified in 2.7.b and 2.7.c above. The game clock will continue to run; any teams deliberately delaying the game will have one (1) goal awarded to the other team per one (1) minute of delay.
- e. Any player playing under a different name may be reported for misconduct and be placed on review for disciplinary action. The game may result in a forfeit loss. Team captains (or managers) are responsible for ensuring players are signed on correctly and truthfully.
- f. Centre staff may request personal identification if there is suspicion of misconduct. Refusal to follow direction from staff may result in a forfeit loss and further disciplinary action.

2.8. Player substitution

- a. Players may only substitute and/or switch positions between quarters and during time called for injury or illness.

2.9. Final's series

- a. The top four (4) teams in each division will play two (2) rounds of finals in a knockout format:
 - i. Round 1 – Semi-finals (SF)
 - SF game 1. Position 1 vs. Position 4
 - SF game 2. Position 2 vs. Position 3
 - ii. Round 2 – Grand finals (GF)
 - Winner of SF game 1 vs. Winner of SF game 2
 - Loser of SF game 1 vs. Loser of SF game 2 (for 3rd place)
- b. The top four (4) teams in each division are determined by the following:
 - i. Competition points
 - ii. Goal differential/percentage
 - iii. Total goals scored
- c. The Centre reserves the right to change the final's series format if the Centre considers the new format will be better suited for the teams and the competition.
- d. To be eligible for a final's series, a player must be registered and have played:
 - i. A minimum of three (3) games for seasons with 12 rounds or less (not including finals)
 - ii. A minimum of five (5) games for seasons with 13 rounds or more (not including finals)
- e. Teams are not permitted to borrow players for any finals series as per Section 2.6.f of this document.
- f. If a team that finishes in the top four at the end of the season is unable to compete in the final series, the highest placed team outside the top four (4) that is available for the final's series will be brought into the fourth position instead. All remaining teams will move up in position accordingly.
- g. In the event of a draw in any finals game, play will continue until one team achieves a two (2) goal lead.
- h. Friendly games are available to teams that did not qualify for the final's series. Teams may request the Centre to organise a friendly game during the final series rounds.

3. Policies

3.1. Refund policy

- a. Team fees are non-refundable unless:
 - i. Teams withdraws from the competition at least seven (7) days prior to the competition start date;
 - ii. The competition does not go ahead.
- b. The Centre does not provide refunds if:
 - iii. The game is a forfeit and both teams miss a game.
 - iv. A game is abandoned as per 3.4 below.
 - v. A team or player is suspended or removed from the competition due to any misconduct, as per Section 4.3 below.
 - vi. A team decides to withdraw from the competition within seven (7) days of the scheduled start date, or after the competition has commenced.

3.2. Forfeit policy

- a. If a team does not present to play with at least five (5) registered players, they will receive a forfeit loss and their opposing team will receive a forfeit win.
- b. However, teams are strongly recommended to attend their game and play a friendly with their opposition. Doing so will result in receiving one (1) competition point for a loss instead of minus one (-1) for a forfeit. The game will be considered "played" by all registered players who participate.
- c. Teams intending to forfeit must notify the Centre as soon as possible on (02) 9288 5651. Teams unable to reach the Centre must leave a voicemail and send a follow up email to ppracadmin@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.
- d. To ensure sufficient notice of a forfeit is given to an opposing team, all forfeits need to be communicated to the Centre no later than 4pm on day of the competition. Failure to give sufficient notice will result in minus three (-3) competition points per forfeit.
- e. A team's third, and any subsequent forfeits in the same season, will result in minus three (-3) competition points per forfeit.
- f. There are no refunds for forfeits as per 3.1.b.i. above. The Centre will endeavour to organise a friendly game for teams forfeited against, otherwise the court is available for training.
- g. The team being forfeited against will be assigned a 15-0 win, while the forfeiting team will receive a 15-0 loss and minus one (-1) competition points (with exceptions outlined in Section 3.2.b above).
- h. Games won by forfeit will be considered "played" by all registered players in the winning team and will be noted accordingly on the *Team Sign-on sheet*.
- i. Games lost by forfeit will be considered "played" by any registered player from the forfeiting team who attends to play a friendly game and will be noted as such on the *Team Sign-on sheet*.
- j. Any team that forfeits three (3) or more times in the same season may be unable to register for the following season. The Centre will consider the team in question's effort to attend and play friendly games during forfeited rounds when deciding on their eligibility for re-registration.

3.3. Competition withdrawal policy

- a. Teams must inform the Centre in writing via email at ppracadmin@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au if they wish to withdraw from a competition.
- b. Team fees are non-refundable, unless teams meet conditions outlined in 3.1.a above.

3.4. Abandoned game policy

- a. A game may be abandoned if there is serious misconduct from players and/or spectators, or if players and/or spectators fail to follow reasonable instruction from Centre staff. There will be no refunds for these abandoned games, as per Section 3.1.b.ii above.
- b. In the event of an abandoned game for the reasons specified in Section 3.4.a above, the offending team(s) will be deemed to have forfeited.
- c. Games may also be abandoned under the following circumstances:
 - i. The Centre operating standards are compromised, such as a power failure or storm damage;
 - ii. The safety of staff and/or guests is compromised; or
 - iii. Adverse weather conditions including extreme heat (see Section 3.9 of this document)
- d. In the event of abandoned games for the reasons specified in Section 3.4.c above, the Centre will reschedule these games to be played later where possible.

3.5. Insurance policy

- a. All players participate at their own risk.
- b. Personal health/injury insurance is the responsibility of the individual player and is not provided by the Centre for issues relating to injury or death whilst competing in any Centre's sports competition.
- c. Players are encouraged to find an appropriate insurance policy to provide cover in case of sustained injury or death.

3.6. Uniform, footwear & jewellery policy

- a. Playing bibs are provided by the Centre. Teams may bring and use their own bibs if they wish.
- b. Teams are encouraged to wear like-coloured clothing.
- c. Players may wear sport specific gloves during games.
- d. Players must wear enclosed running or sport specific, non-marking shoes, and are not permitted to play barefoot or wear any open footwear.
- e. Players may wear prescription glasses.
- f. Fingernails must be short and smooth, covered by sport specific gloves or taped with sports/medical tape.
- g. Long hair must be suitably tied back.
- h. Players are not permitted to wear any adornment or jewellery except for a medical alert bracelet or necklace. Bracelets or necklaces must be taped or bandaged to the body, covered by a sweat band or otherwise appropriately padded.
- i. Exceptional circumstances may be reviewed by staff on the day, with a final decision regarding player participation to be made at the discretion of Centre staff. If a player obtains permission to play, any jewellery or adornments must be taped or bandaged to the body, covered by a sweat band or otherwise appropriately padded.
- j. Any players playing with jewellery or adornments must have signed off on the *Team nomination form* to acknowledge that they do not and will not hold the City of Sydney Council (Perry Park Recreation Centre), its staff or sporting officials liable for any injury that occurs to the player who participates while wearing jewellery or adornments.
- k. Sports specific gloves and sports tape will not be provided by the Centre.
- l. Players not following the uniform, footwear and jewellery policy may not be permitted to play.

3.7. Drug and alcohol policy

- a. Any players suspected to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be asked to leave the Centre immediately.
- b. Refusal to comply with staff directions will result in a forfeit loss to the non-compliant team and may entail further disciplinary action and/or assistance from the police.

3.8. Pregnancy policy

- a. Pregnant players are strongly recommended to seek advice from an appropriate, qualified medical practitioner regarding the risks involved in participating in the Centre's sports competitions while pregnant, whether it is safe to continue participation and for how long you should continue to participate.

3.9. Team and spectator seating policy

- a. Teams must convene in their designated zone (on opposite sides of the official bench) prior to their match, during the match (applicable only to substitute players) and during the half time breaks.
- b. Spectators must remain on the opposite side of the court to the official bench and team zones.
- c. Spectators and substitute players are always expected to behave in a respectful and courteous manner. Failure to do so may result in expulsion from the court area as per Section 4.4.c below.
- d. Team captains (or managers) are responsible for ensuring their team and supporting spectators follow these rules.

3.10. Hot weather policy

- a. The recommended temperatures for cancellation of games are as follows:
Senior games (over 18) = 36°C or above
Junior games (under 18) = 32°C or above
- b. The Centre may allow for extra drink/rest breaks during games being played in excess of 30°C.
- c. The Centre reserves the right to reschedule games in the event of hot weather.

3.11. COVID-19 Safety Plan

- a. In this section **COVID-19** refers to the disease known as the Novel Coronavirus caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2, being a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, characterised as a pandemic by the World Health Organisation on 11 March 2020 (COVID-19) and resulting in orders by NSW Health under the Public Health Act (NSW) 2010, including the Order.
- b. All players participating in the Centre's sports competitions must be familiar with the process and measures in place and follow Covid-safe rules during your visit.

- a. **Covid-19 vaccination status** – In line with the latest NSW Government advice, proof of vaccination is no longer required when visiting City of Sydney venues and pools.

We strongly encourage everyone to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 and get a booster vaccination if your second dose was 3 months or more ago. Find out [where to get vaccinated and if you're eligible for a booster vaccination](#).

- b. **Face masks** – In line with NSW Government advice, visitors are no longer required to wear face masks at our facilities. Masks are encouraged in settings where physical distancing is not possible.

Advice may change. [Visit the NSW Government website](#) for the latest rules and information.

- c. **Venue capacity** – Capacity limits have been removed at our venues, however visitors are required to maintain 1.5m physical distance when not participating in sporting activities.

4. Governance

4.1. Complaints

- a. Teams may file a complaint or report misconduct of any players, teams or sporting officials by submitting a *Customer feedback and complaints form*. This form is provided upon request by Centre staff and must be completed and returned within 24 hours of the alleged incident, either in person or via email to pprcadmin@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au. The form's details will be reviewed by Centre management with reference to the Centre's Service User Exclusion Procedure, and the outcome will be communicated to teams via email within five (5) working days.
- b. Confronting other players, sporting officials or Centre staff is a breach the *Code of Conduct*. Penalties will apply as per Section 4.3 of this document.
- c. While the Centre endeavours to ensure teams act in accordance with the competition rules, teams may inform Centre staff if they suspect a team is in breach of these rules.

4.2. Sporting officials

- a. Decisions made by sporting officials are final and must be respected at all times. Penalties may apply to players disputing calls during or after the game as per Section 4.4 of this document.
- b. Sporting officials have the right to send players and/or spectators off or out of the court area for any intimidating or antisocial behaviour. In this event, players and/or spectators must leave the court area under the supervision of Centre staff before the game can resume.
- c. Removed players and/or spectators are permitted to remain in the Centre's foyer reception area, provided no further intimidating or antisocial behaviours continue.
- d. If antisocial behaviours continue, staff will direct players and/or spectators to leave the Centre entirely as per the Centre's Service User Exclusion procedure.
- e. The match may result in an abandoned game if players and/or spectators fail to follow the directions of Centre staff and/or the sporting officials.
- f. Clarification from sporting officials may be requested only via the team captain or manager at the beginning of the match, at half time, or at the end of the game.

4.3. Umpire disciplinary discretion

- a. To manage a match and ensure the safety and wellbeing of all players, netball umpires may, in addition to the normal sanction, use any of the following disciplinary procedures;
 - i. Verbal cautions for unfair play or misconduct, including but not limited to; dissent, intimidation, retaliation, unsportsmanlike conduct & delaying play, and the deliberate or persistent infringing of any rule.
 - ii. Verbal warnings for continued unfair play or misconduct following a caution, or actions deemed dangerous play.
 - iii. Suspend a player for a period of two (2) minutes for continued unfair/foul/dangerous play or misconduct following a warning or in the first instance of dangerous play should the umpire consider this action is justifiable and warranted.

When a player is suspended no substitute is permitted and the player's position must be left vacant unless the suspended player is in the C position. In this instance one on-court player must move to play as C position during the suspension.

Following the suspension period the suspended player must return to their original playing position and any player who moved to play as C position during the suspension must return to their original playing position.

- iv. The ordering off of a player for the remainder of the match for serious misconduct or continued foul play, usually following a warning or suspension.

When a player is ordered off no substitute is permitted and the player's position must be left vacant unless the suspended player is in the C position. In this instance one on-court player must

move to play as C and the position of this player must be left vacant for the remainder of the match.

- b. Any player who is ordered off the court by an umpire may face further disciplinary action as outlined in Section 4.4 of this document.

4.4. Disciplinary sanctions

- a. Disciplinary sanctions may be issued to individual players, entire teams, or spectators.
- b. Acts or threats of physical violence or any other illegal behaviours may be reported to the police.
- c. Should the behaviour and/or actions of any player or spectator, either physical or verbal, result in their expulsion from a match and/or removal from the court area, the following guidelines will be utilised by Centre management to determine the most appropriate disciplinary action.

d. **Behaviour-related sanctions guideline:**

Offence	Recommended suspension
<i>Breaching Conditions of Entry and Indoor Court Rules</i>	1 – 2 weeks
<i>Disputing decisions of a sporting official</i> (e.g. persistent dissent towards a sporting official)	1 – 2 weeks
<i>Unsportsmanlike behaviour</i> (e.g. spitting, kicking bins, or other people's possessions)	2 – 4 weeks
<i>Intimidation</i> (e.g. threatening gestures, words or actions towards a player, spectator, sporting official or Centre staff)	3 – 6 weeks
<i>Obscene language and/or gestures towards a player, spectator, sporting official or centre staff</i> (e.g. abusive or insulting language, comments regarding race, sexuality or religion)	3 – 6 weeks

e. **Physical altercation-related sanction guidelines:**

Offence	Recommended suspension
<i>Attempting to strike</i> (e.g. attempting to push, elbow, kick, punch or head-butt)	4 – 8 weeks
<i>Striking</i> (e.g. making contact with another person by pushing, elbowing, kicking, punching, head-butting or attempting to fight with another player who does not retaliate)	6 – 12 weeks
<i>Fighting or spitting</i> (e.g. when two or more players push, kick, punch, choke, or wrestle with one another)	6 – 26 weeks

f. **The recommended suspension periods will double for second and subsequent offences.**

- g. The Centre will issue disciplinary action based on written reports from sporting officials, Centre staff and witness statements, the person's disciplinary history, and any other relevant documentation held by the Centre.
- h. If a player is playing while actively suspended, Centre staff will abandon the game and award a forfeit win to the opposing team. Further disciplinary action will be taken on both the suspended player and the team they are playing for.
- i. The Centre reserves the right to issue longer suspension periods or a Centre ban if the Centre believes there is strong reasoning for it.

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4.5. Appeals

- a. A suspended person has the right to request a review of their disciplinary action decision. Only one (1) appeal of a decision is permitted.
- b. Request for review must be lodged in writing to pprcadmin@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au within five (5) working days of the date of the letter of notification from the Centre.
- c. The penalty issued will remain in effect until the appeal review is determined.